The Editor’s Notebook

Jubilee Year Ends, But Mercy Endures

By David Garick, Editor

It is easy to find that Holy Door. It lies within the Sacred Heart of Jesus. And every time we welcome him into our bodies in the holy Eucharist, that door becomes present in our own hearts, where we can receive his mercy and where we can go out and give that mercy to others. This is a great gift, and it never ends.

It was summed up very beautifully by William Shakespeare, who, living during a time of Catholic persecution in England, is beloved by many historians to have been secretly a Catholic. In his play The Merchant of Venice, he wrote:

The quality of mercy is not strain'd,
It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven
Upon the place beneath: it is twice blest;
It blesseth him that gives and him that takes:
'Tis mightiest in the mightiest: it becomes
The throned monarch better than his crown;
But mercy is above this sceptred sway;
It is enthroned in the hearts of kings,
It is an attribute to God himself.

For Thanksgiving this year, remember all the gifts you have received, but most of all, swing open the door of mercy in your heart in gratitude for the mercy you have received and in the example of Christ, pouring out that mercy to others.

Religious, lay leaders react to Trump victory in presidential election

By Catholic News Service

Most Catholic religious and lay leaders of all stripes who reacted to news of Donald J. Trump’s upset victory in the Nov. 8 presidential election expressed hope that he would pay attention to their agenda, while others were more decidedly downbeat and still others counseled prayer.

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, outlined an ambitious agenda in a Nov. 9 postelection statement that congratulated Trump and all election victors.

“The bishops’ conference looks forward to working with President-elect Trump to protect human life from its most vulnerable beginning to its natural end. We will advocate for policies that offer opportunity to all people of all faiths in all walks of life,” Archbishop Kurtz said.

“We are firm in our resolve that our brothers and sisters who are migrants and refugees can be humanely welcomed, without sacrificing our security. We will call attention to the violent persecution threatening our fellow Christians and people of other faiths around the world, especially in the Middle East. And we will look for the new administration’s commitment to domestic religious liberty, ensuring people of faith remain free to profess and shape our lives around the truth about man and woman and the unique bond of marriage that they can form.”

Archbishop Kurtz added, “Now is the moment to move toward the responsibility of governing for the common good of all citizens. I believe God will give us the strength to heal and unite,” he said, referring to a need to bridge the divides created by such a contentious election.

After Trump clinched the Electoral College majority early Nov. 9, Cardinal Sean O’Malley of Boston tweeted, “Congratulations to President-elect Donald Trump. May God grant you good health, wisdom and courage during your presidency.”

“Regardless of who received our vote, now is the time to be reminded that the strength of our republic lies in our unity as fellow citizens and members of God’s holy family,” said Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of Raleigh, North Carolina. “Such relationships are the bedrock of our society, and it is our sacred duty to foster them so that nothing divides us. When we live in such harmony, there will be true dialogue, and the exchange of ideas will occur in a civil and respectful manner.”

Bishop David A. Zubik of Pittsburgh issued a brief statement on Nov. 9: “As an American and as a Catholic bishop, I want to assure President-elect Donald Trump of my prayers and those of all faithful Catholics in the Diocese of Pittsburgh as he prepares to lead our country. Likewise, I wish to assure our newly elected or re-elected federal, state, and local legislators that we will pray for them to protect and defend human life, dignity, justice, peace, religious freedom, and the common good.”

“We are delighted that tonight’s election results reflect America’s pro-life consensus in the House, Senate, and presidency. We applaud...”

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candidates that took a stand on the most critical human rights issue of today, abortion,” said Jeanne Mancini, president of the March for Life.

“We congratulate President-elect Trump on his hard-fought win, as well as Vice President-elect Pence and our friends in Congress,” Mancini added. “We look forward to working together to fulfill President-elect Trump’s campaign promises to ensure pro-life Supreme Court justices, pro-life policies, and defunding America’s primary abortion provider, Planned Parenthood.”

“This vote shows a deeply divided nation and a distrust with our government and other institutions. Let the Catholic community be the one institution — following the example of Pope Francis — to be a place of safety to discuss common concerns and a place where all are welcome,” said a statement from the Catholic Climate Covenant.

“Catholic Climate Covenant will work hard to be a space where issues of protecting our common home can be discussed. And we will continue to be vigilant and active in making the case that ‘living our vocation to be protectors of God’s handiwork is essential to a life of virtue: it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience,’” the statement added, quoting Pope Francis’ encyclical Laudato Si’, On Care for Our Common Home.

“We urge the new administration to recognize the critical need for a renewal of civil dialogue and absolute commitment to healing the deep divides within our nation. We urge this new administration and all of us to work to mend the social, economic, racial, and ideological wounds that have surfaced during this election,” said the Rev. John L. McCullough, a United Methodist minister who is president of Students for Life of America.

“Our nation rejected a party and a culture that supports not a single restriction on abortion. Abortion mattered in this election, as it was the most-searched term in regards to the election on Google,” she added. “The bottom line is this: Today’s election results give us the momentum we need to achieve our mission of abolishing abortion in our lifetime.”

Similar sentiments were issued by leaders of the National Right to Life Committee, Created Equal, Priests for Life, and the American Life League.

David Harris, chief executive officer of the American Jewish Committee, congratulated Trump on his win and offered best wishes to his Democratic rival, Hillary Clinton.

“Now that the election is over, a first priority should be to address the wounds of an extraordinarily divisive contest,” Harris said. “The United States is one country with one destiny, and any expression of bigotry and exclusion, as we’ve regretfully seen during the extended campaign, must never be allowed to corrode our pluralistic fabric.”

Disabled protesters against physician-assisted suicide gather in their wheelchairs outside the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington. CNS photo/Jason Reed, Reuters

By Carol Zimmermann
Catholic News Service

In this year’s election, voters went against nearly all the ballot initiatives backed by Catholic leaders and advocates, except for referendums on minimum-wage increases and gun-control measures.

Voters passed an assisted-suicide measure in Colorado and voted in favor of the death penalty in three states and in favor of legalized recreational marijuana in four states and against it in one. They also voted for minimum-wage increases and gun-control measures in four states.

In Colorado, the only state with an initiative to legalize assisted suicide, voters passed the measure, making the state the sixth in the nation with a so-called “right-to-die” law, joining Washington, Oregon, California, Vermont, and Montana.

“The decision the voters of Colorado have made to legalize physician-assisted suicide via the passage of Proposition 106 is a great travesty of compassion and choice for the sick, the poor, the elderly, and our most vulnerable residents,” said Jenny Kraska, executive director of the Colorado Catholic Conference.

“Killing, no matter what its motives, is never a private matter; it always impacts other people and has much wider implications,” she said in a Nov. 9 statement.

Kraska also said the state’s initiative will only “deepen divides along lines of race, ethnicity, and income in our society and entrench us deeper into a culture that offers a false compassion by marginalizing the most vulnerable.”

The three death-penalty referendums before voters this year all ended in favor of capital punishment. Bishops and Catholic conferences in those states had engaged in efforts to educate Catholics in particular on this issue and to urge them to vote against it.

Oklahoma voters reapproved the use of the death penalty after the state’s attorney general had suspended executions last year. Nebraska voters also reinstated the death penalty, which state lawmakers had repealed last year.

In California, voters defeated a ballot measure to repeal the death penalty in the state and narrowly passed an initiative aiming to speed up executions of death-row inmates.

Karen Clifton, executive director of the Catholic Mobilizing Network, the national Catholic organization working to end the death penalty, said that “despite referendum losses” in those states, she was hopeful “the country will continue to move away from the death pen-
ODU Medical School Early Acceptance Information Session

Ohio Dominican University will host an early acceptance information session for high-achieving high school students from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30 in Battelle Hall on ODU’s main campus, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

Attendees will have an opportunity to learn about ODU’s medical school early assurance program, which offers a limited number of qualified students guaranteed acceptance into ODU and the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine. Students in the program have an opportunity to complete their bachelor’s degree and their doctor of osteopathy degree in as few as seven years.

