

# The CATHOLIC TIMES

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## SCOUTS HONORED

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#### Sanctity of Marriage

World Marriage Day is observed on Sunday, Feb. 12 in the diocese and throughout the country to celebrate God's gift of matrimony and family with the theme "Marriage ... one flesh, given and received," Page 12

## Catholic Man of the Year: 'I am truly blessed'

Dr. Eric Yang's dedication to faith and service could be summed up in three words: "I'll be there."

Yang, named the 2023 Catholic Man of the Year in the diocese, was presented the annual award on Friday, Feb. 3 at the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club monthly meeting in Columbus St. Patrick Church's Patrick Hall.

"I am humbled by his award and am honored and overwhelmed," he said. "I am truly blessed."

The individuals who spoke glowingly about the honoree after he received a plaque from Bishop Earl Fernandes all mentioned Yang's willingness to do just about anything at a moment's notice wherever there's a need.

Retired Deacon Phil Paulucci of Columbus St. Peter Church mentioned Yang's indefatigable spirit and his ubiquitous presence in the parish.

Father Steven Beseau, the president and rector at the Pontifical College Josephinum where Yang serves as an adjunct professor, similarly described a willingness to be present and be a witness of faith to the seminarians as a treasured gift.

In accepting the award, Yang paid tribute to all the people he works with at his parish, the Josephinum and with the Knights of Columbus while dedicating the honor to his late parents, Nelia and Anastacio; an aunt who helped raise him after his mother died when he was 8 years old; and his wife, Josephine.

A 10-year Knights of Columbus member, Yang is deeply committed to the men's fraternal organization. He is currently the district deputy for parishes in northwest Columbus, secretary of the Columbus diocesan chapter of the



Bishop Earl Fernandes (left) applauds Catholic Man of the Year Eric Yang (center), who was accompanied by wife Josephine, brother Edwin (right) and nephew Wesley during a presentation on Friday, Feb. 3 at Columbus St. Patrick Church. Photo courtesy Cedric Sze

Knights, pilot for Ohio District 3 of the fourth-degree Knights and Columbian Martyrs Assembly 2380, and a former grand knight, trustee and faith activity director of St. Peter Council 11216.

Yang teaches biology and developmental biology at the Josephinum and biology and physiology at Columbus State Community College.

"Josephine and I feel blessed to be part of the Josephinum community, and we have formed many friendships with the priests, faculty and staff," Yang said. "I feel blessed to have a role in the formation of seminarians even if only to teach them biology."

Yang, 57, a native of the Philippines who came to the United States with his family in the 1970s, was diagnosed with cerebral palsy at a young age.

"I don't know who helped them discern my potential and instead of sending me to the local cerebral palsy center, they enrolled me in one of the best schools in the Philippines," he recalled in his acceptance

speech.

"When I was 8, my mother died of cancer. Losing my mother could've led me to a different path in life instead of continuing to strive to succeed," he said. "I think the fact that my Aunt Julia taught me how to pray and lead the rosary as my mother was dying of cancer had a great impact on how I was able to deal with my mother's death at that young age."

"I still remember praying in the hospital room as my sick mother looked at me smiling as I prayed. Praying to Our Blessed Mother provided me with peace and comfort after my mother died."

He went on to earn an undergraduate degree in biology/pre-medicine and Asian studies in 1987 from Seton Hall University in New Jersey before coming to Ohio State University, where he received a doctorate in molecular, cellular and developmental biology in 1992, followed by postdoctoral work at the University of California-Irvine and then returning to Columbus, where he has resided since 1997.

Yang described how his faith weakened after he came to the United States but eventually was led back to the sacraments through watching EWTN, listening to Catholic radio and attending men's conferences.

After praying two 54-day novenas, he said he was blessed with meeting his

wife, Josephine, a physical therapist who takes him everywhere because he uses a wheelchair due to his physical limitations. The couple married seven years ago.

"Without her, I would not be able to do all the activities that this award recognizes me for," he said. "All of my involvement in the parish, the Knights of Columbus, Catholic Men's Ministry and the Filipino community is only possible because of her support."

"She sacrifices by taking me to meetings, often sitting in the hallway to work on her clinical notes, and then continuing to work on them until late at night after we get home. I thank God for blessing me with a saintly bride."

Yang's activities and involvement in Catholic organizations are voluminous.

He currently serves on the membership and leadership teams for the men's spirituality ministry at his parish, the core planning team for Eucharistic Adoration and is a member of the Serra Club of North Columbus.

At various points in the past, he has been involved in the parish council, adult enrichment at the parish and the planning committee for the diocesan Catholic Men's Conference, the annual Philippine pre-Christmas celebration known as Simbang Gabi, and a multilingual Holy Hour at St. Peter, leading a decade of the rosary in the Philippine language of Tagalog.

Joining Yang and his wife at the presentation were his brother, Edwin, and nephew Wesley.

"God did not bless us with children," Yang said, "but we feel blessed to have children in our nephews and niece, in the St. Peter parish and at the Josephinum."

"I want to thank my many brother Knights who have trusted in my abilities and have asked me to take on several responsibilities. Josephine and I have met many in our parish, the Knights of Columbus and in our diocese who have become great friends, and we are blessed to have them in our life."

He asked those present to continue to pray for the young men discerning a vocation to the priesthood and for an increase in vocations to religious life, and

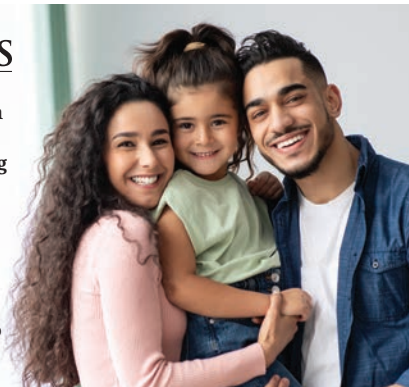
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Front Page photo:

Girl Scout Gabriella Anzelmo of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Troop 581

receives a Missio patch from Bishop Earl Fernandes as Deacon Chris Reis looks on during the annual Scout Day awards presentation on Jan. 29 at New Albany Church of the Resurrection.

CT photo by Ken Snow

### CATHOLIC TIMES

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# Roe Remembrance looks to future in Ohio

By Tim Puet

For The Catholic Times

This year's Roe Remembrance event in the Ohio Statehouse Atrium combined themes of celebration and challenge for the pro-life movement.

Speakers at the program praised the U.S. Supreme Court decision in June 2022 that returned control of decisions on abortion to individual states. But they also expressed concern about proposals by pro-abortion groups for a statewide vote on unlimited access to abortion.

Greater Columbus Right to Life sponsored the event on Monday, Jan. 23. The organization's executive director, Beth Vanderkooi, noted that the day was in the middle of two significant dates for the pro-life movement – 50 years (plus one day) since the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision legalizing abortion nationwide on Jan. 22, 1973, and seven months (minus one day) since the same court's *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision overturning the *Roe* ruling.

The *Dobbs* decision allowed Ohio's Heartbeat Law banning abortion after the first six weeks of pregnancy to go into effect immediately, but that law was put on hold by a Hamilton County Common Pleas Court judge in September.

This puts the status of abortion in Ohio in what Vanderkooi described as "legal limbo." Abortions can still take place in the state through the first 20 weeks of pregnancy while the challenge to the Heartbeat Law proceeds through the courts.

Meanwhile, abortion supporters have said they are working on two plans to have voters consider a state constitutional amendment that would allow unlimited abortion access in Ohio, while pro-life groups are working with legislators on laws that ultimately would make abortion illegal altogether in the state.

Vanderkooi said efforts during the next year or two to determine which side will prevail will be "the fight of our lives – or their lives," referring to the unborn. "What happens next is in our hands, and it's coming," she said, referring to recently announced plans by the Mission Control Inc. political consulting group to work on behalf of a pro-abortion constitutional amendment in Ohio.

Mission Control was successful in 2022 in an effort to have Kansas voters amend their state's constitution to allow unlimited abortion. "I can't wait to take them on to show them they aren't in Kansas anymore," Vanderkooi said.

She said that although *Roe v. Wade* no longer is law, the Roe Remembrance will continue to take place on or near Jan. 22 each year for three reasons. The first is "to mourn those children (lost to abortion) – 64 million in the U.S. since *Roe*, 20,000 last year in Ohio, 67 a week here in Colum-

bus. We should mourn them. We should remember them.

"We also come together to learn," she continued. "Our testimonies today are not by accident. Marcy (Niendam, who preceded Vanderkooi on the platform) shared her story (of the effects of having an abortion) not just as part of her journey, but that our hearts might be touched and that when we next encounter someone who has had an abortion, we can help them with resources and support and dignity.

"Our third annual purpose is that we come together to be united as people of life and to be invigorated for the year to come.

"This year, we also are here to celebrate the overturn of *Roe* because it was a good decision and a good day. But it is a celebration that must be tempered by our own steadfast decision to that act of seeing in each person the image and likeness of God and treating them accordingly."

Niendam said that although it has been more than 40 years since she had an abortion as a teenager, the impact of her decision continued for decades, in part because of what she described as "disenfranchised grief – the common notion that parents who abort their children don't have anything to grieve, or even a right to grieve."

A few years ago, she and her husband, who had gotten away from religion, started going back to church, but it didn't help her. "I was hearing the Gospel, but I felt I had done the unforgivable and that salvation would not be for me. I could not get my brain and my heart in sync," she said. In time she recognized this was a continued reaction to the trauma of her abortion.

Her life changed when a speaker from the Pregnancy Decision Health Centers (PDHC) came to her church and talked about the organization's work with pregnant mothers and with women needing healing and recovery after abortions. She called PDHC, received a response within an hour and began what she describes as an ongoing healing journey that has given her the knowledge that her aborted son has forgiven her and is waiting for her.

"The biggest 'good' to come from my abortion is that it eventually led me back to the Church," she said. "My son actually saved my life in the loss of his."

Bishop Earl Fernandes gave the invocation for the event and noted that Michigan voters in November approved a pro-abortion constitutional amendment similar to what's being proposed for Ohio.

"Here in Ohio, we must say, 'This must end!'" he said. "The people in that state up north may want abortion, but for us, it ends here! If we don't protect the rights of the most vulnerable members of society, then everyone becomes just as vulnerable."

Bishop Fernandes also was the prin-



Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost speaks at the Roe Remembrance in the Ohio Statehouse Atrium.

CT photo by Ken Snow

cipal celebrant for the diocese's annual Respect Life Mass, held before the Roe Remembrance in Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral. In his homily, he spoke movingly of the example set by his parents. "They generously accepted their freedom as creators to bring forth new life: five boys – three physicians, a magistrate and a bishop," he said.

He recalled a situation when he was about 10 years old in which his father, a doctor, took over the case of a woman pregnant with triplets whose original physician wanted to abort two of the babies. All three were born, and the first-born was named Sidney, after the bishop's father.

"I was so proud of my dad," he said. "He saved three lives that day, right where God had placed him. He wasn't a superhero – just my dad, who understood what it meant to care for, nurture and cherish human life."

As he has done before, Bishop Fernandes said he hoped to spend the next 25 years in Columbus, ending his homily by saying, "As long as I have breath in my body, I want to follow the example of my parents, who did everything they could (at this point it sounded as though he was near tears) to set an example of faith."

Gov. Mike DeWine and several members of the Ohio Legislature and state agency directors also were at the Mass. The governor did not attend the remembrance event because of other commitments, but he has spoken at it in the past.

Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost and Secretary of State Frank LaRose were speakers at the Statehouse. "For the first time in 50 years, *Roe* is not the law of the land," Yost said. "The courts have returned the issue to the states, and because

of that, we are in uncharted waters. Now the contest is for the hearts and minds of millions rather than just a few justices."

Yost expressed gratitude to his moth-



Worthington St. Michael eighth-grade students and the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist pray during the annual Respect Life Mass on Monday, Jan. 23 at St. Joseph Cathedral. CT photo by Ken Snow



Bishop Earl Fernandes speaks at the Roe Remembrance in the Ohio Statehouse. CT photo by Ken Snow



Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine and wife Fran attend the Respect Life Mass at St. Joseph Cathedral. Photo courtesy Larry Pishitelli



Students from Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School sit in the front pew at St. Joseph Cathedral during the Respect Life Mass. CT photo by Ken Snow

## A bonding opportunity through the Catechism

I was inspired in the new year to beef up my study of the faith. To that end, like many of you, I signed up for the Catechism in a year podcasts with Father Mike Schmitz. It has been an interesting and insightful journey so far. In the past, the Catechism has been helpful to me in answering specific questions, in outlining the dimensions of social justice, and in providing clarity on social and moral issues. However, I never read the Catechism from cover to cover. So this year, immersing myself in God's revelation, its transmission through tradition and sacred scripture, and our response in faith, has brought an organic freshness to my understanding of the faith of my Baptism, over 65 years ago.

On the last day of January reading paragraphs 222-231 on the implications of faith in one God, I was struck by the expression of necessary consequences of our believing in God, who is the ground of all existence, who is merciful and gracious, who is truth, and who is love. The Catechism lists five such consequences. It means coming to know God's greatness and majesty. It means living in thanksgiving. It means knowing the unity and true dignity of all people. It means making good use of created things. And it means trusting God in every circumstance. Of these five, "knowing the unity and true dignity of all people" initiated a desire to go deeper in study and reflection.

To a student of the law, the Catechism is extensively internally cross referenced, like the Uniform Commer-

### FAITH IN ACTION | Mark Huddy

Mark Huddy is the Episcopal Moderator for Catholic Charities and the Office for Social Concerns in the Diocese of Columbus.



cial Code, complete with source citations. On one of the cross-referenced sections, I was led to the first encyclical of Pope Pius XII, *Summi Pontificatus*, on the Unity of Human Society. Issued in 1939 and commemorating the 40th anniversary of the consecration of all mankind to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, it was a response to the destructive nationalism, racism and institutional violence of the times. Pope Pius XII writes of the origins of humankind, created by God in His image and likeness: "A marvelous vision, which makes us see the human race in the unity of one common origin in 'one God and Father of all, Who is above all, and through all and in us all' (Eph iv. 6); in the unity of nature which in every man is equally composed of material body and spiritual, immortal soul; in the unity of the immediate end and mission in the world; in the unity of dwelling place, the earth, of whose resources all men can by natural right avail themselves, to sustain and develop life; in the unity of the supernatural end, God Himself, to Whom all should tend; in the unity of means to secure that end." (p. 38) Pius describes these supernatural truths as forming "the strongest possible bond of a union, that is reinforced by the love of God and of our Di-

vine Redeemer." (p. 41)

In a world that has become so tragically polarized and divisive, how can we recover our sense of that bond of union that underscores human solidarity and makes us family? We can be quick to recognize our sacredness and our dignity, even our call to relationship. Why is that bond of unity so easily ignored? Lent, which begins on February 22, is an opportunity to intentionally cultivate that bond, especially by seeing the poor, vulnerable and marginalized in our community and responding to their needs through almsgiving and service. A volunteer listing may be found at <https://columbuscatholic.org/social-concerns/volunteer-opportunities>. February is Black History month and is an opportunity to learn and embrace some of the missing pieces of the history of our human family that may not have been part of our education. St. Matthew the Apostle Church and its Julia Greely Committee are offering a book club reading opportunity for the next six weeks on Fr. Josh Johnson's book, *On Earth As it is in Heaven: Restoring God's Vision on Race and Discipleship*. To sign up go to: <https://stmatthew.net/racial-justice>.

It is our Baptism in Christ that allows us to "put on the new self which is being renewed in the image of the Creator where there is neither Gentile nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, barbarian nor Scythian, slave nor free. But Christ is all in all." (1 Col 3:10-11)

## Your marriage is the Gospel you preach to your children

My husband and I got caught in a moment the other day, and I hope that and many moments like it stay with my daughter.

It all started with me walking into my closet to grab a sweater as the house was chilly in the morning. Our closet is connected to the laundry room, but the door was shut. As I walked into the closet my husband was grabbing a sweater also. He pulled me into a hug, raised his eyebrows and turned off the lights to give me a smooch.

Of course, at that same moment, my daughter opens the door and feigns trauma at the sight (Gasp!) of her parents kissing in their closet. As she runs out muttering, "All I wanted was a pair of socks," we chuckle, grab our sweaters and head back out for our morning coffee.

Solomon 2:16: "My beloved is mine and I am his."

