



DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

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**FREEDOM OF RELIGION:
OUR FIRST, MOST CHERISHED LIBERTY**

The Editor's Notebook

Witness to Freedom

By David Garick, Editor



"For freedom Christ set us free; so stand firm and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery." Those words of St. Paul, proclaimed to the Galatians, are just as vital today as they were 2,000 years ago. Christ gave us freedom from the power of sin and death. The Holy Spirit gives us the grace to live that freedom as children of God. But the world continues to attack us and to enslave us in sin.

Today, we live in a society where we supposedly have freedom. We don't have kings or dictators dominating our society. We live in a democracy where we the people are our own rulers. Yet the power of evil is not deterred. The great sin of pride can overwhelm us and lead people to believe that we as individuals know better than God how we should order our lives. As a result, we now have a government "of the people" that is dedicated to suppressing all aspects of religion in our society to ensure that nonbelievers never have to face the truth of God's creation.

We see sweeping changes in law that permit the killing of unborn children, the ill, and the elderly, redefinition of marriage to include homosexual unions, and a total obliteration of the fact of gender so that male and female are now considered obsolete. More than that, the force of society is now being applied to deny Christians the right to even speak against these things or to bring the truth of God into our daily lives. We are being enslaved.

Pope Francis spoke very eloquently to this at a conference in Rome: "Religious freedom is not just a matter of thought or private devotion," the pope said. "It is the freedom to live – both

privately and publicly – according to the ethical principles that are a consequence of the truth found."

The pope said that ensuring people's right to live their religious values is increasingly difficult in the modern world, "where weak thinking – this is a sickness – lowers the level of ethics in general and, in the name of a false understanding of tolerance, ends up persecuting those who defend the truth about the human person and its ethical consequences." Religious freedom is a "fundamental right of the human person" and a recognition of the dignity of the human capability "to seek the truth and adhere to it," the pope said.

National and international laws and organizations must "recognize, guarantee, and protect religious liberty," the pope said. Religious freedom is "an indicator of a healthy democracy and one of the principal sources of a nation's legitimacy," he added.

We cannot allow morally ambivalent and feckless social leaders to enslave us. Christians are also part of "we the people." We must stand up and defend our freedom. Christ did not call us to submit. He called us to proclaim the truth of the gospel to the farthest corners of the earth and to the people in our own neighborhoods, cities, states, and nation. Recently, we have seen mass rallies and parades in which people proclaimed their pride in the embrace of sinful lifestyles. How can we Christians be afraid to stand up and speak with pride for the truth of Christ?

"Emmanuel, Be His Hope To Others, God With Us"

By Michael Ames

Diocesan Office of
Development and Planning

This theme of the 2016 Bishop's Annual Appeal has special significance in this Year of Mercy, as declared by Pope Francis. In showing mercy, we recognize that all human beings belong to one family. Knowing this, we are moved to take what we have and share it with the family. "*I am certain in my heart that all that I am I have received from God*" – St. Patrick.

In gratitude to our most generous God, we are compelled to share what we have; thus we become "His Hope To Others." Our gifts to the Bishop's Annual Appeal allow us to be active participants in what God has asked of us -- to be His hands on earth. "God With Us" gives us the strength and will to be active disciples of His love.

In making a gift to the Appeal, we support the many programs and ministries that are vital to our parishes and the broader diocesan community. Without these, many would not know or experience the Good News of the Gospel.

Our future priests and deacons are aided in their education through your gifts; more than 600 couples receive marriage preparation instruction; our Latino, African American, and other diverse or ethnic faith communities re-



ceive support in their leadership, faith formation, and evangelization efforts; our Parish School of Religion programs and our Catholic schools are given support and tuition assistance; and the Office for Social Concerns offers education and assistance within our parishes and communities, often advocating for those with no voice who live on the fringe of society.

This year's goal of the Bishop's Annual Appeal is \$6.3 million. At this point, the Appeal has \$6 million in gifts, thanks to the generosity of so many. Parishes that have exceeded their individual goal will receive the amount above the goal to be used for whatever needs they might have within their parish community.

If you have not yet donated to the Bishop's Annual Appeal, consider a gift and know that you are "His Hope To Others." Bishop Campbell is most grateful for your continued generosity in support of the work of our diocese.

To make a gift or receive additional information about the 2016 Bishop's Annual Appeal, contact the diocesan Office of Development and Planning at (614) 241-2550, toll-free at (877) 241-2550, by email at devmailbox@columbuscatholic.org, or by logging on to www.columbuscatholic.org.

Catholic Times is on summer schedule!

Things slow down during the summer, and that includes the *Catholic Times*. During June, July, and August, we will only be publishing every other week. Look for the *Catholic Times* in your mailbox just prior to:

July 17 & 31; August 14 & 28

We will return to our regular weekly publication schedule in September



Front Page photo:

The cross and flag are symbols of the freedom of religion protected by the U.S. Constitution and of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' annual Fortnight for Freedom observance.

CNS photo/Mike Crupi, Catholic Courier

CATHOLIC TIMES

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OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Clergy Assignment

These appointments become effective Tuesday, July 12, unless otherwise noted.

RETIREMENTS

Msgr. John K. Cody, from Pastor, St. Christopher Church, Columbus, to retirement, continuing as Judicial Vicar.

Father Charles E. Cotton, from Pastor, St. Elizabeth Church, Columbus, to retirement.

Father Richard L. Metzger, from Pastor, St. Mary Church, Groveport, to retirement.

Father Jerome P. Rodenfels, from Pastor, Church of the Resurrection, New Albany, to retirement.

PASTORS

Father Thomas J. Buffer, to Pastor, Sacred Hearts Church, Cardington, continuing as Pastor, St. Mary Church, Marion.

Father James C. Csaszar, from Pastor, St. Rose Church, New Lexington and Parishes of the Perry County Consortium (St. Bernard, Corning; St. Patrick, Junction City; Church of the Atonement, Crooksville), to Pastor, Church of the Resurrection, New Albany.

Father Kevin J. Kavanagh, from Parochial Vicar, St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin, to Pastor, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Marysville.

Father Denis S. Kigozi, to Pastor, St. Mary Church, Groveport, continuing as Pastor, St. John XXIII Church, Canal Winchester.

Father Paul A. Noble, from residence at St. Joseph Cathedral, to Pastor, St. Rose Church, New Lexington and the Parishes of the Perry County Consortium (St. Bernard, Coming; St. Patrick, Junction City; Church of the Atonement, Crooksville), continuing as Director of Vocations.

Father David A. Poliafico, from Pastor, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Marysville, to Pastor, St. Christopher Church, Columbus.

PAROCHIAL VICARS

Father Thomas L. Gardner, from Parochial Vicar, Holy Trinity Church, Jackson; St. Monica Church, New Boston; and St. Peter in Chains Church, Wheelersburg, to Parochial Vicar, St. Brendan the Navigator Church, Hilliard.

Father Cyrus M. Haddad, from Parochial Vicar, St. Brendan the Navigator Church, Hilliard, to Parochial Vicar, Perry County Consortium (St. Rose Church, New Lexington; St. Bernard Church, Coming; St. Patrick Church, Junction City; and Church of the Atonement, Crooksville).

Father Timothy J. Lynch, newly ordained, to Parochial Vicar, St. Michael Church, Worthington.

Father Matthew B. Morris, from Parochial Vicar, St. Michael Church, Worthington, to Parochial Vicar, St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin.

Father John M. Reade, from service to the Parishes of the Perry County Consortium to parochial ministry at St. John XXIII Church, Canal Winchester and St. Mary Church, Groveport.

Father Ryan M. Schmit, from Parochial Vicar, St. Matthew Church, Gahanna, to Parochial Vicar, St. Mary Church, Marion, and Sacred Hearts Church, Cardington.

Father Stephen M. Smith, newly ordained, to Parochial Vicar, Holy Trinity Church, Jackson; St. Monica Church, New Boston; and St. Peter in Chains Church, Wheelersburg.

Father Daniel J. Swartz, newly ordained, to Parochial Vicar, St. Matthew Church, Gahanna.

DEACONS

Deacon Joseph E. Schermer, from diaconal ministry, St. Peter Church, Columbus, to retirement, effective March 15.

Deacon Harry L. Turner, from diaconal ministry, St. Matthew

Church, Gahanna, to retirement, effective March 27.

OTHER

Father John Bakle, SM, from Administrator, Sacred Hearts Church, Cardington, to retirement.

Confirming the assignment of the Superior General of the Congregation of the Sons of the Immaculate Conception, **Father Ramon Macoy Cruz Owers, CFIC**, from residence at Holy Cross Church, Columbus, to Administrator, St. Elizabeth Church, Columbus, continuing with hospital ministry.

Confirming the assignment of the Superior General of the Congregation of the Sons of the Immaculate Conception, **Father John Mathew Vadakkettom, CFIC**, from residence at Holy Cross Church, Columbus, to Associate Administrator, St. Elizabeth Church, Columbus, continuing with hospital ministry.

Confirming the appointment of the Provincial Director of the Dominican Fathers and Brothers, **Father Athanasius Murphy, OP**, to temporary ministry, St. Thomas the Aquinas Church, Zanesville; **Father Louis Bertrand Lemoine, OP**, and **Father Nicholas Ingham, OP**, to temporary ministry, St. Patrick Church, Columbus, effective immediately.

Confirming the appointment of the Provincial Director of the Dominican Fathers and Brothers, **Father Charles Shonk, OP**, to Parochial Vicar, St. Patrick Church, Columbus, effective immediately.

Confirming the appointment of the Provincial Director of the Paulist Fathers, **Father Edward Nowak, CSP**, to temporary ministry, St. Thomas More Newman Center, Columbus, effective July 1-Dec. 31.

Father Carl A. Subler, from chaplain with the Archdiocese of Military Services, to canon law studies, effective Sept. 1.

New principal at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School



The diocesan Office of Catholic Schools has announced that Deacon Christopher Campbell has been selected as the fifth principal of Columbus Bishop Watterson High School, effective Friday, July 1.

“Deacon Campbell’s long tenure of participation and service at Bishop Watterson makes him a natural choice to assume this position of leadership,” said Dr. Joseph Brettnacher, superintendent of diocesan schools.

“His background as a student, instructor, administrator, and spiritual leader within this community makes him an invaluable asset in promoting our mission to provide a uniquely Catholic environment, developing within each student spirituality, stewardship, leadership, and scholarship.”

Deacon Campbell is a 1977 graduate of Watterson, began his service at the school as an instructor in 1997, and became assistant principal in 2015.

Other assignments during his tenure have included pastoral director, athletic director, retreat coordinator, outreach coordinator, eligibility coordinator, and director of admissions/registrar.

He also has served on the principal’s advisory council, facilities committee, marketing committee, finance council, and Athletic Hall of Fame committee, and as president of the alumni association.

He received a bachelor’s degree in theology and political science and a master’s degree in educational leadership from Ohio Dominican University.

A Columbus resident, he was ordained a permanent deacon for the Diocese of Columbus on Jan. 29, 2005, and serves in ministry at Columbus Immaculate Conception Church.

PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

Pews

Did you enjoy Luxury Bingo? I hope you were at least able to support the Women's Care Center in some way. I know that many of you did. Thank you! Your love and support helps women see past the crisis of the moment and choose life for their babies. You not only help them choose life, you also help them create a life.

Since we are getting into summer warmth now, I thought I would provide some interesting, yet comic relief this week. I ran across a pastor's message, regarding the old practice of renting pews in church, from a very old church bulletin. This used to be the primary source of income for parishes. The closer you sat to the front, the more you paid. As you read this, think about your own pastor's pleas for increased offertory or support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal. It is likely rather tame, compared to this from 1910. And thinking about us in 2016, I wonder if the pews in the front or the back of church would cost more.

