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# CATHOLIC TIMES

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**MISSIONARY SERVANTS OF THE WORD  
NOW SERVE THREE COLUMBUS PARISHES**

The Editor's Notebook*Called to Evangelize*

By David Garick, Editor

Whenever I sit down to write this weekly column and edit this newspaper, I feel like I am writing a thank-you note. It is not for a special birthday present or brightly wrapped packages under a Christmas tree. It is for something far greater. My gratitude is for the overwhelming gift of Christ and how he has brought my life into real meaning through his love. But with that gratitude comes an obligation. This is not a gift I can hoard. I can't keep it just to myself. The Lord has made it clear that this gift of love only works when it is shared.

It is an important reminder to all of us that we have a tremendous responsibility as Christians. Our Lord gave the Great Commission to his disciples as described in Matthew's Gospel: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age." That commission was not limited to the Christians of first-century Palestine. Each of us bears the responsibility of carrying out Christ's mission to this day.

Pope Francis wrote in *Evangelii Gaudium*, "On the lips of the catechist the first proclamation must ring out over and over: Jesus Christ loves you; he gave his life to save you; and now he is living at your side every day to enlighten, strengthen and free you. ... nothing is more solid, profound, secure, meaningful and wisdom-filled than that initial proclamation."

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI called all of us to be part of a New Evangelization, a renewed outreach of the Gospel to a world that desperately needs to be filled with

the Holy Spirit. He said, "Each man's fundamental question is: How will this be realized—becoming man? How does one learn the art of living? Which is the path toward happiness? To evangelize means: to show this path—to teach the art of living. At the beginning of his public life Jesus says: I have come to evangelize the poor (Luke 4:18); this means: I have the response to your fundamental question; I will show you the path of life, the path toward happiness—rather: I am that path."

We have received a wonderful gift: salvation, eternal life with Christ and purpose in our lives. We all know the parable of the talents. God gives us this wonderful gift, not just for our own benefit, but that we might share it and bring the entire world into knowledge of the love of God. This issue of *Catholic Times* takes a look at a group of missionaries who have made enormous strides in this kind of evangelization. The sisters of the Missionary Servants of the Word are not doing this in some remote outposts in the Third World. They are doing it right in our midst, on the streets and in homes right here in Columbus. The need for evangelization is just as vital here in modern, overly secular America as anywhere on earth. We all need to be doing this work. These religious sisters from Mexico are showing us the way, rekindling the fire of evangelization that filled the souls of the original disciples of Christ. Each of us was given through our baptism a wonderful gift. How will you share that gift? As Our Lord said, "For everyone to whom much is given, of him shall much be required" (Luke 12:48).

**Pope names papal nuncio to Mexico to be new nuncio to the United States**

Pope Francis has appointed French-born Archbishop Christophe Pierre (*pictured*) as the Vatican ambassador to the U.S., replacing Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, the Holy See press office announced Tuesday.

The appointment of the new Vatican ambassador—known as an apostolic nuncio—comes after Archbishop Vigano reached the retirement age of 75 on Jan. 16. The Italian prelate had served as apostolic nuncio to the U.S. since 2011.

It had been speculated that the role of papal nuncio to the U.S. would fall to Archbishop Pierre, who has been nuncio to Mexico since 2007. As reported by CNA, Vatican watcher Sandro Magister asserted in his March 10 blog that the 70-year-old Archbishop Pierre would be "imminently" promoted to the position.

Magister characterized Archbishop Pierre as a "Bergoglian," and someone in whom Francis confides. Additionally, a source close to the Mexican bishops' conference told CNA that Archbishop Pierre "is known for suggesting solid, reliable candidates to the episcopate."

The French prelate was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Rennes in 1970. In 1995, he was consecrated a bishop and appointed apostolic nuncio to Haiti. He served there until 1999, when he was transferred to Uganda.

In an April 8 speech at the annual rector's dinner of the Pontifical North American College,



Archbishop Vigano offered a farewell reflection on his four-and-a-half year mission as the pope's representative to the U.S. and the challenges against religious liberty in this country.

"As everyone knows, the past years have been very challenging for the Church in America," he said, acknowledging in turn other significant events, including Pope Francis' visit to the U.S.

He stressed the need to pray "that the United States of America will protect our freedom, especially our religious liberty, as well as respect the human right to conscientious objection, and that we will be courageous in always defending the freedom to put our Catholic faith into practice without fear."

"This is an age when we need great courage—courage to stand up for the Truth, even when we are not understood, or persecuted when we are understood. We need to be strong in the face of evil."

*Front Page photo:*

Clockwise from bottom left: lay missionaries Ebbeth Mata and Victoria Alcantar and Sisters Laura Mosqueda, Nereida Olmedo, Karina Hernandez, Mayela Gladin, Petra Leon, and Jacqueline Garcia of the Missionary Servants of the Word. CT photo/Tim Puet

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## Share truth of family with mercy, help those struggling, pope says

By **Cindy Wooden**

*Catholic News Service*

The same mercy and patience that are essential for building a strong family must be shown to those whose families are in trouble or have broken up, Pope Francis said in his highly anticipated postsynodal apostolic exhortation.

The document, *Amoris Laetitia* (The Joy of Love), on love in the family, released April 8, contains no new rules or norms. However, it encourages careful review of everything related to family ministry; in particular, much greater attention to the language and attitude used when explaining church teaching and ministering to those who do not fully live that teaching.

“No family drops down from heaven perfectly formed; families need constantly to grow and mature in the ability to love,” Pope Francis wrote. People grow in holiness, and the church must be there to give them a helping hand rather than turn them away because they have not attained some degree of perfection.

The exhortation was Pope Francis’ reflection on the discussion, debate, and suggestions raised during the 2014 and 2015 meetings of the Synod of Bishops on the family. As synod members did, the pope insisted that God’s plan for the family is that it be built on the lifelong union of one man and one woman open to having children.

Synod members, including priests, religious, and laypeople serving as experts and observers, talked about everything from varied cultural forms of courtship to marriage preparation and from the impact of migration on families to care for elderly parents.

Pope Francis’ document touches on all the issues raised at the synods and gives practical advice on raising children, urges a revision of sex-education programs, and decries the many ways the “disposable culture” has infiltrated family life and sexuality, to the point that many people feel free to use and then walk away from others.

“Everyone uses and throws away, takes and breaks, exploits and squeezes to the last drop. Then, goodbye,” he wrote.

Much of the document is tied to the theme of God’s mercy, including Pope Francis’ discussion of welcoming the vulnerable.

“Dedication and concern shown to migrants and to persons with special needs alike is a sign of the Spirit,” he wrote. Both are “a test of our commitment to show mercy in welcoming others and to help the vulnerable to be fully a part of our communities.”

The synod issues that garnered the most headlines revolved around the question of Communion for the divorced and civilly remarried, as well as Catholic attitudes toward homosexuality.

“In no way must the church desist from proposing the full ideal of marriage, God’s plan in all its grandeur,” Pope Francis said.

He repeated his and the synod’s insistence that the church cannot consider same-sex unions to be a marriage, but also insisted that “every person, regardless of sexual orientation, ought to be respected in his or her dignity.”

Concerning families experiencing difficulties, separation, or even divorce and remarriage, Pope Francis said responses to questionnaires sent around the world before the synod “showed that most people in difficult or critical situations do not seek pastoral assistance, since they do not find it sympathetic, realistic or concerned for individual cases.”

He wrote that the responses call on the church “to try to approach marriage crises with greater sensitivity to their burden of hurt and anxiety.”

Particularly in ministry to divorced and civilly remarried Catholics, Pope Francis said, pastors must help each couple look at their actions and circumstances, recognize their share of responsibility for the breakup of their marriage, acknowledge church teaching that marriage is indissoluble, and prayerfully discern how God is calling them.

Pope Francis said it would be a “grave danger” to give people the impression that “any priest can quickly grant ‘exceptions’ or that some people can obtain sacramental privileges in exchange for favors.”

At the same time, he insisted, “the way of the church is not to condemn anyone forever; it is to pour out the balm of God’s mercy on all those who ask for it with a sincere heart.”

Divorced and civilly remarried couples, especially those with children, must be welcomed in parishes and sup-



ported in efforts to raise their children in the faith, he wrote.

Generally, without an annulment of their sacramental marriage, such a couple would not be able to receive Communion or absolution of their sins unless they promised to live as “brother and sister.” But every situation is different, the pope said, which is why the church does not need new rules, but a new commitment on the part of pastors to provide spiritual guidance and assistance with discernment.

The diversity of situations -- for example, that of a spouse who was abandoned versus being the one who left -- makes it unwise to issue “a new set of general rules, canonical in nature and applicable to all cases,” the pope wrote. Quoting Pope St. John Paul II, he said, “since the degree of responsibility is not equal in all cases, the consequences or effects of a rule need not necessarily always be the same.”

Pope Francis used the document’s footnotes to specify that the consequences include whether or not the couple might eventually be able to receive Communion: “This is also the case with regard to sacramental discipline, since discernment can recognize that in a particular situation no grave fault exists,” he wrote. Those who are in a state of serious sin are not to receive Communion.

Another footnote commented on the church’s request that remarried couples who had not received an annulment and who want to receive the sacraments forego sexual relations. “In such situations,

many people, knowing and accepting the possibility of living ‘as brothers and sisters’ which the church offers them, point out that if certain expressions of intimacy are lacking, ‘it often happens that faithfulness is endangered and the good of the children suffers,’” he wrote.

Pope Francis wrote that he understood those “who prefer a more rigorous pastoral care which leaves no room for confusion. But I sincerely believe that Jesus wants a church attentive to the goodness which the Holy Spirit sows in the midst of human weakness, a mother who, while clearly expressing her objective teaching, always does what good she can, even if in the process, her shoes get soiled by the mud of the street.”

Turning to those who believe allowing divorced and remarried Catholics to receive Communion waters down church teaching on the indissolubility of marriage, the pope said, “we put so many conditions on mercy that we empty it of its concrete meaning and real significance. That is the worst way of watering down the Gospel.”

In many respects, Pope Francis wrote, church members themselves have presented and promoted such a dreary picture of married life that many people want nothing to do with it, even though they dream of a love that will last a lifetime and be faithful.

“We have long thought that simply by stressing doctrinal, bioethical and moral issues, without encouraging openness to grace, we were providing sufficient support to families, strengthening the marriage bond and giving meaning to marital life,” he wrote. “We find it difficult to present marriage more as a dynamic path to personal development and fulfillment than as a lifelong burden.