The registration deadline for the event is Tuesday, Nov. 22. To register, visit ohiodominican.edu/OpenHouse. Interested students can learn more about the medical school early assurance program at ohiodominican.edu/MSEA. The deadline to apply to the program is Thursday, Dec. 15.

Special Confession Opportunity

On Saturday, Nov. 19, from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., the priests at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral are offering a special opportunity to have confessions heard before the closing of the cathedral’s Holy Door the following day by Bishop Frederick Campbell.

“Leading up to the closing of the Holy Door, we have had increased numbers of pilgrims and penitents coming to the cathedral, which is wonderful, so we decided to make this special opportunity available,” said Father Michael Lumpe, cathedral rector. “It’s an opportunity for the faithful to make a strong finish to the Jubilee Year of Mercy.”

Father Lumpe invites the faithful to attend Saturday’s 5:15 p.m. Sunday Vigil Mass, then to stay for confession.

Catholic Charismatic Mass

Columbus Catholic Renewal, also known as the diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal, will sponsor a Mass at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 30 at Columbus St. Matthias Church, 1582 Ferris Road.

It will be preceded by the rosary at 6 and praise led by the Station 14 band at 6:30. Trained teams will be available for individual prayer. The Mass will be followed by social time.

For more information, go to www.cccrcolumbus.org or call (614) 500-8115.
Several parishes in the Diocese of Columbus will be sharing their blessings with others in various ways on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 24.

Columbus St. Aloysius Church, 2165 W. Broad St., will continue a tradition which goes back more than 40 years when it serves a free Thanksgiving dinner to anyone who comes to its family center from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. More than 50 volunteers from the three Catholic parishes in the city’s west-side Hilltop area – St. Aloysius, St. Agnes, and St. Mary Magdalene – will be assisting.

Dinner coordinator Sandy Bonneville expects that more than 500 meals will be served again this year. She said most of those attending the dinner also are given to-go dinners and turkey sandwiches for another meal. In addition, Catholic Social Services will deliver dinners to the homebound. Bonneville says those dinners go to about 200 more people.

The take-aways also include bags of food provided by the Mid-Ohio Foodbank, coats provided by St. Mary Magdalene Church, winter clothing, blankets, toiletries, and community resource information. Entertainment and children’s activities are part of the day, and people are invited to write out requests for prayers to be said by the St. Mary Magdalene St. Vincent de Paul Conference.

On the other side of town, volunteers will serve hundreds of meals and take-home packages in the Community Kitchen at the St. John Center, 640 S. Ohio Ave., next to Holy Rosary-St. John Church, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. M.J. Muldrow of the center staff said a jazz band will be on hand to entertain diners.

Many of the turkeys will be from Westerville St. Paul Church’s “Bring a Turkey to Church” weekend, which took place on Nov. 12 and 13. This is the 18th year for the program, which began by collecting 32 frozen turkeys and one $20 gift certificate. Last year, 403 turkeys and $2,100 in cash were donated.

The St. Francis Center at 404 W. South St. in McArthur doesn’t host a Thanksgiving Day dinner, but it enables about 500 families in Vinton County to have a holiday dinner at home through its annual Turkey Toss program. This coming Monday, Nov. 21, a group of volunteers from Columbus will visit the economically disadvantaged county to distribute the food and other items at five locations to families who have received vouchers from the center.

Center director Lisa Keita said the distribution has been especially important since the county’s last full-service grocery store closed three years ago, meaning residents in much of the county have to travel 10 to 20 miles to find a supermarket. Jim and Liz Noe of the Church of the Resurrection have been in charge of the program since starting it in 2008. The number of donors and the amount collected has grown nearly every year. Keita said more than $10,000 was received in 2015 and about $8,200 had been donated this year as of Friday, Nov. 11.

Circleville St. Joseph Church, 134 W. Mound St., will serve a Thanksgiving Day dinner from noon to 1:30 p.m. and will deliver dinners to the homebound. Knights of Columbus Council 5297 collected non-perishable food items for Thanksgiving baskets which will be distributed this Sunday, Nov. 20.

Columbus St. Matthias Church parishioners will place nonperishable food around the altar for the week of Thanksgiving and joined Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School students in donating to St. Stephen's Community House and the Mid-Ohio Foodbank.

St. Matthias also refers four families to the Westerville-based MoMM (Miracle of Mom's Memory) Foundation for its annual Holiday Blessings program, which provides support for families not just at Thanksgiving and Christmas, but on other holidays throughout the year and at back-to-school time.

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry in Newark will be providing turkey and other Thanksgiving fixings to the people that depend on it for their food needs. Each family also will be given a $10 coupon to be used at the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store during November and December. This is a joint effort by five Newark-area parishes – Newark Blessed Sacrament and St. Francis de Sales, Granville St. Edward, Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel, and the Johnstown Church of the Ascension.

IGNITE youth group from St. Edward will join its counterparts from other Granville churches in baking pies for The Haven men’s shelter in Newark on the evening of the Granville Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service, which will take place at 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 20 at St. Edward, 785 Newark-Granville Road.

The youth group at Columbus Our Lady of Peace Church will serve dinner at the Van Buren Center shelter in the former Columbus Paper Box building on the city’s west side as a way of giving back for all that its members have received. The building is one of two family shelters in Columbus.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society at Logan St. John Church distributes Thanksgiving food baskets for the needy on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. The parish’s Knights of Columbus and Columbian Squires request food donations at local grocery stores on the previous day.

Sunbury St. John Neumann Church is part of a Christmas box drive sponsored by Big Walnut Friends Who Share, an outreach organization of churches from throughout the Sunbury and Galena areas. It is accepting donations of stuffing mix (six ounces or more). Other churches are collecting other items, which will be put together in about 150 boxes for people in need.

The parish also will participate in the Big Walnut Ministerial Association’s Thanksgiving service and collection for the poor on Monday, Nov. 21. Anyone attending the Thanksgiving Vigil Mass at the church, 9633 East State Route 37, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 23 is asked to bring canned goods to be donated to the food pantry of Friends Who Share.

West Jefferson St. Simon and Jude Church put together 200 containers including instant mashed potatoes, gravy, and stuffing for the community’s Good Samaritan Food Pantry.

The Mount Carmel College of Nursing, 127 S. Davis Ave., Columbus, is collecting gifts of warm clothing, tents, and batteries to be distributed by Mount Carmel Health’s street medicine program to people who live in homeless camps, on the streets, and under the bridges of Columbus. The program will receive the gifts during the college’s Thanksgiving service at noon Monday, Nov. 21.

Donations of small toys and baby items are being accepted at the same time for children who live at a mission in the Dominican Republic where the sister of a Mount Carmel student works. The Red Cross will be on hand to receive donations for Haitian victims of Hurricane Matthew.

Leading prayers at the service will be Father Vinny McKiernan, CSP, of the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center; the Rev. Eric Brown, pastor of Woodland Christian Church; Nicol Ghazi of the Noor Islamic Cultural Center; and senior rabbinc candidate Jessica Shimberg. Students in campus ministry will respond to leaders of their respective traditions. Guitarist Michael Szczepanik and the college choir will provide music.
Miracles for sainthood; Why pray for the dead?

Q. I have read that miracles are required before someone can be proclaimed a saint. Can you tell me more about the process and perhaps give me some examples of miracles for saints recently canonized? (Roanoke, Virginia)

A. The process for canonization has been developed by the church over time -- with increasing rigor. The first Christian saints were martyred for their faith in persecutions during the church’s earliest centuries.

Later, Christians started to recognize people as saints who had lived virtuous lives, even though they had not been put to death for their beliefs, and church leaders realized the need for a more formal authentication. (In the 12th century, Pope Alexander III wrote to the king of Sweden castigating the Swedish people for venerating an imbibing monk who had been killed in a drunken brawl.)