"As the pew rent is the principal source of revenue, it is to be hoped that all shall pay their pew rent quarterly and in advance. Some compromises have been made. I hope it will not be necessary to make compromises after this. When people neglect to bear their share of the burden of the congregation it throws a double burden on others. This is unfair and unjust. If all would take hold and have a little honor in this matter, and exercise common justice and common honesty, things would go along with more smoothness and harmony. Let the people carefully notice who have paid the large amounts, and thus enabled the church to meet its obligations (all names were published in the bulletin). Some people whose names are on this statement paid their pew rent grudgingly, and only after they were shamed into it. They'd have more respect and honor if they paid willingly. The pews are free to people that are poor; but there is an obligation binding upon all to contribute to the material support of the church, according to their means. Those who can are certainly obliged to pay. In taking a firm stand in this matter it is not for my individual benefit but for the benefit of the whole congregation. Left to my own choice I would not mention it in ten thousand years. I have taken every precaution to be correct in the amounts listed. Should any error inadvertently slip in I will correct it publicly. I wish to wrong nobody, but to do justice to all. There is no positive law to regulate the matter of pew rent in detail. The gravity and measure of this duty can be regulated only by general principles. But it cannot be left to the choice or private judgment of the individual to decide in what manner, or to what amount he will contribute of his temporal means to the support of the parish. Just as taxes and revenues for the state are regulated for all by law – or the will of the ruling majority – so in the Church the ways and means of obtaining the necessary revenues are fixed for all by the will of the majority of the congregation with the consent of the Bishop." More to come next week.

Our practical challenge for the next two weeks is to laugh and appreciate the old way of parish support through renting pews. Nevertheless, the financial challenges in our parishes remain. Let us also remember that our support of our parish is critical and absolutely necessary. Consider doing two things. First, be sure to continue your regular, weekly offertory support of your parish while you are traveling and on vacation this summer. Second, commit to an increase in your offertory. Challenge yourself to make it significant. Our parishes need us, and their financial well-being is only as good as our support with good financial stewardship.

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



FR. TIMOTHY LYNCH'S FIRST MASS



Father Timothy Lynch elevates the chalice of consecrated wine during the Liturgy of the Eucharist at his Mass of thanksgiving in Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church on Sunday, May 29, one day after his ordination to the diocesan priesthood.

Photo courtesy St. Mary, Mother of God Church

FATHER RODENFELS IS RETIRING



Father Jerome P. Rodenfels is retiring, effective Tuesday, July 12, as pastor of the Church of the Resurrection in New Albany. He has been pastor there since 2003 after serving in the same

position at the parish from 1989 to 1998.

He will be honored at receptions following the 5 p.m. Mass on Saturday, July 9 and the 11 a.m. Mass Sunday, July 10 at the church, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road.

Father Rodenfels, 69, was ordained on May 26, 1974, in Columbus St. Mat-

thias Church by Bishop Edward Hermann, and was an associate pastor at Columbus St. Andrew, Marion St. Mary, Columbus Immaculate Conception, and Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton. He also served as a full-time chaplain at University, St. Anthony, and St. Anthony Mercy hospitals in Columbus.

Between his two pastoral terms in New Albany, he was pastor of Columbus St. Andrew and chaplain at Mount Carmel Medical Center in Columbus, with residence at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.

He also was a teacher at Columbus Bishop Watterson and Marion Catholic high schools and campus minister at Columbus Bishop Hartley High School.

Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church PART-TIME COOK POSITION

St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Zanesville OH, is seeking a part-time cook, up to 20 hours per week, to provide two meals Monday through Friday, daytimes, for the rectory table. The successful candidate will have at least two years' experience in the culinary arts or equivalent other training, with the ability to take supervision in matters of budget, menu development, and the application of Catholic culture and religious practice.

Job offer is contingent on the successful passing of the mandatory background screening and completion of the VIRTUS "Protecting God's Children" course. Salary is commensurate with experience and ability.

Submission should include cover letter, resume, and references via email by Tuesday, July 5, 2016 to:

Rev. Stephen Hayes, OP at stthomasrectory@gmail.com

Please feel free to contact us at 740-453-3301 with questions about the position.

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Ohio Dominican appoints two vice presidents

Ohio Dominican University has appointed Adam Neal as vice president for university advancement and Julie Burdick to the new position of vice president for enrollment management, said Dr. Peter Cimboic, university president.

Neal will provide leadership to help achieve ODU's strategic fundraising priorities and will lead activities in advancement and alumni relations. He has served as assistant vice president for university advancement at West Virginia State University since 2013. He also was vice president for the WVSU Foundation, where he provided strategic leadership for all aspects of its gift management practices.

During his tenure, WVSU consistently exceeded fundraising goals, with more than \$18 million raised since 2013. It also developed and implemented a comprehensive planned giving program which has helped generate \$4.6 million since 2014.

Before joining WVSU, he was a development specialist with the Northern Illinois University Foundation, where he coordinated all fundraising efforts for nearly two dozen departments within the university's division of student affairs and enrollment management. He

also previously served as a professional development and operations coordinator for NIU's office of the vice president for student affairs and enrollment management.

Neal is active in many professional organizations, including Leave a Legacy of Central Appalachia and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

He holds a bachelor's degree in music business with a minor in marketing from Western Illinois University and a master's degree in adult and higher education in human resource development from NIU.

Burdick will provide strategic leadership to increase enrollment and enhance the academic profile of students enrolled in ODU's undergraduate, graduate, and adult programs. She most recently was vice chancellor for enrollment management at the University of Arkansas—Fort Smith. Under her leadership, UAFS reversed an enrollment decline, which resulted in a positive budget impact. UAFS also experienced an increase in scholarship applicants by nearly 100 percent.

Earlier, she was associate vice president for academic affairs at the University of Akron. While there, she provided oversight for

enrollment management initiatives, which included retention, online and evening enrollment, and scholarship planning. She previously was director of academic planning and assessment, director of undergraduate enrollment, and assistant admissions director at the University of Cincinnati. She also was admissions director at Chatfield College in St. Martin, Ohio.

Burdick has been active in the Association of American Colleges and Universities, American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers, National Association for College Admission Counseling, and Ohio Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers.

She has been an Associate Sister of Charity since 2002 and recently was chosen by the sisters to participate in the Collaborative Leadership Development Program, an 18-month program designed to prepare religious women, co-members, and associates of religious women's congregations for leadership in the community, church, and society.

She holds a bachelor's degree in marketing and management from Miami University in Oxford and a master of business administration degree from Xavier University in Cincinnati.

Dominican Sisters of Peace approve stance on global climate change

The Dominican Sisters of Peace have approved a corporate stance on global climate change that states:

"The Dominican Sisters of Peace and Associates are committed to reducing the impact of global climate change. We support actions, programs and legislation on all levels to protect Earth's climate, with particular concern for the negative impact affecting the lives of the poor."

Through this statement, the sisters join their voices with many other religious congregations, faith traditions, and justice organizations to call for action on this issue, which threatens the health and well-being of our entire planet, but most especially, the poor.

"Climate change is a global problem with grave implications. It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day," Pope Francis said in his encyclical *Laudato Si'* (#25).

The Dominican Sisters believe that environmental issues and justice issues are intertwined elements of how we are called to relate to God's creation, in human form and in the Earth community. Eco-justice asserts that it is not possible to care for the Earth without also caring for humanity, and that seeking human justice must involve care for the environment. Therefore, care for creation is part of their work for peace.

"There are many challenging social concerns that we face today, but none more urgent than global climate change," said Sister Judy Morris, OP, justice promoter for the sisters. "We must have the will as people of conscience to stand with all who seek to protect our land, air, and water from those willing to risk human health and the health of our planet and to further harm the poor of our world. If we do not get this right, all other

social concerns will be moot. This is a pro-life issue that demands our full attention and action."

The sisters will continue to support federal and state environmental legislation to reduce carbon emissions, will personally commit to actions that reduce our carbon footprint, and will collaborate with other organizations in addressing global climate change.

The Dominican Sisters of Peace are a congregation of more than 500 sisters and 500 Associates who live and minister in 36 states and in Honduras, Nigeria, and Peru.

They are committed to greater involvement in the global community and simplicity of life through ministries that include education, health care, social work, spiritual direction, and parish-based programs.

For more information on the congregation, go to www.oppeace.org.

Communion more than once? Baptize my granddaughter?



QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. I know that people can receive Holy Communion twice in one day if they are present at those Masses for particular circumstances. But how about a lector or church musician who might be on duty for three or four Masses on the same day? Can they take Communion at each of those Masses? (York, South Carolina)

A. You are correct in saying that a person may receive Communion more than once a day. However, No. 917 of the church's *Code of Canon Law* specifies that one may do so only when present for, and participating in, the Mass itself. (The church does not want troubled people popping in for a couple of minutes solely for the Eucharist at several different Masses in a single day.)

This canon is really meant for someone who might be at two Masses in one day for different reasons, such as a funeral Mass on a Saturday morning and a Sunday vigil Mass that same afternoon. With regard to lectors or church musicians: in 1984, the Pontifical Council for the Interpretation of Legislative Texts told several bishops that twice a day is the limit for Communion (except in danger of death).

I would counsel your organist or lector to make just one of the Masses their "special" Mass and receive Communion at that Mass only. This way, I would think, the gift of the Eucharist is not taken for granted and is recognized for its uniqueness.

Q. My children were baptized as Catholics, but none of them is now a practicing Catholic. My middle daughter, through the influence of her husband, has opted to believe that organized religion is more problematic than helpful, and her children do not practice the faith except when I take them to Mass.

Soon I will be traveling with their daughter (my granddaughter) to South America, and I have asked her mother whether I might be able to baptize Sophia before the trip. (I wouldn't do it without her mother's permission.)

If her mother consents, may I do that baptism at home, and are there any special prayers that need to be said except "I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit?" I love my Catholic faith; I believe that baptism offers a spiritual protection that I want for my granddaughter when we travel together. Please advise. (Jersey City, New Jersey)

A. You acted properly in first asking Sophia's mother for permission to have the girl baptized. The church's *Code of Canon Law* (in No. 868) provides that, in normal circumstances, the consent of at least one parent is necessary -- danger of death being the exception. Another requirement, however, is the reasonable expectation that the child will be raised as a Catholic.

I'm not sure how old Sophia is right now, but for her to be baptized, some plan should be in place for you or another responsible adult to see to it that she receive the other sacraments of the church, including first penance, first Communion, and confirmation -- and, of course, that she be brought to Mass regularly.

As to whether you should administer the sacrament yourself, you should not. Canon No. 861 provides that the ordinary minister of baptism is a bishop, priest, or deacon. Yours is not an emergency situation, so you should talk to a local parish to arrange to have Sophia baptized by the parish priest.

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

Diocesan Senior Citizens Day Celebration



It was a beautiful day for senior citizens from across the diocese on Monday, June 6, as the Edwardians of Granville St. Edward Church hosted the annual diocesan Senior Citizens Day celebration. Bishop Frederick Campbell celebrated Mass with priests and deacons of the Knox-Licking Deanery. The luncheon which followed offered an opportunity for food, fellowship, and entertainment, with an energetic barbershop quartet. This was the 39th year for the event, sponsored by the diocesan Office for Social Concerns.

Photo by Jerry Freewalt, diocesan Office for Social Concerns

Father Klee plans pilgrimage to Holy Land

Father Joseph Klee of Columbus Sacred Heart Church will lead a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from Monday, Oct. 24 to Thursday, Nov. 3.

Pilgrims will arrive at the Tel Aviv airport on Tuesday, Oct. 25, stay overnight in Netanya, and spend the following day along the Sea of Galilee and at Caesarea, Haifa, Mount Carmel, and Cana. Nazareth and Mount Tabor will be stops for Oct. 27, followed the next day by a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee and stops at Capernaum, the synagogue where Jesus taught, and the site of the multiplication of loaves and fishes.