“We also find it hard to make room for the consciences of the faithful, who very often respond as best they can to the Gospel amid their limitations, and are capable of carrying out their own discernment in complex situations,” the pope wrote. Yet, “we have been called to form consciences, not to replace them.”

The role of an individual’s conscience made frequent appearances in the document, not only regarding the situation of those who may determine their new union is best for their family, but also regarding decisions over how many

## PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

### Harvest

Did you proudly walk like a Christian this past week? We need to show others how we practice our faith as often as possible – even daily. That is how we “walk the walk.” There is no need for theatrics or shouts of impending doom. Easter is a season of joy and love. Our Alleluias are on our faces and in our kindness. The mercy and love of God take control and keep us grace-filled, and with the nourishment of the Eucharist, we do our best to be the Light of Christ for a darkening world. We cannot go wrong and can never be defeated with Jesus Christ. We remain humble and loving, and realize that it is the little things that make a difference. The world as a whole can only do big things and effect change by way of many millions of little things initiated and effected by you and me. Let us always walk like a Christian.

This Sunday is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. It is the 53rd anniversary of this event, and I want to be sure we do not let it go unnoticed. The reason we have the World Day of Prayer for Vocations is to respond to our Lord’s challenge in the Gospel: “Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into His harvest.” This reminds us how important it is to pray for vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life. Both faith and grace are critical to anyone considering or discerning a vocation, and our prayer is very helpful. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops teaches us, “While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the ordained ministries of the priesthood and diaconate, to the Religious life in all its forms (male, female, contemplative, and apostolic), to societies of apostolic life, to secular institutes in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life, in the particular sense of mission to the nations.” Pope Francis puts it so beautifully in this way: “All the faithful are called to appreciate the ecclesial dynamism of vocations, so that communities of faith can become, after the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary, like a mother’s womb which welcomes the gift of the Holy Spirit. The motherhood of the Church finds expression in constant prayer for vocations and in the work of educating and accompanying all those who perceive God’s call. This motherhood is also expressed through a careful selection of candidates for the ordained ministry and for the consecrated life. Finally, the Church is the mother of vocations in her continual support of those who have dedicated their lives to the service of others.”

Our practical challenge this week is to pray for vocations. Did you know that the Diocese of Columbus currently has 34 seminarians? Eighteen are in college and 16 in theological school. Three will be ordained in May. We also have 12 men to be ordained as permanent deacons in November. Use the following prayer by Pope Francis: “Father of mercy, who gave your Son for our salvation and who strengthens us always with the gifts of your Spirit, grant us Christian communities which are alive, fervent and joyous, which are fountains of fraternal life, and which nurture in the young the desire to consecrate themselves to you and to the work of evangelization. Sustain these communities in their commitment to offer appropriate vocational catechesis and ways of proceeding towards each one’s particular consecration. Grant the wisdom needed for vocational discernment, so that in all things the greatness of your merciful love may shine forth. May Mary, Mother and guide of Jesus, intercede for each Christian community, so that, made fruitful by the Holy Spirit, it may be a source of true vocations for the service of the holy People of God.”

Jeric is director of development and planning for the Columbus Diocese.



## WATTERSON PRINCIPAL TO RETIRE

This fall, for the first time in 49 years, Marian Hutson will not be a part of the daily life of Columbus Bishop Watterson High School.

Hutson (*pictured*), who has been the school’s principal since replacing John Durant in 2000, announced on Wednesday, April 6 that she will be retiring at the end of the 2015-16 school year.



More recent additions include athletic and alumni offices; renovations allowing for the addition of business and medical center classrooms; a second elevator providing greater accessibility for students with injuries or disabilities; and renovation of locker rooms and a sports medicine suite in the lower level of the main building.

Hutson joined the Watterson staff as a social studies teacher in 1977. She became an administrator in 1982 and assistant principal and academic dean one year later.

She earned a bachelor’s degree from The Ohio State University in 1973, taught at Columbus St. Matthias School from 1973-75, and went on to earn a master’s degree from OSU before coming to Watterson.

During her 16-year tenure as the fourth principal since the school opened in 1954, Hutson has overseen the expansion of the school’s curriculum to 163 courses, including 22 Advance Placement and 14 College Credit Plus courses.

Construction projects on campus during this period are valued at more than \$14 million and have doubled the size of the school.

These include a weight room, built in 2001; the 2006 addition of science, computer, and art laboratories to the north end of the building; an addition to the south end, built in 2009, that includes a gymnasium, multipurpose room, band room, and choir room; and completion of the lower level of the south addition in 2012 to include a counseling and college center.

The school has received Ohio High School Athletic Association sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity awards every year since 2004, including the prestigious Commissioner’s Award.

Hutson also has been a Catholic Social Services board member for several years.

“I have spent 38 wonderful years ministering at Bishop Watterson and have had the privilege of sharing in the lives of literally thousands of students,” Hutson wrote to parents last week in the school’s weekly email message.

“I have cherished the friendships I have made with so many staff members, alumni and parents throughout the years.

“However, it is now time for those yesterdays to be gone and for me to retire so that I can begin a new today.

“As I conclude my service here at the end of this school year, I am looking forward to having more time for my family, parish and community in the tomorrows to come.

“I am confident that the next principal will build on the excellence of the past while forging a new path into the future. I ask that you keep that person, as well as me, in your prayers.”

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## Online Course: Applying Catholic Social Doctrine in the Workplace

In the business world, where money and profits are often the ultimate goal, the principles of Catholic social teaching, such as solidarity or caring for the poor, may fall by the wayside.

With that in mind, The Catholic University of America's school of business and economics has developed a new online certificate course that aims to educate working professionals from around the world about the basics of Catholic social doctrine and how it can be applied in the real world. The eight-week course, "Catholic Social Doctrine for the Lay Professional," will begin this coming Monday, April 11.

Luanne Zurlo, assistant professor of finance at the university, said the course will offer practical guidelines working professionals can use to better understand Catholic social doctrine and its implications. The course was

inspired by the work of the Vatican organization *Centesimus Annus*, which was founded in the early 1980s with the mission of explaining Catholic social doctrine to lay people.

"A lot of people don't fully understand what Catholic social doctrine is, so we want to explain how we can bring it from the theoretical world to our daily lives," she said. "This is effectively about trying to understand how we can bring Catholic values to our lives, whether at home or among our family and friends, how we can make it concrete so that our lives represent the Gospel ideals."

The course will be presented in eight weekly modules. Each module will include readings pulled directly from official Church documents, as well as videos, animations, or PowerPoint presentations showcasing real world examples of how Catholic social doctrine

may be applied.

Though anyone may access the course materials for free by registering, students who are interested in receiving a certificate of completion from the Vatican must pay a fee of \$129. To earn the certificate, students will be required to participate in weekly online discussions moderated by Catholic University business school professors.

In addition to Zurlo, participating professors include Joseph Capizzi, associate professor of moral theology and ethics for the university's school of theology and religious studies (STRS) and associate dean for graduate studies; George Garvey, professor emeritus in the Columbus School of Law; Andreas Widmer, director of entrepreneurship for the university's school of business and economics; Brian Engelland, professor of marketing and interim dean of the business

school; and John Grabowski, STRS associate professor of moral theology and ethics.

Zurlo hopes those who complete the program will find some clarity in our complex and challenging world. For business leaders, especially, she hopes the course will help shed light on ways to make a positive impact.

"It's really important to have a true light by which we can illuminate the decisions we make," she said. "There are so many competing voices out there, but the Catholic Church has a perspective on the social world in which we operate that is very unique and special. It's incumbent upon us as Christians and Catholics to use the wisdom and the truth of the Church to illuminate these decisions."

For more information about the course or to sign up, visit <http://csdcertificate.com>.

## Corpus Christi Center of Peace Events

The Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus, will host its annual summer day camp from Monday, June 27 to Friday, July 1.

All children, ages six to 10, who live in the 43206 or 43207 ZIP codes are invited. The week will include crafts, games, and educational programs, in-

cluding one afternoon meeting farm animals and another experiencing rescued wild animals.

Young people and adults are needed throughout the week to work with the campers. The event is a particularly good opportunity for high-school students to earn volunteer hours. All

volunteers must have completed Protecting God's Children training and a background check before the start of camp. All fees will be paid for by the Corpus Christi center.

For more information, call the center at (614) 512-3731.

Volunteers also are needed to make about 50 bag suppers for the campers to take home at the end of each day. Donated items needed for the suppers include large paper lunch bags (250 total), zipper sandwich bags, zipper snack bags, and paper napkins, which can be brought to the center at any time. Perishable items needed beginning Sunday, June 26 include Halos or Cuties, grapes, fruit cups, baby carrots, celery sticks, cookies, sandwich bread, cheese slices, sandwich meat, peanut butter, and jelly. The center also is looking for grocery store gift cards, which will be used to purchase whatever items are needed after camp starts.

In addition, monetary donations are requested so that at the end of camp, each camper will be able to receive a

new book bag and school supplies for the next school year. Donations of all kinds may be sent or delivered to the center, or call and the items will be picked up.

Camp registration forms are available at the center or may be sent by email. Call the center, send an email message to [corpuschristicenterofpeace@gmail.com](mailto:corpuschristicenterofpeace@gmail.com), or go to the center's website, [www.cccenterofpeace.org](http://www.cccenterofpeace.org). Camp is limited to 50 participants. The registration deadline is Monday, June 6.

For the rest of this month, the center is hosting activities including its monthly Taize evening prayer gathering from 4 to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 17; its centering prayer group from 10:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 23; a presentation on Dorothy Day by Ohio Dominican University professor Kathleen Riley from 9 a.m. to noon on April 23; and a program titled "Have We Lost Our Minds (Literally)?: Ecology in an Age of Technology," with Sister Iliia Delio, OSF, in a live stream from the Shalem Institute in Washington from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, April 29.



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## When did the Holy Spirit come? Flowers during Lent?



### QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE  
*Catholic News Service*

**Q.** I have often wondered about the difference between the disciples receiving the Holy Spirit immediately after the Resurrection “on the evening of that first day of the week” (John 20:19-23) and the coming of the Holy Spirit upon them at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4). Is it two different accounts of the same event, or did they receive the Holy Spirit in two different ways on two different occasions? (Vacherie, Louisiana)

**A.** In general, Scripture scholars read this as two different events, with the gift of the Holy Spirit being offered for two different purposes. In the first incident (John 20), the Spirit comes to the specific group of disciples gathered on the night of the first Easter Sunday. The Spirit confers on them the power to forgive sins.

