Kenton Immaculate Conception celebrates 150 years
Young nun, postulants among hundreds of Ecuador earthquake victims

By Catholic News Service

Six members of the Servant Sisters of the Home of the Mother, including a young nun from Northern Ireland, are among the dead in the strongest earthquake to strike Ecuador since 1979.

Sister Clare Theresa Crockett, 33, of Londonderry, died while leading children in safety at a school at Playa Prieta, where she was teaching the youngsters to play the guitar, according to the Spain-based order.

Her body was found under rubble on Monday, April 18, after 36 hours after the magnitude-7.8 earthquake struck the Pacific Coast region of Ecuador.

Five Ecuadorean postulants also died in the collapse. The order identified them by their first names: Jazmín, Maria Augustina, Maira, Valeria, and Catalina.

The six women were among at least 272 people who died in the massive earthquake that struck communities in northern Ecuador. Authorities reported that nearly 3,000 people were injured and that an undetermined number of buildings were destroyed or damaged.

Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. bishops’ relief and development agency, was partnering with local relief organizations to determine how best to respond in the communities most affected by the temblor. Water, food, and emergency shelter are the biggest needs, the agency said on its website.

“The earthquake has been really difficult to get in touch with our local partners,” Hollywood, CRS representative for South America.

Some of the hardest-hit communities in the earthquake zone, including in Esmeraldas and Manabi provinces, were inundated with rain and flooding in the days before the disaster, making them prone to potential landslides and complicating the relief effort, the agency said.

“It’s been really difficult to get in touch with our local partners,” Hollywood said, explaining that communications networks were down or working intermittently. “Last night, even here in Quito, the whole network collapsed.”

**HOW TO HELP**

Donate by phone: 1-877-HELP-CRS

Donate by check: Catholic Relief Services, P.O. Box 17090, Baltimore MD 21203-7090

Donate online: donate.crs.org/Ecuador

Correction - A story in the April 24 Catholic Times listed an incorrect address for one of the two Birthright pregnancy support centers in Columbus. The correct address is 4766 N. High St., in the rear entrance. Birthright’s In Review thrift shop is next door, at 4768 N. High. The center began operations on April 1, 1972, making it the oldest pregnancy center in Columbus. The story also did not mention that Birthright also has a center at 1159 12th St. N.W. in New Philadelphia.

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Catholic Times (ISSN 745-8650) is the official newspaper of the Catholic Diocese of Columbus, Ohio. It is published weekly 45 times per year with exception of every other week in June, July and August and the week following Christmas. Subscription rate: $25 per year, or call and make arrangements with your parish.
Postage Paid at Columbus, OH 43218

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Bishop Campbell goes back to Ohio State, gives lecture on Catholic faith and ecology

Bishop Frederick F. Campbell, who has a doctorate in history from The Ohio State University, delivered the inaugural presentation of OSU's religion and ecology lunchtime lecture series by discussing Catholic tradition and Pope Francis' environmental encyclical, Laudato Si', on Wednesday, March 23.

Dr. Greg Hitzhusen, assistant professor of OSU's school of environment and natural resources, said Bishop Campbell highlighted four themes in his talk, including how Catholicism has considered nature for 2,000 years; a Catholic imagination of nature; historical trends of alienation from nature in the Western world; and a discussion of how sin – light and shadow of the world together – plays a role in our ecological situation.

Bishop Campbell noted that people of faith and, indeed, all people, as Laudato Si’ suggests, are called to work together to meet the challenges of today, and this work must take many forms. A few of those are working on simple things, such as giving thanks such as prayer at meals; rediscovering the good of making things by our own hands; clarifying what is important and setting limits; and setting about the perennial work of growing, making, and flourishing as an act of gratitude and blessing, offering our work and creation itself to God in praise.

To read more about Bishop Campbell's talk on Hitzhusen's blog post, visit http://u.osu.edu/religionandenvironment/2016/04/18/laudato-si-bishop-campbell. For additional resources about the Church’s teaching on creation care, visit www.usccb.org/environment.

Former Planned Parenthood official tells students about abortion's reality

By Richard Szczepanowski
Catholic News Service

Abby Johnson, the former Planned Parenthood employee of the year who has become an outspoken pro-life advocate, told Georgetown University students on Wednesday, April 20 that even the most strident abortion provider can have a change of heart.

“I’m standing in front of you today as a testament to the power of conversion. No one is beyond the power of conversion. No one is beyond the power of Christ,” said Johnson (pictured).

Her address, attended by nearly 100 people, came hours after a controversial lecture on the Jesuit campus by Cecile Richards, president of Planned Parenthood, and ecology lunchtime lecture series.

Noting that the president of the largest abortion provider was invited to speak at the Catholic university, Johnson said, “I keep thinking, I keep believing, and I have faith that one day instead of me standing here speaking on defending the sanctity of human life, it will be Cecile Richards standing here.”

Michael Khan, a sophomore at Georgetown and president of the university’s right-to-life organization, criticized Georgetown’s description that having Richards lecture on campus was an issue of academic freedom and free speech.

“Cecile Richards is not an academic. She is an activist,” he told the Catholic Standard, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Washington. “Even if you believe in open dialogue (on the issue of abortion), she brings noting substantive to the table. I am disappointed in Georgetown’s leadership for allowing her (Richards) to speak unchallenged.

“It is as if they (university officials) are treating both sides of this issue as equal,” Khan added. “I fault Georgetown from the top down on not instilling a respect for life.”

When Richards’ appearance was announced in early March, university officials said the issue was a matter of “sustaining a forum for the free exchange of ideas … even when those ideas may be difficult, controversial, or objectionable to some.”

Johnson’s talk in the campus’ Dahlgren Chapel was part of a Life Week offered at the university in response to Richards’ appearance. Life Week events also included a talk on pro-life issues related to the end of life, a panel discussion on life-affirming alternatives to Planned Parenthood, and a Mass for Life celebrated by Washington’s archbishop, Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl.

Johnson, a former Planned Parenthood clinic director in Texas, is the mother of five children, including one adopted son. She is a convert to Catholicism and is a Natural Family Planning instructor.

Without directly mentioning Richards’ appearance on the Georgetown campus, Johnson noted that she herself was recruited to work for Planned Parenthood when representatives came to her college campus. She said she was raised in a pro-life home, but believed what Planned Parenthood recruiters told her. “I was an easy target for them because I knew nothing about the organization,” she said. “I was told that Planned Parenthood was the only place where low-income women could get health care. Planned Parenthood told me that pro-lifers are good people, but they are misguided because they would cause women to have back-al-
Did you read the Passion accounts in all four Gospels this past week? Even though we are in the Easter season and have moved beyond Lent, it is a great meditation to always recognize the unimaginable love Jesus poured out for each and every one of us. We thank God for all these gifts that are not deserved, and we try so hard to be worthy. Now let us continue to study the various accounts of our Lord’s Passion and how they relate to Passover.