The day will begin on Oct. 29 at the Mount of the Beatitudes, with renewal of baptismal vows at the Jordan River and stops in Jericho and Bethany. The rest of the pilgrimage will be based in Jerusalem and includes stops at the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, the

birthplaces of John the Baptist and the Virgin Mary, the Pool of Bethesda, the Way of the Cross, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Calvary, Mount Zion, the Upper Room, Bethlehem, Emmaus, and the Dead Sea.

There will be Masses each day at holy sites. The cost of the pilgrimage based on double occupancy is \$2,930 per person, including daily breakfast and dinner and fees for various sites. Tips, other meals, and airline taxes and fuel surcharges (currently \$708.23 per person, but subject to change) are not included. For single occupancy, add \$752. For land only, subtract \$825.

For more information, contact Tekton Ministries toll-free at (866) 905-3787, or email pilgrimage@tektonministries.org, or register online at www.tektonministries.org.

Black Catholic Congress

The Diocese of Columbus Black Catholic Ministries program is making plans for local worship events which will serve as preparation for the 12th National Black Catholic Congress (NBCC), scheduled to take place in Orlando, Florida, from July 6 to 9, 2017. Announcements will be made in the *Catholic Times* as plans are completed.

The theme for the event will be “The Spirit of the Lord Is Upon Me: Act Justly, Love Goodness, and Walk Humbly With Your God.” The congress meets every five years to develop strategies and responses to events impacting African American Catholics.

The congress will include daily Masses, workshops, and strategic discussions, concluding with issuance of a call to action, outlining a pastoral plan which NBCC member groups in dioceses across the nation will use to address issues for people of African descent during the ensuing five years.

More than 2,000 Catholics of African descent from the United States, Canada, and the Caribbean attended the 11th NBCC, which took place in 2012 in Indianapolis. Several bishops were in attendance, including Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, archbishop of Galveston-Houston.

For more information on local events in preparation for the congress, call the Black Catholic Ministries office at (614) 228-0024. To learn more about the congress, visit www.nbccongress.org.

DeSales Alumni Event

The annual all-class reunion for Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School will take place at 5:30 p.m. Friday, July 8 at Gabby’s, 1887 Tamarack Circle North, Columbus.

Admission is \$5, with all proceeds benefiting the Alumni Legacy Scholarship Fund. There will be free pizza from 6 to 8 p.m., door prizes, a 50-50 raffle, and more.

The annual Dick Davis Memorial Tournament for DeSales graduates will take place Saturday, July 9 at the school, 4212 Karl Road. The entry fee is \$150 per team and includes as many as 15 T-shirts per team and 15 drink tickets. Additional shirts may be purchased on request.

The event will be divided into two divisions – Open, for the graduating classes of 1997 to 2013, and Legends, for older graduates. Teams in the Open Division must be mainly from the same class, with no more than three members from another class. Multiple classes may combine to form teams in the Legends Division.

The registration deadline is Tuesday, July 5. All proceeds go to the Dick Davis Memorial Scholarship Fund, established in 1997. Davis was the founder and original president of the DeSales Athletic Association. He assisted baseball coaches, kept statistics and scorebooks, and physically improved field conditions for many years.

SEEING THROUGH THE INTERSEX CONFUSION



MAKING SENSE
Out of Bioethics
Father Tad Pacholczyk

On rare occasions, babies can be born with ambiguous genitalia, and parents and physicians may be uncertain about whether a newborn is a little boy or a little girl. While testing for sex chromosomes is invariably part of figuring out these cases, the genetics alone may not always tell the whole story.

Genes and physiological factors such as hormonal conditions in the womb can contribute to our primary and secondary sex characteristics, and, unsurprisingly, disorders in our genes or our *in utero* hormonal milieu can contribute to deflecting the development of our maleness or femaleness.

For the most part, our genetic sex (XX female or XY male) serves as the best guide to the true gender of an individual, though in rare situations, even the sex chromosomes themselves can have anomalies. For example, people born with Klinefelter Syndrome (XXY) develop not only as males because of the presence of the Y chromosome and its testosterone-producing influence, but also as “feminized” males because of the influences of the additional X chromosome.

When strong hormonal influences are at play, as in another disorder known as Congenital Androgenital Syndrome, the adrenal glands of a genetically normal XX female can produce an unusually high amount of testosterone, resulting in development of external male-like genitalia, even though she also has ovaries, a vagina, and a uterus.

While the term “intersex” sometimes is used to describe situations in which an individual has non-standard genital anatomy, it typically has a broader range of meanings. Some people have argued that a person has to be born with both ovarian and testicular tissue to count as being intersex, but “intersex” is an imprecise term that can describe a range of situations in which someone is born with an internal reproductive anatomy or an external sexual anatomy that is not in accord with typical expectations for femaleness or maleness.

Sometimes the suggestion is made that intersex individuals are, in fact, neither male nor female, but fluid, malleable, or “bisexual,” with sexual identity residing somewhere between male and female. This kind of explanation is untenable.

Human beings, along with most other members of the animal kingdom, are marked by an ineradicable sexual “dimorphism,” or “two-forms”; namely, male and female. When problems arise in development of one of these forms, this does not make for a new “third form” or for an infinite spectrum of different sexual forms.

Instead, intersex situations represent cases in which individuals are either male or female, but have confounding physiological factors that make them appear or feel as if

they were of the opposite sex, or maybe even both sexes. In other words, the underlying sex remains, even though the psychology or gender they experience may be discordant. Put another way, intersex individuals may be “drawn away” from their intrinsic male or female sexual constitution by various anatomical differences in their bodies, and by opposing interior physiological drives and forces.

This can be complicated further because of strong cultural forces that contribute to the confusion by sanctioning a paradigm of complete malleability in human sexual behaviors that militates against an understanding of sex-based “hard-wiring.”

Even though it may not be popular to affirm the fact, people suffer from sexual development disorders in much the same way they suffer from other kinds of developmental disorders, whether of the cardiac/circulatory system, of the nervous/intellectual system, or others. No one, of course, should be subjected to bias or mistreatment because of a bodily disorder with which he or she may have been born. But in treating such persons, we always strive to return their cardiac or intellectual functions to their proper baseline, rather than inventing a new abnormal as the norm and defining that as a “treatment,” as some people are tempted to do with sexual development disorders.

While a newborn’s “intrinsic maleness” or “intrinsic femaleness” may be difficult to assess in certain more-complicated intersex cases, the point remains that there is an “intrinsic” or “underlying” sexual constitution we must do our best to recognize and respect. We must carefully acknowledge, nurture, and accept our given embodied sexual nature as being male or female. Willfully denying or acting against that given nature will constitute little more than a prescription for disillusionment and dishonesty.

Pope Benedict XVI, in a December 2013 address, echoed these concerns when he mentioned the errors found in various new philosophies in which “sex is no longer a given element of nature, that man has to accept and personally make sense of ...”

To live in an ordered way, with an ordered masculinity or femininity, is certainly one of the great challenges of our time, and we can only undertake this important task by insisting on the correspondence of our minds to reality — especially to the deeply inscribed reality of our unique embodiment as male or female.

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, PhD, earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did postdoctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Massachusetts, and serves as director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.nbccenter.org.

Notre Dame Associates Renew Commitment



Associates of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur renewed their commitment on Saturday, May 14 at Columbus St Agnes Church. Mass was celebrated by Father Ronald Aubry. First commitments were made by Rosemarie DiLibera, Jamie Di Blasi, Rosemary Feka, and Patricia Zadnik. An Associate is committed to live the gospel message of St. Julie Billiart, founder of the order. Through prayer, relationships, and ministries, Associates commit themselves to express in our time, as St. Julie did in hers, that God is good. Pictured are (from left): Mary Ellen Logan (Columbus facilitator for the Associates), Rosemarie DiLibera, Patricia Zadnik, Jamie Di Blasi, Rosemary Feka, and Sister Lois Ann Meyer, SNDdeN, Ohio resource director for the Associates.



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Humility in the Dirt with Our Lady of Mount Carmel

I think Mary must have been a gardener, and not just because it seems like a thrifty use of her first-century time. I imagine her kneeling down, maybe using an old cloth to cushion her knees, and getting dirt under her fingernails.

I think of her as a gardener throughout our human history, too. A little trouble in France? No problem: Here comes Mary with her rosary in hand and a full dose of prayer and advice.

Something's tough in Russia? Mary's on her way to that part of the garden, pulling a hose behind her for some special application watering.

They need help in the United States? Look, there's Mother Mary, dressed for serious work.

A garden full of weeds looks hopeless to me, but Mary must see it as another opportunity to show her Son how much she loves Him. Weeds produce thousands -- or millions? -- of seeds, and some of them can lay dormant in the soil for years before finding the conditions just right to bloom.

When I see my rhododendron choked by thistle and burdock and wild carrot, I want to turn around and go back in the house, drowning my gardening sorrows with a good book and leaving the work to my husband's trusty chemicals and strength.

What does Mary see? Does she think of converting the weeds to works of mercy, leading them triumphantly



Finding Faith in Everyday Life Sarah Reinhard

through the gates of heaven to see her Son?

Perhaps Mary has a hand in tending the early seeds that will bloom later to bring beauty to her garden. Simon Stock, a hermit who later became an integral part of turning around the Carmelite Order in the 13th century, spent many years secluded as a hermit in the forest. He was said to have lived in a hollowed tree trunk, surviving on herbs, roots, wild apples, and water.

He spoke daily with Jesus and Mary, and during one of those conversations, Mary told him to find and join the Carmelites. This must have seemed bizarre to Simon, who had been in the woods for 35 years. But those years of frequent conversation with Jesus and Mary had prepared him to listen and obey.

I'm sure Simon must have scrutinized the Carmelites when he found them. They were strict and serious in their asceticism, with a passionate devotion to Mary. I imagine him nodding, thinking Mary had found him the only thing that could beat a life alone with her and Jesus.

Simon had been a Carmelite for more than 30 years when the 1244 migration to England occurred for the Order. He was chosen as the sixth general of the Order as the governance was moved to England with the majority of the friars. By this time, Simon was 80 years old, and, though still alert, obviously weakened by the penances he had chosen throughout his life.

Things must have seemed just as hopeless for the Carmelites in 1244, when they sent most of their friars to Europe, as they do to me when I look out at my weed-covered landscaping. The Carmelites were like an abandoned garden in the 13th century, driven to England by the threat of Moorish invasion in the Holy Land. They didn't have much support from the laity, and their enrollments were low. It was the kind of situation that called for divine intervention.

The Carmelites were founded, some think, to follow the piety of Elijah, who went to Mount Carmel to pray. They don't have a founder in the proper sense, though they point to the hermits

who settled on Mount Carmel, located in the Holy Land, as their beginning.

In the 13th century, they had waned to a small population, and they didn't have any supporters. Life was risky in the Middle East, as battles between Christians and Muslims raged. This must have influenced the Carmelites' decision to move.

I wonder if Simon felt the despair, looking at the garden of his Order, that I feel when I see my rose bushes and day lilies suffocating in dandelions and ivy and milkweed. He had dedicated his life to God, first with years living as a hermit and then in obedience through the Carmelite Order.

Did he look to heaven with tears in his eyes as he asked for help that July 16 in 1251? Was his voice cracking as he asked for a miracle to restore his Order's supporters? Could he form words, or did he just throw up his hands?

Whatever the words he used, Simon was answered by Mary herself, who appeared wearing the Carmelite habit and holding a scapular in her hand. "Receive, my beloved son," she said, "this habit of thy Order. This shall be to thee and to all Carmelites a privilege that whosoever dies clothed in this shall never suffer eternal fire." She assured Simon that his current problems would be solved before long.

It's no surprise to us, more than 750 years later, that Mary was right. The Carmelite Order was transformed within a short time, with the dissenters silenced, an official ecclesiastical sanction from Pope Innocent IV, and royal protection from King Henry III. There was an increase in the number of those interested in joining the Order, and before long it began to prosper.