My husband refers to me as his beloved, his bright eyes, his beautiful bride. I often refer to him as my boyfriend to my children. I point out how handsome he is. I speak his goodness out loud to them always. These names of endearment are written on Christmas tags and love notes, and our children will on occasion say, "Dad, do you want me to get your beloved for you?"

It's cute, yes, but also has deeper roots. I cannot remember a firm decision early on to live out our marriage vows so visibly, and yet there has always been a recognition of the value of the gift we have been given.

Early on, my heart would smile at the thought of him. His face would light up when I came through the door. Twenty-five years later, it is an easy gift to remind myself to look up and smile when he enters, not out of force, but

### ALL THAT WE HAVE

#### MaryBeth Eberhard

MaryBeth Eberhard writes about marriage, life experiences of a large family and special needs. She attends Sunbury St. John Neumann Church.



to treasure that moment, to not let it grow old. The same goes for dancing in the kitchen or snuggling on the couch.

Love lived out visibly and intentionally within a marriage puts physical intimacy in the right context. My teenage children sometimes groan when their father kisses me with a passion that makes me blush. He smiles, raises an eyebrow and holds up our hands with our wedding rings. There is eye rolling, but I know they hold this truth deep in their hearts. They are growing up in a family where love is spoken, love is shown and love is celebrated.

Physical intimacy is important in a marriage – necessary actually. However, a love lived out in service and prayer for the other is the physical demonstration beyond the intimate of how we sacrifice for each other out of love for the other.

We do the dishes because we love the person who will use them next. (Thank you, Mother Teresa). We make little sacrifices to train ourselves to make bigger ones later.

For instance, I make two omelets. I plate one on a green plate and one on an orange plate. My favorite color is green. I put the nice fork on the green plate and the cheaper fork from college days with the orange one. I bring the green plate to my husband. He doesn't care which plate.

He doesn't even notice, and that's OK. The Lord does.

We do small things with great love, and they form us to do bigger things with just a little love, because there are times that it is hard to feel loving, and big challenges hit hard against the fortress of a marriage. Marriages and families are fortified by these many little offerings.

Venerable Father Patrick Peyton says, "The family that prays together stays together." We pray together as a family, but more important our children see my husband and I pray for and with each other. We have made the choice to have this time be visible for our children. This is our foundation, and they need to see the beams that hold up the house as much as the kisses, hand holding and dancing that make the house look beautiful.

They are welcome to grab a cup of tea and join us as we pray together, and, sometimes, they do, but mostly they nod, smile and carry on. But these seeds of how to love your spouse are planted. Living the Gospel in such a way that the Father's love is made visible for our children is our calling as parents.

It is intriguing to me that my children who are away from the Church right now bring their friends here for meals or to share conversations. They smile sheepishly, but I see their pride that there is love in this home, and you can feel it. That love is Jesus made visible.

In the same way, I imagine Jesus' eyes lighting up when we enter His kingdom. May our words and actions within our marriage illuminate God's love to all those whom we encounter.

### ROE, continued from Page 3

er-in-law for the choice that allowed his wife to be born, adding, "That choice had ripples – first in our kids and now in our grandkids – and those will continue." He urged listeners to continue their pro-life efforts by "writing a new story, making a new commitment and speaking a new language of love to succeeding genera-

tions."

"It's not enough to be anti-abortion," LaRose said. "To be truly pro-life, you have to be pro-mother and pro-child." As the official in charge of state elections, LaRose acknowledged the likelihood of a pro-abortion ballot measure and reminded his listeners, "You've got

to be registered to vote to make your voice heard. Don't assume your family and friends are registered. Talk to them, and get them to register if they aren't."

Jamie Scherdin, Ohio regional coordinator of the national Students for Life organization, said her organization is on more than 1,300 campuses nationwide,

making it the nation's largest pro-life group for young adults and spoke of the post-Roe blueprint of its political arm, Students for Life Action.

"We won't rest till we make abortion unthinkable and unavailable," she said. "I have confidence we will abolish abortion in my lifetime."

		START	END
<b>2/22</b>	ASH WEDNESDAY, St. Joseph Cathedral	8:00 AM	8:00 PM
	ASH WEDNESDAY, Church of the Holy Trinity	7:00 AM	9:00 PM
<b>23</b>	St. Mary of the Assumption - Lancaster	9:00 AM	9:00 PM
<b>24</b>	St. Mary Portsmouth	7:00 AM	7:00 PM
	Our Lady of Perpetual Help	9:00 AM	9:00 PM
<b>25</b>	St. Matthew the Apostle - Gahanna	7:00 AM	5:00 PM
<b>26</b>	St. Matthew the Apostle - Gahanna	7:00 AM	5:00 PM
<b>27</b>	St Mark	9:00 AM	9:00 PM
	St Joan of Arc	9:00 AM	5:00 PM
<b>28</b>	St. Joseph, Circleville	7:30 PM	12:00 AM
<b>3/1</b>	St. Joseph, Circleville	9:30 AM	2:00 PM
<b>2</b>	St. Patrick, London	6:30 PM	8:30 PM
	St. Francis de Sales Parish, Newark	7:00 PM	10:00 PM
<b>3</b>	St. Vincent de Paul Parish	5:00 AM	5:15 PM
	St Mary, Marion	4:00 PM	7:00 PM
	Seton Parish	9:00 AM	9:00 AM
	Our Lady of Lourdes, Marysville	8:30 AM	6:00 PM
	St Cecilia Parish	10:30 AM	9:00 PM
<b>4</b>	Sacred Hearts, Cardington	9:15 AM	3:15 PM
<b>5</b>	St.Catharine	6:00 AM	12:00AM
<b>6</b>	St. Christopher	9:30 AM	4:00 PM
	Blessed Sacrament, Newark	8:30 AM	8:00 PM
<b>7</b>	Church of the Ascension, Johnstown	9:00 AM	9:00 PM
<b>8</b>	St. John XXIII	9:00 AM	9:00 PM
	Immaculate Conception	7:00 AM	6:00 PM
	St.Brendan the Navigator	8:00 AM	7:00 PM
<b>9</b>	St. Margaret of Cortona	9:00 AM	7:00 PM
<b>10</b>	St. John Neumann	9:00 AM	6:00 PM
	St. Patrick, Columbus	7:30PM	12:00 AM
<b>11</b>	St. Patrick, Columbus	12:00 AM	4:30 PM
<b>12</b>	Immaculate Conception, Kenton	10:00 AM	9:00 PM
<b>13</b>	St. Mary Magdalene, Columbus	8:30 AM	6:45 PM
<b>14</b>	Ss. Simon & Jude West Jefferson	12:00 PM	6:00 P.M.
	St.Dominic	8:30	6:00 PM



\* Please check Church bulletin for updated times

		START	END
<b>15</b>	Jackson Vinton Consortium - SPP Location	9:00 AM	8:30 PM
	St. Pius X	9:30 AM	6:00 PM
<b>16</b>	Our Lady of Peace	9:00 AM	7:00 PM
<b>17</b>	Our Lady of Victory	8:30AM	4:00 PM
<b>18</b>	Sacred Heart, Coshocton	8:30 AM	4:30 PM
<b>19</b>	St. Leo Oratory	11:00 AM	9:00 PM
	Holy Rosary/ St. John the Evangelist Church	10:30 AM	5:00 PM
<b>20</b>	St. Joseph Dover	6:00 AM	6:00 PM
<b>21</b>	St. Mary Mother of God German Village	7:00 AM	6:15 PM
<b>22</b>	St. Agatha	9:00 AM	7:00 PM
<b>23</b>	Church of the Resurrection	9:30 AM	9:00 PM
<b>24</b>	St. Mary Delaware	9:30 AM	3/25 9AM
<b>25</b>	Holy Family Church	9:30 AM	10:00 PM
<b>26</b>	St. Rose of Lima, New Lex.	11:30 AM	5:00 PM
<b>27</b>	Saint Thomas	9:00 AM	8:00 PM
<b>28</b>	St. Thomas More Newman Center	8:00 AM	8:00 PM
<b>29</b>	Christ the King	7:15 AM	9:00 PM
<b>30</b>	St. Paul the Apostle	9:15 AM	6:00 PM
<b>31</b>	Our Lady of Lourdes, Ada	9:30 AM	9:00 PM
<b>4/1</b>	St. Bernadette, Lancaster	12:00 AM	4/1 4PM
<b>2</b>	St. Catharine, Columbus	6:00 AM	12:00 AM

## Young believers knew holiness is possible

By Sister John Paul Maher, OP

Today, there is an apparent crisis of unbelief and preference for the unholy. Yet, the past century has seen a resurgence in saints and martyrs, even among the young. (See Robert Royal's *The Catholic Martyrs of the Twentieth Century*, 2000.)

Seemingly, against all odds, there are stories of holiness emerging from ordinary people, across various ages and nationalities, who are captivated by Christ, nourished by Him in the Eucharist, filled with His grace and accompanied by His mother in prayer.

Holiness should not be a surprise to those who know the way of grace. The Lord defies odds, always and everywhere, with His mercy and love. Truth be told, we are living in a time of superabundant grace.

In recent years, holiness in "ordinary" young people can be seen, such as in the lives of Blessed Chiara Badano (1971-1990), Blessed Carlo Acutis (1991-2006) and Venerable Matteo Farina (1990-2009).

In November 2022, the bishops of the United States advanced the cause for sainthood of another young person, Michelle Duppong (1984-2015).

Duppong grew up on her family's farm in North Dakota and later served as a FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) missionary before dying of cancer on Christmas Day. While she prayed for a miracle of healing, she also prayed that God's will be done.

While serving as a director of faith formation, Duppong wrote a column, called "Run to Win," for the Di-

ocese of Bismarck. Her March 2, 2015, article, "Seeking Holiness in the Ordinary," contained encouragement for readers: "You were made to be a saint. Do you believe that? Do you think you can do it? I want to remind you that there's no doubt in God's mind that you CAN do it! He made you for it."

Duppong possessed a youthful clarity of mind and simplicity of heart that trusted in the Lord's promises. She believed in God's grace and her personal mission to become a saint.

This sense of mission is worth reflecting on in our own lives. Do we possess this desire to respond to God's love and to help Him reach souls? If not, we can ask God for this grace.

Do we believe the young people in our families, schools and communities are also called to holiness and capable of responding to God's grace? If not, we can ask for the grace to see them with God's eyes.

Are we prepared to present Jesus and the truth of the Gospel to the young, giving them access to a life of lasting happiness and holiness? If not, let us ask God how we can become His instruments for them.

Greater access to holiness also means more access to the sacraments.

Pope Francis has been instrumental in advancing the holiness of young people by encouraging greater availability of the sacraments. One example of this is seen in the life of Carlotta Nobile (1988-2013).

Nobile was profoundly impacted by hearing Pope Francis' first homily in St. Peter's Square, which took place on March 24, 2013, World Youth Day and Palm Sunday. In the homily, he asked young people to carry

the cross with joy. Nobile had already been diagnosed with cancer, but the pope's words inspired her to seek out confession for the first time in years.

Days later, she found only one church open as she looked for a place to confess. She learned later that the only reason that church was open at that time was because the parish priest had met with Pope Francis the day before. The Holy Father had encouraged him to "keep the doors open" to hear confessions all day Good Friday. As a result, he was there when Nobile arrived.

That day began a process of deep conversion for Nobile, and she faced her cross in a new way. ("Young Witnesses" from the XV Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, 2018, at [secretariat.synod.va](http://secretariat.synod.va))

Nobile later wrote to the Holy Father, saying, "You have changed my life. I am honored and blessed to be able to carry the Cross with joy at the age of 24. I know that cancer has healed my soul, by loosening all my interior knots and giving me Faith, Trust, Surrender. ... I trust in the Lord." (from "Dear Pope Francis, Cancer Has Healed by Soul," [Aleteia.org](http://Aleteia.org), April 27, 2016)

Nobile and Duppong encountered Jesus through others. They responded to this grace, grasped it personally and lived the remainder of their lives in relationship with God.

Let us pray and live to help other young people do the same.

Sister John Paul Maher, OP, is principal of Worthington St. Michael School and a member of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist.

## Rainbow that symbolizes God's covenant has been usurped

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. — Ephesians 6:11-12

I'm not sure if all readers bought into my thesis on our losing the message/meaning of Christmas to the secularists. The unfortunate aspect is that many of us are unwittingly aiding and abetting the secularists.

Even though the war is won and death defeated, the enemy is still fighting for every last soul. Following is an example how the enemy has recently achieved a victory. (By the way, in C.S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters*, who is the Enemy?)

What has the enemy won? They have effectively appropriated/usurped the sign of a covenant.

First, what is a covenant? A covenant is a solemn agreement between human beings (such as marriage) or between God and man, involving mutual commitments or guarantees.

If someone asks if you have a "personal relationship"

### AQUINAS CORNER | Richard Arnold

Richard Arnold, a parishioner at Chillicothe St. Mary, holds an MA in Catechetics and Evangelization from Franciscan University of Steubenville and is a husband and a father to two children.



with Jesus, you should respond that you have a covenantal relationship with Jesus, which is vastly more meaningful.

Two covenants are in effect.

One is the covenant through Christ's death, the sacrifice of the New Covenant, which restores man to communion with God by reconciling him to God through the "blood of the covenant, which was poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." We renew this covenant at every Mass.

The other is the covenant with Noah after the flood. It gives expression to the principle of the divine economy toward the "nations," in other words, toward men grouped "in their lands, each with (its) own language, by their families, in their nations." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, CCC, 56)

The covenant with Noah remains in force during the times of the Gentiles, until the universal proclamation of the Gospel. (CCC 58)

What is the sign of the covenant with Noah?

"And God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never

again become a flood to destroy all flesh.'

"When the bow is in the clouds, I will look upon it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth.' God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth.'" (Genesis 9:12-17)

What do people say or think of the rainbow as sign or symbol of today? How many are going to think of Noah? Test your kids.

This loss was long in coming. If countered at the beginning, there still would be a battle going on. We have lost this battle spectacularly. We might claw back some who were lost, but it will take everyone's effort.

An example of an ongoing battle is the one being fought in academia. Why is this important? Because textbooks for our kids are being written or published by either non-religious or those who have bought into "political correctness."

It has to do with labeling years. We are used to books that identify years as either "B.C.," meaning "before Christ," or "A.D.," meaning "anno Domini," Latin for "year of our Lord."

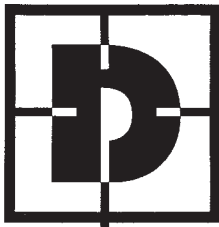
An increasing number of books/literature (even religious material) is using "B.C.E.," meaning "before common era," as a substitute for "B.C.," and "C.E.," meaning "common era," as a substitute for "A.D." They don't change the years; they just remove Christ as the reference point.

I get that we are at the mercy of powerful entities such as publishing houses that publish school textbooks that are adopting this notation at an increasing rate. But we can fight back.

How? Every incidence of B.C.E. and C.E. pen/ink B.C. and A.D. over it.

The enemy is just as happy if we die a death by 1,000 cuts. He is a long-game player. He lost the war but is still fighting. We cannot cede an inch.

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# After Roe, focused effort needed in fight against abortion

By Michael LaMorte

Walls and warfare have a long history. For biblical examples, we can look to the walls surrounding Jericho in the sixth chapter of Joshua or to the walls the Jebusites built to protect Jerusalem, which were later fortified by David, Solomon and Hezekiah.

The breaching and building of the walls surrounding Jerusalem is a recurring theme, with Nehemiah, the Maccabees, King Herod, Agrippa I and Suleiman each taking a turn erecting walls to protect the city.

The castles and city walls of the Middle Ages are more contemporary examples, finding their way into movies such as *Braveheart* and *Robin Hood* and even fantastical tales such as *The Princess Bride*.

St. Joan of Arc's exploits while taking the bastion at the battle of Orléans are legendary. And though modern armaments have greatly diminished the efficacy of walls in combat, they are still employed as defensive measures because they work.

History, however, has shown that even the best walls fall if the attacker is persistent (or creative) enough. But just breaching the wall does not win the battle; the attacker must go to the other side of the wall and continue the fight.

Once there, he realizes that the fight has changed. Past the breach, the blunt force bombardments of cannons, catapults, archers and battering rams give way to hand-

to-hand combat with swords, maces and clubs. A generalized attack becomes personal.

For 49 years, *Roe v. Wade* was the wall defending abortion. As Catholics, we organized and fought to bring down that wall. We participated in the March for Life and "40 Days for Life" activities across the nation. We started pregnancy crisis centers. We campaigned for lawmakers and lobbied for laws.