In the second account (Acts 2), the Spirit descends forcefully on the whole community of believers, empowering them to preach the Gospel boldly, even though Jesus no longer will be physically present with them. (Note that this Pentecost event, following the Ascension, enables the disciples to be understood in many languages and that Pentecost is commonly regarded as the “birthday of the church.”)

This interpretation seems to square best with John 7:37-39, which suggests that the Spirit will not be given in its fullness until Jesus has been glorified, and with Luke 24:49, where Jesus, immediately before the Ascension, instructs the disciples to “stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

**Q.** Recently there was a tragic death. A woman died and left three children in their 20s. The priest in the small town where the woman lived and where her children had grown up was not at all sympathetic.

The family wanted to have the visitation in the

church, which he finally allowed, but he made the funeral home remove the casket overnight. He decided to allow flowers in the church during the wake, but would not permit them during the funeral Mass because it was during Lent. I am just sickened by this lack of compassion for the family. Not allowing flowers during the service is ridiculous. If that is a rule of the Catholic Church, it's a rule that should be broken by every priest. I want to hear your thoughts. (City of origin withheld)

**A.** Let's take your concerns one at a time. As to having the visitation in church, viewing hours are normally in a funeral home. Churches are primarily places of worship, and some parishes simply cannot honor every request to accommodate a wake for several hours during an afternoon and evening.

In our parish, on a couple of occasions, it has been necessary to turn down requests to host a wake because other events were previously scheduled: Stations of the Cross, an evening Mass, a school concert.

With regard to removing the casket overnight, I can understand that, too. Funeral directors regularly do so in our church because we have a daily parish Mass in the early morning, which young schoolchildren often attend.

But on the part about flowers, I agree with you.

Technically, the priest you refer to is correct. The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* (the “rule book” on liturgy) says in No. 305 that “during Lent it is forbidden for the altar to be decorated with flowers.”

The only exceptions, it specifically notes, are Laetare Sunday, solemnities, and feasts. But the *Order of Christian Funerals* says (in No. 38), “Fresh flowers, used in moderation, can enhance the setting of the funeral rites.” So I say (and have done this), “Why not make a pastoral accommodation, especially for a grieving family?” Flowers do speak of new life, which is what the funeral liturgy strives to convey.

*Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 40 Hopewell St., Albany NY 12208.*

### First Saturday Masses to begin May 7 at Holy Family

Beginning Saturday, May 7, Mass will be celebrated at 9 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month at Columbus Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St.

The Our Lady of Fatima Home Visitation Program of the parish's Confraternity of Christian Mothers is promoting the Masses in response to a request made by Our Lady of Fatima to Sister Lucia dos Santos, one of the three Fatima visionaries, in 1925.

Our Lady, through Lucia, requested that people attend Mass, receive holy Communion and the Sacrament of Reconciliation,

pray five decades of the rosary, and meditate on the rosary for 15 minutes on five consecutive first Saturdays, for the purpose of making reparation to her immaculate heart for blasphemy and ingratitude against her.

She promised that anyone fulfilling those conditions would receive the graces necessary for salvation at the time of death.


Beginning Sunday, May 8, the Our Lady of Fatima program also will sponsor recitation of the rosary after the 11 a.m. Mass each Sunday at Holy Family, followed by prayers requested at Fatima for world peace and the intentions of the pope.




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## Steve and Salena Hitchens Create Scholarship for Newark Catholic Graduates

Twenty years ago, Steve and Salena Hitchens lived a starkly different life than they live today.

Steve, who worked in nursing home administration, struggled to support their family as Salena finished nursing school. One day, they took a great leap of faith that would forever change their lives – Steve quit his job, and together they started an on-the-road therapy company called TheraTrust. They hoped to make enough money from this endeavor to eventually open a nursing home.

“We wanted to build nursing homes that encourage family members to come into the buildings,” Steve explained. “We wanted our patients treated with the respect and dignity they deserve.”

After one year, TheraTrust generated enough income for the couple to purchase their first nursing home and launch Autumn Health Care. They purchased a deteriorating building home that had just 15 of 50 beds filled, and promptly tore it down to start from scratch. Once construction was completed, the facility became fully occupied and remained that way for the next 18 years.

Before they finished construction on the first facility, the couple purchased a second building to rehabilitate. Eventually, Autumn Health Care grew to include 10 facilities with 1,000 employees. The couple attributed much of the success to their focus on improving quality care and incorporating patients’ families. They even added playgrounds to encourage grandkids to visit, as well as ice cream shops and movie theaters.

“In our last year of business, three of the 10 Autumn Health Care facilities ranked in the top 20 for customer satisfaction in the state of Ohio,” Steve said.



As Steve and Salena’s business flourished, their personal goals and priorities grew and changed. Their success allowed them to give back to the community in ways they never thought possible, including providing significant support for Newark Catholic High School, which their youngest child currently attends.

“Steve and Salena Hitchens have never hesitated to silently assist whenever there has been a need in our community,” said Newark Catholic principal Beth Hill. “From attending our weekly family rosary in the Newark Catholic chapel to making wreaths on behalf of a family in need, or giving a substantial donation for tuition assistance, they have shown great support for others.”

In early 2015, the couple made the decision to sell TheraTrust and Autumn Health Care in order to focus on the next chapter in their lives. Soon afterward, they approached The Catholic Foundation about using some of the earnings to give back to the Newark Catholic community at a greater level.

“What will we do with all of the money?” Salena asked. “We secured the futures for our children, we give to the church, we help others anonymously. ... We can’t leave this all to our kids. They don’t need it.”

The couple decided to intertwine their passion for health care with their loyalty to Newark Catholic. They created the Steven L. and Salena A. Hitchens Scholarship Fund, which awards two

full scholarships per year to graduates of the school who are pursuing an LPN or RN degree.

“We were very fortunate to be successful in business,” Steve said. “We want to afford others who are in the position we started in the same opportunity. It was a major struggle to get funding for Salena to go to nursing school, and we want to help others accomplish what she did.”

“And Newark Catholic helped raise our child. They helped with the foundation of a good education,” he added.

Steve and Salena Hitchens, who started out struggling and not knowing where the next dollar would come from, are now blessed to be in the position of helping other struggling individuals through this scholarship fund. According to Steve, this is just the start of the great plans they have for “retirement.”

Steve and Salena had a long-standing relationship with their financial adviser at Park National Bank in Newark. When they opened the scholarship fund, they didn’t want their adviser to suffer by transferring the assets. Thanks

to The Catholic Foundation’s new professional adviser choice program, their financial adviser was able to continue to manage their assets while still allowing the family to set up the fund at The Catholic Foundation.

Talk to The Catholic Foundation to find out how it can help you meet your charitable goals while maintaining your relationship with your financial adviser. For more information on the professional adviser choice program, contact Tiffney Hatem at (866) 298-8893 or [thatem@catholic-foundation.org](mailto:thatem@catholic-foundation.org).

The Catholic Foundation’s mission is to inspire giving and assist donors to provide for the long-term needs of the 23-county Diocese of Columbus. The Foundation fulfills its mission by seeking donors to establish funds designed to support current and future needs and by distributing earnings according to community priorities and donor intent. It is one of the nation’s oldest and largest Catholic foundations, distributing more than \$86 million in the diocese since 1985. For additional information about The Catholic Foundation, visit [www.catholic-foundation.org](http://www.catholic-foundation.org).

### A Special Mother’s Day Gift

Mother’s Day again will be the focus of the annual layette drive sponsored by the Christ Child Society of Columbus.

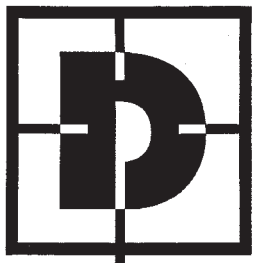
Society members assemble a gift package of baby care items. Each layette contains a sleep sac, receiving blanket and/or handmade quilt, sleepers, onesies, bottle, diapers, wipes, bib, book, towel, and washcloth, and educational material about infant care for new mothers.

Last year, 1,700 layettes were distributed to needy mothers and their babies throughout central Ohio. A layette may be purchased in honor of (or in memory of) a mother, grandmother, aunt, daugh-

ter, sister, or friend. A personalized Mother’s Day card announcing the gift will be sent to honorees or to the families of deceased honorees. In addition, a card bearing the name of the honoree will be inserted in a layette.

To order a layette, send the name and address of the woman to be honored or her family (in the case of deceased honorees) and a check (\$35 for each layette) payable to Christ Child Society of Columbus. Send the order by Monday, April 25, to Layette Fund Chair, Christ Child Society of Columbus, Post Office Box 340091, Columbus OH 43234-0091.

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## Knights of Columbus free-throw shooting contest diocesan champions

The diocesan championship round in the Knights of Columbus free-throw shooting contest took place at Columbus Bishop Ready High School, with more than 90 “sharpshooters,” ages nine to 14, participating. Winners will compete against champions from Ohio’s other dioceses for the state title. Pictured with state K of C council secretary Kevin Miller are seven of the 12 diocesan champions (from left): Alexis Shea, Westerville Council 5776, age 11 girls; Daniel Huffman, Father Kempf Council 10820, Dresden, age 9 boys; Samantha Kaczmarek, Council 5776, age 13 girls; Ty Durant, Council 10820, age 13 boys; Ian Anderson, St. Michael Council 11445, Worthington, age 10 boys; Madelynn Colopy, Marysville Council 5534, age 12 girls; and Clayton Hanson, St. Brigid of Kildare Council 10863, Dublin, age 11 boys. Champions not pictured are Ava Faiella, Council 5776, age 9 girls; Lana Kreuser, Council 5776, age 10 girls; Katie Schuler, Council 5776, age 14 girls; Tegan Myers, St. James Council 2299, Logan, age 12 boys; and Mike Chellis, Council 5776, age 14 boys.

Photo courtesy Knights of Columbus



### Read With a Stallion

Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School basketball coach Joe Bills spent time volunteering at Columbus St. Anthony School for the Read With a Stallion program, sponsored jointly by the schools. He is shown with St. Anthony student Leia Riley. Bills read books with students and guided them in taking accelerated reading quizzes. Many coaches and staff from DeSales have volunteered their time for the program.