Without going into great detail, we find that many scholars tell us it is most likely that the Passover meal would have been on a Friday evening in the year Jesus died (presumed 33 AD). This would coincide with the start of the Sabbath. A summary tells us that Jesus had the Last Supper, which was a Passover meal, on Holy Thursday. He was crucified and died at 3 p.m. on Good Friday. At the same time, lambs were being slaughtered in the Temple in preparation for the official Passover meal that evening after sunset. Jesus is buried before sunset. Why does any of this matter? Jesus did not celebrate the old-covenant Passover on Holy Thursday. He began His own new-covenant Passover. For the old, a young male lamb would have been sacrificed and eaten with unleavened bread. There is no mention of this in the Gospels, and the lamb would not have been slaughtered until the next day. Here is the point for us: Jesus is the Passover lamb of the new covenant. His blood seals that covenant. By sacrificing Himself, He frees us from the slavery of sin and opens the gates of Heaven. Not only is it a new covenant, but a sort of new Exodus for us all. Jesus rose from the dead, and now joins us as we celebrate the sacrifice of the Mass. The old-covenant Passover centered on the flesh and blood of the sacrificed lamb. The new-covenant Passover is the Eucharist, the actual sharing of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. He meant it when He said, “Do this in remembrance of me.” Another thing that is interesting is the various cups of wine shared at a Passover meal. There are four. The first two are shared before and at the start of the meal. The third comes after the meal, and the fourth as a hymn is sung in thanksgiving. Luke’s Gospel tells us that Jesus took a cup after eating – so the third cup – saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which will be shed for you.” Then a hymn was sung and they went to the Garden of Gethsemane. Here Jesus prays, “Father, if it is your will, let this cup pass from me; but not my will be done, but yours.” That fourth and last cup of the new Passover was shed on the cross. John’s Gospel says, “When Jesus had received the wine, He said, ‘It is finished’; and He bowed His head and delivered His spirit.” We also recognize that we have looked at two different theories of how the Passover relates to Jesus’ Passion. The Synoptic Gospels emphasize Jesus as the fulfillment of the Old Covenant. John’s Gospel highlights the radically New Covenant. Each perspective adds a deeper understanding. Of course, not all Scripture scholars agree on exact chronology. But that is not to say that the Synoptics were wrong and St. John got it right. Precise history is not the goal of the Scriptures; faith is. (John 20:31 “... so that you may believe.”)

Our practical challenge this week is to pray and meditate upon these words of Pope Benedict XVI: “Essentially, this farewell meal was not the old Passover; but the new one. Even though the meal that Jesus shared with the Twelve was not a Passover meal according to the ritual prescription of Judaism, nevertheless, in retrospect, the inner connection of the whole event with Jesus’ death and Resurrection stood out clearly. It was Jesus’ Passover. And in this sense He both did and did not celebrate the Passover: The old rituals could not be carried out – when their time came, Jesus had already died. But He had given Himself, and thus He had truly celebrated the Passover with them. The old was not abolished; it was simply brought to its full meaning.” It is wonderful for us that Jesus’ Passover continues at our Eucharistic celebration.

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

University of Dayton President Daniel J. Curran and President-designate Eric F. Spina have announced that Paul Benson, the university’s interim provost, will take on that role permanently, effective in July.

“I have been impressed by Paul Benson’s character, humility, and intelligence since the day I met him,” Spina said.

“His understanding of the University of Dayton and his modeling of our values and charisma will serve me and the institution extremely well as I prepare to begin my presidency in July. I look forward to working with Paul to continue advancing the university.”

Curran said, “Paul Benson has served the university with distinction in every role he has held. He is well-respected and admired by the campus community — faculty, staff, students, researchers, alumni, and friends — and I am confident the university will continue its strong momentum through his leadership.”

Benson’s appointment to a four-year term was made in consultation with the board of trustees and Spina, Curran said.

Spina opted to search internally for the position, saying he sought a provost who was familiar with the university’s history, people, culture, and governance mechanisms.

As the university’s chief academic officer, Benson’s responsibilities include preserving, developing, and promoting its academic mission and vision, plus coordinating academic and research units and their support systems.

In addition to overseeing the university’s five major academic units and its libraries, the provost has responsibility for enrollment management and marketing, information technology, and international programs, and works closely with the president and vice president for finance on strategic budget and facilities planning.

“I am deeply honored to continue to serve the university through the office of the provost,” Benson said. “The provost plays a significant role in shaping the quality of our faculty, the academic experience of our students, the impact of our research, and the opportunities for our deans to advance their academic units effectively.

“UD has benefited from the leadership of a long series of talented and forward-thinking provosts. I hope I can sustain that legacy and continue to elevate the quality of our teaching, research, and local and global engagements, while also extending the influence of our Catholic and Marianist mission.”

Search committee chair Bill Fischer, vice president for student development, described Benson as the “quintessential provost.”

“It was clear to the committee that Dr. Benson exceeds all the academic and administrative qualifications of the position, and, in addition, brings unique personal characteristics and leadership skills to his work,” Fischer said. “He is widely admired for his collaborative style and inclusive approach. He conducts his work with the highest level of ethics and integrity and exemplifies true servant leadership.

“He has a deep appreciation for our Catholic and Marianist educational philosophy and effectively conveys how that philosophy is the foundation for all that we are and all that we aspire to be.”

Benson came to Dayton in 1985 to teach in the philosophy department and has held progressively higher leadership positions. He served as department chair from 2001-04 and associate dean for integrated learning and curriculum from 2005-07 before being appointed dean of the college of arts and sciences in 2007.

He holds a doctorate in philosophy from Princeton University and a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy from St. Olaf College in Minnesota.
New Campus Planned for Catholic Youth Summer Camp Organization

For the past 15 years, the Catholic Youth Summer Camp (CYSC) organization has provided thousands of young people with what it describes as “high-adventure camp activities designed to foster a high-adventure faith.”

Its program has expanded from one week to a full summer of eight sessions, with campers coming from every diocese in Ohio and from other states and nations.

CYSC activities have taken place in the past on campgrounds owned by others. But the organization now has a 471-acre plot of its own on rolling woods and fields in Knox County, complete with a 30-acre fresh water lake. Camper cabins with lodging for 180 and a 25,000-square-foot conference center and lodge are being built, with the grand opening of what is to be known as the Damascus Catholic Mission Campus set for this summer. The land is located just off U.S. 36, about five to 10 minutes north of Centerburg and 20 minutes east of the U.S. 36/Ohio 37 exit of Interstate 71.

Dan DeMatte, evangelization director for Damascus and CYSC, said that in addition to being the permanent home for CYSC, the campus will be the state’s only retreat center offering adventure-based learning opportunities and outdoor education programming for Catholic schools. Continuing development of the campus also will allow it to offer innovative ministry training in the New Evangelization for lay leaders nationwide, with lodging eventually for 350 people.

DeMatte said this vision is being made possible mainly through the generosity and leadership of David and Michele Bianconi of Westerville, who are known throughout central Ohio for their civic and philanthropic work, but even more for their dedication and love for the Catholic faith. David Bianconi founded medical equipment provider Progressive Medical Inc. in 1986 and remained its chairman until retiring in 2013.

Joining with the Bianconis are many other Catholic laypersons from across Ohio. More than 50 percent of the funds needed for completion of the project have been secured.