And we used the most effective weapon of all: prayer. We were tireless and relentless.

When *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* was accepted to be heard by the U.S. Supreme Court, we could feel the ground shifting. Those attacking the wall pressed on, buoyed with renewed enthusiasm. Those defending the wall were gripped by fear.

The first rumble of the bastion's collapse was heard when the draft of the court's majority ruling was leaked. Cries of "the wall is giving way!" were met with cheers on one side and shrieks on the other. As Joshua told the Israelites just before the walls of Jericho fell: "Shout: for the Lord hath delivered the city to you."

Desperate attempts to defend the wall – and persuade even one Supreme Court justice to switch his or her position – were attempted, but to no avail. On June 24, 2022, the solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

and the feast of St. John the Baptist, the wall was breached.

Now that we are past the breach, the face of the battle has rapidly changed. Our blunt force attacks – marches and prayer vigils for the general objective of an end to abortion – must change. Our efforts must be more focused, more specific and more targeted.

Where before we faced an enemy wall in front of us, now the attacks from pro-abortion forces come from all around us. We are in spiritual hand-to-hand combat.

City councils across the nation have passed resolutions condemning the Supreme Court decision overturning *Roe* or have made resolutions protecting "reproductive health-care access." Unelected officials – such as those who run county public health commissions – seek to spend taxpayer money on "comprehensive reproductive care" lobbying. And ballot measures, including potentially two here in Ohio, seek to enshrine abortion in state constitutions.

For Catholics, this phase of the battle against abortion means constant vigilance and engagement. It means we must pray for this person and call or email about that resolution, as opposed to praying for a more general "end to abortion."

Organizing a trip to attend the March for Life is nothing in comparison to the effort this next phase of the battle will take; our final push will require commitment to daily

engagement on all fronts, accepting no compromises.

Theirs is a battle of desperation, the last attempts of an army on the brink of destruction. Ours is a battle against our own complacency. Only if we assume the final victory – or hesitate in fighting for it – will we lose.

At Orléans, the English at the bastion of Les Tourelles attempted to flee over a bridge that the French had set on fire. The bridge collapsed, and between 400 and 500 Englishmen perished. The French were saddened because they had hoped to collect a ransom for English prisoners of war. St. Joan, on the other hand, wept for the death of the Englishmen.

In this phase of our battle against the pro-abortionists, we must quickly adapt to one-on-one engagements and win people's souls without losing our own.

Now that we have breached the wall of *Roe*, let us defeat all on the other side, not with swords or sharp tongues but with prayer and the assistance of our guardian angels when confronting opposition.

Let us go into the last stage of this battle fighting so that not only will the lives of the innocents be saved, but also that our opponents' hardened hearts be converted and their souls saved as well.

*Michael LaMorte is the founder of www.catholictreehouse.com.*

## Abortion statistics for 23 counties in diocese

COUNTY	2020 ABORTIONS <sup>1</sup>	2021 ABORTIONS <sup>1</sup>	CHANGE	10-YEAR CHANGE	2020 ABORTION RATE <sup>2</sup>	2021 ABORTION RATE <sup>2</sup>	GROWTH
Coshocton	16	12	-4	-8	3.57%	2.75%	-0.83%
Delaware	131	166	35	2	6.11%	7.01%	0.91%
Fairfield	151	152	1	3	8.42%	8.08%	-0.34%
Fayette	20	29	9	3	5.59%	8.33%	2.75%
Franklin	3115	3399	284	-130	15.11%	16.37%	1.26%
Hardin	14	24	10	2	3.47%	5.93%	2.45%
Hocking	13	15	2	-11	4.35%	5.23%	0.88%
Holmes	5	9	4	-7	0.60%	1.09%	0.49%
Jackson	17	20	3	-3	4.26%	5.17%	0.91%
Knox	41	39	-2	-4	5.42%	4.74%	-0.68%
Licking	151	185	34	-20	7.55%	8.62%	1.07%
Madison	35	30	-5	-5	7.48%	6.59%	-0.89%
Marion	58	72	14	3	7.83%	9.23%	1.40%
Morrow	9	18	9	-14	2.51%	4.42%	1.92%
Muskingum	69	72	3	-9	6.37%	6.84%	0.48%
Perry	12	23	11	-18	2.80%	5.78%	2.98%
Pickaway	39	50	11	11	5.80%	7.44%	1.64%
Pike	11	12	1	-7	3.11%	3.54%	0.43%
Ross	44	62	18	5	5.58%	6.93%	1.35%
Scioto	33	34	1	-19	4.02%	4.63%	0.61%
Tuscarawas	74	80	6	-17	6.51%	6.38%	-0.12%
Union	37	29	-8	-16	5.05%	3.95%	-1.11%
Vinton	4	6	2	-3	3.36%	3.97%	0.61%
TOTAL	6119	6559	439	-262	15.39%	16.17%	0.78%

Overall, the number of abortions performed on women residing in the Diocese of Columbus increased by 439 last year. Only four counties (Union, Coshocton, Madison and Knox) saw a decrease from the number of abortions performed the year before. In all, the total number of abortions performed on women living within the Diocese of Columbus has declined by 262 in the past 10 years.

One of the goals of Greater Columbus Right to Life's abortion rate project is to look at the number of abortions that are happening within broader context, including total population and birthrate. This helps to identify areas that might have a relatively low (or high) total number of abortions but where shifts suggest the need to identify ways to help the local pro-life community – or learn from their success.

Overall, one of the areas of concern is not only the total number of abortions but also the total number of abortions when compared with live births. Overall, within the Diocese of Columbus, just over 16 of every 100 pregnancies ends in abortion. This figure is largely influenced by Franklin County, which has much higher abortions and births than the rest of the diocese. If Franklin County is removed from the calculations, just over six of every 100 pregnancies would end in abortion. Statewide, about 14% of pregnancies end in abortion. This ranges from less than one percent in Lawrence County to nearly 27% in Cuyahoga County.

Year-to-year figures provide one snapshot of what is happening in a community, but they do not paint an entire picture. This is why Greater Columbus Right to Life is engaged in this project long term and provides it as a resource throughout the state.

<sup>1</sup>Abortions as reported by the Ohio Department of Health's Annual Abortion Statistics Report  
<sup>2</sup>We calculate the abortion rate as a comparison of the number of abortions per (otherwise) viable pregnancy by using birthrate information as reported to the Ohio Department of Health. This does not include miscarriages or stillbirths in Ohio, whether recorded before or after 20 weeks.

## Order priests, nuns mark anniversaries of service

Forty-seven members of religious orders who live or serve in the diocese were recognized on the World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life at a holy hour and Mass celebrated by Bishop Earl Fernandes on Friday, Feb. 3 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.

The religious sisters and priests comprise 10 orders based in the United States and abroad. The largest group of jubilarians include members of the congregation of the Dominican Sisters of Peace, whose motherhouse is located on east side of Columbus.

Dominican Sister Agnes Imelda Frohnapfel, OP is the longest serving nun, celebrating her 80th anniversary in consecrated life this year. Sister Rose Bowen, OP is observing her 75th anniversary. Six other Dominican sisters have reached their 70th anniversary.

Father Stephen Dominic Hayes, OP, a Dominican friar at Columbus St. Patrick

Priory, and Father Andrzej Kozminski, SAC, a member of the Pallottine Fathers, are the longest-serving priests among the honorees. Both will reach their 35th anniversaries this year.

Religious from other orders also were in attendance at the cathedral for a program that started with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The Holy Rosary followed, with the first mystery recited in English by a consecrated virgin, the second in Spanish by the Daughters of Holy Mary, the third in Polish by the Dominican Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, the fourth in Hindi by the Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the fifth in Italian by the Bridgettine Sisters.

After silent prayers, Vespers and Benediction, Bishop Fernandes celebrated a Mass with the participating priests. The gathering ended with a reception and dinner with the bishop.

The 2023 jubilarians are:

**80th anniversary:** Sister Agnes Imelda Frohnapfel, OP. 75th anniversary: Sister Rose Bowen, OP. 70th anniversary: Sister Sylvia Bourgeois, OP; Sister Marita Charley, OP; Sister Mary Judene Lillie, OP; Sister Noreen Malone, OP; Sister Mary Josetta Mayer, OP; Sister Louis Mary Passeri, OP.

**65th anniversary:** Sister Kathleen Andrews, OP; Sister Germaine Conroy, OP; Sister Dorothy Gerlica, SCN; Sister Anne Keenan, OP; Sister Mary Meenan, OP; Sister Dolores Pfeiffer, OP; Sister Doris Regan, OP; Sister Mary Aimee Ryan, OP; Sister Carol Ann Spencer, OP.

**60th anniversary:** Sister Angelica Armstrong, OP; Sister Mary Ellen Bennett, OP; Sister Shirley Bodisch, OP; Sister Ann Brown, O.Carm; Sister Brigid Cannon, OP; Sister Kathleen Cannon, OP; Sister Eileen Csuk, OP; Sister Mary Faith Dargan, OP; Sister Mary Shawn

Fitzpatrick, OP; Sister Jeannine Haloran, OP; Sister Margaret Hoffman, OSF; Sister Monique Huart, FMA; Sister Therese Leckert, OP; Sister Madeline O'Neill, OP; Sister Christella Ritchey, OSF; Sister Teresa Tuite, OP; Sister Joan Supel, OP.

**55th anniversary:** Sister Gemma Doll, OP; Sister Rosemary Loomis, OP; Sister Valerie Shaul, OP; Sister Marie Miller, OSF.

**50th anniversary:** Sister Leonard Mary, FIH. 45th anniversary: Sister Annemary Miller, SNDdeN.

**35th anniversary:** Father Stephen Dominic Hayes, OP; Father Andrzej Kozminski, SAC; Sister Ritha Tibangayuka, CDNK.

**30th anniversary:** Father Paul Jerome Keller, OP; Father Patrick Watikha, AJ.

**25th anniversary:** Sister Andrea Andrzejewska, O.P.; Sister Leonarda Zielinska, O.P.

## 'Inclusion' and Catholicism

Back in the day, kiddie-Catholics learned that the Church had four "marks:" the Church is one, holy, catholic (as in "universal"), and apostolic. These marks derived from the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed, which we recite at Mass on Sundays and liturgical solemnities. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches that the Church "does not possess" these "inseparably linked" characteristics "of herself;" rather, "it is Christ who, through the Holy Spirit, makes his Church one, holy, catholic, and apostolic, and it is he who calls her to realize each of these qualities" (CCC 811).

You will note that "inclusive" is not one of the marks of the Church given by Christ, although "universal" is. Distinctions, as ever, are important.

Universality must characterize the Church's evangelical mission, for the Lord commanded us to go and "... make disciples of all nations ..." (Matthew 28:19). And a certain kind of inclusivity denotes a crucial ecclesial reality: "For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28). Moreover, the Church is called by the Lord to serve everyone, not just the Church's own; as historical sociologist Rodney Stark has pointed out, paleo-Christian care for the sick who were not of the household of faith attracted converts in classical antiquity, when the sick were typically abandoned, even by their own families.

Those expressions of ecclesial inclusivity (or catholicity, or universality) are not, however, what contemporary woke culture means by being "inclusive." As typically used today, "inclusion" is code for accepting everyone's definition of self as if that self-definition obviously cohered with reality, was inherently unchallengeable, and

### THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

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thus commanded affirmation.

It is worth noting in this context that the Lord Jesus practiced some serious exclusion on occasion. Thus his exclusion from beatitude of one kind of sinner: "Whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness ..." (Mark 3:29). And his condemnation of the pitiless: "Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matthew 25:41). And the fate of the one who tempts the innocent: "It would be better for him if a millstone were hung round his neck and he were cast into the sea ..." (Luke 17:2). And his determination to cast "fire upon the earth" (Luke 12:49) and burn out all that was contrary to the Kingdom of God.

The question of "inclusion" and the Church's self-understanding was recently raised by an article published in *America* by Cardinal Robert McElroy (<https://www.americamagazine.org/faith/2023/01/24/mcelroy-synodality-inclusion-244587>), because the sensibility on display in the cardinal's article is not that of the Bible, the Fathers of the Church, the Second Vatican Council, or the *Catechism*. It is the sensibility of woke culture's obsession with "inclusion."

The article suggests, if elliptically, that, because of concerns about inclusion, the ordination of women to the ministerial priesthood and the moral integrity of gay sex are open questions. But that is not the settled teach-

ing of the Catholic Church. How can a highly intelligent man who has taken solemn oaths in which he accepted that teaching and promised to uphold it can think otherwise?

Like contemporary woke culture, the cardinal's article seems to regard gender theory as a secular form of revealed truth. In fact, theories of culturally-constructed "gender" and "gender fluidity" flatly contradict divine revelation: "... male and female he created them" (Genesis 1:27).

The article makes extravagant (and unsourced) claims about widespread "animus" against "the LGBT communities," deeming such "visceral" attitudes "demonic." But Cardinal McElroy has nothing to say about the severe (and readily documentable) cultural, professional and legal pressures brought to bear on those who refuse to go woke about the proper ordering of human love.

Woke inclusion-mania's anthem is Frank Sinatra's childish concept of freedom: "I did it my way." Burning incense at the altar of such infantilism is not going to bring men and women to the Christ who linked freedom to truth: "... you will know the truth and the truth will make you free" (John 8:32). The Catholic Church is a communion of men and women, all of whom struggle with human weakness when confronting the vicissitudes of the human condition. But that communion of disciples has also been given the truths that truly liberate by the Lord himself — truths that are not subject to affirmation or denial by discussion groups. As the biblical author reminded his readers (and us), "Do not be led astray by all kinds of strange teaching. ..." (Hebrew 13:9), which imperils evangelization.

Woke "inclusion" is not authentic catholicity.

### MAN OF THE YEAR, continued from Page 2

for Bishop Fernandes and the priests and religious in the diocese.

Other Catholic Man of the Year nominees were John Albright of Chillicothe St. Peter Church, Robert Brehm of Columbus Our Lady of Peace, David Breitmayer of Newark St. Francis de Sales, Victor Campanelli of Danville St. Luke, Joseph

Finneran of Columbus St. Andrew, Michael Haller of Chillicothe St. Mary, Robert Lagnese of Waverly St. Mary, Alan Mooney and Jim Severance of Columbus Holy Family, Matt Palmer of Columbus St. Catharine, John Reiner of Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare, Jeff Thomas of Johnstown Church of the Ascension and Tom

Wagner of Pickerington St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Representatives from the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club, Knights of Columbus, Young Catholic Professionals, the Catholic Men's Ministry and the Serra Club selected Yang from the list of nominees and presented their recommenda-

tion to Bishop Fernandes for approval.

The 2022 recipient was Dr. Allen Lewis of Sunbury St. John Neumann Church.

The award, established in 1957 and given to John Igoe of Columbus St. Agatha Church, has been presented every year since then except in 2021 after the COVID-19 pandemic.



## Clergy use cooking talents to benefit Josephinum

Father Thomas Gardner of Coshocton Sacred Heart Church had the most popular dish, and Father Timothy Lynch and Deacon Paul Zemanek of Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church raised the most money at the 13th annual Clergy Who Cook event at the Jessing Center of the Pontifical College Josephinum on Friday, Jan. 27.

Father Gardner's Christmas sliders received the People's Choice award, and the stuffed pepper soup made by Father Lynch and Deacon Zemanek was awarded Grand Chef honors.

The preserved salmon canapes with lemon-dill cream cheese from Father Stephen Dominic Hayes, OP, of Columbus St. Patrick Priory were voted as Most Complex among the 10 dishes offered, and the bourbon old-fashioned peach snow cone from Father Ty Tomson of Lancaster St. Bernadette Church was Most Creative. The judge for those awards was former Columbus Dispatch

food editor Robin Davis.

Other dishes available for sampling were fusion Italian beef tacos prepared by Father James Black from Powell St. Joan of Arc Church; penne marinara and penne con sago carne, Deacon Anthony Bonacci, Plain City St. Joseph Church; homemade meatballs in sauce, Father Ken Brighenti and Father Stash Dailey, Pontifical College Josephinum; Mexican skillet, Father Peter Gideon, Lancaster St. Mark Church; best wings in the land with gorgonzola dressing and quick pickle slaw, Father Brian O'Connor, Canal Winchester St. John XXIII Church; and petite pies, Father Patrick Toner, London St. Patrick Church.

Proceeds from the event benefited seminarians at the Josephinum. Sally Baughman and Marci Maynard were co-chairs, and seminarians David Johnstone and Patrick DePew were masters of ceremonies.