Since then, the brown scapular has become a popular devotion among people devoted to Mary. It consists, in its simplest form, of wearing a small necklace, made of two rectangular pieces of brown woven wool connected by cord or string so that one of the rectangles rests on your front and the other on your back.

The conditions for enrollment in the devotion include wearing the brown scapular continuously, observing chastity according to your state in life, and reciting the *Little Office of the Blessed Virgin*. You may choose, instead, to observe the fasts of the Church and abstain from meat on Wednesdays and Saturdays, pray five decades of the rosary, or substitute some other good work (with permission of a priest for the last two).

Our Lady of Mount Carmel reminds me to strive for humility. She points out that the word "humble" is related to the Latin word *humus*, for earth. Being down to earth, then, is being humble, and being humble is being like Mary. When I'm like Mary, my garden blooms fragrant with graces and blessings.

Sarah's online at SnoringScholar.com.

“Witness to Freedom”

The Church calls the faithful to stand for religious freedom

By Paul McMullen
Catholic News Service

Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori linked urgent matters of “immigration, marriage, and the church’s teaching on sexuality” to a pair of 16th-century martyrs during a Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary that began the fifth annual Fortnight for Freedom.

The theme of this year’s fortnight is “Witnesses to Freedom.” It features relics of St. Thomas More and St. John Fisher, an English layman and bishop, respectively, who were martyred in a 16-day span in 1535 for refusing to accept Parliament’s Act of Supremacy, which had declared that King Henry VIII was head of the church in England.

On display for veneration were St. John Fisher’s ring and a piece of bone of St. Thomas More. Jan Grafius, curator of Stonyhurst College in England, which holds the relics, said the bone came from St. Thomas More’s skull, which was rescued by his daughter, Margaret, from a spike on London Bridge.

During a Mass on Tuesday, June 21 that was televised nationally by EWTN, Archbishop Lori’s homily connected Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher to an array of 21st-century struggles, among them the contraceptive mandate by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that the Little Sisters of the Poor continue to challenge in the nation’s highest courts.

“This night we recognize gratefully the courage of all who are resisting the mandate, especially the Little Sisters of the Poor,” the archbishop said. “They are vigorously defending their freedom and ours – and they are doing so with a beauty and a joy borne from the heart of the Gospel.”

Archbishop Lori, chairman of the ad hoc committee on religious liberty of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, which sponsors the Fortnight for Freedom, also asked for prayers for the victims of June 12 mass shooting in Orlando, Florida, and their families.

He talked at length of the modern struggle to worship freely.

“We may think that the days of the martyrs have ended,” Archbishop Lori said, “but as Pope Francis points out, there are more martyrs for the faith in our times than there were during the first centuries of the church.

“We remember with reverence and love those who died for their faith – Jews, Catholics and Protestants – an ecumenism of blood, as Pope Francis says – during the reign of terror that was Nazism and Communism.

“This night,” he continued, “we draw close to the martyrs of the 21st century in Iraq, Iran, Syria and parts of Africa – those slain for their faith – in plain sight of us all with no one to hold their persecutors accountable. Refugees are streaming from the Middle East, just as Jews tried to escape from the horrors of Nazism – only to find that they are held suspect and they are unwanted.”

While religious liberty in the U.S. might not seem in such dire straits by comparison, vigilance is required nonetheless.

“We would like to think,” Archbishop Lori continued, “such things could never happen here. ... Yet, there are ominous signs that protections for religious freedom have waned as bad laws, court decisions and policies pile up and as the prevailing culture more readily turns away from religious faith.

“Let us be clear that challenges to religious freedom in our nation pale in comparison to those faced by our brothers and sisters in many parts of the world – yet who is served when we fail to take seriously the new and emerging challenges to religious freedom that are before us?”

“We may not be called upon to shed our blood,” he continued, “but we are called upon to defend our freedoms, not merely in the abstract, but as embedded in matters such as immigration, marriage, and the church’s teaching on sexuality.”

Concelebrants of the Mass included Baltimore Auxiliary Bishop Denis J. Madden, Washington Auxiliary Bishop Martin D. Holley, and

dozens of priests from the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

Other Catholic organizations represented included the Knights of Columbus, the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, and the Order of Malta. The second reading was given by Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, president-elect of the Catholic Medical Association, a parishioner of the basilica.

June 22 was the feast day for Sts. John Fisher and Thomas More.

The linking of current threats to religious freedom with the relics of the two saints carried particular resonance for one worshipper.

Jim Landers, a parishioner of St. Ignatius Church in Hickory, Maryland, was keenly interested in the St. Thomas More relic. He is originally from Louisville, Kentucky, where his great-great-grandfather, Thomas Lawson Moore, was a U.S. senator whose lineage included Thomas More. The spelling of the name was altered when his ancestors came to the United States.

“This Mass and everything it stands for is extremely important to me,” Landers told the *Catholic Review*, Baltimore’s archdiocesan publication. “Beyond that, there’s the family connection. I can’t even describe that. It’s extremely exciting.”

His sentiments are compounded by the fact that Landers was raised Baptist and became a Catholic after attending Mass for years with his wife, Michelle.

McMullen is managing editor of the Catholic Review, the news website and magazine of the Archdiocese of Baltimore.



U.S. Supreme Court strikes down regulations on Texas abortion clinics

By Carol Zimmermann
Catholic News Service

The U.S. Supreme Court by a 5-3 vote has struck down restrictions requiring that Texas abortion clinics comply with standards of ambulatory surgical centers and that their doctors have admitting privileges at local hospitals.

The case, *Whole Woman’s Health v. Hellerstedt*, challenged a 2013 state law placing the requirements on the clinics. Opponents of the law claimed the requirements were aimed at closing abortion clinics. The state and many pro-life advocates maintained that the law protected women’s health.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and other religious groups submitted a joint friend of the court” brief supporting the Texas law, which was similar to other state laws regulating abortion clinics.

Justice Stephen Breyer, who wrote the opinion, which was issued on Monday, June 27, said the restrictions “provide few if any health benefits for women, pose a substantial obstacle to women seeking abortions and constitute an ‘undue burden’ on their constitutional right to do so.”

Reaction to the court’s ruling was immediate. Those in favor of the regulations said the court’s

opinion put women at risk. Those opposed to the state law called it a major victory.

“The court has rejected a common-sense law protecting women from abortion facilities that put profits above patient safety,” said Deirdre McQuade, assistant director for pro-life communications at the USC-CB’s secretariat of pro-life activities.

She said the Texas law “simply required abortion facilities to meet the same health and safety standards as other ambulatory surgical centers.”

“Abortion claims the lives of unborn children, and too often endangers their mothers as well,” McQuade said. “This ruling contradicts the consensus among medical groups that such measures protect women’s lives.”

A statement by the Texas Catholic Conference, the public policy voice of the Catholic bishops of Texas, said the ruling “puts women at grave risk” and said the purpose of the state regulations was to ensure women’s safety, noting that “their lives are just as precious as those of their children.”

Dissenting votes in the case came from Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito Jr.

Thomas wrote that the court’s decision “simultaneously transformed judicially created rights like the right to abortion into preferred constitutional rights, while disfavoring many of the rights actually enumerated in the Constitution.” He added

that the Constitution “renounces the notion that some constitutional rights are more equal than others. ... A law either infringes a constitutional right, or not; there is no room for the judiciary to invent tolerable degrees of encroachment.”

The Supreme Court’s use of the words “undue burden” echoes a phrase used in 1992 ruling in *Planned Parenthood vs. Casey*, in which it upheld provisions in Pennsylvania law requiring parental consent for minors, a 24-hour waiting period before an abortion, filing of detailed reports about each abortion, and distribution of information about alternatives to abortion. It struck down a requirement that married women need to notify their husbands before having an abortion.

In essence, the court said a state may enact abortion regulations that do not pose an “undue burden” on pregnant women.

The phrase “undue burden” was used in oral arguments in the Texas case to promote women’s access to available abortion clinics. Opponents of the state regulations said the restrictions were aimed at stopping abortions because they forced clinics to close, which in turn, they said, would put an undue burden on women seeking abortions who would have to travel farther to find an available clinic.

In the years since the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision legalizing abortion, the Supreme Court has shown

See COURT, Page 18

California leaders are threatening Catholic colleges. Again.

CNA/EWTN News

The California Legislature is considering a bill that strips longstanding legal protections for the state’s religiously affiliated colleges and universities. The official public policy voice of the state’s Catholic bishops says the proposal will imperil Catholic education unless it is changed.

“It’s a way of harassing and making it more difficult for those of us who are people of faith who want to live and express our ways in society,” said Edward Dolejsi, California Catholic Conference executive director.

“We’re being painted into a corner and constricted,” he told the Catholic News Agency.

Dolejsi said the proposed legislation could narrow the definition of a religious organization and compromise a school’s ability to express its identity in its curriculum, policies, and faith.

The proposal would limit religious exemptions for institutions of higher education. It would bar colleges that receive state funding from making employment, student housing, admission, and other decisions on the basis of gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation. It also bars discrimination on the basis of religion.

Students who believe they are discriminated against may sue.

The legislation has passed the state Senate and is headed to the judiciary committee of the state Assembly

(the equivalent of what is known in many state as the House of Representatives) after passing out of the Assembly’s higher education committee.

Quincy Masteller, general counsel of Thomas Aquinas College in Santa Paula, California, said the bill “in essence eliminates the religious exemption that has been in the California education code for many years.”

“In many ways, it’s an existential threat to religious colleges that want to live according to the principles of their faith in their community,” he told CNA. “The long history of religious institutions of higher education could be lost.

“That’s the stakes we’re looking at,” Masteller said.

Dolejsi said the bill’s consequences are unclear, given federal rules and other religious-liberty protections. The bill also could be amended.

Masteller thought passage of the bill in its current form was likely.

Observers of the bill are waiting to see what the bill’s final language will be after a hearing next week in the Assembly’s judiciary committee.

“Certainly no one wants anyone to be discriminated against, but at the same time, those who infuse faith into their particular education curriculum and expect certain behaviors should have the right to operate that way,” Dolejsi said.

The Catholic conference’s concerns include the bill’s redefinition of a faith-based organization. The conference opposes the bill unless

there are amendments “to clarify it in a way that allows faith-based organizations and institutions to operate in a way consistent with who they are,” Dolejsi said.

He suggested that the bill’s sponsor, Sen. Ricardo Lara (D-San Francisco) has a narrower view of faith-based institutions than what the Catholic community would find acceptable.

The senator has said faith-based colleges and universities may have their policies, procedures, and statements of faith, but Dolejsi questioned whether he was willing to let the schools live by those policies. Anyone who felt these schools are discriminatory and took legal action against them would have to spend “a significant amount” of resources in court, Dolejsi said.

“California has established strong protections for the LGBTQ community, and private universities should not be able to use faith as an excuse to discriminate and avoid complying with state laws,” Lara said. “No university should have a license to discriminate.”

Backers of the Senate bill include Equality California, the Los Angeles LGBT Center, and the Transgender Law Center.

Masteller said Thomas Aquinas College was guided by Catholic teaching, including the teaching that God created men and women with differences that complement each other.

“There’s implications to that in how we live,” he said.

“The college has no discriminatory intent towards any person,” he explained. “What we do discriminate against is conduct or activity that violates our Catholic character.”

For instance, he said, the college would not allow a transgender male to live in the dormitories of the opposite sex, nor would it allow a same-sex marriage ceremony in its Catholic chapel.

“We’re not going to sacrifice our Catholic character at all,” Masteller said.

See BILL, Page 19



JUBILEE OF MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES 2016



Couples with 60 or more years of marriage.