“For 2,000 years, the Catholic Church has impacted culture through education, medicine, science, social charities, and the arts. And now, central Ohio will become the home of the first-ever Catholic mission campus,” DeMatte said. “St. Paul encountered the living God on the road to Damascus, and the Damascus Catholic Mission Campus also will become a place of encounter.

“In the city of Damascus, St. Paul was empowered and equipped to go forth and bring the Gospel to the nations. The campus will be a place where world-class ministry programs awaken, empower, and equip generations of Catholics to live the adventure of their Catholic faith.”

CYSC began as a parish initiative, responding to a legitimate need expressed by parents desiring a joy-filled environment that challenges young people to live the adventure of their Catholic faith through an encounter with Jesus Christ and his church. It was incorporated as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation with the permission of Bishop Frederick Campbell in 2006. Since then, its board of directors has worked diligently to remain in good standing with the Catholic Church as a lay movement and to position CYSC for long-term future success.

To learn more about the Damascus Catholic Mission Campus and to see videos of its construction, go to www.DamascusCampus.com or contact DeMatte via email at Dan@cysc.com.

Sisters Gathering

The Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity, familiarly known as the Stella Niagara Franciscans, will be celebrating their presence in Ohio with a gathering at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 21, in the Boathouse at Confluence Park, where the Olentangy and Scioto rivers meet at 679 W. Spring St., Columbus.

The sisters will review the legacy of their founder, Mother Magdalen Dameleon, OSF, and will explore where they may journey in the years to come. Sisters from throughout Ohio and the Motherhouse at Stella Niagara, New York, will be on hand.

Reservations are $35 per person and will be accepted until Tuesday, May 10. More information is available by calling (716) 754-2193.

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You noted in a recent column that the Mass is “the most powerful prayer that can be offered on a deceased person’s behalf.” That comment brought back a wave of sorrow for my wife and me. Ten years ago, her father died after a lengthy and progressive illness. Due to the fact that we were living out of state at the time, and worsened by some unresolved hard feelings toward their father by other surviving family members, Dad was shuttled into a grave at a veterans’ cemetery before my wife and I could intervene.

Despite the fact that he was a lifelong practicing Catholic, he was buried without even a public wake, and worse still, without the Catholic funeral Mass he richly deserved. So my question is this: Can he still have a full funeral Mass, not just a memorial Mass, celebrated in his name even though he is already buried, even without the presence of his remains? (If so, I would contact our family’s original pastor.)

It would be an opportunity for Dad’s soul to enjoy a proper requiem, and it would also allow close family and longtime friends a chance to prayerfully ask God’s graces on Dad’s behalf, an opportunity they were deprived of (and shocked by) at the time of his passing. (City of origin withheld)

Yes, you could have a Mass celebrated for your father-in-law even now, 10 years after his death. Technically, I suppose, it would be called a memorial Mass, but in most respects it would be similar to a funeral Mass, except that the body would not be present. (And these days, with cremations becoming more frequent, that is already the case at many funeral Masses.)

I would suggest that you contact your family’s pastor and see if he would be willing to celebrate a separate, special Mass for your father-in-law. (In other words, you would not simply add the deceased’s name to the other intentions at one of the regularly scheduled parish Masses.)

You may want to announce the Mass in a newspaper notice or by contacting friends and family directly. Perhaps you would want to call it an anniversary memorial Mass for your loved one. At the Mass, you might consider having a small table with your father-in-law’s picture and a bouquet of flowers. (That table could be placed either where people first enter the church or, if the priest is willing, in front near the altar, where the casket would ordinarily go.)

Your question, and your sadness and lingering regret, remind me how important it is, at the time of a death, for a family to set aside differences and join in planning funeral rites that best honor the deceased and respect his wishes. Clearly, your father-in-law would have wanted a funeral Mass.

On the third anniversary of his election to the papacy, Pope Francis once again stressed the critical importance for followers of Christ to show mercy. How would that attitude manifest itself toward those priests dismissed from their ministry because they were found guilty of some sexual crime? (These men are well-known and often their names have been listed on diocesan websites.) (Wynantskill, New York)

In a 2002 meeting in Dallas, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops fashioned the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and adopted a policy of “zero tolerance.” In other words, any cleric found to have sexually abused a minor could never again be allowed to function in public ministry.

Having been present at that meeting, I recall that a few bishops spoke in favor of a more nuanced approach. They argued that there are varying levels of gravity and that each case should be weighed separately, especially when a single offense had occurred many years before, rehabilitative therapy had taken place, and a man had functioned productively and flawlessly in ministry ever since.

But the will of the majority prevailed. Zero tolerance was set in place, and that policy continues in the church today. If you are asking whether someone who has been credibly accused will ever be allowed back into ministry, I believe that to be unlikely.

The mercy to which we are called as Christians obliges us, however, to offer forgiveness to those men who have been removed, many of whom helped a fair number of people during their years in ministry and deeply regret the hurt and the harm they caused to individuals and to the church.

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

Columbus Bishop Hartley High School will offer sixth- to eighth-grade students an opportunity to learn science by doing science at its annual summer ChemCamp from Monday through Friday, June 13 to 17 at the school, 1285 Zettler Road. Chemistry teacher Evan Wagner is shown at last year’s camp conducting an experiment using liquid nitrogen. Campers will discover what chemistry is all about as they conduct experiments in a high-school chemistry laboratory. They will be amazed by chemical demonstrations and may begin to look at the world around them in a new way. Registration is open for the program. The $80 fee covers the cost of materials and a personalized T-shirt. Visit the Hartley website, www.bishop-hartley.org, and click on the “summer camps” tab to download the registration form. For more information, contact Wagner at ewagner@cdeducation.org. Photo courtesy Bishop Hartley High School

Rosary Reunion

There will be a reunion on the weekend of Friday and Saturday, Aug. 12 and 13 for the Columbus Rosary High School classes of 1961 to 1966, plus those who would have been in the classes of 1967 and 1968, as well as the school’s eighth-grade classes of 1958 to 1964.

Alumni only are invited to gather on Friday evening at Plank’s on Parsons, 743 Parsons Ave. Alumni, spouses, and friends will meet Saturday for dinner and storytelling at the Swan Club, 2121 Noe-Bixby Road.

This will be a 50th-anniversary reunion for the class of 1966, the last class to graduate from the school.

For more information, contact Mike Jolley at (614) 237-8432 or mjolley1@columbus.rr.com, or Angie Heller Hollerich at (614) 337-2204 or angie@brassring-pro.com.

It can be difficult for Catholics to find a Mass when traveling or when it is not practical to attend their regular parishes. The website www.MassTimes.org makes it much easier to search for a Mass by presenting all the possibilities in a geographical area on one page. It includes Mass schedules for 117,000 churches in 201 nations or territories. The service is also available by phone. The number is (1-858) 207-6277.