Photo courtesy St. Anthony School



Children’s author Alan St. Jean visited Columbus St. Andrew School for two days, conducting several-grade appropriate presentations and writing workshops. He helped the students learn about different types of writing and how to improve their writing skills. Students in the fourth grade created stories about “Peppy the Pig.”

Photo courtesy St. Andrew School



# LIVING Faith

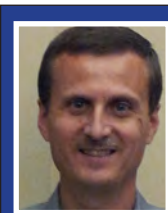
## My Spirit Lives

There are times in my life when I find myself in pure melancholy. It is a feeling I have that I am all alone in this world and that it is passing me by. During these moments of deep thought, I find that I want to become more involved in what is going on around me, but I can find no sustainable push to get my feet out the door.

What is this sense I have of urgency? Where does this feeling come from? The old saying that “the spirit moves in mysterious ways” can seem like a real paradox. If I am moved to action, is it God moving in me, telling me to try again?

Everything around us is in a constant state of flux. “Don’t let the dust form at your feet” is what my father used to say to us when we felt like being lazy. It is true that when you are young, you think you can put off until tomorrow what can be done today. Be careful, because as you get older, the days pile up, the nights get shorter, and those memorable moments get fewer and farther between.

I was reading the other day that more and more people are paying more attention to the quality of life



**Men by Faith**  
J. P. Leo Thomas

and are measuring their success not by wealth, but by the things they can do together. Traveling seems to them to be a good way to broaden their horizons and appreciate the freedoms they enjoy.

All of us need to find the niche where we feel most satisfied. We all need to find a way of putting our contributions to work and to learn to understand why things are the way they are. The Holy Spirit compels us to give of ourselves. Through this sharing, we grow as a people, becoming more compassionate and dynamic. Pope St. John Paul II once said, “There is no evil to be faced that Christ does not face with us. There is no enemy that Christ has not already conquered. There is no cross to bear that Christ has not already

borne for us, and does not now bear with us. And on the far side of every cross we find the newness of life in the Holy Spirit, that new life which will reach its fulfillment in the resurrection. This is our faith. This is our witness before the world” (homily in Baltimore, Oct. 8, 1995).

Let us put aside our differences for the sake of others. Let us be moved to action by His words. Let us become what we are truly meant to be. The spirit in us is not motivated by words, but by His passion and love for us all. I know this: My spirit lives in the ways I am called in kind and in the ways His spirit acts within my heart.

May the wind be forever at your backs, may His guiding spirit move you to compassion, and may His peace be with you always.

*Joseph Thomas is a freelance writer and active in many diocesan and church ministries. He is a member of Gahanna St. Matthew Church. He posts his thoughts online at <http://truegiftoffaith.blogspot.com>.*

## Addiction Program at Logan St. John

More than 100 people from communities as far as 50 miles away filled the social hall at Logan St. John Church for a recent program on various forms of addiction, including pornography, drug abuse, and alcohol abuse, and what can happen when those addictions lead to a prison term.

Deacon Don Robers and the Knights of Columbus hosted the program, which included testimony from several former offenders.

Deacon Robers, who is part of the ministry program at several prisons, described the life of an inmate. “It’s absolutely terrible,” he said. “You’re in a room with 200 people you don’t like, and they don’t like you either.” He said prison rooms are small and crowded, the food is not good, and someone in authority is watching all the time, so there’s no privacy.

Eric Hill, a correction officer at the Southeastern Correctional Complex in Lancaster, said Deacon Robers’ description was accurate. He said anyone in prison can expect to have a totally regulated life – to be told when to get up, when to sleep, when to eat, when to go to the bathroom, and when to do just about anything else.

“Once you screw up and go to prison, your life is hard to get back,” he said. “It’s hard to get a job. There’s nowhere to go. The first thing I tell inmates to do once they get out is to go to church and to choose

your friends wisely.”

Jason Robers, Deacon Robers’ grandson, was dressed in prison clothing to depict how prisoners dress every day. He talked about an incident in which law enforcement agents searched the house in which he is living because of suspicion that illegal drugs might have been stored there.

He said he knew nothing was there and nothing would happen, but recognized the search was related to his being acquainted with certain people. He reiterated the importance of choosing friends wisely and being careful about whom to allow in one’s vehicle or home.

Speaker Mark Hughes told of how he lost his family, friends, and livelihood because of an obsession with pornography that ended up putting him in prison for two-and-a-half years and requiring him to register as an offender now that he has served his time. “Pornography kills,” he said. “It robs, it steals, it pollutes. Pornography has a tendency to desensitize you. Prison is tough, but I now have my family and life back, and for that I’m very thankful.”

Four other guest speakers talked about the negative effect of addictions on their lives. One of them was Crystal Williamson, who said she has been in prison five times for possession of drugs, possession of heroin, receiving stolen property, and breaking and entering. She said that while in prison, she lost contact with her



family and lost her job. She said it’s still difficult to find a job because of her prison record.

The session concluded with comments from three Hocking County jurists: Common Pleas Court Judge John Wallace, Juvenile Court Judge Jonah Saving, and Municipal Court Judge Fred Moses. They spoke of the drug problem in the county and of programs established to help people who are addicted.

**Photo: Jason Robers, son of Deacon Don Robers, speaks at a seminar at Logan St. John Church about various addictions. He is dressed in prison clothing to illustrate his talk, but never has been imprisoned himself.** Photo courtesy St. John Church

# MISSIONARY SERVANTS OF THE WORD: DOOR-TO-DOOR EVANGELIZATION IS A MAJOR PART OF THE ORDER'S WORK

**BY TIM PUET**

Reporter, Catholic Times



Sister Nereida Olmedo, MSP (top, with Kelley Selegue) and Sister Laura Mosqueda (bottom) conduct Bible studies with women of Columbus Christ the King Church.

Photos courtesy Christ the King Church



The number of Latino Catholics in the United States has grown steadily in recent decades. The most recent figures from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops say that more than 34 million Latinos, representing 68 percent of the nation's Hispanic population, consider themselves to be Catholic. That's approximately 39 percent of the number of Catholics in the United States.

That growth also is occurring in the Diocese of Columbus, particularly in the Columbus parishes of St. Stephen the Martyr, Christ the King, and St. James the Less, where six sisters, two lay missionaries, and two priests from a Mexican-based order known as the Missionary Servants of the Word are serving the Latino community of those churches.

The Missionary Servants first came to Columbus in 2008, when sisters from the order conducted a 10-day parish mission at St. Stephen's which went beyond the parish walls, with the sisters going into the community and performing the door-to-door evangelization that's a hallmark of their order.

In August 2009, at the invitation of Bishop Frederick Campbell and with the cooperation of Father Thomas Buffer, the parish's pastor at the time, four sisters

from the order came to St. Stephen's to live across the street from the parish in a former home converted into a convent. At the time, Father Buffer said "They anticipate being here for three years, but we hope it will be forever."

Father Buffer's hopes appear to be coming true. The sisters were welcomed enthusiastically and immediately became involved in every aspect of parish life at St. Stephen's, where about three-fourths of parishioners are of Latino origin. In 2012, Bishop Campbell invited priests from the Missionary Servants to join the sisters at the parish. Father Saul Garcia, MSP, became pastor, with Father Eduardo Velasquez, MSP, as parochial vicar. Father Buffer is now pastor at Marion St. Mary Church, another parish with a significant Latino population.

In November 2013, three sisters from the Missionary Servants began living in the convent at Christ the King. They also were eagerly welcomed there and plunged into parish activities. Late last year, the sisters at St. Stephen's on the city's west side and Christ the King on the east side were joined by the lay missionaries, who were invited to St. James the Less on the city's north side to conduct Bible studies, work at the parish elementary school, and assist in several

faith enrichment programs.

Evangelism is at the heart of the Missionary Servants' work, whether in one-on-one visits to people's homes or through larger gatherings. Their basic tool is a three-year study of the Bible, supported by two books – *Discovering the Treasures of Jesus Christ* and *Discovering the Riches of Jesus Christ* – written by Father Luis Butera, a Mexican priest who founded the missionary order in 1983. The goal of the study, as stated in the sisters' motto, is "to evangelize the laity so they can go out and evangelize."

"The Missionary Servants embody the new evangelization," said Father David Schalk, pastor of Christ the King, who invited the sisters to come to his parish after seeing their impact on St. Stephen's. "They are teaching our parishioners Scripture and the people are embracing it like they never have before."

"People are given a systematic presentation of the Catholic faith and of the Bible, and this has generated great enthusiasm. We are all called to be missionaries, and the Missionary Servants give the people the tools to respond to the call. Their presence rounds out the community, making it more whole. Their vocation complements my own vocation to the priesthood and the vocation to married life that most people are called to. Now that they've been here for more than two years, I can't imagine parish life without them."

"The impact of the coming of the Missionary Servants to our parish has been remarkable," said Adriana Johnson, Latino ministry coordinator at St. Stephen's. "Before the sisters arrived, our percentage of participation in the Latino community was about 50 percent. Now it's estimated to be 75 to 80 percent."

"Their emphasis on house-to-house evangelization and training lay leaders is just what the parish needed. The sisters also deal with many people who haven't been baptized or received first Communion or Confirmation, or haven't been to church in years. Because of their hard work, we added another Spanish-language Sunday Mass at 7 p.m. to accommodate the Latino community and the increase in Mass attendance we've had

since the Missionary Servants' arrival."

"I can say without fear of contradiction that the sisters do a great job in the parish, and it is why we thank God that they are working here at St. Stephen the Martyr," Father Garcia said.

"Because the sisters and priests have the same charisma and way of evangelization, we have been able to establish an apostolate to take Bible studies into homes and the parish. Our goal is to work together to bring the message of salvation to all people. As in any community, we have learned to defeat obstacles to dialogue, with the help of the Holy Spirit."