Couples with 50 and 55 years of marriage. CT photos by Ken Snow

Church of the Blessed Sacrament, Newark	40th	Deacon Patrick & Kathy Wilson	Seton Parish, Pickerington	50th	John T. & Marilyn Wagner
Christ the King, Columbus	50th	Timothy & Teresa Blalock	Seton Parish, Pickerington	45th	David & Linda Fersch
Christ the King, Columbus	35th	Michael L. & Rita D. Draudt III	Seton Parish, Pickerington	45th	Bill & Sharon Richards
Church of the Ascension, Johnstown	50th	Wilbur & Rosemary DePue	Seton Parish, Pickerington	40th	David & Jean Bushnell
Church of the Ascension, Johnstown	40th	Deacon Bill & Margaret Andrews	Seton Parish, Pickerington	40th	Rick & Nelda Humphries
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany	55th	Edward & Reba Teiga	Seton Parish, Pickerington	35th	Jeffrey & Patricia Bartsch
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany	50th	George & Paula Gummer	Seton Parish, Pickerington	30th	Matthew & Susanna Froehlich
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany	50th	Kenneth & Ilona Frances Weise	Seton Parish, Pickerington	30th	Donald & Rosemary Shiman
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany	25th	Tom & Carlene Tucker	Seton Parish, Pickerington	25th	James & Rachel Sandhofer
Holy Cross, Columbus	30th	Jeffrey & Cathryn Geppert	SS. Simon and Jude, West Jefferson	55th	William & Mary Reinhard
Holy Spirit, Columbus	50th	Bob & Dee Dadik	St. Agatha, Columbus	50th	Daniel & Ruth Martin
Holy Trinity, Somerset	25th	Thomas & Cathleen Schrider	St. Agatha, Columbus	50th	Wayne & Barbara Wookey
Immaculate Conception, Columbus	50th	John & Mary Dimond	St. Agatha, Columbus	45th	Steve & Carol Rodabaugh
Immaculate Conception, Columbus	40th	Keith & Eileen Kidner	St. Agatha, Columbus	40th	Fred & Barbara Schroeder
Immaculate Conception, Columbus	30th	Anthony & Theresa Borghese	St. Agatha, Columbus	35th	Thomas & Julia Redmond
Immaculate Conception, Kenton	40th	Deacon Michael & Ann Hood	St. Agatha, Columbus	30th	Chris & Inka Golonka
Immaculate Conception, Kenton	35th	Gerald & Rebecca Droll	St. Aloysius, Columbus	30th	Derrill & Joan Baltzer
Our Lady of Lourdes, Marysville	50th	Barry & Susan Cordell	St. Andrew Kim Taegon Korean Catholic Community, Columbus	50th	Augustine & Agness Sa
Our Lady of Peace, Columbus	55th	Thomas & Janet Oberliesen	St. Andrew, Columbus	65th	Jack & Ruth Strader
Our Lady of Peace, Columbus	55th	Jack & Patricia Poppe	St. Andrew, Columbus	60th	Raymond M. & Constance A.Horgan
Our Lady of Peace, Columbus	50th	Paul & Margaret Doppes	St. Andrew, Columbus	60th	Douglas & Sheilah Janes
Our Lady of Peace, Columbus	50th	John & Ruthie Fortkamp	St. Andrew, Columbus	55th	John & Ellie Hoeller
Our Lady of Peace, Columbus	40th	Carl & Margie Bogenschutz	St. Andrew, Columbus	50th	William & Lois Berwanger
Our Lady of Peace, Columbus	25th	Dave & Carrie Davisson	St. Andrew, Columbus	50th	Paul & Peg Braunsdorf
Our Lady of Peace, Columbus	25th	Timothy & Christine Farmer	St. Andrew, Columbus	50th	Richard & Geraldine Lembach
Our Lady of Peace, Columbus	25th	Greg & Dorie France	St. Andrew, Columbus	50th	Randall & Rosemary Scholl
Our Lady of Peace, Columbus	25th	Christopher & Teresa George	St. Andrew, Columbus	45th	J.J. & Shirley Powers
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City	61st	John & Marigene Baumann	St. Andrew, Columbus	45th	Robert & Jane Sotak
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City	45th	Paul & Linda Sartori	St. Andrew, Columbus	40th	Peter & Karen Barr
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Columbus	50th	Deacon Steve & Sandy Venturini	St. Andrew, Columbus	40th	Gary & Nancy Sterling
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Columbus	40th	Joe & Joyce Bigler	St. Andrew, Columbus	30th	Dan & Suzanne Haines
Our Lady of Victory, Columbus	64th	Richard & Emilie Miller	St. Anthony, Columbus	62nd	Louis & Vivian Vesco
Our Lady of Victory, Columbus	63rd	Michael H. & Regina A. Quinn	St. Anthony, Columbus	25th	Thomas & Marilyn Wheeler
Our Lady of Victory, Columbus	60th	Edward & Marianne Pirik	St. Bernadette, Lancaster	66th	Paul & Regina Gallagher
Our Lady of Victory, Columbus	55th	Doug & Cindy Hartsook	St. Bernadette, Lancaster	35th	Deacon Jeff & Terry Carpenter
Our Lady of Victory, Columbus	55th	Nicholas & Mary Lou Melaragno	St. Brendan, Hilliard	25th	Steve & Debbie Behringer
Our Lady of Victory, Columbus	35th	Joseph & Rosemary Finneran	St. Brendan, Hilliard	50th	Hubert & Ingeborg Stang
Sacred Heart, Coshocton	35th	Deacon Doug & Susan Mould	St. Brendan, Hilliard	45th	Rodney & Mary Anderson
Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia	65th	Jack & Beverly Aldergate	St. Brendan, Hilliard	45th	Michael C. & Diane M. Matuska
Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia	64th	Sam & Bertha Bonanno	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	30th	Bruce & Judy Colley
Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia	64th	John W. & Rita M. Goth	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	25th	Deacon Doug & Tina Saunders
Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia	60th	Buster & Roberta Metcalf	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	73rd	Jack & Barbara Henterly
Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia	55th	Richard & Bonnie Zavasky	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	61st	Christian & Margaret Sarych
Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia	50th	James & Marilyn Bellino	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	45th	Irineo & Corazon Acacio
Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia	50th	Terry & Rita Hamrick	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	35th	Martin & Bernadette Dinehart
Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia	50th	Tom & Barb Young	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	35th	Thaddeus & Linda Kwiatkowski
Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia	35th	John & Darlene Lischak	St. Cecilia, Columbus	25th	John & Nancy Hutchings
Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia	30th	G. Scot & Kathleen Steele	St. Cecilia, Columbus	50th	Thomas & Rose O'Connell
Sacred Hearts, Cardington	50th	William & Ginny Schindley	St. Cecilia, Columbus	45th	Steve & Mary Kay Frank
Santa Cruz, Columbus	55th	Cirilo & Maida Barroso	St. Cecilia, Columbus	35th	Paulo & Sherrilyn Corona
Scioto County Parish Consortium	45th	Deacon Terry & Monica Acox	St. Cecilia, Columbus	30th	David Mark & Terry Edwards
Serving outside the diocese	55th	Deacon Richard & Carolyn Krick	St. Christopher, Columbus	25th	Warren & Joann Wright
Seton Parish, Pickerington	60th	Raymond & Arlene Kroll	St. Christopher, Columbus	45th	Deacon Gregg & Jane Eiden
Seton Parish, Pickerington	50th	Jim & Jane Booth	St. Christopher, Columbus	35th	Michael J & Jean Munsch
Seton Parish, Pickerington	50th	Raymond & Mary Kay Gleich	St. Edward the Confessor, Granville	35th	Deacon Byron & Nancy Phillips
Seton Parish, Pickerington	50th	Hans Juergen & Mary Kay Gorgias		50th	James & Charlotte Markham

St. Edward the Confessor, Granville
 St. Elizabeth, Columbus
 St. Elizabeth, Columbus
 St. Francis de Sales, Newark
 St. Francis de Sales, Newark
 St. Francis de Sales, Newark
 St. James the Less, Columbus
 St. Joan of Arc, Powell
 St. Joan of Arc, Powell
 St. Joan of Arc, Powell
 St. Joan of Arc, Powell
 St. John Neumann, Sunbury
 St. John XXIII, Canal Winchester
 St. John XXIII, Canal Winchester
 St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus
 St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus
 St. Joseph, Dover
 St. Joseph, Dover
 St. Joseph, Dover
 St. Joseph, Plain City
 St. Ladislav, Columbus
 St. Luke, Danville
 St. Luke, Danville
 St. Luke, Danville
 St. Luke, Danville
 St. Luke, Danville
 St. Mark, Lancaster
 St. Mary, Portsmouth
 St. Mary, Portsmouth
 St. Mary, Waverly
 St. Mary, Chillicothe
 St. Mary, Delaware
 St. Mary, Delaware
 St. Mary, Lancaster
 St. Mary, Marion
 St. Mary, Marion
 St. Mary, Marion
 St. Mary, Marion

50th Philip & Kathryn Stukus
 55th Warren & Susan McCullough
 45th William R. & Suzanne M. Rectanus
 62nd Donald & Rosemary Hill
 45th Deacon Steve & Theresa DeMers
 40th Bill & Paula McWilliams
 64th Jake & Kate Mayer
 55th Deacon Thomas & Betty Berg Sr.
 55th Deacon James & Rosina Rouse
 30th Jim & Linda Steiner
 25th Joseph & Sandra Jurcisek
 45th Robert & Terri Scott
 60th Gene & Judy Noble
 45th Deacon Roger & Mary Pry
 50th Basilio C. & Fe F. Riel
 40th David & Barbara Garick
 65th Louis & Helen Dalpiaz
 65th Eugene & June Huprich
 61st Frank & Gail Rossi
 50th Deacon Tony & Elaine Bonacci
 55th William & Catherine Palmer
 63rd Kenneth & Ruth Armstrong
 62nd Bob & Joan Sichel
 60th James & Diana Arnold
 40th Greg & Cheryl Sheldon
 40th Rodger & Shirley Stoner
 50th Harold & Linda Prisco
 60th Ellis & Phyllis Holcomb
 55th Charles & Noreen Hartard
 50th Chip & Patsy Walder
 30th Devin & Heather Cousins
 67th Robert & Elsa McLoughlin
 50th Rick & Janice Trippier Sr.
 30th Jim & Patricia Spires
 62nd Donald & Ellen Distal
 61st Thomas & Geraldine Wilson
 50th David & Georgette Kalisch
 50th John & Marianne Norris

St. Mary, Marion
 St. Mary, Marion
 St. Matthew, Gahanna
 St. Matthew, Gahanna
 St. Matthias, Columbus
 St. Matthias, Columbus
 St. Matthias, Columbus
 St. Michael, Worthington
 St. Michael, Worthington
 St. Michael, Worthington
 St. Michael, Worthington
 St. Nicholas, Zanesville
 St. Nicholas, Zanesville
 St. Nicholas, Zanesville
 St. Patrick, Columbus
 St. Patrick, Columbus
 St. Patrick, Columbus
 St. Paul the Apostle, Westerville
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 St. Paul the Apostle, Westerville
 St. Peter, Columbus
 St. Peter, Columbus
 St. Peter, Columbus
 St. Philip the Apostle, Columbus
 St. Philip the Apostle, Columbus
 St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg
 St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg
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 St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg
 St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg
 St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg
 St. Thomas More Newman Center, Columbus