The current steps toward canonization provide for one miracle to be documented for beatification and another for canonization. Miracles obtained through someone’s intercession are regarded as proof that the person is in heaven and able to intervene with the Lord. The general procedures for canonization were outlined by Pope St. John Paul II in an apostolic constitution issued in 1983.

The pope, as the church’s supreme legislator, can and occasionally does dispense from the requirement on miracles, especially when the deceased is universally recognized for holiness. (This was done for Pope John XXIII when he was canonized in 2014.)

Reported cures are scrutinized thoroughly by a panel of medical experts who must conclude that there is no natural explanation to explain the recovery of health.

When John Paul II was canonized (also in 2014), a guest at the ceremony was a woman from Costa Rica who had recovered inexplicably from a brain aneurysm after praying to the deceased pontiff. In September 2016, St. Teresa of Kolkata was canonized after a Brazilian man with multiple brain tumors was healed when loved ones pleaded to Mother Teresa on his behalf.

Q. Since we believe that judgment takes place at the time of death, why do we pray for the dead? Prayer is supposed to change us, not God. Are we to believe that extra prayers will change his mind and get us into heaven faster? (Northampton, Pennsylvania)

A. We do, as you say, believe that a divine judgment takes place at the time of death. But part of the Christian faith is the belief in purgatory, the belief that for some individuals there will be required a period of “purification” -- a chance to “clean up from” and “make up for” past sins and imperfections before entering the eternal embrace of the Lord in heaven.

It is that period of purification that the church believes can be reduced by the prayers of those still living on earth. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church says: “From the beginning the church has honored the memory of the dead and offered prayers in suffrage for them, above all the eucharistic sacrifice, so that, thus purified, they may attain the beatific vision of God” (No. 1032).

Our belief is rooted in the Scriptures, as far back as the Second Book of Maccabees in the Old Testament, where Judas Maccabeus prayed for his comrades slain in battle, that they might be freed from sin and obtain “the splendid reward that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness” (2 Maccabees 12:45).

Prayers for the deceased have been a strong and consistent part of Christian life -- at the bedside when one has died, at wake services, at funeral and annivers ary Masses and burial rites -- even though we don’t presume to know exactly how they work. Death and its sequel, including judgment, always will be a mystery to us as long as we are on this side of heaven.

I do not think, though, that our prayers for the deceased “change God’s mind” -- rather, God, who knows all things, has decided in advance to favor the deceased with mercy, based on his foreknowledge that we would offer prayers on their behalf.

And as for the question you did not ask me: “What happens if we pray for someone who’s already in heaven?” I can only believe that those merits will be awarded to other souls still in purgatory (or perhaps even to ourselves).

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 30 Columbia Circle Drive, Albany NY 12203.

Healing Mass on November 21 at Saint Joseph Cathedral

A Mass of healing and healing service will take place at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 21 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St.

The healing service will follow Mass and will include Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and veneration of a relic of the True Cross of Christ, followed by an opportunity for each person present to speak individually with a priest and receive healing prayer. The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick also will be available. The service will close with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

All persons who seek Christ’s healing are invited, especially those who suffer from physical illness and infirmities, in addition to those seeking emotional and spiritual healing. All caregivers, family members, and members of the medical community also are invited.

Parking is available off East Gay Street at the rear of the cathedral. A handicap-accessible elevator is located in the courtyard on East Broad Street.
FR. IGNATIUS FOUND PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL HOME IN COLUMBUS

In the first 10 years after his ordination, Father Ignatius Harrington's priestly journey took him to Minnesota, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, and involved service in the Roman, Ruthenian, and Melkite rites of the Catholic Church.

Then he came to Columbus, where he found a physical and spiritual home with the congregation of Holy Resurrection Melkite Catholic Church. He has been here for 24 years, long enough to baptize the children of some of the first children he baptized nearly a quarter-century ago.

“I thoroughly know my congregation and they know me,” he said. “The adults and the children have great enthusiasm for their faith and the culture that goes with it, and they treat me so well. The one thing that’s a drawback is that I don’t speak Arabic, making it hard to communicate with some of the older members. On the other hand, people have said they’re glad I don’t know the language, because if I did, there are those who would want me to use it all the time.”

Most Melkite Catholics have Lebanese or Syrian ethnic roots. Their branch of the universal Catholic Church was founded in the Syrian city of Antioch, where “the disciples were first called Christians [Acts 11:26].” Like many of its counterparts among what are commonly known as Catholicism’s Eastern rites, the Melkite Church uses the Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom rather than the Roman liturgy. Melkite church buildings, like those of other Eastern Catholic rites, are filled with icons and have an icon screen which shields the altar from public view, except during the liturgy.

Eastern Orthodox church buildings are designed in a similar way. The principal difference between the various Eastern Orthodox and Eastern Catholic churches is that Catholic churches recognize the authority of the pope over the universal church, and Orthodox churches do not—a division which has existed since the year 1054.

Father Harrington, 64, has served Holy Resurrection Church for more than half of its history. The congregation was founded in 1976. Today, it has about 40 families, with a weekly attendance of about 65 people. Father Ignatius also served a Melkite congregation in Zanesville until it was disbanded in 2015.

Father Ignatius was raised as a Roman Catholic, but said he became attracted to the Melkite liturgy through contact with a Melkite monastery in Steubenville while he was studying for the Roman Catholic priesthood in the Steubenville diocese’s former seminary, which was closed in 1978.

“If I were to describe what’s always appealed to me about the Melkite and other Eastern liturgies, it’s their sense of the sacred,” he said. “There’s just something otherworldly, transcendent, and rich about the liturgy that makes it different from the Roman liturgy,” he said.

Father Ignatius grew up in Washington, D.C. with three brothers. “My brothers and I went to a neighbor’s home after school and stayed with them until our parents got home,” he said. “These people were very anti-Catholic, and so to defend my family’s faith, I began doing research to answer their objections. The more I studied Catholicism, the more intense my faith became, and that made me wonder if God was calling me to a ministry of full-time service to him.

“I went to a Catholic school for grades one to three, then to public schools. At the time, the Archdiocese of Washington allowed students discerning the priesthood to enter a seminary high school. I began to search through vocations catalogs from different religious orders. I felt drawn to monasticism, but I wasn’t sure if I was being called to be a monk or a priest,” he said.

Father Harrington graduated from St. Joseph Preparatory Seminary in Vienna, West Virginia, in 1973, then went with several of his classmates to the former St. John Vianney Seminary in Bloomington, from which he received a bachelor’s degree in 1975.

He took a short break from studying in Ohio to go back to his hometown for classes at the Theological Coalition there, then resumed his studies at St. John Vianney. When that seminary closed in 1978, he took a leave of absence to consider his options and moved to Florida. He said he was within two weeks of visiting the St. Leo Benedictine Monastery in Florida for vocational discernment when Bishop George Speltz of the Diocese of St. Cloud, Minnesota, asked if he would be interested in serving as a priest of that diocese.

Father Ignatius responded affirmatively and became a theology student at St. Paul Seminary in Minnesota. While still a seminarian, he spent six months at a parish in Sauk Centre, Minnesota, before being ordained by Bishop Speltz on Aug. 7, 1982.

He served in Minnesota from 1982-85 as associate pastor of a church in Alexandria and from 1985-87 as pastor of a two-parish cluster in Dent and Rush Lake. During that time, he said, “the Lord kept tugging my heart toward the East,” and he asked Bishop Speltz to permit him to become a bi-ritual priest—one who has the faculties to celebrate Mass in both Western and Eastern Catholic rites.

With the bishop’s approval, he attended a seminary of the Ruthenian Catholic Church in Pittsburgh for about a year, then spent a year as pastor of Ruthenian congregations in Morgantown and Clarksburg, West Virginia, and Bobtown, Pennsylvania, while still technically a priest of the Diocese of St. Cloud. The Ruthenian rite has its roots in an area between present-day Slovakia and Ukraine.