Father Thomas Gardner of Coshocton Sacred Heart Church dishes up his Christmas sliders, which received the People's Choice award at the 13th annual Clergy Who Cook fundraising event on Friday, Jan. 27 at the Pontifical College Josephinum's Jessing Center. *Photos courtesy Amanda Mahle*



Guests in attendance at the Clergy Who Cook gathering at the Pontifical College Josephinum's Jessing Center include the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist from Worthington St. Michael School, other religious and clergy members and community patrons of the event.



Father Stephen Alcott, OP (right), pastor at Columbus St. Patrick Church, and Father Stephen Dominic Hayes of St. Patrick Priory prepare preserved salmon canapes with lemon-dill cream cheese, which was voted the Most Complex dish among the 10 entries.



Father Ken Brighenti (left) offers a plate of homemade meatballs in sauce that he entered with Father Stash Dailey (third from left). Both priests are faculty members at the Pontifical College Josephinum. Father Dailey is also posing for a photo alongside Father William Hahn, the diocesan vocations director.



Father Peter Gideon (right), pastor at Lancaster St. Mark Church, serves up his Mexican skillet dish for guests to sample at the Clergy Who Cook event. Proceeds from the evening benefit seminarians at the Pontifical College Josephinum.

## Children's clinic opens on Columbus St. Mary campus

Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church in the German Village area and the parish school have expanded their outreach to the community with the opening of the Nationwide Children's Hospital School Based Health Center in the newly renovated Burkley Center on the campus at 672 S. Third St.

The clinic opened in the former parish convent north of the church on Tuesday, Jan. 31 and was blessed on Friday, Feb. 3, the feast of St. Blaise, during an official ribbon-cutting ceremony by Bishop Earl Fernandes.

Joining the bishop for the ceremony were Father Vincent Nguyen, pastor at St. Mary; Deacon Roger Minner, who serves the parish; Gina Stull, St. Mary School principal; Msgr. Joseph Hendricks, the pastor at Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church who oversees community relations for the diocese; officials and health-care professionals from Nationwide Children's; Corna Kokosing Construction; MKC Architects; and benefactors.

The 5,000-square-foot health center, located on the second floor of the former convent, will provide medical, vision, hearing and behavioral health care with staffing from Nationwide Children's for the 400-plus students in the parish school in grades pre-K through eighth in addition to being open to all children in the area.

Major gifts to help fund the project came from the hospital and a private donor.

The partnership with Nationwide Children's is part of the hospital's mission in recent years to bring medical and behavioral health care into schools to students who might not regularly have access to these services.

"There are few who are blessed to be able to offer the services of a world-class health center within the campus of their school," Stull said. "It just doesn't happen."

The clinic will serve not only the parish school but will be open to children in the German Village area and in south Columbus as part of St. Mary's outreach efforts in the community at large.

"As a people of faith, we have principles that guide us to be a culture of care, such as the commitment to promoting human dignity, the care for the poor, to contribute to the common good, to be responsible stewards of available resources and to act with our beautiful Catholic faith," Father Nguyen said.

"This school-based health center does all of that and reminds our community here at St. Mary's and the greater central Ohio region in the diocese that we must be men and women who identify with the vulnerability of others, especially the youth, to reject exclusion and act instead as neighbors lifting up and rehabilitating the fallen for the sake of the



Bishop Earl Fernandes cuts the ribbon to officially mark the opening of the Nationwide Children's Hospital School Based Health Center in the Burkley Center at Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church in the German Village area. Participating in the ceremony were (from left) St. Mary School third-grader Emani Boyd, school principal Gina Stull, St. Mary pastor Father Vincent Nguyen, Deacon Roger Minner, Patty McClimon of Nationwide Children's Hospital, general manager of construction Kevin Lee and fourth-grader John Hopkins VI. *CT photos by Ken Snow*



The new Nationwide Children's Hospital School Based Health Center is located on the second floor in the Burkley Center. The building will also house the Dominican Learning Center on the first floor.

common good."

The first floor of the Burkley Center will be the new home for the Dominican Learning Center, currently located at Corpus Christi Church at 1111 E. Stewart Ave. The Dominican Learning Center primarily serves adults in the community through volunteers who provide support that includes learning English as a Second Language (ESL), tutoring in reading, mastering learning skills and passing GED examinations.

The parish offices, currently located on the first floor, will be moved to the first floor of the rectory located between the church and the school this fall as part of a campus renovation project that

encompasses the rectory transformation with offices and a conference room, the addition to the parish school already underway, a new Heritage Hall within the confines of the school that will provide 3,403 square feet of space that will hold 200 people for parish and school events, and a new 1,419-square-foot Our Lady of Guadalupe Hall adjacent to Heritage Hall reserved for parish use, with a projected completion date in 2024.

Construction at St. Mary has been ongoing since a lightning strike in 2016 damaged the historic church and made it structurally unsafe. Extensive renovation took several years before the building reopened in 2019.



Father Vincent Nguyen, pastor at Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church, offers opening remarks at a gathering on Friday, Feb. 3 to bless the parish's new Nationwide Children's Hospital School Based Health Center.

In 2020, the diocese purchased the former Golden Hobby Shop at 630 S. Third St., and the historic former schoolhouse is now home to St. Mary's middle school.

The idea for a health clinic came from Father Nguyen in 2019 when he saw the struggles taking place on the south side of the city that included human trafficking. He approached Bishop Robert Brennan, then the diocese's bishop, who agreed that there was a need for community outreach.

Bishop Brennan reached out to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the National Catholic Bioethics Center for clearance to pursue the idea of a parish-based health center before discussions began in 2020 with Nationwide Children's.

"I've preached about being a spiritual entrepreneur, and, in some ways, Father Vince is an entrepreneur," Bishop Fernandes said at the dedication. "It says in the Scriptures that without vision people perish. And so, it's literally helped give children vision through the building of this center."

"Another thing an entrepreneur does is he surrounds himself with good people, works with them and their strengths and gifts to make a vision a reality. And today we celebrate the fact that this vision is becoming a reality."

Bishop Fernandes went on to speak about the importance of outreach to those in need and forming healthy children both spiritually and physically.

"Good things happen when we have healthy children who can see clearly and hear clearly and who can then study properly and grow up to be virtuous cit-

# Josephinum will honor award winners at Good Shepherd Dinner

The Pontifical College Josephinum has announced the recipients of its Good Shepherd: Defending the Truth Award and Pope Leo XIII Award – the two highest honors it bestows annually upon members of the clergy and the lay faithful.

The awards will be presented at the Good Shepherd Dinner held Monday, April 17 at the Josephinum. Bishop Earl Fernandes, Josephinum vice-chancellor, will give the keynote address.

This year's Good Shepherd: Defending the Truth Award recipient is Father Jeffrey Rimelspach, a 1979 alumnus of the Josephinum. Ordained in 1985 for the Diocese of Columbus, Father Rimelspach has served at many parishes during his years of ministry: Marion St. Mary, Upper Arlington St. Agatha, Bremen St. Mary, Powell St. Joan of Arc and Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona, where he has been pastor since 2009.

Father Rimelspach taught religion at Marion Catholic High School, served as chaplain at Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School and served for 10 years as an associate judge for the Columbus Tribunal. He has been a member of the Diocesan Pension Administration Committee since 2005 and chaplain to the Serra Club of North Columbus since 1999.

From 2013-2022, Father Rimelspach served on the Josephinum's Board of Trustees, the longest tenure it allows for members. The seminary's alumni committee has benefitted from his insight for a number of years. As a pastor, he has enjoyed working with many Josephinum seminarians assigned to his parishes for pastoral duties at various stages of their formation.

First conferred in 2009, the annual Good Shepherd Award is presented to a member of the clergy who exemplifies in his life and ministry the qualities of a good shepherd, especially in the promotion of vocations and in support of

the Josephinum and its seminarians. The conception of this award considers how Jesus Christ, as the Good Shepherd, exhorted the Apostles to lay down their lives for the sake of love.

"Father Rimelspach exemplifies in a most profound way the concept of this award," said Father Steven Beseau, Josephinum rector/president. "His decades of service throughout the diocese in so many vital roles – combined with his Josephinum board membership, Serra Club chaplaincy and personal work with our seminarians at his parishes – evidence a life lived as a good and faithful shepherd of souls."

Ginger West, a Columbus native and member of Columbus St. Patrick Church, is the 2023 Pope Leo XIII Award recipient. Named for the pontiff who granted the Josephinum pontifical status in 1892, the annual award is presented to an individual in recognition of his or her support for the Church, the priesthood, vocations and the Josephinum.

West has been connected to the Josephinum since her first visit to the seminary with her family in 1949. A frequent visitor to campus through the years, she has befriended countless seminarians and has attended priestly ordinations in more than a dozen dioceses across the country.

She is a longtime member of the Serra Club of North Columbus – having served for many years as vice president of programs and as district governor – and of the Friends of the Josephinum as a member at large and of the Executive Board.

"Ms. West has a passion for the faith that permeates her own life and inspires those around her," Father Beseau said. "She is a person of deep commitment, a tireless advocate for the priesthood and vocations, and a model of faith put into action, all of which make her most deserving of the Pope Leo XIII Award."

## CLINIC, continued from Page 10

izens," he said. "Part of the building of this center is clearly part of the proclamation of the kingdom, which is no longer a kingdom of injustice but a kingdom of inclusion, a kingdom of truth and justice and peace.

"Part of what we are giving witness to is that the poor, the marginalized, excluded, the sick will not be forgotten, will no longer be pushed aside. The existence of this center is a sign of the compassionate care of which we as a society are capable of offering so that no one feels alone or abandoned but feels like they have a true opportunity to succeed. We give witness to the dignity of each and every person and each and every child with our commitment to that child's care."

He concluded, "We have to have healthy children that are more able not only to understand truth in the classroom but also the things of God, and

these things work together to form a well-rounded person. ... We have a vision not only for the present moment but for the future. Here, we are in a historic church next to a historic school in historic German Village, and we are building on the shoulders of giants.

"But we don't just look to the past. Now it's time to open our eyes to the future and the good things that are going to happen in German Village."

Msgr. Hendricks called the St. Mary's projects "a building block for the re-establishment and expansion" of the church's ministries on the south end of Columbus and in the German Village area. Those plans could include the construction of affordable community housing on the south side in the future.

"It really will be the linchpin of the faith for the south end," Msgr. Hendricks said.



Father Jeffrey Rimelspach



Ginger West

The Good Shepherd Dinner is the Josephinum's signature fundraising event; proceeds support the seminary's programs for the young men discerning a priestly vocation. Funds are raised through a variety of sponsorship and underwriting opportunities, all of which are available to individuals, parishes, dioceses, organizations and companies.

"This success of the Good Shepherd Dinner is realized by our generous sponsors and

by the stewardship of those who attend," Father Beseau said. "We look forward to another successful event this spring, raising much-needed support for the seminary's mission to form holy, generous, adaptable and resilient priests for the 21st century."

To learn more about supporting the seminarians of the Pontifical College Josephinum and the Good Shepherd Dinner, visit the Josephinum's website, [pcj.edu/goodshepherd](http://pcj.edu/goodshepherd).

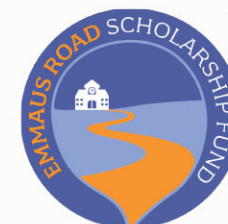
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Visit our web site or scan the QR code to learn more!

\*Ohio tax credit is limited up to \$750 per person, or \$1,500 if married filing jointly. Consult your tax advisor for guidance. The Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund is a certified scholarship granting organization in the state of Ohio.



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THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS



[www.emmausroadscholarship.org](http://www.emmausroadscholarship.org)

## Vatican document guides marriage formation

By Brooke Warren

Diocesan Marriage Formation Specialist

In summer 2022, the Vatican's Dicastery for the Laity, the Family and Life released a document titled *Catechumenal Pathways for Married Life*. In this document, the dicastery outlined Pope Francis' vision for a marriage catechumenate, or preparation similar to those becoming Catholic. The document breaks down the marriage formation process into three phases: a pre-catechumenal phase (remote prep), an intermediate phase and a catechumenal phase.

The idea is that vocational discernment and preparation begin at birth. The document states that remote preparation "aims, from childhood, to 'prepare the ground' on which to sow the seeds of a future vocation to married life." To do this, parishes, schools and families should instill in youth the love of God for each person, age-appropriate theology of the body and their identity as children of God.

In our current culture, sex is often separated from marriage, and young adults especially are living a materialistic life, giving in to their own pleasures. It is critical to lay a solid foundation for our children so they can see God's truth

in the world as they grow and discern.

When a couple approaches the Church seeking the sacrament of marriage, they will enter the intermediate phase. This phase is a time to get to know a couple and help strengthen their faith, to proclaim the kerygma, (preaching the gospel), and to lay a foundation centered on Christ. This phase would vary based on where couples are in their faith journeys. Throughout this phase, couples are still discerning their vocation.

There are three parts in the final, catechumenal phase. The first part is proximate preparation. During proximate preparation, couples are learning about themselves, as individuals and as a couple, as well as the responsibilities of married life. It is also important for couples to hear God's plan for human love in marriage, including theology of the body, chastity education and natural family planning.

Couples need all the tools to live their marriage as God intended. Small groups, retreats, mentor couples and meetings with a pastoral team are part of this phase.

The second part of the final phase is the final preparation. This occurs in the months leading up to the wedding. During this phase, couples focus on the liturgy of the wedding, reviewing and choosing the readings and blessings to

be used at the wedding. This final phase allows the couple to center themselves on Christ and His presence at their wedding and in their marriage.

The final part of the catechumenal phase is, in my opinion, the most unserved part of family life: the first years of marriage. Often, couples come to the church for a wedding, and then they are sent out to live their lives without any follow up or support. Frequently, in those first years, couples stumble as they try to figure it all out.

The document reminds us that "the catechumenal pathway does not conclude with the celebration of marriage. In fact, the entire process should not be understood as an isolated act, but rather as the entry into a 'permanent state,' which therefore requires a unique 'ongoing formation' involving reflection, dialogue, and help from the Church."

Couples should enter a time of marriage mystagogy, or an initiation into the mystery of Christ in their marriage, similar to that of those newly initiated into the Church. It allows them to enter into the mystery and consider what they have just received from Christ and what He did for them.

It is important to help them feel Christ present in their marriage, just as they experience Him in the other sacraments.

Newlywed couples can continue meeting in small groups, allowing them to support one another through these initial years.

Finally, the document closes by stating the importance of supporting struggling marriages and helping them to heal from wounds and hurts. Couples are invited to turn to the Church when they need support, especially in our throwaway culture, where the world is telling struggling married people to move on and start over.

Couples often don't consider the Church as an option when they are struggling because they don't feel the Church can help them. The document compares this to the parable of the Good Samaritan. While others might walk by a couple who needs assistance and judge them for their struggles, we, as a Church, can be the Good Samaritan and give them the aid they need.

The Marriage and Family Life Office is using this document to guide discussions about marriage formation in our diocese. It is exciting to see changes to marriage formation and a focus on keeping couples together and strengthening their relationships.

To read the full document, visit [www.columbuscatholic.org/marriageformation](http://www.columbuscatholic.org/marriageformation).

## Marriage Encounter promotes loving communication

By Steve and Patty Tennant

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is the world's largest pro-marriage organization and promotes weekend experiences for couples who want to make their marriages better.

It offers married couples an opportunity to learn loving communication they can use for the rest of their lives. The weekend provides a chance to look deeply into a couple's relationship with each other and with God.

Priests also are welcome, and a weekend can enrich their relationship with the Church and with the married couples they serve.

The emphasis of the Marriage Encounter weekend is communication between husbands and wives. The weekend provides time for couples to be together, away from the distractions of everyday life, while encouraging them to focus on communicating.

It is not a marriage clinic, group sensitivity training or a substitute for counseling. It is a unique approach to revitalizing and enriching a marriage. Worldwide Marriage Encounter teaches a communication method through presentations given by Catholic couples

and a priest.

The things we learned during our Marriage Encounter weekend have helped our communication and our relationship. We learned new ways of communicating that we still use. Since our weekend, we can discuss our differences in a more loving and understanding way. We also learned about what a Catholic marriage should be.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter has had a positive effect on us and on many other local marriages. We would like to invite all married couples and priests to consider attending a weekend.