50th Larry & Rosemary Scheff
 25th Jerry & Luann Wilkinson
 61st Charles & Sarah Arnold
 55th Thomas & Annette Flynn
 67th Victor H. & Miriam R. Ramirez
 62nd Ralph A. & Audrey I. Sedlock
 25th Tom & Rhonda Zepp
 50th Roger & Sally Baughman
 45th Charles & Mary Baumann
 40th Raymond & Nancy Young
 30th Peter & Laurie Luft
 55th Deacon Pete & Judi-Ann Peterson
 50th Tom & Elaine Pitcock
 35th Philip & Joan Kocoloski
 50th John & Gerry Sams
 40th James & Vicki Albright
 25th Greg & Beth Cheeseman
 62nd James & Rita Marsinek
 60th Jim & Mary Ann Maxwell
 55th William & Julie McGhee
 55th Thomas & Janice Obringer
 55th Robert & Aileen Porter
 50th Duval & Catherine Adams
 50th Mark & Carol Aultman
 50th Herb & Louise Berger
 50th Eduardo & Angelita Canlas
 50th Charles & Ardith Mers
 40th Samuel F. & Michele Harrison
 35th John & Kellie Erwin
 35th Thomas & Jean Gray
 35th Thomas & Connie Hess
 35th Jim & Maryann Malinowski
 30th Michael & Donna Ciammaichella
 25th Steve & Chris Julian
 25th Raymond & Cheryl Plewa
 25th Brent & Sherri Smith
 55th Edwin & Martha Foster
 35th Dennis & Theresa Ervin
 25th Thom A. & Lorna M. Lisk
 50th David & Susie Engle
 50th Tom & Mary Kitsmiller
 65th Hans & Joyce Bauer
 60th Lee & Peg Brock
 60th Stanley & Carol Ann Vingle
 55th John & Shirley Callahan
 50th Antonio & Margaret Delrosario
 50th Norbert & Rose Stalica
 50th Deacon John & Rita Vellani Jr.
 45th Horace & Rebecca Gilmore
 45th Joseph & Mariann Koebel
 45th Kevin & Barbara Martin
 45th Don & Mary Jo Neader
 25th Tod & Susan Gilmore
 25th James & Jeanne Kiraly
 45th Pedro & Martha Choroco

*The Diaconate Community
 Congratulates Deacons and their wives
 on their Jubilee Wedding Anniversaries*



55 years Dcn. Richard & Carolyn Krick - 02/11/61
 Dcn. Thomas & Betty Berg, Sr. - 08/26/61
 Dcn. James & Rose Rouse - 09/07/61
 Dcn. Peter & Judi-Ann Peterson - 11/04/61

50 years Dcn. Anthony & Elaine Bonacci - 06/18/66
 Dcn. Stephen & Sandy Venturini - 06/25/66
 Dcn. John & Rita Vellani - 08/27/66

45 years Dcn. Terry & Monica Acox - 03/20/71
 Dcn. Steven & Theresa DeMers - 05/31/71
 Dcn. Roger & Mary Pry - 07/02/71
 Dcn. Gregory & Jane Eiden - 08/21/71

40 years Dcn Patrick & Katherine Wilson - 05/01/76
 Dcn. William & Marge Andrews - 07/30/76
 Dcn. Michael & Ann Hood - 08/21/76

35 years Dcn. Byron & Nancy Phillips - 04/04/81
 Dcn. Douglas & Susan Mould - 07/18/81
 Dcn. Jeff & Terry Carpenter - 10/03/81

25 years Dcn. Douglas & Tina Saunders - 10/05/91

"I tell you that often couples come to Mass who are observing their 50th, sometimes 60th wedding anniversary. And they are happy; they smile. And in these marriages, which are like the good wine that becomes better when it is older, one sees this daily work of man to make his wife more a woman and the wife to make her husband more a man. They are not afraid of the differences!" ~ Pope Francis

**Congratulations
 and Blessings to
 All Married Couples
 Celebrating a Significant
 Anniversary in 2016**

**Diocese of Columbus
 Marriage & Family Life Office
 familylife.colsdioc.org**



Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle B)

Images of comfort are provided by Isaiah and Luke



Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

July 3 -- Isaiah 66:10-14c;

Galatians 6:14-18;

Luke 10:1-12,17-20

Sunday's reading from Isaiah comes from the final chapter of this lengthy work and is filled with hope for the future of Jerusalem, the city which had suffered destruction during the Babylonian Exile. The author writes as though it is a future event, although no doubt some of the dramatic transformation already has taken place. It is rare that the Lord is compared to a nursing mother, but the image emphasizes not only the care of the Lord for her precious infant (Israel) at the breast, but also her tenderness.

Wealth and riches were sure signs of divine favor in the thinking of this prophet, thus "prosperity will flow over Jerusalem like a river," and "the wealth of the nations like an overflowing torrent." Although the prophet speaks of Jerusalem enjoying this prosperity, we should note that Jerusalem represents all the survivors of the disastrous exile. The maternal image of the Lord is repeated: "As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you."

After the devastation and destruction leading to the exile, these words strike the right balance of care and concern for the survivors and the promise of a better future. Any subjugated people would feel the same way when the yoke of the past was broken and removed. Those burdened by sin seek the same kind of comfort after lost innocence.

The Gospel takes up the theme of offering comfort, with Jesus sending 70 disciples in pairs to places he intends to visit. Before sending them, he tells them to ask the harvest master to send workers into the

vineyard. The work of disciples is "to cure the sick" in whatever town they visit and to announce that "the kingdom of God is at hand for you." This work is not gender-dependent, which may help to explain why Pope Francis has decided to look again at women and the diaconate. The work of the kingdom is comforting the sick and announcing the nearness of the kingdom.

Such work requires only those who are committed to Christ and his announcement of the kingdom. Curing the sick is part of that mission, and those doing the curing do not have to be men. Lest there be any doubt about this point, we need only consult the Gospel reading for the Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, where Jesus says of Mary's choice to sit at the feet of Jesus (the posture of a disciple), "Mary has chosen the better part **and it will not be taken from her.**"

Jesus' reaction to the return of the disciples, with their report that "even the demons are subject to us because of your name," is curious. These demons may well be those who insist on things as they have always been, rather than as they might be. "I have seen Satan fall like lightning from the sky" could imply that while the disciples were away, Jesus had a vision of Satan falling from the sky; or that Jesus had once had such a vision. Likely, it means that Jesus sensed that the power of evil was falling before the healings and the actions of his disciples at work.

Despite all this, the disciples' real joy should come from the idea that their names are written in heaven, reflecting the Old Testament belief (see Exodus 32:32-33 and Psalm 69:28, among other places) that the righteous ones have been written (and still are) in God's realm (namely, the heavens). We also find New Testament references to the same thing in Philippians 4:3, Hebrews 12:23, and Revelation 3:5 and 13:8.

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

The Weekday Bible Readings

7/4-7/9

7/11-7/16

MONDAY

Hosea 2:16,17b-18,21-22
Psalm 145:2-9
Matthew 9:18-26

MONDAY

Isaiah 1:10-17
Psalm 50:8-9,16b-17,21,23
Matthew 10:34-11:1

TUESDAY

Hosea 8:4-7,11-13
Psalm 115:3-6,7ab-8,9-10
Matthew 9:32-38

TUESDAY

Isaiah 7:1-9
Psalm 48:2-8
Matthew 11:20-24

WEDNESDAY

Hosea 10:1-3,7-8,12
Psalm 105:2-7
Matthew 10:1-7

WEDNESDAY

Isaiah 10:5-7,13b-16
Psalm 94:5-10,14-15
Matthew 11:25-27

THURSDAY

Hosea 11:1-4,8c-9
Psalm 80:2ac,3b,15-16
Matthew 10:7-15

THURSDAY

Isaiah 26:7-9,12,16-19
Psalm 102:13-14ab,15-21
Matthew 11:28-30

FRIDAY

Hosea 14:2-10
Psalm 51:3-4,8-9,12-14,17
Matthew 10:16-23

FRIDAY

Isaiah 38:1-6,21-22,7-8
Isaiah 38:10-12,16 (Ps)
Matthew 12:1-8

SATURDAY

Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 93:1-2,5
Matthew 10:24-33

SATURDAY

Micah 2:1-5
Psalm 10:1-4,7-8,14
Matthew 12:14-21

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEKS OF JULY 3 AND 10, 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.

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).

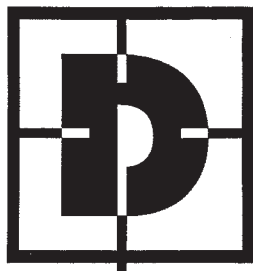
DAILY MASS

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.

We pray Weeks II and III, Seasonal Proper of the Liturgy of the Hours

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*Pray the
Rosary*

Confessions of an “elitist”

The term “elitist” has been bandied about so promiscuously in this election cycle that it’s become virtually content-free. Yet “elitist” is also being weaponized as a scare word to prevent legitimate criticism of ideas, attitudes, and behaviors once thought beyond the pale, even in the rough-and-tumble of politics (which, as Mr. Dooley reminds us, “ain’t beanbag”). That kind of bullying is bad news for an already degraded political culture.

So let me offer these confessions of an elitist in the hope that they might encourage others to push back against the “anti-elitist” thought police – and in so doing, to help rescue American public life from terminal moral trivialization.

I believe that intelligence is superior to emotion and reason better than anger in making political arguments and choices: in political debate as in curry, heat doesn’t necessarily make things better.

I believe that the systematic rhetorical degradation of political opponents betrays a coarseness of mind and spirit corrosive of the norms of civility essential to democratic politics.

I believe that there are some things worth losing for, and that losing in defense of them doesn’t make anyone a “loser.”

I believe that the reduction of political argument to 140-character tweets is ruinous to democracy.

I believe that incitements to political violence are despicable, no matter what their source, alleged purpose, or putative justification.

I believe that a sense of honor is essential in a political leader and includes commitments to telling the truth (no matter how discomforting) and to doing one’s duty (irrespective of political risk). I believe



THE CATHOLIC
DIFFERENCE
George Weigel

that a knowledge of history and an openness to learn from it are essential qualities in any public official who proposes to bend the curve of history in a more humane and just direction. I believe that politicians who ignore the danger of unintended consequences inevitably make matters worse rather than better.

I believe that, in politics, prudence is the greatest of the cardinal virtues, closely followed by courage (which prevents prudence from decomposing into expedience). I believe that a legislator or president owes constituents his or her best judgment, and that the legislator or president who imagines himself or herself a mere channel of constituent passions is going to do a lot of damage to the common good. I believe that politicians who refuse to acknowledge their errors of judgment in the face of massive empirical evidence that they got it wrong display a narcissism that is inherently dangerous.

I believe that former public officials who accept obscenely large honoraria for (usually vacuous) speeches are reprehensible; that the people who pay those fees are either star-truck fools impressed with celebrity or inveiglers soliciting future access; and that both the payer and the payee in these tawdry transactions contribute to the further debasement of our politics into a subset of “entertainment.”

I believe that any morally serious notion of “national interest” includes a concept of national purpose, informed by the classic ends of politics: freedom, justice, security, the common good, and the peace of public order.

I believe that a mass media facilitating a serious debate over complex issues, rather than playing “gotcha” games, would fulfill its ambition to be the Fourth Estate and be applauded by serious citizens.

I believe that political parties exist to achieve certain political purposes; that no party has a claim to exist in perpetuity; and that when parties abandon the noble ideas and purposes to which they once subscribed, party loyalty has no further claims to make on a thoughtful citizen.

I believe that tribalism – be that the ethnic tribe, the racial tribe, or the gender tribe – is inimical to democratic pluralism.

I believe that kowtowing to political correctness and indulging in identity politics are signs of low intelligence, cowardice, or both.

I believe that a “value-neutral” democracy is a contradiction in terms and that the attempt to create such a chimera in the name of false ideas of “fairness” and “tolerance” inevitably results in coercive state power being deployed to impose relativism on an entire society.

I hope you believe these things, too. If you do, welcome to the ranks of elitists. Wear the label with pride, and help rescue our political culture from the vulgarians.

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

LONDON ST. PATRICK SCHEDULES FREE CONCERT BY “ROMANS”

London St. Patrick Church will host a free concert of contemporary Catholic music performed by “Romans” at 6 p.m. Sunday, July 17.

The church is located downtown at the corner of Union and First streets.

The concert is one of several events being conducted to observe the church’s 150th anniversary.