ON AGING GRACEFULLY

It seems odd, even a bit repulsive, when we encounter tales of elderly men running after women who are young enough to be their granddaughters. The wheelchair-bound billionaire oil tycoon J. Howard Marshall was 89 years old when he married the 26-year-old Anna Nicole Smith. He had met the Playboy model and reality-TV star in a strip club. Anna insisted that she really did love the old man and wasn’t in it for the money.

With age should come wisdom. It’s appropriate and fitting for older men to leave behind their former ways and no longer live and act like college frat boys. It’s right to expect growth in self-control as we mature, and to expect a more reflective, sober approach to life. Growing old invariably offers us the opportunity to redirect our focus, and, as our body weakens, our mind and soul can be drawn to consider matters we previously may have avoided, like death and what awaits us beyond death’s threshold. Our later years can powerfully provoke us to come to terms with our destiny and with higher truths.

In a recent column, Father Ron Rolheiser, quoting James Hillman, speaks to the graces that aging and infirmity can bring our way:

“Why have God and nature so structured things that as we age and mature and are finally more in control of our lives, our bodies begin to fall apart, and we need a bevy of doctors and medicines to keep functioning? Is there some wisdom in the very DNA of the life process that mandates the breakdown of physical health in late life? Hillman says, yes. There’s an innate wisdom in the process of aging and dying: the best wines have to be aged in cracked old barrels. The breakdown of our bodies deepens, softens, and matures the soul.”

I once overheard a hospital nurse chatting with one of her patients and was caught a bit off guard when she nonchalantly declared, with a little twinkle in her eye, “When we get to be over 40, who doesn’t have hemorrhoids?”

The comment, I thought, reflected a healthy, positive attitude toward aging and infirmity. Unavoidably, our bodies decline. Our strength wanes. We get hemorrhoids and warts and cancers and high blood pressure and male pattern balding.

In the midst of it all, we can accept our lot with grace and gratitude. A serene acceptance of our struggles, and even of the specific death that awaits us, is surely a great virtue.

But aging gracefully is not something many of us tend to do well. We resist the idea. We may cling to the fantasy of eternal youth. Some in our society even push the notion that we shouldn’t have to put up with the challenges of infirmity, and instead ought to receive help from the medical system so we can beat a hasty retreat to the exit. By pushing for physician-assisted suicide, they encourage us to despise the good of our own lives and to reject the graces that arise from our struggles by choosing to ingest any of a number of doctor-prescribed poisons.

On the other hand, by embracing our particular path into death and by offering up our trials, we acquire a poise of soul and human maturity that orients us toward our destiny, a destiny in the hereafter that so many seemed largely oblivious to. By letting our infirmities existentially speak to us, and coming to realize how true it is that we have no permanent dwelling here, we begin to grapple with that mysterious truth that heaven and home are synonymous.

Aging gracefully also involves recognizing and accepting the shortening of the time ahead of us and the lengthening of the time behind us. Even as we achieve a much-sought independence in our lives, we begin to cycle back toward a renewed dependence on others, on caregivers, family, and the community, and we may even come to the realization that our own mind will have to be surrendered if dementia comes our way. All of this can instruct us, if we accept it with grace, in the wisdom of relinquishing our own willfulness once again like little children, and returning to a humble framework of interdependence in our shared destiny with others and with God.

Father Tadeusz Pachelczyk, 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.ncbcenter.org.
Inquiry into Dorothy Day’s life next step in sainthood cause

By Catholic News Service

A canonical inquiry into the life of Dorothy Day (pictured), co-founder of the Catholic Worker movement, will begin soon and extend to the end of the year, according to the Archdiocese of New York, which is sponsoring her sainthood cause and is where Day oversaw Catholic Worker houses.

The Dorothy Day Guild, established in 2005 to promote her life and works, said on its website that the names of 256 people had been submitted as potential eyewitnesses to Day’s life. Of those, 52 have been chosen for interviews.

Those too frail to travel will be interviewed in their home dioceses, some as far away as Europe,” said an announcement by the archdiocese on Tuesday, April 19. “Because many of the eyewitnesses still live in voluntary poverty, caring for the poor, the archdiocese will assist with airfare and lodging for those requesting assistance.” Some of the interviewees’ memories go back to the 1940s.

From the interviews, the archdiocese will gather the evidence and present it to the Vatican’s Congregation for Saints’ Causes and to Pope Francis. If, after examining the information, the Vatican congregation and the pope recognize Day’s heroic virtues, she will be declared “venerable,” the next step in the canonization process. She now has the title “servant of God.”

Beatification and, ultimately, canonization are the next steps in the process. In general, one miracle determined to have occurred through the intercession of a candidate for sainthood is required for beatification, and a second such miracle is needed for canonization.

In 2012, the U.S. bishops during their fall general assembly unanimously endorsed Day’s sainthood cause.

“This will require a team effort,” said George Horton, liaison for the Dorothy Day Guild. “Dorothy Day created or inspired dozens of houses of hospitality throughout the English-speaking world, but she was also a journalist who published the Catholic Worker newspaper. Her articles in that paper...

The admissions changes were proposed by Msgr. Christopher Schreck, the seminary’s rector-president, in March in response to allegations against Joel Wright, 23, a former seminarian of the Josephinum and of the Diocese of Steubenville.

Wright was arrested in San Diego in January on federal felony charges. He pleaded guilty on April 13 to one of attempted enticement of a minor, as part of a plea agreement in which he said he traveled to Mexico with the intent of molesting children. He is to be sentenced July 1. The charge carries a minimum sentence of 10 years and a maximum sentence of life in prison.

Msgr. Schreck said in March that “due diligence was carried out” by the seminary and the diocese in checking Wright’s background and psychologically testing him under current admissions procedures.

Stronger Josephinum admission rules approved

The board of trustees of the Pontifical College Josephinum on Tuesday, April 19 unanimously approved three initiatives to strengthen the seminary’s rigorous admissions process.

The initiatives include a formal recommendation to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to establish a national database listing all applications to each seminary and house of formation in the United States; engagement of a qualified private investigative agency to assist in verifying the integrity of all applicants, including a review of their social media postings; and an interview for all applicants with a representative of the seminary’s admissions committee and the seminary’s director of psychological evaluation and counseling.

They will take effect for the incoming 2016-2017 class of the only seminary outside of the United States with pontifical status. The Vatican’s Congregation for Catholic Education appoints its rector. The apostolic nuncio to the United States appoints the formation faculty and serves as its chancellor.

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MSgr. Schreck said in March that “due diligence was carried out” by the seminary and the diocese in checking Wright’s background and psychologically testing him under current admissions procedures.

Florida diocese mourns loss of priest

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla. (CNA) -- A Florida priest was lauded by his diocese as a humble and generous servant after his remains were found in Georgia on Monday, April 18.

Father Rene Wayne Robert “always saw the good in people he served, reminding them that God created them for greatness, with a good and noble purpose for others,” Bishop Felipe J. Estevez of St. Augustine said on April 19.

“While his life was taken from us tragically on Sunday, April 10 — the day of his disappearance — it is important that we remember how he lived his life in selfless love for others,” the bishop said.

Parishioners grew concerned about Father Robert, 71, when he didn’t show up for a funeral service. Police were asked on April 12 to check on his whereabouts. After they failed to locate him, a missing-person investigation was launched.