All four sisters who originally came to St. Stephen's are now serving at other locations. Sister Nereida Olmedo, MSP, has been in Columbus for four-and-a-half years and has the longest tenure in the city among the Missionary Sisters here today. She is at Christ the King, along with Sisters Laura Mosqueda, MSP, and Jacqueline Garcia, MSP. At St. Stephen's are Sisters Karina Hernandez, MSP, Mayela Gladin, MSP, and Petra Leon, MSP. After serving at St. James the Less for a year, lay missionaries Ebbeth Mata and Victoria Alcantar will decide whether to return home, renew their commitment to lay missionary work, or begin formation



Top: The start of the annual procession for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe at Columbus Christ the King Church. Bottom: Sisters from the Missionary Servants of the Word with dancers at the sisters' annual Fiesta de Mayo. This year's festival will be from 6 to 10 p.m. Friday, May 13, in the parish life center at Columbus Our Lady of Victory Church and also will include margaritas, games, door prizes, and a buffet of Mexican food.

the Missionary Servants have a presence. Mata, Alcantar, and other young men and women in the United States who are considering a life with the Missionary Servants first are trained for eight months at the order's Christ of the Desert House of Formation in Palmdale, California, then are assigned to a parish. Two young women from the Diocese of Columbus, Laura Campos and Rosario Corona, are nearing completion of this training and will be assigned later this month to one of the parishes in the United States where

New York, Rhode Island, and West Virginia, and in Mexico and eight other nations in Central and South America. The order also has established missions in Tanzania, Kenya, and the Philippines. Although each parish mission is somewhat different, members of the order in the United States for the most part follow a weekday schedule that begins with rising at 5:30 a.m., followed by three hours of prayer which include Mass and the rosary, with breakfast at 9. For about the next 12 hours, they perform activities related to their missionary work, with lunch and another hour of prayer during that period. Dinner is around 9 p.m., followed by prayer and a 10 p.m. bedtime.

The Missionary Servants are particularly busy on weekends, giving retreats, leading devotions, conducting separate activities for various age groupings of young people, and preparing individuals for the sacraments, in addition to their regular evangelization work. They also assist in the liturgy as lectors and extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist throughout the week.

"Now that the sisters have been in Columbus for nearly seven years, we've had many people complete our Bible study," Sister Nereida said. "They've gone out to evangelize others, and have become active in their own parishes as teachers, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, and food pantry volunteers."



**SERVANTS**, *continued from Page 11*

“What we have found is that our greatest need is to work with young people,” Sister Karina said. “Evang- elizing the parents has opened the door to evangeliz- ing the children.

“Now we have whole families that have gone out on their own and joined us in house-to-house and group evangelization, with the adults and children working with their own age groups.

“They’re also considered part of the Missionary Ser- vants, with their own title: CERS, the Community of Evangelizers for Reconciliation and Service.”

“Our emphasis on young people includes four sepa- rate groups each weekend – the *Chiquitines Misioner- os* (Tiny Tot Missionaries) for anyone up to age seven, *Ninos Misioneros* (Missionary Children) for those sev- en to 12, an adolescent group for 13- to 16-year-olds, and the *El Camino* program for older students,” said Sister Laura. “They’re all learning the same lessons, but at different levels.

“We use plenty of age-appropriate materials to keep their interest – from animated lessons and puppets for the young ones, to dancing and theater for the older ones – any way possible to share God’s word, tell the story of salvation, and help the young people learn who they are.”

The Missionary Servants also conduct periodic weekend retreats for young people and adults, plus a weekly Thursday Holy Hour with the theme of pray- ing for the continued perseverance of men and women in the religious life.

The sisters conduct Pre-Cana classes for engaged couples in preparation for *bodas comunitarias* (com- munity wedding) ceremonies that have taken place for the last couple of years for the Latino communities at Christ the King and St. Stephen’s.

These events involve anywhere from five to 12 couples having their marriage vows blessed by the Church. The next celebration of this type will occur at Christ the King in June, with one scheduled at St. Stephen’s in September.

Not too long after their arrival in Columbus, the sis- ters began ministering at central Ohio prisons. They currently visit state prisons at Lancaster and Chilli- cothe every Thursday and at Orient on the first Sun- day of the month to con- duct Bible studies and oc- casional retreats.

Once a year, they also take food to additional cor- rectional facilities.

“When I started making prison visits, there was a little fear,” Sister Karina said. “But when we started seeing God’s word affect- ing the prisoners’ hearts, it disappeared. It gives us great hope to see the re- sponse of many of the in- mates we visit.

“Our gift to them is the

power of the Gospel and how it can release them from their bondage to sin and change their lives.

“We have seen and heard many stories of conversion. We know the impact we’ve had, and are always anx- ious to return each week and see the results of what we’ve told the men we’ve come to know.”

Some of the original group of sisters who came to Columbus spoke little or no English. That is no longer the case. All speak the language with varying degrees of fluency, which has helped them expand their role in the parishes.

“Those of us who didn’t know much English have become more comfortable with it and are continuing the learning process,” Sister Nereida said.

“Now we’re going into the community and doing our Bible courses in English and Spanish in both parishes.

“That’s especially important at Christ the King, which still has a large non-Latino population. This opens more doors for us. We’ve always felt welcome there, but this allows us to feel even more that we’re part of the whole parish community.

“It’s also important that we all know English because in most cases now, the only place the young people we work with are speaking Spanish is at home. Ev- erywhere else, the teens and the younger children only speak English.”

She said that in the next few years, the sisters hope to establish Latino men’s and women’s conferences that are similar to the annual diocesan Catholic men’s and women’s conferences at the state fairgrounds.

“We’re enthusiastic about having become more bilin- gual,” Sister Mayela said. “We’ve embraced this be- cause it’s all part of our missionary spirituality and of sharing the word of God in whatever way works best.”

“With our eagerness to go out among the people, the Missionary Servants of the Word is the community our times need,” lay missionary Mata said.

“We bring Jesus to people’s houses and other plac- es where they are, because people aren’t coming to churches.

“We have more parishes asking for us to come than we have priests and sisters available, so we need to

pray for more vocations.

“The Catholic Church in America is waking up to the need to evangelize. We fell in love with God and his word, and we hope we can help lead the way.”

To help pay for their annual expenses, the sisters be- gan in 2010 to host a fundraising dinner each May. This year’s *Fiesta de Mayo* will be from 6 to 10 p.m. Friday, May 13, in the parish life center at Columbus Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road.

The event will feature a buffet of Mexican food, mar- garitas, dancing, games, door prizes, a silent auction, and a raffle for an all-inclusive trip to Cancun or Riv- iera Maya in Mexico. Tickets are \$80 a person.

For more information on the event, go to [www.christthekingcolumbus.com/fiesta-de-mayo](http://www.christthekingcolumbus.com/fiesta-de-mayo).

## Mission Immersion Experience

The Dominican Sisters of Peace invite single Catholic women, ages 18 to 45, to attend a free mission immer- sion experience from Monday to Saturday, May 9 to 14.

The experience will include prayer, ministry, commu- nity, and fun. Participants will live together in one of the sisters’ small community houses and go out each day on mission. Sites for the mission trip will include the sisters’ Shepherd’s Corner ecology center, area soup kitchens, and other service agencies.

Space is limited. Room and board will be provided.

The event will begin at 6 p.m. May 9 and conclude at noon May 13 at the Dominican Sisters of Peace Lake House, 7400 Wengert Road, Blacklick.

For questions, call or text Sister Pat Dual at (614) 216-7688 or email [pdual@oppeace.org](mailto:pdual@oppeace.org).

Participants may register online for the retreat or re- quest a registration form at [www.oppeace.org/mission-immersion-experience](http://www.oppeace.org/mission-immersion-experience).

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**OPEN HOUSE**

# The Bishop Griffin Center needs sustaining partners

The Bishop Griffin Center is launching a campaign to recruit sustaining partners who are inspired by its mission and are willing to commit to a recurring monthly, quarterly, or yearly donation.

The center, on the Columbus Christ the King Church campus, was established in 2007 as a special work of the diocesan St. Vincent de Paul Society. Every month, its food pantry and free store serves more than 400 families (approximately 1,600 people), including many seniors, children, veterans, working poor, homeless, and unemployed individuals. It purchases food through

the Mid-Ohio Foodbank. Clothing and housewares in the free store are donated mainly by families from parishes in the eastern part of the Columbus area.

“Until recently, we were able to meet our monthly expenses through several faithful, generous donors and occasional contributions throughout the year from friends,” said JoEllen Gohr, development and communications coordinator for the center. “With food prices and the number of people depending on us rising, we need to secure regular, predictable financial support or risk severe cuts to the services we provide to the poor.

“Our monthly expenses average \$6,200, with food accounting for more than 70 percent of the total. Our donations, on the other hand, have averaged \$3,200 per month, forcing us to dip into our limited and quickly vanishing savings to pay our bills. As you can see, we need roughly \$3,000



more in donations per month to meet expenses.

“For the past several years, three parishes have been contributing a total of \$800 per month to us, and we are asking other parishes to make a similar commitment,” Gohr said.

Anyone interested in becoming a partner of the center or wishing to make a one-time donation is asked to call (614) 668-1223, email jegohr@gmail.com, or write her in care of the Bishop Griffin Center, 2875 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus OH 43209.

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## Alex Király, Eagle Scout



Columbus Bishop Hartley High School senior Alex Kiraly completed the Boy Scouts of America’s highest achievement by earning his Eagle Scout rank. His Eagle service projects involved the building of grottos for Mary and for St. Francis of Assisi at Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church and placement of a sign in the parish rosary garden, dedicating it in memory of Eagle Scout Adam Schneider. He is pictured with Msgr. David Funk, pastor at St. Pius. Photo courtesy St. Pius X Church

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St. Matthew Parishioner

## Fourth Sunday of Easter (Cycle C)

## Paul reaches Antioch, and a confrontation results



Father  
Lawrence L. Hummer

**Acts 13:14,43-52;  
Revelation 7:9,14b-17;  
John 10:27-30**

The missionary expansion of the New Testament church is the focus of Sunday's reading from Acts. This was Paul's first missionary journey. Paul and Barnabas had reached Antioch in Pisidia, a town in Asia Minor 100 miles north of the coast in mountainous country.

Note Paul's customary style of attending synagogue services on the Sabbath day. It also was customary to invite synagogue visitors to speak, which Paul did at length in Acts 13. We have here only his arrival in the synagogue and his departure. Between this first visit and the next week, Paul and Barnabas had continued to speak with those who were interested.

They visited the same synagogue the next week, with almost the whole town coming together "to hear the word of the Lord," but more importantly, no doubt, to hear what Paul had to say. "The Jews" is a phrase used pejoratively to describe those who were the leaders of the synagogue and would have been upset by what Paul was preaching. As we would expect, there was a confrontation, but Paul and Barnabas refused to back down. Paul uses their rejection as an excuse to turn to the Gentiles, as is described in Isaiah 49:6: "I will make you a light to the Gentiles, that you may be an instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth."