“Worship in the Roman Church at that time was a sort of half-Byzantine, half-Latin hybrid,” he said. “I felt that if I were to be an Eastern-rite priest, I needed to go all in. I knew from my experiences with the Melkites in Steubenville that they were not as Latinized as the Ruthenians.” After obtaining the necessary approvals from Bishop Speltz and his Ruthenian bishop, he spent a semester at a Melkite seminary in Boston, then served as associate pastor at a Melkite parish in West Paterson, New Jersey, until coming to central Ohio one year later.

“At that time, the Melkites had a monastery in Hebron. Monks from there served the Melkite parishes in Columbus and Zanesville. My becoming pastor of the two churches benefited both the parishes and the monastery and put me within driving distance of a brother in Cincinnati,” he said.

Because Father Ignatius is a bi-ritual priest, he has celebrated Masses at several parishes of the Diocese of Columbus, including Westerville St. Paul, Gahanna St. Matthew, Columbus Holy Family, Washington Court House St. Colman, and Chillicothe St. Mary. He takes part in penance services at Powell St. Joan of Arc, Newark St. Francis de Sales, Columbus St. Peter, Gahanna St. Matthew, and the Church of the Resurrection in New Albany. At those services, he offers the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the Eastern Catholic tradition, in which the priest covers the penitent’s head with his stole and reads the prayers of repentance.

He also offers a program about the Melkite church and Eastern Catholicism to parishes and schools, and has presented it at Lancaster St. Mary Church and Columbus St. Francis de Sales and Zanesville Rosecrans high schools. For the last several years, in cooperation with the diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting, he has hosted Boy Scouts from throughout the Diocese of Columbus at his church on the Saturday after Easter for an International Awareness Day at which they learn about the Eastern rites.

Father Ignatius offers his presentation to any parish in the diocese and encourages anyone interested in learning more about Eastern Catholicism to visit his church at 4611 Glenmawr Ave., near the Morse Road intersection of Interstate 71 in north Columbus. The Sunday Liturgy is at 11 a.m., with Vespers at 7 p.m. Thursday. He may be reached by telephone at (614) 783-0042.
Field of Heroes at DeSales High School

Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School students planted American flags on the school's front lawn to create a field of heroes on Veterans Day. Pictured are (from left) Rachel Nguyen, Anthony Nguyen, and Carter Hilleary. This was preceded by a flag-raising ceremony featuring Eagle Scouts from the school presenting the colors, joined by parents who are serving or have served in the military; the playing of the National Anthem and “Taps” by the school band; and morning prayer.

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School
What Is Lost Is Now Found

Do you remember when you were a kid and wandered off for the first time and quickly realized you were lost? Do you recall the fright and confusion you felt as you frantically searched for a familiar face? And when you found your mom or dad, was there a curious calm that overcame your fear? We all have undergone this experience in our lives, even as adults. Sometimes we find ourselves in an unfamiliar situation or environment that makes us want to hide or draw away until we see a friend or neighbor, and then we begin to realize that what we feared the most was just silly. Those people remind us that there is always someone by our side, no matter where we are or what we are doing.

The Holy Spirit is that familiar face in the crowd. He is the light by which we can guide ourselves and the warm embrace by which we can become consoled. If you want to be melancholy, think of the millions of souls waiting to become a part of Christ’s kingdom. They know they will be united one day with their loved ones, but do not know the time or the place.

As we travel the road of life, wandering aimlessly with its twists and turns, we need to remember that we are on a journey. We search out familiarity and gravitate toward what we can comprehend. Little do we know that by going down another path, we may open ourselves to a new world of possibilities. Do not be afraid to experience other cultures and people. Through this sharing, we grow into what God always has wished us to become.

To God, it is about the journey and the destination. To Him, our life is an open book. If you wish to find out what happens in a period in your life, turn the page. What we think we know and what we experience already has been written and is revealed to us in life. It is for each one of us to discover that hidden truth.

Pope St. John Paul II once said, “Do not be afraid of getting lost. The more we give of ourselves, the more we find ourselves.” Community can be a welcome friend. Praying with others and with the souls in Heaven, we can become less afraid of what life has in store for each of us. Mom and Dad always will be there for us when we need them, and so will Christ, in His and their loving embrace.

May God bless you and keep you. May all souls in Heaven be reunited, and may His peace be with you always.

Joseph Thomas, a member of Gahanna St. Matthew Church, is a freelance writer and is active in many diocesan and church activities.

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“The Rosary is the ‘weapon’ for these times.”
—Saint Padre Pio
Pope Francis will end the Jubilee Year of Mercy by closing the Holy Door of St. Peter’s Basilica (above) on Sunday, Nov. 20, the Feast of Christ the King.

Throughout the year, he used his weekly general audiences and monthly Saturday jubilee audiences to teach about the reality of God’s mercy and the obligation of sharing mercy with others. But the Mercy Friday visits — even the two that were not on a Friday — were about presence. While top personnel at the places he visited had some advance notice that the pope was coming, everyone in the community had the chance to tell the pope their stories.

Pope Francis’ Year of Mercy, which ends this Sunday, Nov. 20, the Feast of Christ the King, has been a refresher course for Catholics, said the rector of the cathedral, Father Michael Lumpe, cathedral rector.

“The cathedral priests also conducted missions and other programs related to the Year of Mercy. One example was The Mercy Project, a combined effort of Columbus’ Lady of Peace and Worthington’s St. Michael,” Father Lumpe said.

Several diocesan parishes conducted missions and other programs related to the Year of Mercy. Between the activities, there is always available through the cathedral the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

“During the Year of Mercy we offered more opportunity to have confessions heard before the closing of the Holy Door by Bishop Campbell. During Advent, we will add an additional opportunity for confessions to be heard: Sundays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The cathedral priests also hear confessions Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 11:45 a.m., Wednesdays following the 5:15 p.m. Mass until 6:15 p.m., and Saturdays from 4 to 5 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday confessions take place during a silent Holy Hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. “As the ‘mother church’ of the diocese, St. Joseph Cathedral welcomes all the faithful to visit our church for Masses and other liturgies and to schedule tours for parishes groups,” Father Lumpe said. For more information, call the cathedral at (614) 224-1995.

Several diocesan parishes conducted missions and other programs related to the Year of Mercy. Many of those images came from the “Mercy Friday” visits he began shortly after the start of the Year of Mercy last Dec. 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. At the time, he said Missionaries should ditch the media on one Friday each month and personally try to give life to the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

Pope’s ‘mercy Fridays’ highlight year

By Carol Glatz and Cindy Wooden

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MERCY, continued from Page 11

ing The Seven Acts of Mercy, said U.S.
author Terence Ward in his latest book,
The Guardian of Mercy.

Just as the pope (pictured at right at
the Il chicco community) seeks to make
Christ’s teachings real with his own ac-
tions, Caravaggio sought to “give ve-
eracy” to the Gospel with his revolu-
tionary chiaroscuro style and shocking
use of everyday people as his flawed,
flesh-and-blood models, Ward told
Catholic News Service.

Ward said the immense painting, lo-
cated in the Pio Monte della Misericor-
dia church in Naples, Italy, answers the
question, “What is mercy?” by show-
ing lifesize figures engaged in simple,
yet moving gestures to relieve others of
their misery.

For example, some of the corporal
works of mercy shown are a battle-
weary, murderous Samson slaking his
thirst; a poor passer-by holding the feet
of a dead man in need of burial; a woman
without food secretly breastfeeding her
ailng, elderly father imprisoned in jail;
and St. Martin of Tours slicing his red
cloak in half to share it with a half-naked
man on the ground. St. Martin’s Nov. 11
feast day comes near the end of the Year
of Mercy and symbolizes charity.

“Some people say Caravaggio was too
strong” in his use of imagery, Ward said.