The priest’s remains were found after Steven Murray, 28, who faces charges of first-degree murder in the case, directed investigators to his body in a rural area south of Augusta, Georgia. Police said that Murray had recently been released from prison and was receiving help from the priest.

Father Robert served as chaplain at the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind. He was known for his service in prisons and homeless ministries.

Bishop Estevez asked for prayers for Father Robert and for the man accused of taking his life.
Finding Comfort in Our Lady of China

It was dark, pitch black, deep night. The scream shattered the stillness and destroyed my sleep. I was wide awake, completely alert, no daze to me, despite the lack of sleep.

There was no intruder, no fire, no emergency. There was, instead, a little girl, terrified by monsters assailing her in her dreams. She had no words for the terrors, only cries. After some soft words and backrubbing, she was back to sleep. I asked her guardian angel -- and mine -- to protect her.

What attacks us in the night? What is it that wakes us, leaves us shivering, has us helpless and screaming? Why can’t our rational minds comfort us in the black of our beds?

I have struggled every so often with nightmares of my own. I knew my prayers had been answered, during one particularly rough stretch of night wakings, when I woke in the morning and realized in some dim, distant way that I had prayed a Hail Mary in the midst of my nightmare as a way of pulling myself out of it.

It’s hard to imagine persecution from the comfort of my home. I can’t fathom what it must be like to be an underground Christian, to live my faith at the risk of my life.

I can, though, imagine what comfort I would need. I can think of how I would cherish my Mother in Heaven even more.

Just as I go to my children when they cry out, so Mary runs to us. Her role as our mother, given to us by Jesus when she stood at the foot of the cross, enveloped in the soft folds, safe under her cloak, but I’ll bet she has a tissue tucked up a sleeve, just like she could move very comfortably in those robes, for my brothers and sisters in China. She doesn’t look like she would be happier and healthier citizens. The foundation supports the Run The Race Club, which has more than 400 inner-city children and young people as members. These children come to the Run the Race Center on Columbus’ west side for homework help, sports, art, games, music, field trips, discussions, work, and love.

For more information and to register, visit https://brianmuha.itsyourrace.com/register.

The event is an opportunity to raise funds and awareness for the foundation’s mission to help inner-city children utilize their God-given talents to overcome struggles and obstacles so they can grow up to be happier and healthier citizens. The foundation supports the Run The Race Club, which has more than 400 inner-city children and young people as members. These children come to the Run the Race Center on Columbus’ west side for homework help, sports, art, games, music, field trips, discussions, work, and love.

For more information and to register, visit https://brianmuha.itsyourrace.com/register.

Our Lady of China.

Though there is another image that also is called Our Lady of China because it is on a prayer card promulgated for prayers for the persecuted people of China, it is the portrayal of Mary in the finery of a Chinese empress that initiated the title.

Today, Christians in China continue to face persecution. There are an estimated 13 million Catholics in China, with five million following the “official” Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association and the rest supporting an underground church loyal to Rome.

The price of being loyal to Rome is the threat of arrest, of “disappearance,” of being banned from all the places you know and love. What would your children say to you if they no longer were able to attend school because you were found to be Catholic? What would you say?

It’s hard to imagine a climate like this from where I sit. I shake my head, but do I really feel inspired by these martyrs-in-the-making? Would I be brave enough to stand up for my faith, to put my actions in the same robes? I know that I can’t carry a cross that actually resembles a cross instead of one I just think I carry? What if my beloved parish church were burned?

Though I am not Chinese, and I have no Chinese ancestry or link, I find comfort in Our Lady of China. I am reminded of the royalty in heaven when I see her in the finery of an empress, and yet I can’t help but think of her humility throughout her life. She’s holding her Child, a King, and yet His fate on earth was so different than what the Jews were expecting in a Messiah.

Our Lady of China reminds me of my call to prayer for my brothers and sisters in China. She doesn’t look like she could move very comfortably in those robes, but I’ll bet she has a tissue tucked up a sleeve, just like my grandma always did. Can you imagine yourself enveloped in the soft folds, safe under her cloak, hidden from evil and able to have an uninterrupted night of sleep?

Sarah’s online at SnoringScholar.com. She’s a wife, mom, and author, in addition to being a big fan of coffee and chocolate. Her latest book, “Word by Word: Slowing Down with the Hail Mary,” is available online and in bookstores.
The two Catholic church buildings in Hardin County are among the oldest in the Diocese of Columbus, but both have been given a new look.

Kenton Immaculate Conception Church this year is celebrating the 150th anniversary of the dedication of its sanctuary in 1866, 20 years after the founding of the parish itself. A $250,000 makeover of the church building was completed in time for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Dec. 12, 2013. A new wood floor replaced the old carpet, the ceiling was renovated, with the former drop ceiling being eliminated, the altar was redone, and statues were repainted, as was the rest of the church.

The latest addition to the sanctuary is a hand-carved crucifix from Italy, installed in late April by the Knights of Columbus. Also new to the church is a statue of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, founder of the Sisters of Charity, who served the former parish school for many years. Father David J. Young, pastor, said the renovations are in the midst of being paid for, with the money coming from several large pledges rather than a parishwide campaign. A few years before the most recent improvements, the parish completed a renovation of its former convent to provide room for offices, a K of C meeting area, and space for the parish youth group.

Father Young serves as pastor of both the Kenton parish and Ada Our Lady of Lourdes Church, where he resides. Father Jeffrey E. Tigyer is parochial vicar of both parishes and has lived in Kenton since being appointed to that position three years ago, when the two parishes became one of the diocese’s several parish clusters. Father Young had been appointed pastor at Ada in 2006.

Deacon J. Michael Hood, a member of Our Lady of Lourdes since 1976, has played a key role in both parishes since his ordination in 2008, assisting and preaching at weekend Masses, helping with funerals, officiating at weddings outside Mass and baptisms, and serving with the RCIA program, server and lector training, and other pastoral care activities.

This past summer, the church in Ada, which was built in 1874, underwent alterations to meet changes in both the size of the parish, which is growing, and the weekend worship schedule, which was reduced from two Masses to one, plus one on Saturday night.

Parish manager Deb Driscoll said the changes resulted in overflow crowds on Sundays in the 200-seat church, so about 100 chairs were added in the parish hall adjacent to the sanctuary. A library and a kitchen area also are located in that area. Also during the summer, a new grotto with a statue of the Virgin Mary was added outside the church.

Preparations are being made in Kenton for a Mass at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 11, which will combine a celebration of the church building’s 150th anniversary with a rededication of the structure. Bishop Frederick Campbell will be the principal celebrant.

Most of the five living diocesan priests who have served as pastor or administrator of the parish have said they will attend, as will Father Eduardo Velasquez, MSP, parochial vicar of Columbus St. Stephen the Martyr Church, who celebrates a Mass in Spanish in Kenton at 7 p.m. on the last Sunday of each month. Parishioner Jill Adams said the three living Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati who have served in Kenton also have been invited, and it is hoped all will attend. From 1874 to 1981, their order was in Kenton providing service to the parish, its former

See CHURCHES, Page 15
Celebrate our Catholic communities!