Catholics throughout the Columbus diocese, as well as their friends and family members, are invited to attend. Free refreshments will be available following the performance.

“Romans” is a Cincinnati-based vocal and instrumental group that aims to inspire and invigorate the faith through

music ministry.

Formed in 1996, “Romans” has undergone a number of changes over the years.

The five-person group’s repertoire includes original pieces, as well as traditional Christian tunes and some “just for fun” songs.

Other coming events that are part of the anniversary celebration will include a reunion of St. Patrick School alumni on Saturday, Aug. 6 and an ecumenical holiday concert on Sunday, Dec. 18.

Bishop Frederick Campbell will celebrate Mass at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 30, at the church to officially close the anniversary observance.



Pray for our dead

BAKER, Judith E., June 14
St. Philip Church, Columbus

BAZZOLI, Dr. Hiram, 96, June 15
St. Joseph Church, Dover

BERGMAN, Patty A., 77, June 24
St. Paul Church, Westerville

BEYER, Joseph E., 55, June 16
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

BINDER, Patricia A., 87, June 13
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

BROWNLEE, Mary "Molly," 77, June 24
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

BURGERT, Kent W., 64, June 15
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

BURGESS, Clyde E., 68, June 24
St. Cecilia Church, Columbus

CHAMBERLAIN, David C., 54, June 21
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

CLAPROOD, Florence E., 89, June 24
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

CRAWFORD, Mary L., 84, June 19
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

CUTLER, Donna, 69, of Westerville, June 22
Sts. John and Paul Church, Sewickley, Pa.

DADOSKY, David, 70, May 17
St. Monica Church, New Boston

D'ANDREA, Concetta "Tina," 82, June 24
St. Matthias Church, Columbus

DRIGNAT, Joseph R., 66, June 20
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

EBBING, Patricia A., 75, June 20
St. Matthias Church, Columbus

FRANCESCHELLI, Nancy J., 85, June 19
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

GOWAN, Maria, 93, June 16
St. Joseph Church, Dover

HALAS, Henry R., 86, June 15
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

HARKIN, Connie L., 40, June 15
Holy Cross Church, Columbus

HOCK, Betty A., 83, June 6
St. Monica Church, New Boston

HOLLAND, Richard, 75, June 10
St. Patrick Church, London

HOLLIDAY, Deborah A., 56, June 11
St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church, Columbus

INVERSO, Ralph, 90, June 20
St. Joseph Church, Dover

JOHNSON, Helga H., 87, June 23
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

JOHNSON, Steven C., 59, June 10
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

KEMPF, Christopher J., 57, June 15
St. Leo Church, Columbus

KOSCIK, Jeffrey P., 32, June 11
St. Peter Church, Columbus

MACKIN, John J., 62, June 10
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

MANN, John R., June 11
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

MARTIN, David A., 25, June 21
St. Elizabeth Church, Columbus

MATTINGLY, John D., 98, June 19
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

McLAUGHLIN, Barbara A., 75, May 27
St. Monica Church, New Boston

McNAMARA, George A., 93, formerly of Columbus, June 5
Corpus Christi Church, Phoenix

NASH, Mary M., 91, June 12
St. Rose Church, New Lexington

PORTIER, Victor, 52, June 10
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

PRECHTEL, Nancy, 78, June 21
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

SCHNEIDER, Karen S., 66, June 17
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

SHONEBARGER, Mary E., 92, June 12
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

STELLER, Dr. William C., 80, June 18
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

STRIDSBERG, Mary A., 93, June 13
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

WARE, Brendan J., 83, June 24
St. Christopher Church, Columbus

WEATE, Clifford, 87, June 21
St. Cecilia Church, Columbus

WEHNER, Raymond H., 92, June 22
St. Thomas More Newman Center, Columbus

WOLLENBERG, Martin A., 95, June 7
St. Rose Church, New Lexington

ZARI, Clara, June 17
St. John the Baptist Church, Columbus

Dorothy Lemiesz

Funeral Mass for Dorothy Lemiesz, of Cheektowaga, New York, who died Saturday, June 18, was held Wednesday, June 22 at Our Lady Help of Christians Chapel in Cheektowaga. She was the mother of Michelle Lemiesz, director of the Office of Divine Worship for the Diocese of Columbus.

She was a 1957 graduate of Bishop Colton High School in Buffalo, New

York. She was a member of the PTA of Transfiguration School in Buffalo, coordinated the Angel Tree and led employee benefit initiatives at the Kmart store where she was a pharmacist's assistant, and was a member of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in Erie County, New York.

Besides her daughter, she is survived by her husband of 52 years, Edward; and a son, Scott.

Virginia A. Wade

A funeral service for Virginia A. Wade, 86, who died Friday, May 20, was held Saturday, June 25, at Green Lawn Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born in Philadelphia to Charles and Leona Jefferson and was a 1947 graduate of Simon Gratz High School in Philadelphia.

She retired from the St. Vincent Children's Center, now the St. Vincent

Family Center, in Columbus in 1990 after 20 years of service, during which she became its personnel director and payroll officer.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Robert.

Survivors include her son, Robert; daughters, Shawn and Daphne; brother, Melvin; and sister, Diane Bradley.

Linda C. Olvera

Funeral Mass for Linda C. Olvera, 49, who died Saturday, June 11, was held Thursday, June 16, at Columbus St. Christopher Church. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born Aug. 14, 1966 to John and Mary Ann Olvera.

She was a 1984 graduate of Grandview Heights High School, received degrees in linguistics and geology from The Ohio State University, and was a longtime employee of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's

division of water.

She was preceded in death by her father.

Her brother, Deacon Dan Olvera, was ordained a deacon in May and is in his final year of studies for the priesthood at Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, Massachusetts.

Other survivors include her mother; brothers, John (Lisa), Bob (Debbie), Jim (Ally), and Tony; and sisters, Kathleen (Van) Belcher, and Patty.

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Saturday, July 9, 5-9 pm (after 4 pm Mass)
Pit-Barbecued Chicken Dinners served 5-7pm
Food Stand, Fancy goods, Bingo,
Cash Raffles, Live Auction
Entertainment, Games & Activities for all ages

JUNE

30, THURSDAY

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.

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**

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
 Happenings,

197 East Gay St., Columbus, OH 43215

Fax to: 614-241-2518

E-mail as text to tpuet@colsdioc.org

JULY

1, FRIDAY

St. Cecilia Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

St. Cecilia Church, 434 Norton Road, Columbus. Begins after 8:15 a.m. Mass; continues to 5 p.m. Saturday.

Monthly Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Begins after 9 a.m. Mass; continues through 6 p.m. Holy Hour.

St. John Chrysostom First Friday Sale

4 to 6 p.m., St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church, 5858 Cleveland Ave., Columbus. First Friday sale of pirogi, stuffed cabbage, noodles, baked goods.

Eucharistic Vigil at Holy Cross

Holy Cross Church, 205 S. 5th St., Columbus. 7:30 p.m. Mass, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with various prayers, ending with Benediction at 11:30.

All-Night Exposition at Our Lady of Victory

Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8 p.m. until Mass at 8 a.m. Saturday.

2, 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. Also on July 9.

Mary's Little Children Prayer Group

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. 8:30 a.m., confessions, 9 a.m., Mass, followed by Fatima prayers and Rosary (Shepherds of Christ format); 10 a.m., meeting. **614-861-4888**

Lay Missionaries of Charity Day of Prayer

9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Monthly day of prayer for Columbus chapter of Lay Missionaries of Charity. **614-372-5249**

First Saturday Mass at Holy Family

9 a.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. First Saturday Mass for world peace and in reparation for blasphemies against the Virgin Mary, as requested by Our Lady of Fatima. **614-221-1890**

Centering Prayer Group Meeting at Corpus Christi

10:30 a.m. to noon, Corpus Christi Church, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Centering prayer group meeting, beginning with silent prayer, followed by Contemplative Outreach DVD and discussion. **614-512-3731**

Filipino Mass at Holy Cross

7:30 p.m., Holy Cross Church, 204 S. 5th St., Columbus. Mass in the Tagalog language for members of the Filipino Catholic community. **614-224-3416**

3, SUNDAY

Exposition at Church of the Resurrection

Our Lady of the Resurrection Chapel, Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, beginning with procession following 11 a.m. Mass and continuing to 5 p.m.

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. Also on July 10. **614-886-8266**

Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter

7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. Also on July 10. **706-761-4054**

5, TUESDAY

Catholic War Veterans Monthly Meeting

7 p.m., Red Room, St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Catholic War Veterans Post 1936 meeting. For those who served three months, were honorably discharged, or are on active duty. **614-221-7601**

Abortion Recovery Network Group

7 p.m., Pregnancy Decision Health Center, 665 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus. Abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program and wants to stay connected. **614-721-2100**

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. Also on July 12. **740-654-6928**

7, THURSDAY

Shepherd's Corner Nature Program for Adults, Children
 10 a.m. to noon, Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. "Learn and Grow Together" tour of farm for adults and children 10 and under, led by AmeriCorps volunteer Kaitlyn Lowry. Participants may bring their own lunch. Suggested donation \$5. Register by July 4. **614-866-4302**

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.

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**

8, 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**

DeSales All-Class Reunion

5:30 p.m., Gabby's, 1887 Tamarack Circle North, Columbus. Reunion for all graduates of Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School. Proceeds go to school's Alumni Legacy Scholarship Fund. Admission \$5. **614-267-7808**

9, SATURDAY

DeSales Alumni Softball Tournament

10 a.m., St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, Columbus. Dick Davis Memorial Softball Tournament for teams of DeSales alumni. Proceeds go to Davis Scholarship Fund. Entry fee \$150 per team. Registration deadline July 5. **614-267-7808**

Shepherd's Corner Ecology Meditation Walk

1 to 3 p.m., Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. "Care for Earth" meditation walk, led by Sister Diane Kozlowski, OP. Suggested donation \$5. Registration deadline July 6. **614-866-4302**

Citywide Prayer Meeting at Church of Our Lady

5 to 8 p.m., Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Citywide prayer meeting sponsored by diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Includes Adoration, praise music, prayer ministry, teaching, Reconciliation, and fellowship. Bring a dish to share, Child care provided. **614-886-8266**

9-10, SATURDAY-SUNDAY

Retirement Receptions for Msgr. Cody

Following 4:30 p.m. Mass Saturday and 9 and 11 a.m. and 3 and 6 p.m. Masses Sunday, St. Christopher Church, 1420

Grandview Ave., Columbus. Receptions for Msgr. John K. Cody, who is retiring as pastor. **614-486-0457**

Retirement Receptions for Father Rodenfels

Following 5 p.m. Mass Saturday and 11 a.m. Mass Sunday, Church of the Resurrection 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany. Receptions for Father Jerome P. Rodenfels, who is retiring as pastor. **614-855-1400**

10, SUNDAY

Kateri Prayer Circle at St. Mark

1 p.m., Aranda Center, St. Mark Church, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Kateri Prayer Circle meeting to honor St. Kateri Tekakwitha and promote Native Catholic spirituality.

Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic Meeting

1:30 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Meeting of St. Catherine of Siena chapter, Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic.

Taize Evening Prayer at Corpus Christi

4 to 5 p.m., Corpus Christi Church, 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**

10-14, SUNDAY-THURSDAY

Gospel Road Mission Camp in Eastern Franklin County
 Diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry sponsors Gospel Road Mission Camp, for youths in grades nine through 12 from throughout the diocese. Participants will be based at Holy Spirit Church, 4383 E. Broad St., Columbus and St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Work throughout eastern Franklin County during the day, and take part in recreational and spiritual activities in the evening.

11, MONDAY

Bethesda Post-Abortion Healing Ministry

6:30 p.m., support group meeting, 2744 Dover Road, Columbus (Christ the King convent, first building west of the church). **614-718-0277, 614-309-2651, 614-309-0157**

Our Lady of Peace Men's Bible Study

7 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus. Bible study of Sunday Scripture readings.