He said that many artists at the time
painted figures from an imaginary
ideal or from memory because “we
prefer beauty, rather than the direct ex-
perience. And yet, this is what’s real.
Sometimes, we don’t want to see the
truth and we choose to ‘Disney-fy’ it.”

Ward said Caravaggio was struck by
what was being done by his contempo-
raries, Sts. Charles Borromeo and Philip
Neri. These churchmen inspired a new
movement of outreach by laypeople and
clergy to those in need, “embracing the
common man” with charity.

That same impulse is seen in all of
Caravaggio’s works in the way “he
reaches out into the streets for his mod-
els, depicting them as saints with their
human imperfections,” Ward said.

His use of “real” versus idealized
figures mirrors the same effectiveness
as the Incarnation, the author said.
God became human, humble and poor
“so that all of us could identify, so
that he could speak to every one of
us,” he said.

This “theology of Caravaggio” carries
the Gospel’s own radical message: “If
a common person from the street can
be plucked out” and become a barefoot
disciple, a saint, or even the Mother of
God, it means “that it could be anyone
of us, that we all have that potential in-
side,” Ward said.

Pope Francis has been struck by the
way Caravaggio captured that same
shocking “Who, me?” moment in his
masterpiece The Calling of St. Mat-
thew. The painting shows the tax col-
lector who was to become St. Matthew
sitting in a custom house counting
coins, perplexed by the man calling to
him, “Follow me.”

“That finger of Jesus, pointing at
Matthew. That’s me. I feel like him.
Like Matthew,” who is a sinner and
wretched, yet still is chosen because
of God’s mercy, the pope told an in-
terviewer in 2013.

Ward’s book talks about the painter’s
power to speak to and change the life
of a real-life “ordinary man” -- a city
sanitation worker who ended up as
a custodian at the church where the
painting of the works of mercy is dis-
played. As the guardian, named An-
gelo, felt the painting speaking to him,
he began emerging from the shadows
of the church to speak up and to talk to
visitors casually passing through about
the power of Caravaggio’s approach,
Ward explains in his book.

The story juxtaposes the lives of Car-
avaggio and Angelo and how the fig-
ures on the canvas inspire the author to
view works of mercy still unfolding on
the rough streets of Naples.

The people caught unaware in the
middle of an act of mercy on Car-
avaggio’s canvas could be anywhere:
in Cairo, Kolkata, or the Bronx, Ward
said. The painting’s universal message
is that nothing empowers people more
or makes them more human than by
showing solidarity, “reaching out to
the other, having compassion and be-
ing moved.”

Both Caravaggio and Pope Francis
show that mercy comes alive with the
simplest of things. “Begin today, begin
with what’s next door,” Ward said.

When Pope Francis holds the hands
of an elderly person or comforts the sick,
“the picture -- the action -- says it all.
Don’t delegate, and, he would say, ‘If I
can do it, can’t we all?’”, the author said.
Uganda orphanage director visits

BY TIM PUET
Reporter, Catholic Times

The director of a Ugandan orphanage says support from Catholics in the Diocese of Columbus is the main reason for its continuing success and growth.

Father Erineo Mushuhukye has just returned to the African nation after spending a month in central Ohio to raise funds for the Miryante orphanage and to thank donors for the help they have provided since it opened in 2009.

It serves more than 120 children from the Diocese of Fort Portal, Uganda, who have lost parents as a result of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, disease, or conflict, providing them not only with food, clothing, and shelter, but also with training enabling them to do productive work after they leave the facility.

“I can’t emphasize enough how important the people of the Diocese of Columbus, especially the orphanage’s supporters in the Chillicothe area, are to our work. Very simply, the orphanage couldn’t exist without their support,” Father Mushuhukye said during a visit to the diocesan missions office with Bob and Kathy Dye of Chillicothe. "It is constantly expanding because of the ongoing nature of the various conflicts, its location near the border with the Republic of the Congo, and a sense of safety it provides because Uganda is strongly Christian. Catholics make up about 39 percent, Anglicans 32 percent, and other Christian denominations 14 percent of its population of 38 million.

The orphanage was reopened in 2009 after being forced to close because of a lack of funds. It started seven years ago with 10 children living in two rooms. Now it has 14 housing units, plus a clinic, administration block, library, kitchen, and dining room.

Those three priests serve an area which covers more than 50 miles from one end to the other. That’s quite a large territory for a group of priests to cover in America, but it isn’t so unusual in Third World nations. Father Mushuhukye’s parish, Our Lady of Maternity in Wekomire, Uganda, has four priests serving an area that stretches more than 50 miles in all directions and has more than 40,000 parishioners, divided into 14 sub-parishes and 81 church centers.

Some of the numbers listed on the Ugandan parish’s website indicate the remarkable growth of the Catholic Church in Africa. The site says that in 2013, the most recent year for which figures were available, the parish had 1,939 baptisms, 1,279 first Communions, 279 confirmations, and 95 marriages.

Two of the four priests in this Ugandan version of a parish cluster are based in sub-parishes, while Father Mushuhukye and another priest live in Wekomire. Father Mushuhukye said he spends Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays traveling from his home base to various sub-parishes, Wednesdays in the office, and Mondays at rest, and celebrates two Sunday Masses. He usually gets to the orphanage about three times a week as part of his rounds.

“l’m always ready to deal with people’s spiritual problems, but the most frustrating thing about my work is the transportation problems I regularly encounter as I go by motorcycle from one church center to another. Most of the roads are very poor, and there’s not much I can do about that,” he said.

The orphanage is near a refugee camp for people fleeing conflicts in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Southern Sudan, Rwanda, and Burundi. The camp has been open for more than 10 years and seems to keep growing larger.

Father Mushuhukye said it now has about 28,000 refugees. Six years ago, when Father Bernard Bitekerezo, the orphanage’s former director, came to Chillicothe for a similar visit, he said the camp had 15,000 refugees.

The connection between the two Chillicothe parishes of St. Peter and St. Mary and Miryante began through Chillicothe native Laura Corcoran, who served at the orphanage with the Peace Corps and continues working there daily as a lay volunteer.

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Most of the children come from poor families and don’t have the grades sufficient for them to advance in the Ugandan educational system, where space is limited in the secondary schools that are equivalent to our high school.

This means they need to learn a trade. The orphanage has offered that oppor-
The Feast of Christ the King (Cycle C)

The King of the Jews saved us by destroying death

2 Samuel 5:1-3; Colossians 1:12-20; Luke 23:35-43

I don’t know when the simplicity of “Christ the King” became elongated into “Our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of the Universe.” The answer to that must be found in liturgy offices around the globe. “Christ the King” seemed to capture what Pope Pius XI wanted to stress. “Christ the King” was meant to contrast with all earthly powers, most of which had become secularized by 1925, when the feast was established.

In today’s reading from 2 Samuel, an ideal portrait of David being made king over all Israel is presented. “All the tribes of Israel” came together to anoint David as king after the death of Saul. David is the one who led them to victory against their enemies, and David was the one who had been anointed by Samuel as Israel’s future king, during Saul’s reign.

“King David made an agreement with them before the Lord.” Literally, he cut a covenant with them. A covenant is far more than a simple agreement. It was a solemn pledge between David and the elders of Israel. Both parties were bound by the terms of the covenant. We never learn what those terms were, but if either party violated the covenant, there would be dire consequences. It is hard to say where the Lectionary came up with “agreement” for “covenant” in this passage.

If David was and remains the model king of Israel, Jesus became and remains the ideal king of Christians, but not in terms of an earthly realm. The discussion about Jesus’ identity as “King of the Jews” stems from the mocking of Jesus as he hung on the cross. In Luke 9:35 during the Transfiguration, a voice from heaven had said “This is my chosen son, listen to him.” Here “the rulers” (without further designation) use “chosen one” as a taunt of Jesus.