Check festival places and times on the following pages
MAY
- MAY 13 • Christ the King & St. Stephen the Martyr @ Our Lady of Victory Church
  1519 Rosbury Road, Columbus
  • Fiesta de Mayo: 6-10 p.m.
- MAY 20-21 • St. Francis de Sales
  38 Granville St., Newark
  • Friday 6:30-11:30 p.m., Saturday 1-11:30 p.m.

JUNE
- JUNE 2-4 • St. Catharine
  500 S. Gould Road, Columbus • 5-11 p.m.
- JUNE 9-11 • St. Thomas Aquinas
  139 N. 5th St., Zanesville
  • Thursday 5-10 p.m., Friday & Saturday 5 p.m.-midnight
- JUNE 10-11 • St. Mary Magdalene
  2909 Parkside Road, Columbus (Ballfield area)
  • Friday 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday 5 p.m.-midnight
- JUNE 17-18 • St. Christopher
  1420 Grandview Ave., Columbus • 6 p.m.-midnight
- JUNE 17-18 • St. Mary
  66 E. William St., Delaware
  • Friday & Saturday 5 p.m.-midnight
- JUNE 17-18 • St. Rose of Lima
  119 W. Water St., New Lexington
  • Friday & Saturday 5 p.m.-midnight
- JUNE 24-25 • St. John Neumann
  9635 E. State Route 37, Sunbury
  • Friday 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday 5-11 p.m.
- JUNE 24-25 • Holy Trinity
  225 S. Columbus St., Somerset
  • Friday 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday 4 p.m.-midnight

JULY
- JULY 8-9 • St. Timothy
  1088 Thomas Lane, Columbus
  • 6 p.m.-midnight
- JULY 9 • St. Luke
  Corner of Rambo and Market streets (U.S. 62), Danville
  • 3-7 p.m.
- JULY 15-16 • Our Lady of Peace
  20 E. Domininon Blvd., Columbus
  • Friday 6-11 p.m., Saturday 5-11 p.m.
- JULY 15-17 • St. Joseph
  613 N. Tuscarawas Ave., Dover
  • Friday & Saturday 5-11 p.m., Sunday 4-9 p.m.
- JULY 17 • Our Lady of Mount Carmel
  Parish Picnic, Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center, Heath.
  • 2-6 p.m.
- JULY 21-23 • St. Matthew the Apostle
  807 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna
  • Thursday 6-11 p.m., Friday 6 p.m.-midnight
  • Saturday 5 p.m.-midnight.

See more listings on Page 14
AUGUST

• AUGUST 3-6 • St. Nicholas
1030 E. Main St., Zanesville • Wednesday & Thursday 6-11 p.m.,
   Friday & Saturday 6 p.m.-midnight

• AUGUST 5-6 • St. Pius X
1061 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg • 6-11 p.m.

• AUGUST 6 • St. Joseph
5757 State Route 383 N.E., Somerset • 4 p.m.-midnight

• AUGUST 11-13 • Holy Spirit
4383 E. Broad St., Columbus • Thursday 6-11 p.m.,
   Friday 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday 5 p.m.-midnight

• AUGUST 12-13 • Our Lady of Victory
1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus • 6-11 p.m.

• AUGUST 12-13 • St. Brendan
4475 Dublin Road, Hilliard • Friday 6 p.m.-midnight,
   Saturday 3 p.m. -midnight

• AUGUST 12-13 • St. Mary
700 S. 3rd St., German Village, Columbus
   • Friday 5-11 p.m., Saturday 5 p.m.-midnight

• AUGUST 12-13 • St. Cecilia
434 Norton Road, Columbus • Friday 5 p.m.-midnight,
   Saturday 4 p.m.-midnight

• AUGUST 13 • St. Bernard
425 Adams St., Corning • Following 4 p.m. Mass

• AUGUST 14 • Immaculate Conception
215 E. North St., Kenton • 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m.

• AUGUST 19-20 • Our Lady of Perpetual Help
3730 Broadway, Grove City • 6 p.m.-midnight

• AUGUST 19-20 • St. Andrew
1899 McCoy Road (at Reed Road), Columbus • 5 p.m.-midnight

• AUGUST 19 • Church of the Atonement
320 Winter St., Crooksville • Following 4 p.m. Mass

• AUGUST 20 • Church of the Blessed Sacrament
394 E. Main St., Newark • 6-11 p.m.

• AUGUST 20 - 21 • St. Mary
251 N. Main St., Marion • Saturday 6-8 p.m., Sunday 2-6 p.m.

• AUGUST 25-27 • St. Joan of Arc
10700 Liberty Road, Powell • Thursday 6-10 p.m.,
   Friday & Saturday 6-11 p.m.

• AUGUST 25-27 • St. Anthony
1300 Urban Drive, Columbus
   • Thursday -Disability Awareness Night 6-8 p.m.,
     Friday 6-11 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

• SEPTEMBER 2-4 • St. Michael
5750 N. High St., Worthington • Friday 7-11 p.m.,
   Saturday & Sunday 5-11 p.m.

• SEPTEMBER 9-10 • Bishop Flaget School
570 Parsons Ave, Chillicothe • Friday & Saturday 7-11 p.m.

• SEPTEMBER 11 • St. Mark
Outdoor Mass & Family Picnic
324 Gay St., Lancaster • 10:30 a.m.

• SEPTEMBER 12-14 • Seton Parish
600 Hill Road N., Pickerington • Times to be determined

• SEPTEMBER 24 • St. Patrick
226 Elm St., London • 5-9:30 p.m.

OCTOBER

• OCTOBER 7-9 • St. John the Baptist
Hamlet and Lincoln streets, Columbus • Friday 5-11 p.m.,
   Saturday noon-11 p.m., Sunday 11-7 p.m.
The anniversary celebration began on March 19, with a one-day parish mission led by Dr. John R. Wood, author of *Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Mission*. It will continue with a community open house on Sunday, July 10; a dinner at 6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 2, which will feature extensive displays on the history of the parish; and a special Mass for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on Thursday, Dec. 8, which will include a celebration to honor the Virgin Mary, the parish’s patron.

Parish administrative assistant Kathy Klingelhofer said T-shirts for the anniversary are on sale and plans are being made for a Christmas ornament featuring the church. The ornament may be ready in time for the rededication Mass.

One event not on the official anniversary schedule which will be an important part of the celebration is the annual parish festival, perhaps the oldest such event in the diocese. It traces its origins to a lawn fete which began in 1907 to benefit the San Antonio Catholic Hospital, which existed from 1897 to 1964 in a building now used for storage.

Parishioner Jean Bruner said the festival will take place on Sunday, Aug. 14 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and will include karaoke, entertainment by several bands, games for adults and children, a book sale, a garage sale, and a petting zoo with goats, pigs, miniature horses, and other animals. In addition, the county animal shelter will have puppies available for adoption, and the local radio station, WKTN, will be broadcasting live from the event.