The Gentiles responded favorably to Paul and Barnabas, as did "all who were destined for eternal life." Yet "the Jews ... stirred up a persecution against Paul and

Barnabas. ..." Failure to note the anti-Jewish sentiment expressed here continues to be a blind spot for many Christian readers of Acts. We always have to remember the missionary fervor (and often an overzealous rejection of any who did not respond as Luke thought they should) that this shows, and realize it can do real damage over time.

*The Jews* (see above) then stirred up "women of prominence" and the "leading men of the city" as well, and chased Paul and Barnabas away from the area. The two left by shaking the dust from their feet as a sign of utter rejection of the city, and then "were filled with joy." Left unsaid is what happened to those who had responded warmly to Paul's preaching, and, worse, what happened to the area after they left.

Revelation presents another vision of a "great multitude" standing before the Lamb and the throne. They are the ones who survived the "time of great distress," meaning one or more of the persecutions of Christians by the Romans. The vision describes the promised reward for those who remained faithful to Christ, which is the general theme of the entire book.

Interesting are the rewards offered: No hunger or thirst; shelter from the elements, and protection from the sun and heat; enjoying Christ as the shepherd who will lead his flock to springs of lifegiving water and comfort provided by God.

The Gospel identifies Christ as the shepherd whose flock hear his voice and who follow him. He promises them eternal life and that they shall never perish. Jesus says "No one can take them out of my hand," and no one can "take them out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one." That is, what belongs to the Son is the Father's, and vice versa. This is what ultimately led those who opposed Jesus to accuse him of blasphemy, because he claimed to be one with the Father.

The shepherd language stemmed from John 10:24: "How long are you going to keep us in suspense? If you are really the Messiah, tell us so in plain words." If a Messiah figure was envisioned as one who would lead the people as a descendant of King David, then one of the key images of David's kingship was that of a shepherd. Jesus as shepherd answers their question.

*Father Lawrence Hummer, pastor at Chillicothe St. Mary Church, may be reached at hummerl@stmary-chillicothe.com.*

In the marriage case styled ALLARD - CHADWICK, 2015/0318, the Tribunal of the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio, is currently unaware of the present address of MR WILLIAM EDWARD CHADWICK. The Tribunal herewith informs him of the case and invites him to contact REVEREND MR JOHN CRERAND JCL, Presiding and sole Judge, no later than 2 MAY 2016. Phone: 614-241-2500. Anyone who knows of the whereabouts of MR WILLIAM EDWARD CHADWICK, is herewith asked to make this Citation known to him or to inform the Tribunal of his current address. Given this 4th day of APRIL 2016. REVEREND MR JOHN CRERAND JCL, Presiding Judge.

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**It can be difficult for Catholics to find a Mass when traveling or when it is not practical to attend their regular parishes. The website [www.MassTimes.org](http://www.MassTimes.org) makes it much easier to search for a Mass by presenting all the possibilities in a geographical area on one page. It includes Mass schedules for 117,000 churches in 201 nations or territories. The service also is available by phone.**

**The number is (1-858) 207-6277.**

## The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY  
Acts 11:1-18  
Psalm 42:2-3;43:3-4  
John 10:1-10

TUESDAY  
Acts 11:19-26  
Psalm 87:1b-7  
John 10:22-30

WEDNESDAY  
Acts 12:24-13:5a  
Psalm 67:2-3,5-6,8  
John 12:44-50

THURSDAY  
Acts 13:13-25  
Psalm 89:2-3,21-22,25,27  
John 13:16-20

FRIDAY  
Acts 13:26-33  
Psalm 2:6-11b  
John 14:1-6

SATURDAY  
Acts 13:44-52  
Psalm 98:1-4  
John 14:7-14

### DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF APRIL 17, 2016

#### 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).

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. Check local cable system for cable channel listing.

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Time Warner Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or WOW 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).

#### 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 in Ada, Logan, Millersburg, Murray City and Washington C.H.; Channel 125 in Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown and New Philadelphia; and Channel 207 in Zanesville); 8 p.m., St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at [www.stgabrielradio.com](http://www.stgabrielradio.com).

We pray Week IV, Seasonal Proper of the Liturgy of the Hours

# The merciful grace of the truth

At the Easter Vigil a few weeks ago, tens of thousands of men and women were baptized or entered into full communion with the Catholic Church. Each of them walked a unique itinerary of conversion. Each of these “newborn babes” (1 Peter 2:2) is a singular work of the Holy Spirit. Some of them came to Catholicism from an empty space, a spiritual desert; others found in the Catholic Church a more complete expression of the one Church of Christ into which they had been baptized, albeit in a different Christian community. So there are no grand generalizations to be made about those who became Catholics at Easter.

But it’s probably fair to say that few of them embraced Catholicism because they found it ambiguous. Or uncertain about the Creed it professes. Or confused about its understanding of how Christians ought to live the truth of their baptism. In fact, it’s almost certainly the case that, for many of those who came into full communion with the Catholic Church from other Christian communities, it was the doctrinal and moral confusions in the community of their baptism that led them to seek a Church that knew what it believed, why (and Who) it worshipped, and how it proposed that we should live.

If these new Catholics were properly catechized before their baptism or reception, they also were prepared for the Christian reality of failure, which the Church calls “sin.” They would have come to understand that every one of us lives by the divine mercy alone, that we are all “worthless servants” (Luke 17.10), and that we are, finally, saved by the merits of Jesus Christ alone. Yet these new Catholics also would have learned that



failure is an old story in the Church, and that the Father of mercies is eager to welcome back those who stray, if only they acknowledge that they have fallen off the path marked out by God’s Son and commit themselves to a different future.

I thought of these new Catholics and their motivations for entering the Church when reading Pope Francis’ apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* (The Joy of Love), and particularly this sentence in paragraph 307: “To show understanding in the face of exceptional situations never implies dimming the light of the fuller ideal, or proposing less than what Jesus offers to human beings. Today, more important than the pastoral care of failures is the pastoral effort to strengthen marriages and thus to prevent their breakdown.”

The Holy Father set in motion these past two years of contention and, one hopes, constructive dialogue in the Church because he knows that marriage and the family are in deep trouble throughout the world, just as he knows that marriage, rightly understood, and the family, rightly understood, are the basic

building blocks of a humane society.

The family is the first school of freedom, because it is there that we first learn that freedom is not mere willfulness; marriage, for its part, is the lifelong school in which we learn the full, challenging meaning of the law of self-giving built into the human heart.

Why are marriage and the family in trouble? *Amoris Laetitia* reviews a lot of the reasons, some of which go back to Adam and Eve, and some of which are contemporary expressions of that original sin of pride. The Holy Father also speaks with understanding and compassion of the difficulty that many young people have today in forming lifelong commitments. And he calls the Church to take the ministry of marriage preparation with ever greater seriousness, seeing it as an essential instrument of evangelization, especially for those who have trouble understanding that commitment is liberating.

In reading his apostolic exhortation, I came back to a conversation I had with Pope Francis some months after his election. I said that I wanted to present his vision of the Church accurately. So was I right in saying that he stressed God’s mercy so that, through an experience of that mercy, people would come to know God’s truth? He assured me I was. It is within that dyad of mercy and truth, which never can be separated, that I suggest the Church read and absorb *Amoris Laetitia*.

*George Weigel is Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington.*

**MERCY**, continued from Page 3 — children to have.

Pope Francis praised Blessed Paul VI’s encyclical *Humanae Vitae*, which insisted that every sexual act in a marriage must be open to the possibility of pregnancy, and included a large section reiterating what has become known as John Paul II’s “Theology of the Body.”

The saintly pope definitively opposed an old idea that considered “the erotic dimension of love simply as a permissible evil or a burden to be tolerated for the good of the family,” Pope Francis said. “Rather, it must be seen as a gift from God that enriches the relationship of the spouses.”

Pope Francis called for church leaders to ensure more married couples are involved as leaders in designing and carrying out pastoral programs for families. Their witness is key, he said.

“Marital love is not defended primarily by presenting indissolubility as a duty, or by repeating doctrine, but by helping it to grow ever stronger under the impulse of grace,” he said. “A love that fails to grow is at risk. Growth can only occur if we respond to God’s grace through constant acts of love, acts of kindness that become ever more frequent, intense, generous, tender and cheerful.”

## Apostolic exhortation can help church model mercy to families

By Dennis Sadowski/Catholic News Service

Pope Francis’ apostolic exhortation on love and the family invites the church to see the daily struggles of families as an opportunity to encounter others in the same manner that Jesus brought mercy to people throughout his life, Catholic observers said.

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, noted Pope Francis’ repeated emphasis on the importance of clergy taking time to get to know individual circumstances and to discuss with people how they can discern God’s teaching for their lives.

The pope points to “dialogue, which requires both speaking and listening, and discerning to help people see what their next step is” as a key to his call for mercy, Archbishop Kurtz said in an interview after participating in an online news conference at USCCB headquarters.

During the news conference, he described the exhortation as a “love letter to families” that invites all people to “never stop growing in love.”

“It is also a love letter calling the church, the family of God, to realize more and more her mission to live and love as a family,” he said.

While the exhortation upholds church teaching on the sanctity of marriage and cites the importance of family life to the church, it calls people not to simply reiterate that teaching, but to put it into “pastoral motion,” Catholic leaders told Catholic News Service.

John Grabowski, associate professor of moral theology and ethics at The Catholic University of America, who was an expert tapped to attend last fall’s Vatican synod of bishops on the family, said the document serves to help church leaders “form and equip families so that families can become the pastoral instruments of ministry and evangelization to families.”

“He’s not diverging from the teaching of his predecessors. He’s saying ‘Let’s put this into pastoral application now,’” Grabowski said of Pope Francis.

The pope’s exhortation discusses how the church can be “honest, realistic, and creative” in response to the needs of families, said Jesuit Father Allan Deck, distinguished scholar in pastoral theology and Latino Studies at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles.

He said the pope’s emphasis on the need to be open to ongoing discussion within the church and its response to “real families” would serve all families.