The inscription on the cross for Luke seems to be a correlation of what Matthew and Mark had written. Matthew wrote, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.” Mark wrote, “The King of the Jews.” Luke joined them to write “This is the king of the Jews.” John wrote, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” (In Latin, “Jesus Nazarenus, Rex Judaeorum.”) John gave us the “INRI” which we usually see on crucifixes. In Greek, “Jesus” and “Jews” begins with the letter I, which gives us “INRI”. In all four Gospels, this inscription represents the charge against Jesus (the king of the Jews, or claiming to be, whether true or not).

The two “criminals” who speak are unique to Luke. One is obnoxious (by joining the rulers and the soldiers in taunting Jesus) and one apparently believes in Jesus. Matthew and Mark mention two revolutionaries, but they do not speak. John focuses solely on Jesus, with no revolutionary or criminal mentioned.

It seems worthwhile to reflect on the crucifixion of Jesus on this last Sunday of the Church’s liturgical year for many reasons. In the liturgy, we reflect time and again on the great Paschal Mystery of the death, resurrection, and ascension of Christ to the Father. We know our own salvation is derived from what Christ has first done for us by his death and resurrection. So why not reflect on them as the year comes to an end?

By reflecting on the charge leveled against Jesus (“the King of the Jews”), we find a link with our older ancestors in the faith, the Jews. Indeed, this King of the Jews did save himself, “and us” to quote the unbelieving criminal, not in the way anyone expected. He destroyed death. We, too, long to be in Paradise with our King. May he come soon. Maranatha!

Father Lawrence Hummer, pastor of St. Mary Church, may be reached at hummerl@simarychillicothe.com.

ORPHANAGE, continued from Page 13

Orphanage since 2013, when it opened a vocational school and a technical school, teaching carpentry, masonry, cooking, tailoring, hairdressing, English, math, computer skills, and general mechanics.

The orphanage also has a herd of 18 cows which provide milk and is trying to buy 12 more. Without the cows, the children would have little access to milk, a valuable source of protein for them. The orphanage has a goat rearing program which is designed to improve nutrition, provide earnings for the children involved in it, and teach them farm skills. It has 13 goats and would like to have 50.

Plans also are being made to obtain vehicles so the orphanage can offer public transportation in its region, and to plant coffee and banana trees and a eucalyptus forest. Long-term plans also include a church building and a social hall.

“As much as we appreciate the contributions we receive from our friends in the Columbus diocese, our ultimate goal is to become self-sustaining,” Father Mushuhuyye said. “Our greatest need is finding sponsors to pay the cost of food, clothing, school fees, medical expenses, and money to pay the caretakers” at the home. Currently, 26 of the children at the home are sponsored. The website provides an opportunity to sponsor specific children and includes information about each one. Sponsorships are $40 a month, and other opportunities are available to assist specific programs at whatever level a donor chooses.

“Again, let me express my thanks to the people of the Diocese of Columbus, and to invite them to Uganda and see what we do,” he said. “Of course, I realize that’s not possible for most people, but our website can give them an idea.” For more information on the orphanage, go to the site, www.miryanteorphanage.org.

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
Revelation 14:1-3,4b-5
Psalm 24:1b-4b,5-6
Luke 21:1-4

TUESDAY
Revelation 14:14-19
Psalm 96:10-13
Luke 21:5-11

WEDNESDAY
Revelation 15:1-4
Psalm 98:1-3b,7-9

THURSDAY
Revelation 18:1-2,21-23,19:1-3,9a
Psalm 100:1b-5

FRIDAY
Revelation 20:1-4,11-21:2
Psalm 84:3-6a,8a
Luke 21:29-33

SATURDAY
Revelation 22:1-7
Psalm 95:1-7b

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 20, 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 at 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-Lifetev (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 Week II, Seasonal Proper of the Liturgy of the Hours
I would like to spend some time delving into reckonings, those moments that affect our lives and leave us changed. Often, they result from a gradual building up of events, and looking back, we know we should have seen them coming. But when they do occur, they leave us dumbstruck. Reckonings can affect our personal, spiritual, business, and even political lives. We certainly saw evidence of a political reckoning last week, the Catholic dimension of which was unpredicted and unprecedented. Almost all pollsters and a majority of President-elect Donald Trump’s own staff believed he would not win the election. What happened?

When all is said and done, the president-elect can thank Catholics for his victory, something that at this time last month seemed impossible. Polls leading up to the election showed Catholic voters switching their preference from Trump’s opponent, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, to the president-elect in a manner which professor Jay Richards of the Catholic University of America in Washington said was unprecedented.

How could Clinton be leading by double digits among Catholic voters in polling and end up losing to Trump by seven percent among those same voters? This occurred in a span of a few weeks, and in spite of media coverage which focused on the president-elect’s past instances of vulgar language and inappropriate behavior. This wasn’t the only electoral headscratcher. For the entire campaign cycle, the media had said Hispanics and African Americans would be substantially against Trump. Yet in the end, he won a larger percentage of their votes than did Mitt Romney, the 2012 GOP nominee.

It is worth noting that the Catholic vote traditionally has been a Democratic stronghold. Even when Republicans won in landslides such as Richard Nixon’s victory in 1972 and Ronald Reagan’s in 1980, Catholics favored those two only by single-digit margins.

This makes what happened on Nov. 8 so remarkable. However, the long-building resentment by Catholics and evangelical Christians of their treatment in the media, coupled with the WikiLeaks revelation of anti-Catholic rants by Clinton confidants Jennifer Palmieri and John Podesta, both of whom are Catholic, might give us some clues. For many Catholics, this was just a bridge too far. Even though the mainstream media rarely noted Palmieri and Podesta’s anti-Catholicism, it resulted in a strong reaction in social media.

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Pray for our dead

Sister Donna Butler, OSF

Funeral Mass for Sister Donna Butler, OSF, 83, who died Thursday, Nov. 3, was held Monday, Nov. 7 at the chapel of the Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity in Stella Niagara, New York. Burial was in the sisters’ cemetery.

She was born Carole Butler on Dec. 30, 1932, in Buffalo, New York, to Frank and Loretta (Holz) Butler. She was a 1950 graduate of the Academy of the Sacred Heart in Eggertsville, New York, and received a bachelor of science degree in education in 1958 from Rosary Hill (now Daemen) College in Amherst, New York, and a master’s degree in theological studies in 1969 from the Catholic University of America.

She entered the Stella Niagara Franciscan congregation on Sept. 5, 1950, and professed her first vows on Aug. 18, 1953, and perpetual vows on Aug. 18, 1956.

She taught in Columbus at Holy Rosary School (1958-59), St. John the Evangelist School (1962-63), St. Francis DeSales High School (1968-73), and St. Matthias School (1978-79). She also was a teacher in New York, New Jersey, and West Virginia. She retired in 2001 and did volunteer church and school work in the Buffalo area until becoming a resident of the Stella Niagara Health Center in 2014.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and brothers, Donald and Frank. She is survived by nieces and nephews.

Sister Mary Ellen Boyle, OP

Funeral Mass for Sister Mary Ellen Boyle, OP, 84, who died Tuesday, Nov. 1, was held Friday, Nov. 11 at the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born in 1932 in Jersey City, New Jersey to James and Catherine (Walsh) Boyle and was a graduate of the College of St. Mary of the Springs (now Ohio Dominican University). She received a certificate in Montessori education from the Midwest Montessori Teacher Training Center in Evanston, Illinois.

She entered the Dominican congregation of St. Mary of the Springs (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace) in 1950, taking the name Sister Mary Mel.