Upcoming weekends in the Columbus area are March 10-12 at Lancaster St. Mark Church (non-residential) and Sept. 8-10 at the Procter Center in London. The weekends begin at 8 p.m. Friday and run through 4:30 p.m. Sunday.

For more information, or to attend a Marriage Encounter weekend, contact Paul and Marilou Clouse at (614) 834-6880 or visit [www.wmecolumbus.org](http://www.wmecolumbus.org).

May God bless you and your marriage! Steve and Patty Tennant, of Franklin Furnace, are parishioners of the Scioto Catholic consortium. They were married in 1974. The Tennants, along with Jim and Stacie Aman from Delaware, are co-leaders for Columbus Area Worldwide Marriage Encounter.

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT

Following are ways that a husband and wife can strengthen their marriage bond. Resources mentioned can be found on the diocesan Marriage and Family Life website, [www.columbuscatholic.org/marriage/wmd](http://www.columbuscatholic.org/marriage/wmd).

#### PRAY TOGETHER

Set aside five minutes each day to pray with and for your spouse. Start with a scripted prayer, such as the World Marriage Day Novena, and then continue the practice together daily after the novena ends.

#### DATE NIGHT

Having a night out is great, but why not enrich your marriage at the same time? The date night kit on the website offers activities for couples, such as discussion questions and writing notes to your spouse.

Witness to Love, a marriage mentor program, has put together a list of resources to enrich your marriage, both as a couple and in a small group with other couples. The program's date night series is a great way to build relationships with other families and strengthen your marriages.

#### MARRIAGE RETREAT

Building a Eucharistic Marriage is

an online marriage retreat through counselor Greg Schutte from Marriage Works! Ohio. This retreat is self-paced and offers videos and discussion questions to ignite conversation and invite Christ to be at the center of your marriage. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life, and Youth has created an at-home marriage retreat for couples. During the retreat, a couple can expand on one of the seven habits for strengthening their marital union and strengthening their union with Christ in the Eucharist.



# Bishop praises Scouts for virtues they practice

By Tim Puet

For The Catholic Times

Bishop Earl Fernandes told young people at the annual Scout Day with the Bishop prayer service that he was grateful to recognize their formation as virtuous people through practicing the values they are learning in the Scouting movement.

"I know absolutely nothing about Scouting through my own experience, but the Scouts I have met – my brothers and nephews – are all young men of virtue, just as the Girl Scouts and American Heritage Girls are young ladies of virtue, providing credible witnesses to Jesus in our world," the bishop said on Sunday, Jan. 29 at New Albany Church of the Resurrection.

During the program sponsored by the diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting, the bishop presented more than 200 Scout Day uniform patches to members of Scouts BSA, the Girl Scouts of America and the American Heritage Girls from parishes throughout the diocese who in 2022 earned various awards based on knowledge and practice of Catholic teaching.

The Gospel reading for Masses on that day contained Jesus' presentation of the Beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount. "The Beatitudes are the attitudes which disciples of Jesus ought to have," the bishop said. "These are great virtues, but people often are criticized and even persecuted for practicing them. ... You may be persecuted for your faith but continue to practice those virtues."

He spoke of the example of Blessed

Clemens von Galen, a German count who was bishop of Munster, Germany during World War II and was known as "The Lion of Munster" for his outspoken opposition to the Nazis despite the risk to his life that such a stance involved. He was made a cardinal in 1946, shortly before his death, and was beatified in 2005.

In a homily on July 20, 1941, Bishop von Galen told his congregation, "Become hard! Remain firm! At this moment we are the anvil rather than the hammer. (But) ... the object which is forged on the anvil receives its form not alone from the hammer but also from the anvil. The anvil cannot and need not strike back. ... If it is sufficiently tough and firm and hard, the anvil usually lasts longer than the hammer. However hard the hammer strikes, the anvil stands quietly and firmly in place and will long continue to shape the objects forged upon it."

"What is forged between the hammer and the anvil," Bishop Fernandes said, "is the character of our young people, as emphasized in the virtues which are part of Scouting."

The bishop then spoke of Jesus' advice to His disciples to be salt and light for the world. "Jesus calls us to be light by practicing the virtues of Scouting that help foster the light of Christ," he said. "That's why I support Catholic Scouting, so you can be salt and light to the world and give glory to God the Father through your good works."

The diocesan Scouting committee presented its Red Sash of Merit to Joe Gallo of Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church. He

was honored for earning other Catholic Scouting emblems and demonstrating leadership, accepting responsibility and being active in his Scout troop, community and parish.

Two adult leaders were presented honors from national Catholic Scouting organizations for their work helping young people develop their spiritual lives within the context of Scouting. The St. George award went to Slade Hankinson of Columbus Our Lady of Peace Church and Scouts BSA Troop 169, and the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton medal was presented to Rhonda Timko of Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator Church and American Heritage Girls Troop 0516.

Nathan Asbury of BSA Troop 332 from Powell St. Joan of Arc Church was recognized as the newest recipient of the Four Corners of My Faith emblem, given to members of Scouts BSA and Girl Scouts who have earned all four of their respective organizations' national Catholic Scout emblems since 1992, when the current emblems program began.



Hilliard St. Brendan Troop 859 received the Bishop's Troop award at the annual Scout Day Awards on Sunday, Jan. 29 at New Albany Church of the Resurrection. *CT photos by Ken Snow*



Red Sash of Merit recipient Joe Gallo of Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Troop 117 is given his award by Bishop Earl Fernandes.



Columbus Our Lady of Peace Pack 169 was presented the Bishop's Pack award.



Slade Hankinson of Columbus Our Lady of Peace Troop 169 is handed the St. George award for helping young Scouts develop their spiritual lives by Bishop Earl Fernandes.



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton honoree Rhonda Timko is presented her award by Bishop Earl Fernandes.



Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Troop 581 received the Bishop's Parish award.

Rayna Rodenkirchen of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church was recognized for her work on the St. Agnes of Rome patch program, which she developed in 2021 for the diocesan Scouting committee as a Girl Scout Gold Award project. It was adopted for national use in 2022.

BSA Troop 859 of St. Brendan the Navigator Church was recognized as the Bishop's Troop for combining active participation in religious activities with service to the community and to Scouting. Troop 169 of Our Lady of Peace Church received a certificate of merit. Also honored were Cub Scout Pack 169 of Our Lady of Peace Church as the Bishop's Pack and St. Pius X Church as the Bishop's Parish for its Girl Scout programs, with American Heritage Girls Troop 0031 of Columbus St. Patrick Church receiving a certificate of merit.

Pack 169, Troop 169, Troop 859 and Pack 332 and Troop 332 of Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul Church were recognized for receiving Pope Paul VI Quality Unit awards from the National Catholic Committee on Scouting.

More than 30 religious awards, some age-related and others for both young people and adults, are available to participants in Catholic Scouting. The diocesan Catholic Scout committee also sponsors the annual diocesan Catholic Scout Camporee each May at Somerset St. Joseph Church.

More information on all of these is available by email from [catholicscouting@columbuscatholic.org](mailto:catholicscouting@columbuscatholic.org), Jodi Hatherly at [jlhatherly@gmail.com](mailto:jlhatherly@gmail.com) or Mike Manning at [mmanning6608@gmail.com](mailto:mmanning6608@gmail.com).

# Find a fish fry or Lenten dinner

## COLUMBUS CENTER

### ST. DOMINIC CHURCH

453 N. 20th St., Columbus  
Saturday, 3/18, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

## COLUMBUS NORTH

### OUR LADY OF VICTORY CHURCH

1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 4:30-7 p.m.

### ST. JOAN OF ARC CHURCH

10700 Liberty Road, Powell  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 5-7 p.m.  
Stations of the Cross, 7:30 p.m.

### ST. CHRISTOPHER CHURCH

1420 Grandview Ave., Grandview Heights  
Polish Dinner  
Friday, 3/24, after 6 p.m. Stations of the Cross until 10 p.m.

### ST. MARGARET OF CORTONA

1600 N. Hague Ave., Columbus  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 4:30-7:30 p.m.

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

414 E. North Broadway, Columbus (Mar-ian Hall)  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 5-7:30 p.m.

### ST. MICHAEL CHURCH

5750 N. High St., Worthington  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 5-7:30 p.m.

### CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany (Ministry Center)

Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 4:30-7:30 p.m.  
Lunch, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

### ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH

6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 5-7 p.m.  
Stations of the Cross, 7 p.m.

### ST. JOHN NEUMANN CHURCH

9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury (Faith and Family Center)  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 4-7 p.m.

### ST. PAUL CHURCH

313 N. State St., Westerville  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 5-7:30 p.m.

## COLUMBUS EAST

### OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL CHURCH

5225 Refugee Road, Columbus  
Fridays, 2/24-3/10, 3/24, 6 p.m.  
Stations of the Cross, 5:30 p.m.

### ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON PARISH

600 Hill Road N., Pickerington (Activity Center)  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 4:30-7 p.m.

### ST. CATHARINE CHURCH

500 S. Gould Road, Columbus  
Fridays, 2/24, 3/10, 3/24, 5-7:30 p.m.

### ST. MATTHEW CHURCH

807 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 4:30-7:30 p.m.

### ST. PIUS X CHURCH

1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg (Parish Center)  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 5-7:30 p.m.

### Fish Taco Dinners

Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 5-7 p.m.

### OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHURCH

3752 Broadway, Grove City (School Cafeteria)  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 5-7 p.m.

### SS. SIMON AND JUDE CHURCH

9350 High Free Pike, West Jefferson  
Lenten Pasta Dinners  
Fridays, 3/10, 3/24, 3/31, 4:30-7 p.m.

### ST. CECILIA CHURCH

434 Norton Road, Columbus  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 5-7:30 p.m.

### ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

670 W. Main St., Plain City  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 5:30-8 p.m.

### ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

670 W. Main St., Plain City  
Lenten Soup Suppers  
Tuesdays, 2/28-3/28, 6-8 p.m.

### ST. PATRICK CHURCH

226 Elm St., London (School)  
Fridays, 2/24, 3/10, 3/24, 4:30-7 p.m. (Drive-thru only)

## OUTSIDE METRO COLUMBUS

### ST. MARY CHURCH

66 E. William St., Delaware (Commons)  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 5-7 p.m.

### ST. MARY CHURCH

K of C Hall, 1232 E. Center St., Marion  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 5-7 p.m.

### ST. PETER CHURCH

379 S. Crawford St., Millersburg  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 4-7 p.m.

### SACRED HEART CHURCH

320 Fair Ave NE, New Philadelphia (Parish Center)

Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 4-7 p.m.

### CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

555 S. Main St., Johnstown  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 4:30-7 p.m.

### ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

785 Newark Road, Granville  
Fridays, 3/3-3/24, 4-7 p.m.

### ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

785 Newark Road, Granville  
Lenten Soup Suppers  
Tuesdays, 2/28-3/21, 6 p.m.  
followed by speaker and Stations of the Cross

### ST. LEONARD CHURCH

57 Dorsey Mill Road., Heath  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 4:30-6:30 p.m.  
Stations of the Cross, 7 p.m.

### CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

1835 Dover-Zoar Road, Bolivar  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 4-7 p.m.

### SACRED HEART SCHOOL

39 Burt Ave., Coshocton  
Friday, 3/31, 5-7 p.m.

### ST. PETER IN CHAINS

2167 Lick Run Lyra Road, Wheelersburg  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 4:30-7 p.m.

### SACRED HEARTS CHURCH

4680 U.S. Highway 42, Cardington  
Friday, 3/24, 5-7 p.m.

### ST. COLMAN OF CLOYNE CHURCH

219 S. North St., Washington Court House  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 4:30-7 p.m.

### BISHOP FLAGET SCHOOL

61 S. Paint St., Chillicothe (St. Mary Family Life Center)  
Fridays, 2/24-3/31, 4-7 p.m.

### HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL

225 S. Columbus St., Somers  
Fridays, 3/3-3/10 4-7 p.m.

### OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH

1559 Roxbury Road, Marble Cliff 43212  
(Parish Life Center)

#### FISH FRY DINNERS

Fridays, 2/24 through 3/31, 4:30-7:00 pm

Fresh Ocean Perch (fried)

Baked Potatoes, French Fries or Rice Salad or Slaw, Beverages, Dessert included

\$15 Adults, \$7 Kids - Carryouts available

### ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH

473 S. Roys Ave, Columbus

#### FISH TACO LENTEN DINNERS

Fridays, 2/24 through 3/31, 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Grilled tilapia fish tacos w/ flour tortillas, cabbage, queso fresco, St. Mary Magdalene's aioli, cilantro & lime, a side of street corn, chips & salsa, dessert & bottled water \$10.


Kids meals, cheese pizza & applesauce, dessert & bottled water \$5.

DINE IN OR CARRYOUT

## COLUMBUS WEST

### ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH

473 S. Roys Ave., Columbus



**ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH FISH FRY**

6077 Sharon Woods blvd., Columbus  
614-891-0150 (until 1pm)  
Fridays: 2/24 to 3/31

DINNERS IN PERSON OR CARRYOUT  
\$12 DINNER (2PC FISH)  
\$10 DINNER (1PC FISH)  
\$6 GRILLED CHEESE  
INCLUDES: 2 SIDES, ROLL, BEVERAGE, & DESSERT

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT 7 PM



**St. Margaret of Cortona**  
1600 N. Hague Ave. • 614+279+1690

Fried Ocean Perch or Baked Cod, with French Fries, Baked Potato or Sweet Potato, Macaroni & Cheese, Cole Slaw, Applesauce, Roll & Butter, and homemade Desserts. Free coffee!

FRIDAYS DURING LENT  
FEBRUARY 24 - MARCH 31 | 4:30 - 7:30 PM

- \$15.00 Adults
- \$14.50 Seniors
- \$7.00 Children (10 & under)
- Free (3 & under)
- Pop, Beer, Seconds, and Carryouts available

**FIND A FISH FRY OR LENTEN DINNER AT DIOCESAN PARISHES, SCHOOLS**

The list of fish fries and Lenten dinners on the preceding page was compiled by *The Catholic Times* from information supplied by parishes and schools in the diocese. These events, often sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, provide valuable funds for programs that benefit parish and outside organizations. Support for these endeavors during Lent not only allows individuals to practice their Lenten abstinence from meat but could be considered a form of almsgiving. Check parish or school websites for additional information about menus, times, dates and cancellations due to weather or other factors.