12, TUESDAY

Serra Club of North Columbus Pilgrimage to Cathedral
 Noon, St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Serra Club of North Columbus pilgrimage and visit to cathedral's Holy Door, with Mass followed by box lunch in undercroft and talk by Father Michael Lumpe, cathedral rector. Reservations required.

Calix Society Meeting

6 p.m., Panera restaurant, 4519 N. High St., Columbus. Monthly meeting of the Calix Society, an association of Catholic alcoholics. Preceded by 5:30 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Peace Church, across street from meeting site.

Holy Hour at Columbus St. Francis of Assisi

St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave., Columbus. Monthly Holy Hour following 6 p.m. Mass. **614-299-5781**

EnCourage Ministry Monthly Meeting

6:30 p.m., EnCourage, an approved diocesan ministry dedicated to families and friends of persons who experience same-sex attraction. Call for site. **614-296-7404**

13, 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 recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program and wants to stay connected. **614-721-2100**

Turning Leaves and Tea Leaves

2 to 3:30 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus. Turning Leaves and Tea Leaves book club with Dominican Sisters Marialein Anzenberger and Colleen Gallagher. **614-416-1910**

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extreme hostility to regulation of abortion as a medical procedure,” said Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life, which submitted a “friend of the court” brief in the Texas case. She said the court turned a corner in its 1992 *Casey* decision by rejecting the idea of being “the country’s *ex officio* medical board,” but “reversed course” with the Texas decision by deciding it knew “better than representatives duly elected by the people of the United States.”

Jocelyn Floyd, an attorney with the Thomas More Society, a national public-interest law firm based in Chicago that also filed a “friend of the court” brief, disagreed with the court’s view that the clinic regulations were unnecessary.

In Illinois, she said, “We’ve seen all too well what disastrous consequences come from holding abortion providers to lower standards than other medical providers – contamination, dirty facilities, patient injury, and even death.”

Rep. Chris Smith, R-New Jersey, a co-chairman of the congressional Pro-Life Caucus, said the court’s decision “shields the abortion industry from accountability and minimal medical standards.”

He said abortion providers “should not get a free pass on common-sense safety standards.”

The Texas law requiring compliance by clinics and abortion providers had forced many of the state’s abortion clinics to close, leaving seven clinics open, primarily in major cities. Many are expected to reopen as a result of the Supreme Court ruling.

“The court’s decision failed to uphold a higher standard of care for women terminating a pregnancy,” said Ingrid Delgado, the Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops’ associate for respect life/social concerns.

She described the ruling as “deeply disappointing,” noting that although Florida has a similar law, its provisions are “distinct in key ways.”

Delgado said Florida makes a similar requirement that abortion facilities be within 30 minutes by emergency transport vehicle. All existing abortion facilities in Florida meet this requirement.

Some provisions of the Florida law are being challenged in federal court, but not the requirement on admitting privileges, she said.

The provisions being challenged pertain to public funding of abortion providers, definitions of trimesters, and records-review thresholds, she said.

Judie Brown, president of the American Life League, said, “This Supreme Court decision serves as a blaring wake-up call to the ‘mainstream’ pro-life movement that dinking and dithering over regulating the killing can never serve as a replacement for the fundamental battle that is now being fought – the battle for the recognition that every innocent pre-born human being is a unique person from the moment of his biological beginning.

“This case was about sensible laws designed to protect women in the wake of the Gosnell horrors. It should have been common ground for both sides of

the issue,” said Maureen Ferguson, senior policy adviser for the Catholic Association.

She was referring to Dr. Kermit Gosnell, who in May 2013 was found guilty of murder in the deaths of three babies born alive during abortions in his Philadelphia clinic.

“This ruling won’t stop us from continuing to work to protect all American lives, and we won’t stop until we’ve won,” Ferguson said.

The Guttmacher Institute, a research group that supports legal abortion, said 25 states have laws or policies regulating abortion providers and clinics that perform surgical abortions.

It said those rules “go beyond what is necessary to ensure patients’ safety.”

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“This is really a religious liberty issue. The exemption has been in the statute for so long. It’s nothing more than a reflection of the reality of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, that every citizen has the right to free exercise of religion,” he said. “That means a religious community has a right to be able to live according to their religious principles and regulate their own community that way.”

The bill’s text exempts only religious-controlled ed-

ucational institutions that prepare students to become ministers or theological teachers.

For institutions that seek a religious exemption provided under Title IX of federal law, the bill would require disclosure of this exemption to current and prospective students, faculty, and employees. Dolejsi said the Catholic conference agreed with the bill’s disclosure provisions.

“The rules should be applied equally, and these rules

can extend to behaviors,” he said. “Whether you want to be gay or straight, you will behave appropriately in such a way that that particular faith group wants. If you violate that, don’t go to school there.”

“It’s a struggle for trying to deal with people compassionately and responsibly, and (with) political ideology that some people would have everyone genuflect to,” he said.

Masteller thought the provision could be intrusive, but said it only required disclosing what already was a matter of public record.

Lara previously had sponsored a resolution to remove a statue of St. Junipero Serra that represented California in the U.S. Capitol’s National Statuary Hall.

Dr. Derry Connolly, president of John Paul the Great College in Escondido, California, said the bill is dangerous. He told the Cardinal Newman Society that the bill is “a direct and blatant attack on the religious freedom of Catholic and Christian citizens of California.”

Reception planned for Msgr. Cody

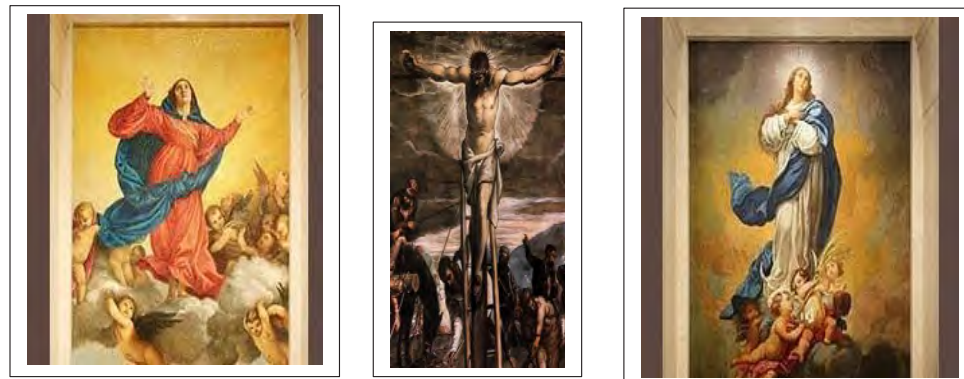


Msgr. John K. Cody will be retiring this month as pastor of Columbus St. Christopher Church.

Receptions in his honor will take place at the church, 1420 Grandview Ave., following the 4:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday July 9 and after the 9 and 11 a.m. and 3 and 6 p.m. Masses

on Sunday, July 10.

Msgr. Cody, a priest for 43 years, has been pastor at St. Christopher since 2004 and has spent his entire career at parishes in Columbus.



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St. John Neumann & Encounter Ministries welcome hundreds for healing service

As Jesus went along, the people were crowding him from every side. Among them was a woman who had suffered from severe bleeding for twelve years; she had spent all she had on doctors, but no one had been able to cure her. She came up in the crowd behind Jesus and touched the edge of his cloak, and her bleeding stopped at once. Jesus asked, "Who touched me?" Everyone denied it, and Peter said, "Master, the people are all around you and crowding in on you." But Jesus said, "Someone touched me, for I knew it when power went out of me." The woman saw that she had been found out, so she came trembling and threw herself at Jesus' feet. There in front of everybody, she told him why she had touched him and how she had been healed at once. Jesus said to her, "My daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace."

Luke 8:40-48

How often in our world today do we take time to seek the healing power of Jesus? We are at various points in our lives and in our journeys of faith, in need of physical, emotional, and spiritual healing, and yet for many of us, the idea of actively seeking to be healed through our faith seems foreign. We tend to forget that in those moments when we are most in need of healing, Jesus is standing beside us, within arm's reach, and he calls us to faith and to seek his love and healing grace. We simply have to reach out to him to receive this grace.

Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, in collaboration with Encounter Ministries Columbus, hosted a citywide healing service on Sunday, May 22 with Father Mathias Thelen, spiritual director of Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit, as the celebrant. The service, which included Eucharistic Adoration, drew a crowd of more than 1,300 Catholic and non-Catholic participants.



Father David Sizemore, pastor of St. John Neumann, was instrumental in providing a place for this to happen. As a priest and pastor, he saw the need for more opportunities for healing in his parish and beyond. "We are trying everything to bring people into a healing encounter with Christ, such as offering more opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, including community Reconciliation services with Eucharistic Adoration," he said.

"We also have four pastoral-clinical counselors available four days a week, 24/7 Adoration in a place of silence, meditation and prayer every day, healing prayer ministry teams for individual prayer after every weekend Mass, communal anointing of the sick, discipleship groups for men, women, couples, and young adults to bring people into community, and adult faith formation to help heal hearts and heads made sick from the current cultural malaise. It made sense to me, when presented with

the opportunity from Encounter Ministries, to offer a healing service."

"It was truly amazing," Father Sizemore said of the service. I have never been a part of anything quite like it in Catholic life. Father Matthias Thelen has a true gift for preaching and healing. Patrick Reis did a great job helping to organize it. Our team at SJN simply played hosts and invited the Holy Spirit."

Preparation and follow-up also were important, so on both the weekend before and the weekend after the service, Father Sizemore directed homilies toward explaining the many ways that God can heal, what happens when a person is healed or not healed, and a variety of related points relevant to proper catechesis on this subject.

Many people who participated in the service shared experiences of being healed and noted a strong sense of the Holy Spirit's presence. The following testimonies are evidence of God's love and grace in a world that is broken and in need of healing:

"The healing service was an experience like no other. Jesus is alive and here among us! I felt as though a blanket of feathers was wrapped around me. I am still in disbelief at what I saw and experienced. My shoulder pain, which has been with me for four months, is gone. I keep moving my arm expecting to feel pain, but it is gone. My heart is on fire fully and completely."

"I went to this service thinking I needed to pray for healing for myself, but

realized I was there to pray for others. I have never experienced anything like this, but I hope to again. To watch my five-year-old grandson lay hands on someone and bow his head in prayer for that person was the most humbling thing I have been a part of. I know that God has or will heal those he prayed for. The Holy Spirit is alive and well and living at St. John Neumann."

"Our prayer group prayed over a young man who came forward seeking freedom from back pain. He not only received relief from his pain, but expressed that he was filled with great peace when prayers against anxiety were given."

"My wife and I attended the 5 p.m. Mass before the healing service. During the Mass, I felt as though something was very different. I felt a strong presence of the Holy Spirit there with us. This made me very happy, but I didn't mention anything to my wife. After the Mass, she leaned over to me and asked me if I could feel the Holy Spirit. The Mass and the healing service were the most amazing encounters with Christ I have ever experienced."

"I bring the Eucharist to a homebound woman with severe multiple sclerosis. I told her about the service and asked her to pray for a healing and told her I would pray for her as well. When I arrived at her home, she was sitting up for the first time since I had been coming to visit, and she looked radiant. I told her how beautiful she looked. I began telling her how powerful the healing service was and her face lit up. She told me she said a half-hearted prayer on Sunday and forgot all about the service. I encouraged her to recognize that her improvement was from God, and we praised Him together. God's healing power continues."

God is truly in our midst, and our Catholic faith is our guide in directing our hearts toward him when we are most in need of his healing presence.

For more information on the healing prayer ministry at St. John Neumann, contact Jennifer Whitsett at jwhitset@gmail.com or Hope Welch at highopes@att.net Mass times and a complete description of all the parish's ministries, adult faith formation opportunities, men's and women's discipleship groups, and more are available on the St. John Neumann website, www.saintjohnsunbury.org.

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