In the Diocese of Columbus, she was a teacher at Newark Blessed Sacrament School (1960-64), Lancaster St. Mary School (1965-66), Columbus St. Mary of the Springs Kindergarten (1966-74), St. Mary of the Springs Montessori School (1981-82), and Coshocton Sacred Heart School (1982-85). She also taught in the Diocese of Steubenville and at schools in Pennsylvania, New York, and Connecticut. She became a resident of the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus in 2014.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and brothers, David, James, Francis, and Thomas. She is survived by nieces and nephews.
HAPPENINGS

CLASSIFIED

Holiday Craft Bazaar & Bake Sale
Saturday, November 19, 9-3 p.m
Our Lady of Lourdes
CatholicCommunityCenter
1033 W. 5th St., Marysville
66 Tables of Holiday Crafts
Free Admission — Door Prizes

ST. ALOYSIUS
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
Saturday, November 19, 2-6 p.m.
Sunday, November 20, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
St. Aloysius Service Center
W. Broad St. & Midland Ave.
Raffles, Gifts, and Baked Goods
Lunch Sunday featuring homemade soups

November

17, 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.

Abortions Recovery Network Group
7 to 8 p.m., Gateway Center, 2670 N. Columbus St., Lancaster. Abortions recovery network group meeting for anyone recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program and wants to stay connected.

17-19, THURSDAY-SATURDAY
Three Bags Full Consignment Sale
10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday (selected items half-price Friday night and Saturday), Community Wesleyan Church, 161 Myrtle Ave., Newark. Three Bags Full consignment sale of children’s items. Unsold and unmatched items are donated to Catholic and pro-life charities.

Ohio Dominican Presents ‘Ghost of a Chance’
7 p.m., St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, Columbus. School’s Alumni Professions Night features DeSales graduates discussing opportunities in the medical field.

17-20, THURSDAY-SUNDAY
St. Charles Presents ‘Peter and the Starchar’
8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. School’s theater department presents “Peter and the Starchar,” a modern version of the Peter Pan story.

18, 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.

DeSales Presents ‘12 Angry Jurors’
7 p.m., St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, Columbus. School’s theater department presents the courtroom drama “12 Angry Jurors.” Tickets $8.

18-20, FRIDAY-SUNDAY
Bishop Ready Presents ‘Annie Get Your Gun’
7 p.m. Friday and Sunday, 2 p.m. Saturday, Bishop Ready High School, 707 Salisbury Road, Columbus. School’s theater department presents the musical “Annie Get Your Gun.” Tickets $8 to $30.

19, 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.

Bishop Hartley Admissions Testing
9 a.m., Bishop Hartley High School, 1285 Zettler Road, Columbus. Admissions testing for members of the school’s Class of 2023. Those wishing to be considered for a scholarship must take this test on or before Dec. 1.

Tutor Training Workshop at Dominican Learning Center
9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Dominican Learning Center, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Workshop for volunteer tutors needed to teach adults basic education skills, GED readiness, or English as a Second Language.

DCCW Morning of Reflection
10 a.m., St. Augustine & Gabriel Church, 1505 E. Hudson St., Columbus. Morning of reflection sponsored by Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, led by Sister Mary Pasier, OP. Theme: “God Is Here! God Is Now!” $50 per person.

Centering Prayer Group Meeting at Corpus Christi
10:30 a.m. to noon, Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Centering prayer group meeting, beginning with silent prayer, followed by Contemplative Outreach DVD and discussion.

Conferences at Cathedral Before Closing of Holy Year
6:15 to 7:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Priests offer special opportunity to have confessions heard before closing of the Holy Door on Sunday.

20, SUNDAY
St. Christopher Adult Religious Education

Closing of Holy Door at Cathedral
10:30 a.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Celebration of Mass for the Feast of Christ the King includes closing of the cathedral’s Holy Door, ending the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy in the Diocese of Columbus.

Vocations Presentation at St. John Center
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Campion Hall, St. John Center, 640 S. Ohio Ave., Columbus. Vocations presentation featuring Father Kenneth Taylor of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis; Father Steve Bell, CSP, of the Columbus St. John Newman Center; Deacon candidate Jason Nygren; Sister Patricia Dual, OP; and Franciscan Associate Beverly Wynne. Includes light lunch.

Blessing of St. Gerard Majella at Holy Family
After 11 a.m. Mass, Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Blessing of St. Gerard Majella, patron of expectant mothers, for all women who are pregnant or wish to become pregnant.

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

Open House at Bishop Watterson
1 to 3:30 p.m., Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road, Columbus. School’s annual fall open house. Deacon Chris Campbell, principal, will speak at 2 p.m.

Open House at Bishop Ready
1 p.m., Bishop Ready High School, 707 Salisbury Road, Columbus. Open house for prospective students and their parents.

St. Padre Pio Secular Franciscans
1:30 to 5 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 720 Hamlet St., Columbus. Fellowship and ongoing formation followed by adoration and prayer. Liturgy of the Hours, and initial formation with visitors.

St. Catherine of Bologna Secular Franciscans
2 to 4:30 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Burtles Ave., Columbus. Rosary. Meet in church for prayer, followed by general meeting, ongoing formation, and social.

DeSales Presents ‘12 Angry Jurors’
3 p.m., St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, Columbus. School’s theater department presents the courtroom drama “12 Angry Jurors.” Tickets $8.

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

Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King
5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 277 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching.

Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish.

21, MONDAY
Mass of Healing and Healing Service at Cathedral
6:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Mass of Healing, followed by healing service including Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and veneration of relics of the True Cross. Priests will be on hand for discussion and prayer and the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be available.

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.

Ordination of Permanent Deacons at Cathedral
10 a.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bishop Frederick Campbell ordains 12 men to the permanent diaconate for the Diocese of Columbus.

Praise Mass at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
11 a.m., Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 3225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Praise Mass with upbeat contemporary music.

Padi Pio Prayer Group at St. John the Baptist
12:30 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 168 E. Lincoln Ave., Columbus. Padi Pio Prayer Group meeting, including rosary, devotions, and 1 p.m. Mass.

Immaculate Conception Centennial Mass
4 p.m., Immaculate Conception Church, 414 E. North Broadway, Columbus. Mass celebrating the parish’s 100th anniversary, with previous pastors and associate pastors concelebrating, followed by dinner in Marian Hall.

Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King
5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 277 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching.

Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish.

28, 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).

Our Lady of Peace Men’s Bible Study
7 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominon Blvd., Columbus. Bible study of Sunday Scripture readings.
Faith takes center stage in Mel Gibson’s new film

By Joseph McAleer
Catholic News Service

Ever since the success of 2004’s The Passion of the Christ, viewers of faith have waited anxiously for a follow-up from the film’s director, Mel Gibson.

Recently, Gibson (pictured in center) revealed that he indeed is planning a sequel -- centered on the resurrection of Jesus -- but its debut is several years away.

In the meantime, fans will find at least a thematic successor to Gibson’s Bible-based work in his latest movie, Hacksaw Ridge. This new release easily could be subtitled The Passion of Desmond T. Doss.

A committed Seventh-Day Adventist and World War II conscientious objector, Doss (portrayed on screen by Andrew Garfield) was unwilling to take lives, but anxious to save them.

Overcoming derision and abuse from his peers -- and a push by his superiors to expel him from the Army with a dishonorable discharge -- he was allowed to remain in the service as a medic.

During the bloody Battle of Okinawa in the closing months of World War II, Doss saved scores of wounded soldiers in a manner so courageous that Congress eventually awarded him the Medal of Honor.

Hacksaw Ridge marks Gibson’s return to the director’s chair after a 10-year absence.

“It’s a very inspiring story and it seemed to be perfectly suited to the cinema,” Gibson told the audience at a recent screening of the drama at the Sheen Center for Thought & Culture, a forum for discussion and the arts operated by the Archdiocese of New York.

“It’s a love story, not a war film,” he explained. “I wanted to accentuate who Desmond was in the midst of this maelstrom of violence that reduces most men to the level of animals.”

“He was armed only with his faith and went in and put his life on the line for his brothers. Who could possibly go into a situation like he did without something bigger to believe in?”

Gibson brought his signature visual style, laden with religious imagery, to the movie, which is told in two acts: Doss’ youth in rural Virginia and the ferocious combat on Okinawa atop a cliff nicknamed Hacksaw Ridge.