**SAINT FRANCIS PARISH MARDI GRAS Pasta Dinner**

**Save the Date** Saturday Feb. 18th 2023  
12 Noon - 7PM (or until all meals are gone)

Saint Francis of Assisi Church  
386 Buttes Avenue  
On the corner of Buttes and Harrison in Victorian Village

Homemade food  
Vegetarian options (Sauce & "Meatballs")  
Gluten free available!  
Baked goods  
Live Entertainment  
Basket Raffle  
50 - 50 Raffle  
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**Volunteers Needed!**  
Call Frank 614-565-9131  
FrancisSchneider624@gmail.com  
Or Marti 614-804-7217  
Marti.Joy.Damm@gmail.com

**Adults: \$10**  
**Kids under 10: \$5**

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**2023 FISH FRIES**  
at the Seton Parish Activity Center  
**Fish Fry Dates**  
Feb 24 | Mar 3 | Mar 10 | Mar 17 | Mar 24 | Mar 31  
4:30 to 7:00 (or until the fish is gone)

**ON THE MENU FOR DINE IN:**

- Our Secret Recipe Baked or Batter Dipped Fried Fish **\$11** adult **\$5** child (ages 6-12) **Same price as 2022!**
- Specially Seasoned and Baked Salmon **\$13**
- Super Cheesy Macaroni and Cheese! **\$7**

**ALL DINE IN DINNERS INCLUDE:**

- Specialty Potatoes or Rice and Vegetable
- Cole Slaw and Apple Sauce
- Wonderful Desserts
- Beverages

**CARRYOUT WINDOW**  
Includes Baked or Fried Fish, Mac & Cheese, Cole Slaw & Apple-sauce **\$11**

Credit Cards accepted

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ALL YOU CARE TO EAT | for faster pickup

**Fridays Feb. 24th - Mar. 31**

5-7pm | ST. JOAN OF ARC | Powell  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 10765

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**FISH FRY FRIDAY**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
St Jude Council - 5801

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 8TH GRADERS ATTENDING A CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

**www.kofc5801.Org**

**ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC PARISH**  
807 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna, Ohio 43230  
Every Friday from February 24th - March 31st | 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm

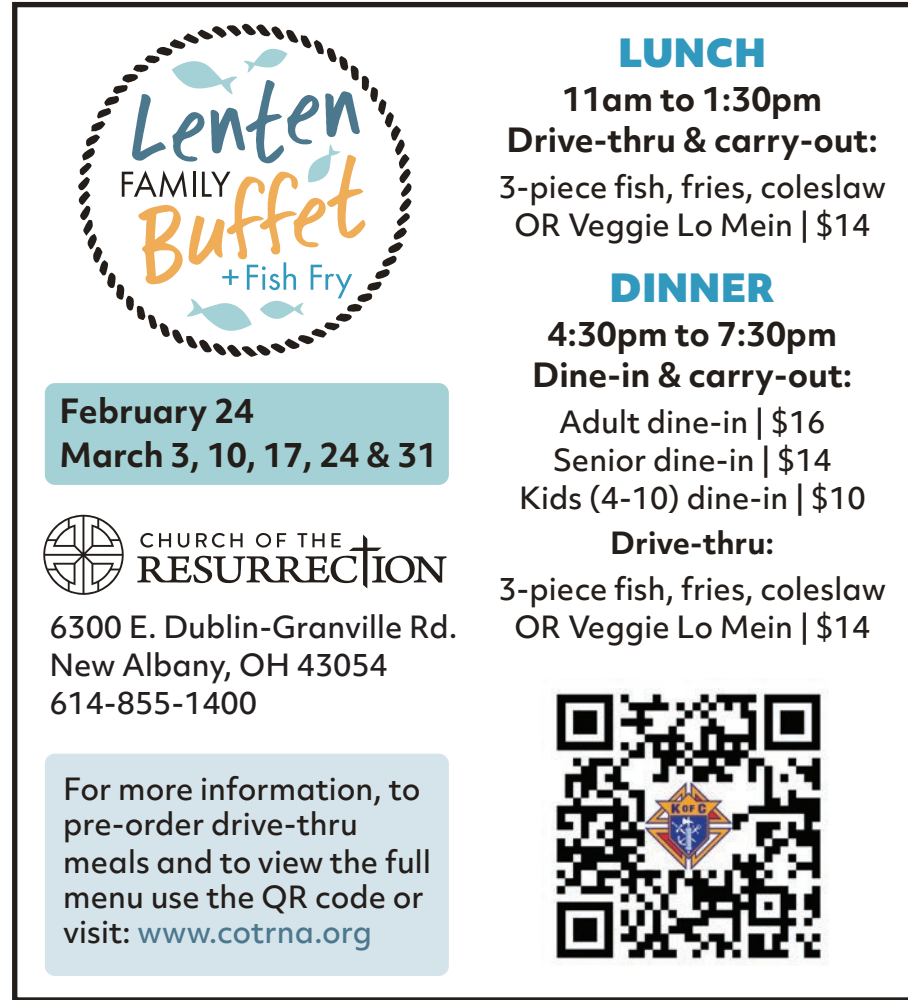
SOCIAL DINING WITH LIVE ENTERTAINMENT in the HUTTA GYM  
Featuring Homemade Sides & Desserts

**SOCIAL DINING MENU (ALL YOU CAN EAT)**

3 - Pieces of Cod (Baked or Deep Fried)	<b>PRICE - \$15.00 / PERSON</b>
French Fries or Baked Potato	Family of 3 - <b>\$42.00</b> / Family of 4 - <b>\$56.00</b>
Arkansas Green Beans or Mac and Cheese	Family of 5 - <b>\$70.00</b> / Family of 6 - <b>\$84.00</b>
Coleslaw and Dessert	Senior (65 & above) - <b>\$14.00</b>
Lemonade, Punch, and Coffee	

**DRIVE THRU MENU (NOT ALL YOU CAN EAT)**  
PLACE YOUR ORDER GO TO THE PAC ENTRANCE  
3 - Pieces of Cod (Baked or Deep Fried)  
French Fries | Coleslaw  
**PRICE - \$10.00**

**Cash, Check, and Credit/Debit Card.**  
**Credit/Debit Card subject to a \$1.00 expense charge per transaction.**



**Lenten FAMILY Buffet + Fish Fry**

**LUNCH**  
11am to 1:30pm  
Drive-thru & carry-out:  
3-piece fish, fries, coleslaw  
OR Veggie Lo Mein | \$14


**DINNER**  
4:30pm to 7:30pm  
Dine-in & carry-out:  
Adult dine-in | \$16  
Senior dine-in | \$14  
Kids (4-10) dine-in | \$10

**Drive-thru:**  
3-piece fish, fries, coleslaw  
OR Veggie Lo Mein | \$14

**February 24**  
**March 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31**

**CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION**  
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Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

# Heaven calls; aim for it

Sirach 15:15-20  
Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34  
1 Corinthians 2:6-10  
Matthew 5:17-37

Human freedom is a mystery. The Scriptures are clear: We find blessing when we exercise our freedom by choosing to follow the law of God. We are truly free when we choose to surrender to the plan that God maps out for us.

Many will say, when they make choices that are sinful, "I am only human," as if to justify giving in to sin by suggesting that we are innately too weak to resist temptation. The vision of the human person presented consistently in the Scriptures insists that God gives us the capacity to follow His direction. "If you choose you can keep the commandments, they will save you; if you trust in God, you too shall live; he has set before you fire and water; to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand."

The Sermon on the Mount continues to present Jesus as the new Moses, offering God's law but with a more interior perspective. External observance can supply a kind of discipline that is needed for human beings to be consistent in following the law. However, Jesus presents a different approach to fulfillment.

Mere external obedience does not reach into the profound purpose of God's law. What is required of the person who wants to follow Jesus is to become more radical in fulfillment. Body and mind reach so far. It is the depth of the spirit, the very heart of the human person, that reaches for God's true intention.

St. Paul speaks of the wisdom that transcends human wisdom. The revelation of God's plan, given to those who

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

# Jesus wants His followers to treat all with compassion

Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18  
Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13  
1 Corinthians 3:16-23  
Matthew 5:38-48

"Be holy, for I, the Lord, your God, am holy." This is how Moses speaks to the people of Israel in the name of God and summarizes the invitation to draw close to God. He continues: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord."

Be holy and love. The people of God in every age belong to God, and because He is the Lord, we are called to put His love into practice by love of neighbor.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus continues to demand a "greater justice" from those who follow Him. "... Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father, for he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust."

When we make distinctions between

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Father Timothy Hayes

Father Timothy M. Hayes is pastor of Chillicothe St. Mary and St. Peter; and Waverly, St. Mary, Queen of the Missions.



are open to receive it, is beyond what this world can offer: "God's wisdom, mysterious, hidden, which God predetermined before the ages for our glory, and which none of the rulers of this age knew, ... as it is written: 'What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him,' this God has revealed to us through the Spirit."

The invitation of the Scriptures is to open to an understanding of the world and an exercise of human freedom that will accomplish far more than any plan we might create for ourselves. In a culture that nowadays is all about planning and judging "feasibility" and "sustainability," according to worldly standards, this sounds foolhardy. Our aim must be toward something "out of this world" or we will miss the mark, the very definition of sin.

Someone once commented, "I do not expect to go to heaven right away when I die. I am aiming for purgatory." The wry retort that asks for a better response was, "What if you miss?" If we aim for something less than full freedom, we can remain enslaved. If we aim for heaven, we may well still have to endure the "fires of purgation" in preparation for entry into the kingdom, but by aiming for it, we are more likely to "end up" on the right side of freedom.

Jesus is never satisfied with what

ourselves and those who are neighbors or enemies, we are not to make any distinction in regard to how we treat them. Belonging to God, Who loves us, we are to love all.

It is made clear that this way of life is motivated by the intimacy of our relationship with God. "So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect." Here is where Matthew's vision for the kingdom is made clear. It is a question of aiming toward a goal that is beyond us by our own efforts.

The Greek word that Matthew uses here is teleios, translated as perfect. The root of this word is telos, meaning aim, goal, consummation, end, that is, something like bullseye. Matthew wants us to follow Jesus' invitation to allow the law to reside in us as we reach toward God's kingdom, trusting in God to supply us with the fulfillment that He wills for us.

Luke, in contrast, uses the expression "be merciful" (oiktirmon), putting his own emphasis on compassion and mercy as the highest aim for being like God.

## The Weekday Bible Readings

2/13/2-18	<b>THURSDAY</b> Genesis 9:1-13 Psalm 102:16-18,19-23,29 Mark 8:27-33	2/20-2/25	Matthew 6:1-6,16-18
<b>MONDAY</b> Genesis 4:1-15, 25 Psalm 50:1,8,16bc-17,20-21 Mark 8:11-13	<b>FRIDAY</b> Genesis 11:1-9 Psalm 33:10-15 Mark 8:34-9:1	<b>MONDAY</b> Sirach 1:1-10 Psalm 93:1-2,5 Mark 9:14-29	<b>THURSDAY</b> Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Psalm 1:1-4,6 Luke 9:22-25
<b>TUESDAY</b> Genesis 6:5-8;7:1-5,10 Psalm 29:1a,2,3ac-4,9c-10 Mark 8:14-21	<b>SATURDAY</b> Hebrews 11:1-7 Psalm 145:2-5,10-11 Mark 9:2-13	<b>TUESDAY</b> Sirach 2:1-11 Psalm 37:3-4,18-19,27-28,39-40 Mark 9:30-37	<b>FRIDAY</b> Isaiah 58:1-9a Psalm 51:3-6a,18-19 Matthew 9:14-15
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> Genesis 8:6-13,20-22 Psalm 116:12-15,18-19 Mark 8:22-26		<b>WEDNESDAY</b> Joel 2:12-18 Psalm 51:3-6b,12-14,17 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2	<b>SATURDAY</b> Isaiah 58:9-14 Psalm 86:1-6 Luke 5:27-32

## DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION

Mass Schedule: Weeks of Feb. 12 and 19, 2023

### SUNDAY MASS

10:30 a.m. Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at [www.stgabrielradio.com](http://www.stgabrielradio.com) and diocesan website, [www.columbuscatholic.org](http://www.columbuscatholic.org).

10:30 a.m. Mass from Portsmouth St. Mary Church on St. Gabriel Radio (FM 88.3), Portsmouth.

Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 7:30 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus and 10:30 a.m. on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18, Zanesville. Mass from St. Francis de Sales Seminary, Milwaukee, at 10 a.m. on WWHO-TV. Check local cable system for cable channel listing.

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Spectrum Channel 385,

Insight Channel 382, or Breezeline Channel 378). (Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).

Mass from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 6:30 a.m. on ION TV (AT&T U-verse Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirecTV Channel 305).

Mass from Massillon St. Mary Church at 10:30 a.m. on WILB radio (AM 1060, FM 94.5 and 89.5), Canton, heard in Tuscarawas, Holmes, and Coshocton counties.

### DAILY MASS

8 a.m., Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Birmingham, Ala. (Encores at noon, 7 p.m. and midnight). See EWTN above; and on I-Lifetv (Channel 113, Ada, Logan, Millersburg, Murray City, Washington C.H.; Channel 125, Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown and New Philadelphia; Channel 207, Zanesville); 8

p.m., St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at [www.stgabrielradio.com](http://www.stgabrielradio.com). 12:05 p.m. weekdays, 8 a.m. Saturdays, Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at [www.stgabrielradio.com](http://www.stgabrielradio.com) and diocesan website, [www.columbuscatholic.org](http://www.columbuscatholic.org). (Saturdays on radio only).

Videos of Masses are available at any time on the internet at these and many other parish websites: Mattingly Settlement St. Mary ([www.stannstmary.org](http://www.stannstmary.org)); Columbus St. Patrick ([www.stpatrickcolumbus.org](http://www.stpatrickcolumbus.org)); Delaware St. Mary ([www.delawarestmary.org](http://www.delawarestmary.org)); Sunbury St. John Neumann ([www.saintjohnsunbury.org](http://www.saintjohnsunbury.org)); and Columbus Immaculate Conception ([www.iccols.org](http://www.iccols.org)). Check your parish website for additional information.

WE PRAY WEEKS II AND III OF THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS

many say about how things are being done, "but we have always done it that way." There is always a better way. He says directly, "You have heard that it was said, ... but I say to you ...." In other words, "Aim higher!"

We fulfill the law of God not by emphasizing a merely external observance. That kind of obedience leaves us in our weakness. Rather, in freedom and, as Pope Francis suggests, being willing to

fail in our attempt, we aim for a more radical response.

Our goal is to be witnesses to the transcendence of heaven over the things of earth, of time and space. Eternity beckons. Eye and ear and heart cannot fathom what is offered, but we can choose to commit, and God's own Spirit will accomplish greater things than we could ask for or imagine. Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

The Responsorial Psalm echoes this theme: "The Lord is kind and merciful."

Paul reminds the Corinthians that God's Spirit dwells within us: "Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? ... The temple of God, which you are, is holy."

This vision of the people of God as the temple opens a connection between our earthly life and the promise of eternity. What is begun in time is destined to continue in eternity in a manner that is known to God alone.

As we look to the Father, responding to His love, we discover who we are. The law that has been written for us is written into our hearts by the Spirit, Who allows us to share in the very life of Christ as we continue our earthly journey.

This week, all of a sudden it seems, Lent breaks in upon the vision of the kingdom that has been given to us through the Sermon on the Mount. Ash Wednesday will set us on our own desert journey toward

fulfillment of the Paschal Mystery. We will seek to practice the three disciplines of the Lenten season – prayer, fasting and almsgiving – so that we can arrive at Easter ready to celebrate the Resurrection.

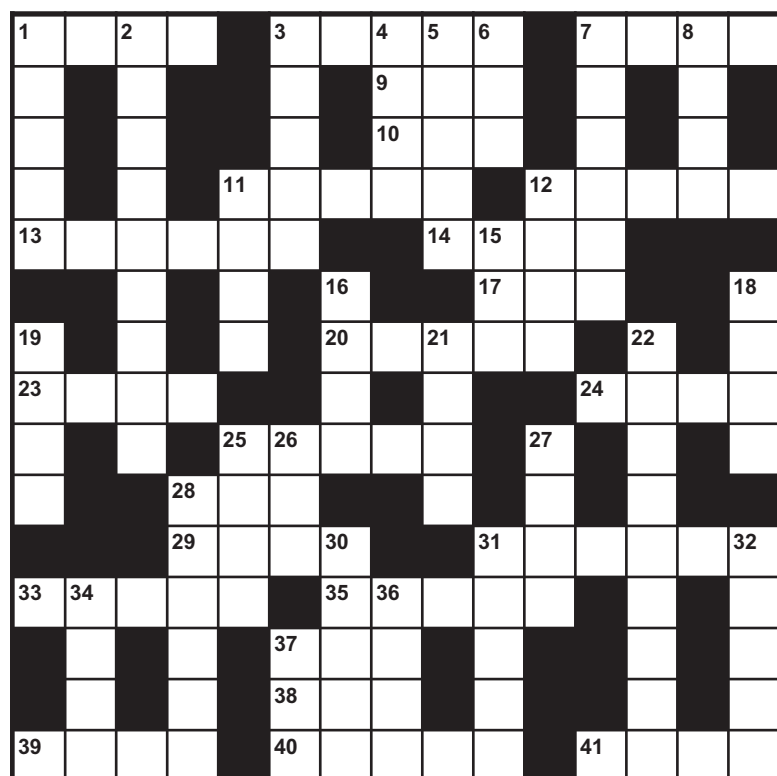
The few weeks of Ordinary Time that have carried us since the close of the Christmas season have called us to "look up," to broaden our vision of who we are and what we are capable of becoming. Matthew's vision of the kingdom beckons us forward.

As God's people, called to be holy, to love and to aim for perfection in the image of the merciful God, we are ready to cooperate with grace and to allow God to take up residence among us. We are His temple. We are the living sign of His presence in the world and in human history.

Our aim is to allow Him to perfect the kingdom among us. Striving for holiness of life, acknowledging that whatever we may accomplish is to God's glory, not our own, let us begin the joyful season of Lent and persevere to Easter.