Food will include a platter consisting of a half-chicken, two side dishes, a roll, dessert, and a drink for around $8. There also will be bratwurst, beer, and an ice cream tent. Back by popular demand for the second year will be “Father Dave’s Bacon Booth.”

“Just about everybody loves bacon, so last year, I bought 30 pounds of bacon from a local butcher to see what would happen, and sold 26,” Father Young said. “This year, I’m adding bacon, lettuce, and tomato sandwiches, and there may be more items at future festivals.”

Klingelhofer said the event made about $12,000 last year, with about 10 percent going to the parish St. Vincent de Paul Society and the rest to the parish general fund.

The Ada parish’s biggest social activity for the year is a holiday bazaar which occurs on a weekday around Veterans Day in November and includes lunch, dinner, sales of handcrafted items, a bake sale, a raffle, and an auction of theme baskets.

“Those baskets are really something,” Father Tigyer said. “There’s probably about 30 or 40 of them available at both the festival and the bazaar. It’s amazing the effort people put in on them, taking weeks to get them together.”

“You can be sure there will be at least one Ohio State-themed basket every time,” said parishioner Marie Sprang.

“Other themes we’ve had recently were Barbie, Lego blocks, the movie *Frozen*, movies in general, and camping.”

The Kenton parish also has a fall bazaar and a summer ice cream social.

“All of these are things people really look forward to,” Father Tigyer said. “Another big event is the Hardin County Fair every September, where the parish has operated a booth for years, just so people can learn more about the Catholic Church” in an area where five percent going to the parish St. Vincent de Paul Society and the rest to the parish general fund.

Father Jeffrey E. Tigyer (left), Father David J. Young, fourth-degree Knights of Columbus, and a first Communion class at Kenton Immaculate Conception Church. Photos/Immaculate Conception

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“I grew up in a large parish in Hilliard and came here from a large parish in Powell – both suburban Columbus areas where there seem to be events nearly every weekend. That’s not so much the case here, so when these activities do occur, the whole community comes. It’s a wonderful opportunity to promote the Catholic Church,” he said.

Father Young said each Hardin County parish has about 200 families. That represents a slight decline in the population of the Kenton parish and a significant increase for the one in Ada in the eight years since the *Catholic Times* last featured the two. This mirrors the population trends for the two cities.

“Kenton overall is becoming smaller and grayer” in terms of size and the age of the average resident, Bruner said.

“Family size also is becoming smaller in general, and that’s a factor, too.”

Kenton has about 8,200 people and is the county seat. Ada, about 15 miles northwest of Kenton, has a population of about 6,000 and is the home of Ohio Northern University, which has about 3,000 full-time undergraduate and graduate students.

Father Young said about 1,000 of those students identify themselves as Catholic, and between 300 and 350 attend Mass off and on during the year. There has been a Newman Club, a student-run ecumenical organization to promote Catholic ideals, at ONU since at least the mid-1960s. It meets about every other week and sponsors events including game nights, service projects, and a “Stump the Priest” night.

It recently showed the complete *Catholicism* series with Bishop Robert Barron and is studying *The Second Greatest Story Ever Told*, a book by Father Michael Gaitley, MIC, about John Paul II, the Divine Mercy devotion, and Marian consecration. For the last seven years, it has sponsored an annual weekend retreat at Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center in Newark which is open to all students. The most recent retreat, in January, attracted about 35 students. In another club program, two or three students join with a parish family once a month. Last year, 25 students were paired with 12 families.
Father Young said ONU, though Methodist-affiliated, has been cooperative with his parish for many years. The university shuttles students to Our Lady of Lourdes, which is a few blocks from the campus, for Sunday Mass. ONU had hosted Masses in its chapel until 2012, when Ada’s Methodist church burned down and that congregation needed the chapel space. Earlier, in 1965 and 1966, Our Lady of Lourdes used the ONU chapel for Masses while a new floor was installed in the Catholic church.

That ecumenical spirit also is shown in Kenton, particularly through an interfaith organization known as SOUP (Some of Us People), which operates a soup kitchen from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. every weekday on the last full week of each month at St. John’s Evangelical Church, one block from Immaculate Conception.

The kitchen started in the Catholic Church’s former school building and outgrew the space. “It operates late in the month because that’s when people need it the most, when they can’t stretch their unemployment or other benefits until the first of the month,” Father Young said. “It distributes free clothing, toiletries and hygiene products, bread, and other food items.” Each month, members of various churches take turns staffing the food line and providing setup and cleanup.

Another interfaith organization supported by the parish, Love INC (In the Name of Christ), serves as a clearinghouse for matching individuals in need with the appropriate social agency in the county.

The parish also has an active St. Vincent de Paul Society, which meets on the first Sunday of each month and collects funds after Masses on the months when there is a fifth Sunday. Its work includes home visits, an Advent Giving Tree, and food and clothing distribution.

During Advent, a grocery cart is placed in the back of the church, and parishioners are encouraged to place canned goods and other boxed food in the cart. Those items are placed in boxes and distributed to the needy before Christmas.

Knights of Columbus Council 1597 serves the Kenton and Ada parishes and has a history going back to 1911. “The Knights have done an awful lot to help the clustering process. I know I can call on them at any time for whatever assistance I need,” Father Young said.

This past year, the Knights distributed free copies of Matthew Kelly’s Rediscovering Catholicism book to everyone in both parishes. The council also awards two scholarships to high school seniors every year and takes part in the Knights’ statewide Measure-Up campaign for the developmentally disabled. Much of the money for those activities comes from a monthly parish breakfast of pancakes, sausage, and scrambled eggs.

The two churches have separate youth groups. The Credo group at Immaculate Conception collected funds on Super Bowl Sunday for SOUP, provided cookies and carols for the homebound and nursing home residents during Christmas, and painted the basement of the former school building, now used for religious education. The OLLY (Our Lady of Lourdes Youth) group recently made a music video of its own version of Don’t Stop Believing, has presented a mime version of the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday for the past three years, and had a “deep frying for donations” Sunday in April, offering various foods in return for assistance for a trip to a Steubenville youth conference this summer.

The parishes also have separate Parish School of Religion, Vacation Bible School, and adult faith formation programs. Immaculate Conception has morning and evening Scripture studies once a week, except in the summer. Our Lady of Lourdes currently is presenting Part II of the Symbolon program hosted by Dr. Edward Sri.

RCIA classes at Kenton and Ada are separate, but the two parishes combined for an Easter Vigil program in March in which six people from Ada and three from Kenton became Catholics or entered into full communion with the church.

The music program at Kenton, led by music director Ann Quinn and choir director Brian Sprang, includes an adult choir, song leaders, a women’s trio, and, for funerals, a Resurrection choir. A choir of younger children takes part in Masses during the Christmas and Easter seasons, with young people from the parish also playing the violin and the trumpet on special occasions.

Immaculate Conception has a women’s group which meets quarterly. It arranged for Wood to speak at the mission in March and conducts a retreat, a Christmas event, and other programs.

Additional activities at the parish include a garden club; funeral lunches; visits to the sick and homebound; support for Heartbeat of Hardin County, an interfaith pro-life group; a blessing of animals each year at the time of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi in October; Friday Lenten soup suppers; administration of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick every three months for all who desire it; an All Souls Day program at the local cemetery; and St. Martha’s Kitchen, which provides meals for families experiencing times of transition.