“Here had this vision of a Norman Rockwell painting jammed up against a Hieronymus Bosch painting,” he explained. “You had ideal, sweet innocence, and then you had hell. You take the same people into the other painting. It’s the death of innocence, and I wanted to give people an idea of what that feels like, and what our veterans suffered as a result of combat situations.”

Hacksaw Ridge draws parallels to The Passion of the Christ in Doss’ perseverance, remaining true to his Christian faith despite extraordinary obstacles and winning the respect of his comrades in the end.

“Desmond’s biggest hero was Jesus, and he was trying to emulate him in any way he could,” Gibson said in an interview with Catholic News Service. “Greater love hath no man than to give up his life for his friends,” which is what he did -- again and again and again.

“He crawled into very dangerous and perilous situations to save others, which is the most selfless act of love you can have,” Gibson continued. “In that sense, he emulated Christ perfectly.”

Wounded on Okinawa, Doss died in 2006 at age 87.

Joining Gibson at the Sheen Center was Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Robert Schenkkan (All the Way), who co-wrote the screenplay for Hacksaw Ridge with Andrew Knight.

Schenkkan praised Doss as a positive role model, especially for men. “He embodies the Christian ethos, which is all about subordination of self to a higher power, compassion, and self-sacrifice,” Schenkkan said. “And I think that is a really important image of masculinity to put out there right now.”

Editor’s Note: For more information on Hacksaw Ridge, visit www.hacksawridge.movie. For more information on the Sheen Center for Thought & Culture, visit www.sheencenter.org.

McAleer is a guest reviewer for Catholic News Service.
Holy Trinity School has added more students and a preschool

Somerset Holy Trinity School is thriving in the early part of the new school year. The number of students has increased, a preschool has been added, and the school is placing a greater emphasis on its Catholic identity.

The school had enrollment “in the high 90s” last year in kindergarten through eighth grade, said principal Bill Noll. That number is up to 105 for 2016-17. The addition of a preschool with 27 students brings the total of pupils to 132.

One reason for the increase is the response to personal contact Noll said he made with the families of students who left the school in recent years, primarily to attend Sheridan Middle School in Thornville, the public school which serves sixth- to eighth-graders in Somerset.

“Talking to the families led to development of a three-part program which answered several of their concerns,” Noll said.

“The first part is additional emphasis on the safety of the child. A local police officer, Sgt. Matt May, visits regularly with his drug dog, Dolly. Perry County Juvenile Court Judge Luann Cooperider spoke to the students on right choices, Internet safety, and cell phone safety. In addition, all water fountains have been tested for lead, with no traces of lead being found in the water system.”

“Second is academic excellence. Catholic schools always have been known for their academic achievements, and we are retooling some of our programs, especially in math, to encourage maximum effort by both students and teachers.

“Third, and perhaps most important, is a greater recognition that we are indeed a Catholic school and that this identity is what makes us special,” said Noll, who became principal five days before the beginning of classes.

Just before school started, parent volunteers transformed an entrance to the building that had served as a recycling area into a prayer room, which includes an altar donated by Somerset St. Joseph Church, a five-foot statue of the Virgin Mary, and a seating area where an open Bible encourages reading and meditation on Scripture.

In addition, an iron gate which had been in the hallway has been taken out. Noll said the gate’s removal creates a more open and welcoming atmosphere within the school and gives visitors a better impression.

The school celebrated Catholic Schools Week at the end of September. Students from Holy Trinity and New Lexington St. Rose schools gathered at Ohio’s oldest Catholic church, Somerset St. Joseph, founded in 1818, for a joint Mass with Bishop Frederick Campbell and the priests who serve the two Somerset churches and the Perry County Consortium of Parishes in New Lexington, Crooksville, Corning, and Junction City.

The week also included separate talks for teachers and parents with Jerry Jacoby, a nationally recognized speaker and musician who encourages students in practices designed to increase self-esteem and respect for others while discouraging bullying.

Students from the two Perry County parochial schools also have combined for the first time with Zanesville Bishop Fenwick School in a football team which plays in the Diocesan Recreation Association.

The state’s first Mass was said in 1808 in Somerset, making it “the cradle of Catholicity in Ohio,” as stated on a state historical marker. The marker notes that the tradition of Catholic education in the community goes back to 1830, when four Dominican sisters from Kentucky founded St. Mary’s Academy, Perry County’s first Catholic school. Somerset also was the home of a former Dominican seminary and was the original site for what is now Ohio Dominican University in Columbus.

“Our long tradition of Catholic education in Somerset is recognized and appreciated by Catholics and non-Catholics alike in the community,” Noll said. “Non-Catholics embrace our philosophy and have no problem with the emphasis we place on our Catholic identity. We’re also proud of the fact that 80 percent of Sheridan High School’s valedictorians in recent years have come from Holy Trinity, providing additional recognition of our academic excellence.”

“Thanks to cooperation from parents and many others, we’ve been able to make a lot of improvements this year,” he added. “We are fully staffed and each of our classrooms has its own teacher, and we have classes of 15, 16, and 15 students respectively in kindergarten and third and fifth grades, which is quite a large number for a school our size. We also have before- and after-school latchkey activities. It’s the beginning of what appears to be a promising future.”

It’s an unexpected future for Noll, who comes to the school from a background of 26 years in the Navy as a pilot and manager. He has flown all over the world, been stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan, and was an executive assistant for the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001. His last naval assignment was as director of special technical operations for the Atlantic Fleet in Norfolk, Virginia, placing him in charge of 26 facilities employing 1,200 people across the United States.

He retired from active duty in 2012 and returned to his family’s Perry County farm. He has been serving on the board of the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio and is director of the celebration of the county’s 200th anniversary, which will take place in 2017. On his return to Ohio, he obtained a substitute teacher’s license and has taught in the county’s Crooksville, New Lexington, and Northern Local districts. That was his only experience in education before becoming a principal.

“I had no intention of taking on another job, but friends asked if I would consider coming to Holy Trinity because of my strong organizational background,” he said. “This is where I grew up. I felt it was important to re-energize the school, so I accepted the opportunity. Now I’m dealing with parents instead of pilots, and it’s a new kind of challenge. It’s been exciting to see people share my vision for the school, and I’m looking forward to what we can accomplish.”
Happy Thanksgiving!

Dear Friends,

Thanksgiving ... A time to thank God for all that he has done for us and all he has allowed us to do. It is also a time to thank those friends who have helped us throughout the year. We at your Catholic Cemeteries wish to give special recognition and thanks to those who participated in our Memorial Day and Cemetery Sunday Services.

Sincerely,
Your Catholic Cemeteries

St. Joseph Cemetery  Mt. Calvary Cemetery  Resurrection Cemetery  Holy Cross Cemetery

Potted Poinsettias are being purchased to decorate Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel at St. Joseph Cemetery, the Chapel Mausoleum at Resurrection Cemetery and the Chapel Mausoleum at Holy Cross Cemetery. These brilliant scarlet plants are available in the 6 1/2” pot which contains two plants consisting of 4-8 blooms. To donate a poinsettia in memory of your special loved ones, see the coupon below. We will tag your plant with your loved one’s name. You may then pick up your poinsettia any time after January 1st, should you wish to take it home.

OFFICE HOURS: M-F 8AM - 4:30 PM, Sat 8 AM – Noon
CEMETERY HOURS: 8AM - Sunset

☐ Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel/St. Joseph Cemetery
   6440 S. High St./Lockbourne, OH 43137/614-491-2751

☐ Chapel Mausoleum/Resurrection Cemetery
   9571 N. High St./Lewis Center, OH 43035/614-888-1805

☐ Chapel Mausoleum/Holy Cross Cemetery
   11539 Nat. Rd. S.W./Pataskala, OH 43062/740-927-4442

Please return this coupon with a $15.00 donation to the cemetery of your choice . . . thank you.

Your name ___________________________________________
In memory of ________________________________________