# Pray for our dead

**ALLEGRINI, Kathryn L., 72, formerly of Columbus, April 4**

Little Flower Church, Toledo

**ARNETT, Mary A., 63, April 8**

St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

**ATANASOFF, Gerald, 85, April 7**

St. Andrew Church, Columbus

**BENEDETTO, John J., 85, April 9**

St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

**CONDO, Katherine B., 94, April 11**

Sacred Heart Church, Columbus

**DEETZ, Sandy, 74, April 4**

St. Joseph Church, Dover

**DI ROCCO, Nicolino G., 82, April 3**

St. Mary Church, Delaware

**DILLON, Irene C., 84, April 6**

St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

**FICKAS, Janet M., 77, March 31**

St. Peter Church, Columbus

**FORTIN, Jennie M., 89, April 10**

St. Patrick Church, Columbus

**FREDERICKS, MarySue, 72, April 8**

St. Paul Church, Westerville

**GOEBEL, James L., 76, April 6**

St. Peter Church, Columbus

**HALL, Audrey M., 87, April 6**

St. Mary Church, Groveport

**HARR, Wanda, 85, April 10**

St. Joseph Church, Dover

**HAYES, Dennis C., 75, April 9**

St. Catharine Church, Columbus

**HUDDLESTON, Gary V., 55, April 4**

Holy Trinity Church, Somerset

**IACOBELLIS, Albert J. "Ike," 87, April 8**

St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

**JORDAN, Bessie L., "Neda," 77, April 4**

St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

**KRAMER, Eugene T. "Tom," 90, March 31**

St. Timothy Church, Columbus

**LAUTENSCHUETZ, Roy H., 79, March 31**

St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

**LOE, Brian, 58, March 30**

St. Christopher Church, Columbus

**LUSENHOP, Anthony E., 31, March 28**

St. Mary Church, Marion

**LYONS, Deborah, 59, March 31**

St. Patrick Church, Junction City

**MASSIE, William J., 70, formerly of Columbus, April 6**

St. Joseph Church, Ironton

**McCABE, Samuel A., 79, April 5**

Sacred Heart Church, Coshocton

**MILLER, Franklin E., 85, April 3**

St. Peter Church, Columbus

**MULVIHILL, John J., 78, April 8**

St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

**PATTON, Madeline, April 9**

Corpus Christi Church, Columbus

**PAUL, Gerald J., 75, April 2**

St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

**PHILLIPS, Patricia M., 81, April 9**

Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus

**PIETRO, Charles, 86, April 10**

St. Joseph Church, Dover

**ROSHKOWSKI, Donald G., 77, April 1**

St. Andrew Church, Columbus

**SCHMITZ, Mary S., 81, April 3**

St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

**SNYDER, William E., 86, April 2**

St. Anthony Church, Columbus

**SWASSING, Raymond H. Jr., 81, April 6**

St. Thomas More Newman Center, Columbus

**THOBURN, Paul K., 86, April 8**

St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

**TURNER, James F., 70, April 4**

St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury

**WATSON, Marsha, 67, April 5**

St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

## Rise D. Casteel

Funeral Mass for Rise D. Casteel, 73, who died Sunday, March 27, was held Friday, April 1 at Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church.

She was born May 14, 1942 in Waterloo, Iowa, to the late Thelma and Lyle Cameron, and was a 1965 graduate of The Ohio State University. She was an art teacher in Columbus public schools and at Subic Bay in the Philippines, and operated an interior design business for 30 years.

She was a board member of several community groups, including the Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs, the Friends of the Pontifical College Josephinum, Friends in Ac-

tion, the Dublin Music Boosters, and the Dublin Drama Boosters. She was a founder of JOIN's annual Biblio-Benefit, which she organized for 11 years, and was chairman of the Vienna Court Ball sponsored by the Friends of the Josephinum. She also was a member of the Christ Child Society of Columbus and the Junior League of Columbus and served her parish as a catechist, and was a tutor for the Dominican Learning Center.

Survivors include her husband, Ronald; daughters, Eden (Ron) Cowie and Liana (Peter) Saas; brother, Bruce; sister, Lela Bauerband; and five grandchildren.



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## APRIL

## 14, THURSDAY

**Bethesda Post-Abortion Healing Ministry Benefit Dinner**  
5:30 to 8:30 p.m., St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. Annual benefit dinner sponsored by Bethesda Healing Ministry. Speaker: Father Joseph Yokum, pastor of New Boston St. Monica and Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains churches, chaplain of Bethesda's Scioto County program. No cost for meal; fundraising appeal will be made. 614-309-7958

**Cenacle at Holy Name**

6 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayers in the Cenacle format of the Marian Movement of Priests.

**Art Exhibit Opening Reception at de Porres Center**

6:30 to 8 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus. Opening reception for "Rojo/Red," an art exhibit by Columbus artist Elena Osterwalder which will be

displayed through May 27. Those unable to attend the reception may call to schedule a viewing. 614-416-1910

**Talk on Pope Francis with BBC Vatican Correspondent**

7 p.m., Christ the King Chapel, Sansbury Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. David Willey, British Broadcasting Corp. Vatican correspondent, speaks on "Francis at the Vatican: A Pope for Our Times." Sponsored by Center for Dominican Studies. 614-251-4722

**Theology on Tap Meeting**

7 to 9 p.m., El Vaquero Restaurant, 3230 Olentangy River Road, Columbus. Meeting of Theology on Tap discussion and social group for young Catholics. Speaker: State Rep. Mike Curtin, former Columbus Dispatch editor, on "Politics and Catholicism." RSVP to cbustheologyontap@gmail.com or Columbus Theology on Tap Facebook page.

**Catechism Uncorked in Delaware**

7 p.m., Amato's Woodfired Pizza, 6 S. Sandusky St., Delaware. Catechism Uncorked social for 36- to 64-year-olds, sponsored by Delaware St. Mary Church adult faith formation program, featuring social time, questions for speaker Jim Savinell, and food for purchase. 740-513-3325

## 14-16, THURSDAY-SATURDAY

**Watterson Presents "Bye Bye Birdie"**

7 p.m., Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road, Columbus. School's theater department presents the musical "Bye Bye Birdie." 614-268-8671

## 15, FRIDAY

**Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center Open House**

10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Center, a ministry of the Dominican Sisters of Peace, will be open, weather permitting. 614-866-4302

## 15-16, FRIDAY-SATURDAY

**DeSales Presents "Annie"**

7 p.m., St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, Columbus. School's theater department presents the musical "Annie." Tickets \$10. 614-267-7808

**Ohio Dominican Presents "Blame It on the Movies!"**

7 p.m., Matesich Theater, Erskine Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Panther Players present "Blame It on the Movies!" musical program of themes and songs related to favorite films. Tickets \$8; free for children under five and ODU students with ID.

## 16, SATURDAY

**Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City**

9 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave., Plain City. Saturday Life and Mercy Mass, followed by rosary and confession.

**Safety and Security Training Session at Circleville**

10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 134 Mound St., Circleville. Diocese-sponsored safety and security training session for parish staff and volunteers, presented by OSS-International. RSVP to 614-224-2251.

**"Angel of the Amazon" at St. Christopher**

1 p.m., St. Christopher Church, 1420 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Concert version of the opera "Angel of the Amazon," about the martyrdom of Sister Dorothy Stang, SND-deN, sponsored by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. Suggested donation \$25. 614-486-0457

## 17, SUNDAY

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education

10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. "Martyrs of Our Time," with Sister Thoma Swanson, OP, sharing her experiences working with Blessed Father Sandro Dordi, martyred at Chimbote, Peru, in 1991.

**Blessing of St. Gerard Majella at Holy Family**

After 9 and 11 a.m. Masses, Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Blessing of St. Gerard Majella, patron of expectant mothers, for all women who are pregnant or wish to become pregnant. 614-221-1890

**Angelic Warfare Confraternity at Columbus St. Patrick**  
Following noon Mass, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Monthly meeting of Angelic Warfare Confraternity, with talk on chastity-related issues followed by Holy Hour. 614-224-9522

**St. Padre Pio Secular Franciscans**

1:30 to 5 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 720 Hamlet St., Columbus. Fellowship and ongoing formation followed by adoration and prayer, Liturgy of the Hours, and initial formation with visitors. 614-282-4676

**Taize Evening Prayer at Corpus Christi**

4 to 5 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Evening Prayer in the style and spirit of the Taize monastic community, with song, silence, and reflection. 614-512-3731

**Gospel Choir Concert at St. Dominic**

5 p.m., St. Dominic Church, 453 N. 20th St., Columbus. Annual concert of parish adult and youth Gospel choirs. Theme: "God Can Break Every Chain." 614-252-5926

**Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King**

5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching. 614-886-8266

**Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter**

7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. 706-761-4054

## 19, TUESDAY

**Rosary for Life at St. Joan of Arc**

Following 6:15 p.m. Mass, St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Recital of Rosary for Life, sponsored by church's respect life committee.

**Prayer Group Meeting at St. Mark**

7:30 p.m., St. Raymond Room, St. Mark Center, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Light of Life prayer group meeting. 740-654-6928

## 20, WEDNESDAY

**Abortion Recovery Network Group**

9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Westerville Area Resource Ministry, 150 Heatherdown Drive, Westerville. Abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program. and wants to stay connected. 614-721-2100

**Talk on St. Maximilian Kolbe at Holy Family**

7 to 8 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Talk by Friar Felix O'Donnell, FFI, of the Franciscan Friars of the Immaculate, on the impact of St. Maximilian Kolbe on the 75th anniversary of his martyrdom. 614-221-4323

## 20-23, WEDNESDAY-SATURDAY

**Three Bags Full Consignment Sale**

6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday (ticket required), 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday (selected items half-price Friday night and Saturday), Hartford Fairgrounds, 14028 Fairgrounds Road, Croton. Three Bags Full consign-

ment sale of children's items. Unsold and unclaimed items are donated to Catholic and pro-life charities. 614-561-5300

## 21, THURSDAY

**NFP Class at Catholic Center**

6 to 8 p.m., Catholic Center, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus. First of four Natural Family Planning classes taught by diocesan-trained teachers in the symptothermal method. First session free; cost \$85 for couples that wish to continue. Other class dates: May 19, June 16, July 14. 614-241-2560

**Cenacle at Holy Name**

6 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayers in the Cenacle format of the Marian Movement of Priests.