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ACROSS

- 1 Tree involved in a prank by Augustine and his friends
- 3 Treasury of \_\_\_
- 7 Doctrines
- 9 Latin for "to pray"
- 10 Day on which God created man (Gen 1:26-31)
- 11 Palms are burned to make these
- 12 President Johnson's daughter who converted to Catholicism
- 13 Patron saint of mothers
- 14 "\_\_\_ Mary"
- 17 Tool of trade for Peter and Andrew
- 20 They blew these outside the walls of Jericho
- 23 Creche
- 24 "...the \_\_\_ will be first..." (Mt 20:16)
- 25 Oscar-winning actress who converted to Catholicism, Jane \_\_\_
- 28 Type of cross
- 29 Woody's son, a convert to Catholicism
- 31 \_\_\_ in the blood of the Lamb
- 33 Judas' blood money bought it (Mt 27:6-8)
- 35 Focal place of the Mass
- 37 OT prophetic book
- 38 Number of sacraments, in Roman numerals
- 39 Worms meeting that denounced Luther
- 40 Martyred Salvadoran, Bishop Romero
- 41 Say the rosary

DOWN

- 1 Sacred song
- 2 Part of the Eucharistic Prayer
- 3 "Ite, \_\_\_ est"
- 4 "On the third day he \_\_\_ again"
- 5 Notre Dame nickname, "The Fighting \_\_\_"
- 6 Matthew collected this before he met Jesus
- 7 Papal dispensation permitting a deviation from church law
- 8 Wise Men
- 11 Bible book about the early Christians
- 12 Satan, the Father of \_\_\_
- 15 Mother of Mary
- 16 Ark passenger
- 18 Religious ceremony
- 19 NT epistle
- 21 Nevada diocese
- 22 One of the traditional names of 8D
- 25 Catholic publishers, Sheed and \_\_\_
- 26 Brynner who played pharaoh in "The Ten Commandments"
- 27 \_\_\_ of the Lord
- 28 Biblical money
- 30 Patriarch respite, perhaps
- 31 Communion host
- 32 Version of the Bible
- 34 Letters above the cross
- 36 Pertaining to the non-ordained members of the Church
- 37 Patron saint of lawyers

# Order of Malta marks 910 years of service

By Charles Mifsud

On Wednesday, Feb. 15, the Order of Malta celebrates its anniversary. On that date, in 1113, Pope Paschal II promulgated the bull *Pie Postulatio Voluntatis* officially recognizing the monastic community founded in the Holy Land to look after poor pilgrims as a full religious order of the Church.

This document set the legal basis for the sovereignty and independence of the order, originally called the Brotherhood of the Hospital of St. John, now known as the Order of Malta.

After the Roman Emperor Constantine made Catholicism the official religion of the empire in 313, pilgrimages to the Holy Land became popular. Unfortu-

nately, pilgrimage at that time was dangerous. Going to Jerusalem meant walking, riding on horseback or sailing by ship for many weeks.

Also, by the 700s, the rise of Islam made travel less secure. Most pilgrims arrived in Jerusalem sick, injured or exhausted. There was an urgent need to create a hospital to nurse them.

The founding of the religious community of the "Hospitallers" of St. John dates to 1048. Merchants from the maritime republic of Amalfi in Italy obtained authorization from the caliph of Egypt to build a hospital in Jerusalem to assist pilgrims.

Then in 1095 at the Council of Clermont, Pope Urban II

See MALTA, Page 18

## Words of Wisdom

by Pat Battaglia, aka Dr. Fun

Draw a path from letter to letter to spell the words given in capital letters that completes the wisdom statement. Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left or diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

No Jesus, no peace ...



KNOW JESUS, KNOW PEACE

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  - Complete VIRTUS "Protecting God's Children" program
- Resume and three (3) references, both personal and professional, **may be e-mailed to creilerman@stmarylancaester.org no later than March 3, 2023.**

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## PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

**AGAWA**, Dennis "Bill," 83, Jan. 26  
St. Peter Church, Millersburg

**AZBELL**, Danielle "Danie," 84, Jan. 10  
St. Bernadette Church, Lancaster

**BARTLETT**, Emma R., 20, Jan. 23  
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

**BEHR**, R. Maxine, 91, Jan. 25  
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

**BOLEY**, Donald R., 85, Jan. 19  
St. Rose of Lima, New Lexington

**BUERKLE**, Fred J., 93, Jan. 26  
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

**BURKE**, Ann L. (Grimm), 70, Jan. 21  
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

**CALLAHAN**, Hugh "Kelly," 93, Jan. 18  
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

**CAMDEN**, Nellie, 98, Jan. 21  
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

**CHIARELLO**, Helen (Tkaczyn), 101, Jan. 23  
Our Lady of Peace Church, Columbus

**CHILDERS Jr.**, Gary Dean, 43, Jan. 31  
St. Leonard Church, Heath

**CONWAY**, Patrick, 69, Jan. 19  
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

**DAVIES (HALL)**, Jacqueline A. (d'Emerins), 94, Jan. 16  
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

**DE LIBERA**, Rosemarie A. (Neville), 91, Jan. 14  
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

**EDLY**, John C., 90, Jan. 24  
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

**FLOWERS**, Ann M., 90, Jan. 24  
Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Lancaster

**JACOB**, Michael, 56, Jan. 9  
Sacred Heart Church, Coshocton

**HENTZ**, John T. Jr., 96, Jan. 24  
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

**HOMIER**, Bruce R., 69, Jan. 28  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

**HORAN**, Stephen M., 70, of Westerville, Jan. 27  
St. Andrew Church, Billerica, Mass.

**JULIAN**, Teresa M. (Piccininni), 89, Jan. 24  
St. James the Less Church, Columbus

**JURA**, Carl A., 75, Jan. 19  
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

**KITCHEN**, Ronald E., 80, Jan. 22  
St. Rose of Lima, New Lexington

**KOTTENSTETTE**, Frederick T., 90, Jan. 20  
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

**KUHN**, Linda L., 76, Feb. 1  
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

**LEAHY**, Jacqueline, 87, Jan. 26  
St. Joseph Church, Circleville

**McCULLOUGH**, Martha M. (Wagner), 99, Jan. 23  
St. Patrick Church, Columbus

**MURRAY**, Judy, 70, Jan. 26  
Mohun Health Care Center Chapel, Columbus

**NESMITH**, Angela P. (Trovato), 87, Jan. 17  
St. Joseph Church, Plain City

**NOLL**, Lawrence John, 91, Jan. 30  
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

**RICHARDSON**, Richard D., 57, Jan. 25  
St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

**RODENFELS**, Helen L., 89, Jan. 21  
St. Leo the Great Oratory, Columbus

**ROGERS**, Emilio R. "Mel," 96, Jan. 16  
Mother Angeline McCrory Chapel, Columbus

**SCHORNAK**, Carolyn A. (Lieb), 90, Jan. 27  
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

**SELBY**, Bonnie J., 91, Jan. 29  
St. Leonard Church, Heath

**STALTER**, Patrick W., 82, Jan. 17  
St. Rose of Lima, New Lexington

**STORRIE**, Dorothy J. (Warner), 88, Jan. 20  
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

**YOUNG**, Mary Ann, 94, Jan. 25  
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

## Regina M. Hope

Funeral Mass for Regina M. Hope, 95, who died Monday, Jan. 30, was celebrated Saturday, Feb. 4 at Columbus Corpus Christi Church. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born on July 23, 1927.

A son, Father Donald Hope, a Columbus native, is a retired priest of the Diocese of Salt Lake City. He was ordained in 1976. Other survivors include sons, James (Mary) and Michael; daughters, Sandy (George) Eberts and Donna Potteiger; two grandsons; three granddaughters; four great-grandsons and one great-granddaughter.

### MALTA, continued from Page 17

preached a call for a Crusade. He said, "Christians should not rest comfortably in their beds when the holy places associated with the life of Christ were being held by those who did not believe in his divinity."

In 1097, the First Crusade was launched, and in 1099, Jerusalem was taken by the crusaders. Their leader, Godfrey of Bouillon, was offered the kingship of Jerusalem. He refused, saying, "No man should wear a crown of gold in the city where our Lord wore a crown of thorns."

After the siege, the Crusaders founded a hospital in Jerusalem, and its director was Brother Gerard. The Crusaders went to the hospital to receive care for their wounds, and some were so taken by this care that they joined the monks there.

Led by Brother Gerard, the religious community became a full religious order. In his bull, Pope Paschal II recognized the order, placing it under the protection of the Church and granting it the right to elect its superiors, without interference from other lay or religious authorities. While the fourth-oldest religious order, it is the first modern religious order, where all houses answered

to the master of the order instead of a collection of autonomous houses.

The order was independent, subject only to the papacy, free to elect Gerard's successor and to receive and own property. All the confreres were religious, bound by the monastic vows of poverty, chastity and obedience and dedicated to assisting the poor and sick.

The Constitution of the Kingdom of Jerusalem obliged the order to assume the military defense of the pilgrims and to protect the main roads. Defense of the faith was then added to the hospitaller mission, and the order adopted the eight-pointed cross as its symbol.

Throughout this 900-year history, the Order of Malta has continued and expanded its service to the vulnerable and the sick. After Jerusalem, it spent time headquartered on both the islands of Rhodes and Malta. Since 1834, the order's government seat has been in Rome, where it is guaranteed extraterritorial rights.

Today, the Order of Malta is active in 120 countries caring for people in need through its medical and humanitarian works. It is a sovereign subject of international law, has diplomatic relations

with more than 100 nations and the European Union and permanent observer status at the United Nations.

It is neutral, impartial and apolitical. It supports forgotten or excluded members of society. It helps people living amid armed conflicts and natural disasters by providing medical assistance and care for refugees.

The Order of Malta is dedicated to the preservation of human dignity and the care of those in need, regardless of origin or religion. The order operates through 11 priories, 48 national associations, 133 diplomatic missions, one worldwide relief agency and 33 national volunteer corps as well as numerous hospitals and medical centers.

To learn more about the Order of Malta, contact [orderofmaltaOH@gmail.com](mailto:orderofmaltaOH@gmail.com), visit [www.orderofmaltafederal.org](http://www.orderofmaltafederal.org) or find them on Facebook. More important, pray that the Order of Malta can continue its mission to help the sick and poor in Columbus.

*Charles Mifsud, KM is an attorney and 3rd Class Lay Member of the Order of Malta who lives in Dublin.*



Brother Gerard was the director of a hospital in Jerusalem founded during the Crusades and then became the leader of a new religious order known today as the Order of Malta.

*Image courtesy Order of Malta*

# St. Charles, Bishop Hartley win CCL swimming titles

Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School and Columbus Bishop Hartley High School claimed the boys and girls team titles, respectively, in the Central Catholic League Swimming and Diving Championships on Saturday, Jan. 28 at St. Charles.

St. Charles finished with 485 points in the boys competition to outdistance second-place Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, which totaled 218 points. Columbus Bishop Watterson High School (142) followed in third, Bishop Hartley (105) in fourth and Columbus Bishop Ready High School (1) in fifth.

On the girls side, Bishop Watterson was the runner-up with 314 points, followed by DeSales (282) and Ready (2).

St. Charles swimmers won all eight individual races and the three relay events in boys competition. Hartley and Watterson finished first in three individual girls events each.

DeSales' Lydia Letzelter and Watterson's Grace Rider each won two girls events. Letzelter finished first in the 200-yard freestyle in two minutes, 6.5 seconds and the 100-yard butterfly in 1:04.91, and Rider touched the wall first in the 100 freestyle in 56.37 and the 100 breaststroke in 1:08.78. Rider also swam the anchor leg on the Eagles' winning 400 freestyle relay team and was part of the first-place 200 medley relay quartet.

Other individual winners in girls events were Hartley's Skylar Richards (200 individual medley, 2:25.23), Hartley's Grace Goodwin (50 freestyle, 26.07), Watterson's Teagan Price (500 freestyle, 5:57.73) and Hartley's Ava Dyer (100 backstroke, 1:03.98). Richards and Goodwin swam leadoff and anchor legs, respectively, for the Hawks' winning 200 freestyle relay team.



DeSales' Lydia Letzelter helps a teammate with a lap count during the 500-yard freestyle. Letzelter won two individual events in the CCL meet. Photos courtesy John Hulkenberg



Ayden Fortney celebrates St. Charles' 400-yard free relay win during the CCL swim meet on Jan. 28 at St. Charles.

St. Charles' Austin Carpenter was the lone double winner in boys races, taking the 200 individual medley in 2:00.31 and the 100 breaststroke in 1:01.01.

Other St. Charles individual champions were Brad King (200 freestyle, 1:50.75), Jack Keller (50 freestyle, 22.8), Cole Montgomery (100 butterfly, 57.49), Ayden Fortney (100 freestyle, 51.32), Brogan Rogers (500 freestyle, 5:28.99) and Wyatt Julian (100 backstroke, 54.88).

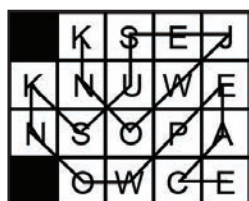
Watterson's Olive O'Dorisio was the only competitor in 1-meter diving. She scored 401.20 points.



Luke DeFrancisco of DeSales swims a heat of the boys 200-yard individual medley before finishing second in the final at the CCL meet.

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- March 10 - 12 | Women's Retreat with Fr. Michael Sparough, SJ
- March 17 - 19 | Men & Women's Retreat with Fr. Patrick Fairbanks, SJ
- March 31 - April 2 | Men's Retreat with Fr. Jeff Putthoff, SJ
- April 21 - 23, 2023 | Married Couples Retreat with Tom & GERALYN Sparough
- April 21 - 23, 2023 | Women's Journey with Stacy Hennessy & Jess Hirzel



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# Collection to benefit Black, Native American, Alaskan missions

By Sister Zephрина Mary, FIH  
Director, Diocesan Missions Office

The Catholic faith community has been a beacon of hope to the hopeless for generations. Today, our solidarity with them is more important than ever, especially with vibrant Catholic faith communities in the poorest regions who are serving and caring for the marginalized.

Your generous financial contribution can help share the resources of Church members and meet the needs of our African American, Native American and Alaska Native brothers and sisters.

On the weekend of Feb. 25-26, a second collection will be taken up at all Masses in all parishes in the Diocese of Columbus. The proceeds will help fund evangelization projects in the Black, Native American and Alaska Native communities in the United States.

On behalf of Bishop Earl Fernandes, thank you in advance for supporting this collection. In 2022, the diocese raised \$58,382.71. Your donations help spread the light of Christ.

Pope Francis reminds us that everyone is meant to evangelize. This collection clearly authenticates his call to work as a family to help all of our brothers and sisters and to share the love, faith and hope of Jesus Christ.

As we embark on another year of evangelization in the African American, Native American and Alaska Native communities, everyone is encouraged to make a difference by offering their prayers for the missions in the United States and to consider expressing concretely their Christian solidarity through sacrificial offerings. Please continue to support this mission of faith and hope by your generous charity.

The Decree on the Missionary Activity of the Church says, "The whole Church of Christ is missionary, and the work of evangelization is a basic duty of the people of God." (DMA 1:35)

The Church continues the mission of Christ, our teacher and healer. Jesus taught that God loves us unceasingly, and He healed many from their infirmities.

The vision of the whole missionary Church is that all mankind will live in dignity and peace by liberation from oppression. People long for peace and thirst for love, which Christ can fully bestow upon us. Thus, we can share with our fellow men and women and become living witnesses of Christ's presence.

Working together, the missionary priests, religious members and laymen and women follow the call to the missions. In the youth of our parish family lies the future of the missionary endeavor. May our young people answer the call.

Your support provides for missionaries in African American, Native American and Alaska Native missions, parishes, schools, religious education programs and the many diocesan programs and projects that strengthen the work of the Gospel.

Your partnership places Bibles and catechetical materials in the hands of priests, consecrated men and women and lay leaders. Your sacrifice impacts pastoral work across the country and addresses the need to train catechists, permanent deacons and seminarians for future generations in many of our neighborhoods.

It is only through the constant generosity of everyone that evangelization efforts are multiplied a thousandfold.

The collection is managed by a subcommittee of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Donations will be distributed as grants to dioceses throughout the United States.

Schools, parish religious education programs and diocesan ministries depend upon your generosity to help them spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Poor rural and reservation communities cannot survive without our help.



## Letter from the bishop

*Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,*

The weekend of February 25-26, we will observe the Black and Indian Missions Collection at all Masses. This national campaign for America's mission lands has been serving the Catholic Church in the United States since 1884.

The proceeds from the collection have been distributed as grants to dioceses supporting and strengthening evangelization programs, which would otherwise be in danger of disappearing among the Black, American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut communities of the United States.

These mission communities exist in almost every diocese in the United States. Missionary priests, religious, catechists, and devoted lay people work tirelessly in parishes, missions and reservations to promote the faith. Through our contributions, we work hand in hand with those who deliver the light of Christ's witness to the impoverished, isolated and long-suffering people in these communities. In supporting the missions, we support the poor with what we have, helping them with great love.