**Abortion Recovery Network Group**

7 to 8 p.m., Gateway Center, 2670 N. Columbus St., Lancaster. Abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program, and wants to stay connected. 614-721-2100

**Holy Hour of Reparation at Columbus Sacred Heart**

7 to 8 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour following Holy Hour of Reparation prayer format, concluding with Benediction and social period. 614-372-5249

## 21-23, THURSDAY-SATURDAY

**Ohio Dominican Presents "Blame It on the Movies!"**

7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, 5 p.m. Saturday, Matesich Theater, Erskine Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Panther Players present "Blame It on the Movies!" musical program of themes and songs related to favorite films. Tickets \$8; free for children under five and ODU students with ID.

## 22, FRIDAY

**Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center Open House**

10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Center, a ministry of the Dominican Sisters of Peace, will be open, weather permitting. 614-866-4302

## 22-23, FRIDAY-SATURDAY

**DeSales Presents "Annie"**

7 p.m., St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, Columbus. School's theater department presents the musical "Annie." Tickets \$10. 614-267-7808

## 22-24, FRIDAY-SUNDAY

**DCCW Silent Retreat for Women at St. Therese's**

St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Annual silent retreat for women, sponsored by Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, led by Father Anthony Davis, parochial vicar, Columbus St. Andrew Church. Theme: "Praying with an Unresponsive God: Insights from Dietrich Bonhoeffer." 614-228-8601

**Marriage Encounter Weekend at St. John Neumann**

St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend, for couples who want to make good marriages better. 614-834-6880

**Watterson Presents "Bye Bye Birdie"**

7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road, Columbus. School's theater department presents the musical "Bye Bye Birdie." Sunday performance benefits Hope Hollow lodging and support area for cancer patients and their families. 614-268-8671

All fund-raising events (festivals, bazaars, spaghetti dinners, fish fries, bake sales, pizza/sub sales, candy sales, etc.) will be placed in the "Fund-Raising Guide."

An entry into the Guide will be \$18.50 for the first six lines, and \$2.65 for each additional line.

For more information, call David Garick at 614-224-5195.

## 'Happenings' submissions

Notices for items of Catholic interest must be received at least 12 days before expected publication date. We will print them as space permits. Items not received before this deadline may not be published.

Listings cannot be taken by phone.

Mail to: The Catholic Times  
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## ANNIE

Join the Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School performing arts department as it presents the Tony Award-winning story of "Annie." This lighthearted, uplifting tale has been a favorite for many years, and promises that the audience will be singing along to the familiar lyrics from songs including "Tomorrow" and "It's a Hard Knock Life." Shows are on consecutive Fridays and Saturdays, April 15, 16, 22, and 23, at 7 p.m. at the school, 4212 Karl Road. Tickets are \$10 each. All seating is reserved. Photo/DeSales High School



## BYE BYE BIRDIE!

Columbus Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road, will present "Bye Bye Birdie!" at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 14, and on consecutive Fridays and Saturdays, April 15, 16, 22, and 23. A 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, April 24 will benefit Hope Hollow, a place of lodging and support for cancer patients and their families, which is operated by retired Watterson teacher Jane Jacquemin-Clark and her husband, Kevin.

"Bye Bye Birdie!" is the classic story of rock and roll singer Conrad Birdie's farewell performance after being drafted in the Army in the 1950s. Agent/songwriter Albert Peterson and Albert's secretary, Rose Alvarez, concoct a plan for the performance on "The Ed Sullivan Show" in which Birdie will perform his new song and kiss a lucky girl from his fan club in Sweet Apple, Ohio. When Birdie arrives in Sweet Apple, things begin to unravel.

David Skulich will play Conrad Birdie. Other lead performers are Jacob Erney as Mr. McAfee, Maya Steller as Kim McAfee, Emma Koehler as Doris McAfee, Mara Ohlin as Randolph McAfee, Elizabeth Reiser as Mae Peterson, Anna Ehret as Rosie Alvarez, Michael Carmody as Hugo Peabody, Bridget Noonan as Ursula Merkle, and John Markiewicz as Albert Peterson.

Photo courtesy Bishop Watterson High School



## GOOD GRIEF!

The Columbus Bishop Ready High School theater department will present its spring musical, "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," at 7 p.m. Friday, April 22 and Sunday, April 24 and 2 p.m. Saturday, April 23.

Based on the classic comic "Peanuts," the musical features the familiar characters of Snoopy, Lucy, Sally, Linus, Schroeder, and, of course, Charlie Brown himself. Will that kite fly? Will Snoopy be fed on time? Will Schroeder abandon Beethoven for Lucy? Can Linus give up that blanket? Will Sally continue to look up to her big brother? Is a visit to Lucy's "doctor's" booth still five cents?

For the answers to these and other questions, visit Bishop Ready's little theater at 707 Salisbury Road. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$9 for those 65 and older, and \$8 for students. The "Peanuts" gang is sure to renew your faith in humankind. It's entertainment that



will delight the whole family.

Above photo: Rehearsing for Columbus Bishop Ready High School's spring musical, "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," are (from left): seated, Angelica Rivera-Martinez, Megan McSweeney, Caitlyn Kelley, and Evan Freeman; standing, Elina Aceveda,

Daniel Hamilton, John Pyles, Claire Ferguson, Steven Fu, Andrew Pindell, and Olivia Rowe. Left photo: Claire Ferguson as Sally and John Pyles as Charlie Brown in rehearsal for Columbus Bishop Ready High School's spring musical, "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown." Photos courtesy Bishop Ready High School

## For Catholic astronauts, flying to space doesn't mean giving up the faith

By Dennis Sadowski

*Catholic News Service*

On the International Space Station, there's a place, filled with robotic equipment, where astronauts like to hang out. Called the cupola, the small module has seven large bay windows that give crew members a panoramic view of Earth.

On his first -- and thus far only -- mission into space in September 2013, astronaut Mike Hopkins was eager to find the cupola. What he saw was amazing.

"When you see the earth from that vantage point and see all the natural beauty that exists, it's hard not to sit there and realize there has to be a higher power that has made this," said Hopkins, who is Catholic.

In the cupola, Hopkins found himself praying and at times taking Communion.

Under a special arrangement with the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and with the help of Father James H. Kuczynski, pastor of Hopkins' home parish, Mary Queen Catholic Church in Friendswood, Texas, the rookie astronaut carried a pyx with six consecrated hosts broken into four pieces. It was enough so that he could take Communion once a week for the 24 weeks he was aboard the ISS.

"It was extremely, extremely important to me," said Hopkins, 47, who grew up on a farm outside of Richland, Missouri, in a United Methodist family, but completed Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults classes and became Catholic just before going into space.

He said he wanted to become Catholic not just because his wife and two teenage sons were Catholic, but because "I felt something was missing in my life."

Hopkins completed two spacewalks to change out a pump module with fellow spacefarer Rick Mastracchio. Before exiting the ISS, he took Communion.

"Those events can be stressful events," he told Catholic News Service from his office in Houston. "Knowing Jesus was with me when I stepped out the door into the vacuum of space was important to me."

Such practices of faith, especially among Catholics in the astronaut corps, are hardly unusual. In 1994, astronauts Sid Gutierrez, Thomas Jones, and Kevin Chilton, an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, celebrated a Communion service on the shuttle flight deck 125 miles above the Pacific Ocean.

Long before that, astronaut Frank Borman, orbiting the moon aboard Apollo 8 on Christmas Eve 1968, read from the Book of Genesis in perhaps one of the most memorable broadcasts in U.S. space history. Seven months later, astronaut Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, an elder



Left: Astronauts Michael Good (left) and Mike Massimino in the cargo bay of space shuttle Atlantis. Above: Astronaut Mike Hopkins in the International Space Station. CNS/courtesy NASA

in his Presbyterian church in Houston, celebrated a communion service for himself after landing on the moon, using a kit provided by his church.

On long-term missions to the ISS, schedules give astronauts blocks of private time daily, allowing them to pray, read the Bible or other inspirational works, write in a journal, or reflect on God.

Hopkins used some of his time to keep up with the Sunday readings and his pastor's weekly homily, both of which he received via email from a member of his parish who was the support person assigned to his family by NASA.

"My crewmates knew I had the Eucharist with me," Hopkins said. "In fact, I coordinated with my Russian commander. He knew everything going on. They were all aware of that, but I never tried to make a large deal about it and publicize it, and they didn't, either. They respected my faith and my desire to follow that faith even when I was in orbit."

Astronaut Mike Good, a member of St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Nassau Bay, Texas, near NASA's Johnson Space Center, and a veteran of two space flights, spent about 12 days on each of his missions aboard the space shuttle. He said taking Communion into space was not as imperative.

"But if I was going to do a six-month expedition on the ISS, I would talk to my priest and figure out what we were going to do," he said.

Good, 53, and retired astronaut Mike Massimino, 54, told CNS that the opportunity to fly in space offered time to reflect on creation as they gazed upon the spaceship called Earth.

"One thought I had is that God must love us to give us such a beautiful home," Massimino said. "It's given me a view of the planet of how special it is and how loved we are to have such a great place and how we should appreciate it."

Good, Massimino's spacewalk partner on a 2009 shuttle mission servicing the Hubble space telescope, said he felt blessed to see the planet from high above.

"Looking back at the Earth, I can't really describe how beautiful it is from 300 miles up," Good said. "Looking down, you can tell it's a planet. The sky is black. There's just a thin blue ribbon, what we see as blue sky on Earth. You realize how small it is and how fragile the planet is."

"It just makes it so obvious that God created this beautiful place. The word 'awe' just comes to mind. ... And looking out into space, it's just a clear view. The stars don't twinkle. It's like a high definition 3-D TV. You look out into space and feel very small."

Both men acknowledged that flying into space is dangerous and that they prepared before their missions by participating in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. "You try to be in as good a state as you can because it's a dangerous event you're going to partake in," said Massimino, who also flew on a shuttle mission to the Hubble telescope in 2002.

Good, a graduate of the University of Notre Dame, said that when the moment of launch comes, there's a feeling of connection with God or a higher power among just about everyone heading to space.

"Heading out to the launch pad is like being in a fox-hole," Good said. "There's not a lot of atheists in a fox-hole. I don't think there's many atheists sitting atop the launch pad."

Among the things Massimino took on his first flight was a Vatican City flag, which he later gave to Pope St. John Paul II. On his second flight, he took a prayer card depicting Pope Benedict XVI, which he gave to the pontiff.

Hopkins, Good, and Massimino took mementos, including religious items, from their schools, parishes, and friends into space.

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