I would like to invite you to join me in

the missionary work of the Church as the National Black and Indian Collection is conducted throughout the Diocese of Columbus. Through our prayers, generosity, and sacrifice, we share in spreading the Gospel of Christ's love in Black and Native American communities across the country.

Grateful for your cooperation and participation, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend  
Earl K. Fernandes  
Bishop of Columbus



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## LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS

# Order of Malta sponsors Mass for Anointing at Holy Rosary-St. John

The Order of Malta will sponsor its annual Mass for Anointing of the Sick, with Bishop Earl Fernandes and Father Ramon Owerla concelebrating and administering the sacrament of anointing, at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 12 in Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church, 648 S. Ohio Ave.

This Mass usually takes place on the second weekend in February because Feb. 11 is the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes and the World Day of the Sick.

In Columbus, the order runs the Order of Malta Center of Care, which provides health and dental care in the St. John Community Center next to the church. The center is in the former St. John School and houses a variety of social services, including the Center of Care, the St. John Food Pantry, the St. John Learning Center for adult education and the Community Kitchen, Inc.

The Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta (mainly known as the Order of Malta or the Knights and Dames of Malta) has been a lay religious order since 1113. Its mission is to defend the faith and provide care and service to the poor and sick throughout the world.

For more information, email hrsjevents@gmail.com. Information is available at hrsjchurch.org/service on all the spiritual and corporal works of mercy offered at Holy Rosary-St. John.

## Seasons of Hope group announces next session

The Seasons of Hope bereavement ministry will sponsor a five-week grief support group from Sunday, Feb. 19 to Sunday, March 19 at Columbus Immaculate Conception Church, 414 E. North Broadway. The program, sponsored by the churches of the North High Deanery, will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. each Sunday.

To register, contact Debbie Kennedy at kennedydeborah@yahoo.com or by phone at (614) 937-0516. The deadline to register is Wednesday, Feb. 15.

## Vocations office sponsors Andrew Dinners in March

The diocesan Vocations Office invites young men of high school age and older to one of its Andrew Dinners, during which participants share a meal with Bishop Earl Fernandes and learn more about vocational discernment, seminary life and the priesthood.

The dinners will take place on Tuesday, March 28 in the family life center of Chillicothe St. Mary Church, 61 S. Paint St., and Thursday, March 30 at New Philadelphia Sacred Heart Church, 139 3rd St. N.E.

Each event will begin with Evening Prayer at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner and a talk from 6 to 8 p.m.

Anyone interested in attending is asked to RSVP to the Vocations Office at (614) 221-5565 or vocations@columbucatholic.org, no later than five days before the dinner. If you know of someone else who is in high school or college and is discerning his call, feel free to invite them.

## Father Blau to present talks in yearlong series at St. Pius X

Father Thomas Blau, OP, of Columbus St. Patrick Priory will present a series of talks on "Living in the Presence of Our Eucharistic Lord" throughout the year at Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church, 1051 Waggoner Road.

The talks are being sponsored by the parish's men's ministry, known as The Armory, as part of the multiyear National Eucharistic Revival sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

All will be on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon. Dates and subjects are: Feb. 11, "Why Do Catholics Have Sacraments?"; May 13, "The Eucharist in the Bible"; Aug. 19, "Getting More Out of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass"; and Nov. 18, "Praying Constantly: The Mass as the School of Prayer." Each session will conclude with Eucharistic Adoration and the sacrament of reconciliation.

Father Blau, a Dominican friar since 1999, is a Cleveland native who came to Columbus St. Patrick Church in 2010 and has been assigned for several years as an itinerant preacher for the Diocese of Columbus conducting missions. He was appointed a pontifical missionary of mercy for the worldwide Jubilee of Mercy in 2016.

Before coming to Columbus, he was assigned to Dominican outreach at colleges in Virginia and Rhode Island. Prior to his ordination as a priest, he served at missions in Honduras and Guatemala.

## Turban Project looking for volunteers

The Newark-based Turban Project is looking for volunteers who can continue its mission of donating handmade headwear blessed by a priest to people who have lost their hair because of a medical condition, usually from cancer treatment.

The project donated about 33,500 items last year and has donated more than 216,000 items since it was started in 2012 by women of Knights of Columbus Council 10820 in Dresden. It has volunteers from all faiths, with sewing groups in every state and 13 other nations.

Volunteers can visit the project's workroom in Suite B2E of the Newark Commerce Center, 195 Union St., from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays. They also can work at home.

The project will provide precut, ready-to-sew fabric, mailing it to people outside the Newark area. How-to-sew videos for each of the four items it makes are available at its website, www.turbanproject.com and its Facebook page, The Turban Project.

Anyone wishing to cut or sew fabric; donate "bling" for the turbans; make a donation in the form of a gift card from Joann Fabrics, Hobby Lobby or Walmart; or make a monetary contribution can contact Kathy Braidich at (740) 504-6133 or mail The Turban Project, 7871 Ridge Road, Frazeyburg, OH 43822.

## Deacon Kandra to speak at Sunbury St. John Neumann

Deacon Greg Kandra will be the speaker for a parish mission at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, March 27 and 28, followed by a reception each evening.

Deacon Kandra is the creator of the blog "The Deacon's Bench." He recently retired after 11 years as senior writer for the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, a pontifical association founded by Pope Pius XI in 1926. He now is a part-time consultant to the association while spending most of his time writing and traveling the nation to lead retreats and parish missions.

He earlier spent nearly three decades in broadcast journalism, mostly at CBS News, where he was a writer and producer for programs including "48 Hours," "60 Minutes II," "Sunday Morning" and "The CBS Evening News." From 2000 to 2004, he was a writer and producer on the live finales of the "Survivor" reality series.

## New Philadelphia parish to host mission in March

New Philadelphia Sacred Heart Church will be hosting a mission for all the parishes in Tuscarawas County at 7 p.m. Sunday to Tuesday, March 5 to 7, in the parish center, 139 3rd St. N.E. There will be a gathering time with refreshments at 6:30 p.m. each evening.

The featured speaker will be Mike Patin and his theme will be "B-eing with Jesus in Lent." His talks will be on "Burros (Palm Sunday)" on Sunday, "Bread and Basins (Holy Thursday)" on Monday and "Bricks and Bouquets (Good Friday)" on Tuesday.

Patin lives in Lafayette, Louisiana and has worked in ministry settings since 1984, first as a high school teacher and coach and then in diocesan ministry for the Archdiocese of New Orleans. He has spoken to groups ranging from 10 to 23,000 people in more than 130 dioceses in the United States and Canada.

## Knox County parishes to conduct shared mission

Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul and Danville St. Luke churches will conduct a shared mission in early March, with each parish hosting events.

The speaker will be Father Pachomius Walker, OP, of Philadelphia St. Patrick Church, presenting reflections on the

virtues. He will be at St. Vincent de Paul, 303 E. High St., on Sunday and Tuesday, March 5 and 7, and St. Luke, 307 S. Market St., on Monday, March 6. Each talk will be from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

The two parishes will host separate penance services at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 8.

## SPICE St. Patrick's Day event set for March 4 at St. Catharine

The annual St. Patrick's Day party to benefit SPICE (Special People in Catholic Education) will take place on Saturday, March 4 in the Msgr. Soroan Center at Columbus St. Catharine Church, 500 S. Gould Road.

The festivities, which start at 6 p.m., will feature a full Irish dinner and dessert, entertainment from the Irish band the Hooligans, Irish step dancers, a silent auction, and a cash bar with beer, wine and signature cocktails.

SPICE was founded over 20 years ago at St. Catharine to support the unique educational needs of its students. Its mission is to support the parish community, pastor, administration, teachers, parents and students in fostering a deeper understanding and culture of support for special educational needs.

More information and registration may be found at the parish office at 614-231-4509 or at stcatharine.com. Tickets are \$50 each. All are welcome.

Anyone with questions may call Mary Ginn Ryan at 614-354-3945.

## Sister's archival work honored

Sister Nancy Garson, OP, was awarded the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board's Citizen Archivist Award for creating a unified archive for the eight congregations of Dominican sisters that combined in 2009 to form the Dominican Sisters of Peace.

Sister Nancy had held a variety of positions in her original congregation, the Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine de Ricci, and with the Dominican Sisters of Peace, but she never had been an archivist until volunteering for the role in 2016.

She supervised the moves of three collections of congregational archives from locations in Michigan and Louisiana and worked to expand the archival storage area of the sisters' Columbus motherhouse to accommodate more records as other motherhouses closed.

Her efforts helped to create the space and the methodology to properly preserve the documents and photographs of the sisters' 200 years of service to the Catholic Church and its people.

Sister Nancy joined her original congregation in 1983, made her first profession as a Dominican sister in 1985 and made final profession in 1989. She retired from active ministry in 2022 but continues to consult with the congregation's professional archives staff.

### Plain City St. Joseph honors two centenarians



It's an unusual occurrence to celebrate a 100-year-old parishioner's birthday and so celebrating two of them at once after the 11 a.m. Mass on Sunday, Jan. 22 at Plain City St. Joseph Church was special. Centenarians Bonnie Blackwell (second from left) and Edna Lanka (right) are joined by Deacon Tony Bonnaci and Father Joseph Trapp. Blackwell joined the parish in 1960 and has been active for more than six decades. Lanka came to St. Joseph from Worthington St. Michael Church in 2011 and has participated in many parish activities.

*Photo courtesy Plain City St. Joseph Church*

### Three Watterson student-athletes commit to colleges



Three Columbus Bishop Watterson seniors will continue their athletic and academic careers next fall after signing with colleges on Wednesday, Feb. 1. Erin Karas (left) will compete in track and field at Dartmouth College, Cole Rhett (center) in football at the University of Toledo and Sydney Workman in track and field at the University of Dayton.

*Photo courtesy Bishop Watterson High School*

### St. Timothy students honor Pope Benedict



Columbus St. Timothy Church seventh and eighth graders participated in a special candlelit Mass in January honoring the life of Pope Benedict XVI, who died Dec. 31. Eighth-grader Jason Sawyers (pictured in yellow) gave a reflection on the former pontiff's life and accomplishments.

*Photo courtesy St. Timothy Church*



### Patronal feast day at St. Francis DeSales High School

Bishop Earl Fernandes joins students at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School after celebrating Mass on Tuesday, Jan. 24, the feast of the school's patron saint. Bishop Fernandes is a graduate of Ohio's "other" St. Francis de Sales High School in Toledo. St. Francis de Sales is also the Diocese of Columbus' patron saint.

*Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School*

### St. Charles winter play set for Feb. 23-26



The Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School drama department will present its winter play, *The Outsiders*, adapted by Christopher Sergel from the book by S.E. Hinton, at 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 23-25 and at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26 in the Campus Theatre, 2010 E. Broad St. Cast members include (from left) Andrew Carter (Dallas), Grant Dine (Johnny), J.D. Myaard (Two-Bit), Raphael Bott (Sodapop), James Graff (Ponyboy) and Thomas Matthews (Derry). Adult tickets at \$15 each and student tickets at \$10 each are available at [www.scprep.org](http://www.scprep.org) under the Buy Tickets button. Tickets will not be sold at the door. *The Outsiders* is a story of real kids in real situations with real consequences seen through the eyes of young Ponyboy. Territorial battles between the have-it-made rich kids — the Socs — and Ponyboy's tough, underprivileged "greaser" family and friends are just a part of life. But even in the midst of urban gang warfare, somehow Ponyboy can't forget a short poem that speaks to their fragile young lives. This heroic story of belonging, friendship and maintaining hope in the face of struggle is a powerful reminder of what young people encounter every day. *Photo courtesy St. Charles Preparatory School*

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JOHN 1:5



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★ *Danielle Bean*

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★ *Fr. Michael Denk*

Fr. Denk is the founder of *The Prodigal Father*, whose mission is to inspire, introduce, and guide people in a deep and authentic life of prayer.



★ *Fr. Rob Galea*

Fr. Galea is a former contestant on Australia's *X Factor*, sang the English versions of official **World Youth Day** songs, and believes that music and film are important instruments in helping people understand the need for intimacy with God.



★ *Paula Umana*

Paula is a former #1 Costa Rican tennis player turned speaker and author, who shares her faith-filled recovery from a disorder that once left her quadriplegic.

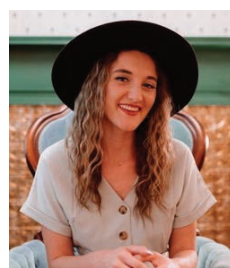
Mass Celebrant:

★ *Bishop Earl Fernandez*



Music By:

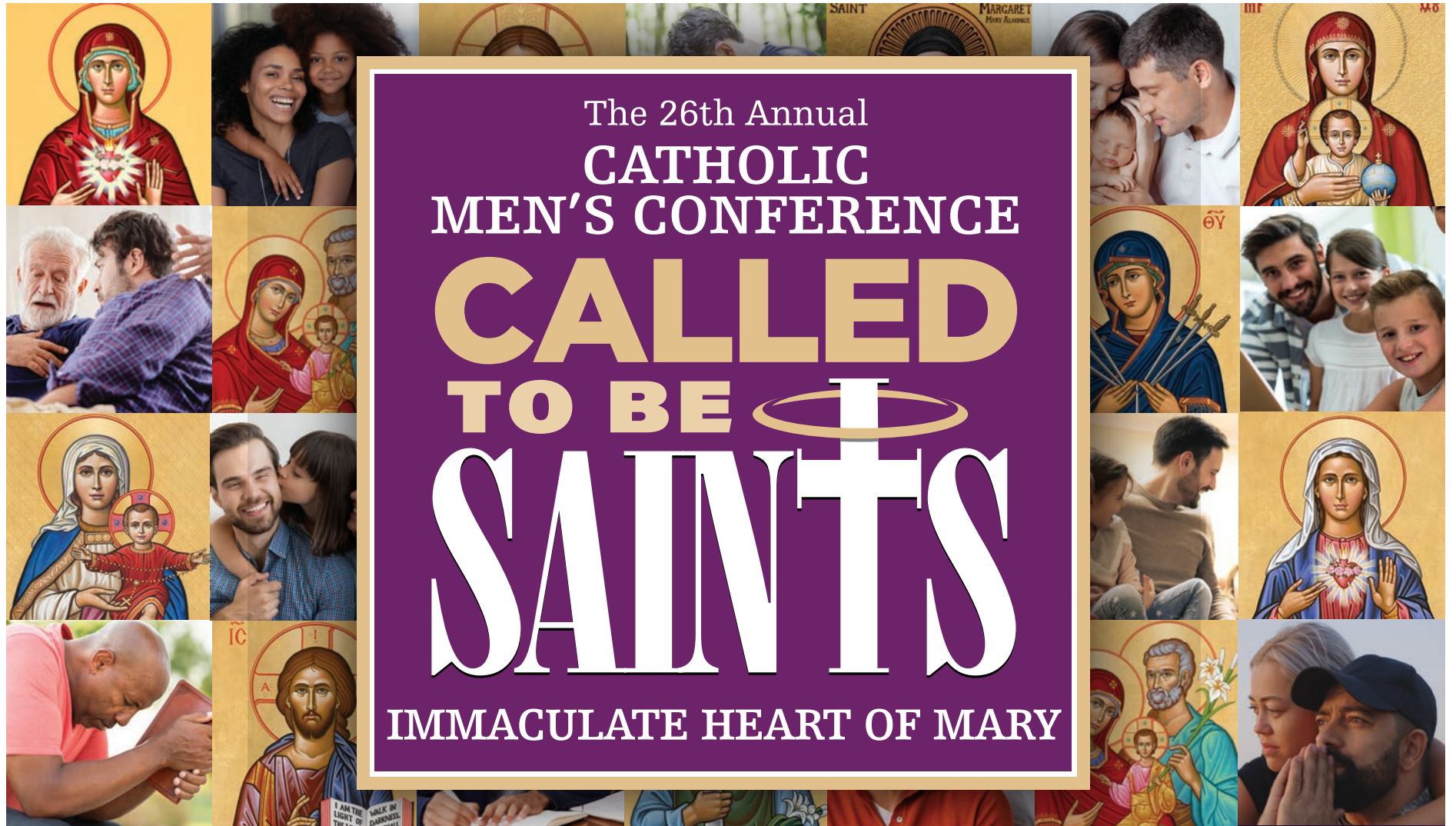
★ *Hannah Schaefer*



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