The Ada parish has a Parish Care program that is a multifaceted ministry providing home and hospital visits; a prayer chain; prayer shawls; funeral luncheons; support for the Ada food pantry; and blankets for each baby born in the parish.

Both parishes offer Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – at Kenton from the end of the 8 a.m. Mass until 5 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month, and at Ada from 10 a.m. to noon on the first Friday.

Immaculate Conception is at 215 E. North St., Kenton. Weekend Masses are at 4 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. Sunday, with weekday Masses at 9 a.m. Monday through Thursday. The phone number is (419) 675-1162, and the website is www.immaculateconceptionkenton.org. Our Lady of Lourdes, at 300 E. Highland Ave., is across the street from the place that gives Ada a bit of national exposure every year – the Wilson Sporting Goods chain; prayer shawls; funeral luncheons; support for the Ada food pantry; and blankets for each baby born in the parish.

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ABORTION, continued from Page 3

any Planned Parenthood facility for an abortion and the protocol is the same.”

She said, “We bring the woman in and lay her on the table and start the sedation right away so that the physician does not have to talk to the woman -- and we really don’t want her to know what we are doing.”

An ultrasound is performed before any abortion, Johnson said, “to see how far along she is so we could know what to charge her.”

“Ultrasound exposes the lie of abortion, and that is another reason we sedate the women. We don’t want them to pop their head up and see that,” Johnson added. The fetus, she said, is referred to as POC, for “product of conception.” Once the abortion is complete, she said, “the sucked-out tissue is brought to a lab and put in a baking dish and someone makes sure all the body parts are accounted for.”

She said that the body parts are then thrown in a bag and that at the end of the day, all the aborted fetal remains are placed in a freezer -- jokingly called a “nursery” -- for later pickup by a biohazard removal company.

“Our goal was to have women on the table, off the table with the abortion completed in five minutes,” Johnson said. She added that abortion providers do not want to talk to the women because that would take up time and “the doctors are paid by the number of abortions (they perform) and not by the hour.”

Her own disillusion began when she was pregnant with her own daughter and continued to participate in providing abortions.

“My baby was a baby because she was wanted,” Johnson said, adding that the Planned Parenthood mentality is “if a baby is unwanted, it magically becomes just tissue -- easily discarded and easily thrown away.”

She said, “The most frequently asked question (by women about to have an abortion) is, ‘Will my baby feel this?’ and we tell them, ‘No.’”

“We were given a script with answers to tough questions,” Johnson said. “I had to believe the lie because believing anything else would have been much too difficult.”

Johnson said watching an abortion on ultrasound was what made her decide to quit.

“I remember watching the suction tube going into the uterus, and I could see it getting closer and closer to the side of a 13-week-old baby. When it touched his side, he jumped,” she said. “He began flailing his arms and legs as if trying to move away, but there was nowhere to go.”

“As bad as it was seeing a baby dismembered, the worst part was that when I had the opportunity to intervene, to do something, I just stood there. I did nothing,” Johnson added.

After it was over, she said, “I looked at my hands and thought, ‘These hands that held my baby as she nursed, these hands that comforted my baby when she was upset -- these hands just took a life.’”

It was then, Johnson said, “I realized I’d been lied to by Planned Parenthood, but worse than that, I lied to so many women. … I looked them in the face and lied. I hate lying.”

After leaving Planned Parenthood she thought, “What do I say? ‘I’m sorry’ doesn’t seem like enough.” Johnson founded the And Then There Were None organization three years ago to help others leave the abortion industry. She said that originally, her aim was to help about 10 people quit the industry each year. In the last three years, she has helped 218 people – including six abortion doctors – to leave.

“My goal is not just to make abortion illegal. My goal is to make abortion unthinkable, so that a woman never again darkens the door of an abortion facility or ever thinks that taking the life of an innocent human being is acceptable,” Johnson said.

Szczepanowski is a staff writer at the Catholic Standard, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Washington.

Addiction Workshop

The Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus, will sponsor a free workshop on “Surviving Your Family Member’s Drug or Alcohol Addiction” from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, June 15.

The workshop will be focused on six key questions for people who love an addict.

It will be led by Robert W. Bailor, a chemical dependency counselor at Talbot Hall of The Ohio State University’s Wexner Medical Center and author of Chemical Addiction & Family Members: What Family Members Need to Survive and Thrive.

The workshop is limited to 25 participants. Register online at cccenterofpeace.org/upcoming-programs.html; by email to corpuschristicenterofpeace@gmail.com; or by phone at (614) 512-3731.
Sixth Sunday of Easter (Cycle C)

Christ’s peace is an enduring peace, so do not fear


Because the Diocese of Columbus celebrates the Feast of the Ascension next Sunday, celebrants may choose the second reading and the Gospel from the Seventh Sunday of Easter. Those readings include verses from the end of the book of Revelation and the final verses of the prayer Jesus said for his disciples before his arrest in John’s Gospel. The choice of the end of Revelation may be attractive, because it recalls themes from the Easter Vigil: “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end … the bright morning star.” It also contains the plaintive cry of the first-century church, “Come, Lord Jesus!” and ends with the greeting “The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all.”

The first reading for Sunday begins in Antioch (of Syria), which was Paul’s home base. People from Judea were insisting that “the brothers” (of Syria), which was Paul’s home base. People from Judea were insisting that “the brothers” (fellows Christians) had to be circumcised according to Mosaic practice, or “you cannot be saved.” Paul and Barnabas strongly objected and were sent to Jerusalem by the church in Antioch to consult with the apostles and the elders.

The Lectionary skips over the argument, providing instead the results. The apostles and elders finally agreed with Paul and Barnabas that circumcision was not necessary, and they sent their own representatives back to Antioch to affirm their decision. The Jerusalem church disassociated with any who had upset the Antioch church with their teachings, and made it clear that those who were doing it had no authority from Jerusalem. The only thing the Jerusalem church required was abstaining from meat sacrificed to idols, from blood, and some other minor issues.

Paul’s version of this meeting in Galatians 2 should be read together with this to see that Paul saw things rather differently. In any case, believers were not required to be circumcised, which showed clearly that the church was beginning to step away from the practice of Judaism and ultimately from the law of Moses altogether.

The reading from Revelation imagines a perfectly synchronized and orderly view of the heavenly Jerusalem, gleaming with “the splendor of God.” The repeated use of 12 unites the Old and the New (12 gates, 12 angels, 12 tribes). Perfectly balanced gates of three each in the four directions suggested that all of created reality was invited to enter in. The 12 apostles of the Lamb represented the new order. The lack of a temple in the heavenly city was explained by the very presence of the Lord God Almighty, who needed no temple. Nor was there need of sun or moon, because the glory of the Lord gave the city its light, even as its lamp was the Lamb.

The Gospel continues Jesus’ farewell address to the disciples as he began to prepare them for his absence, promising that the Father would send the “Advocate” (Parakletos in Greek) in his name. The Advocate would teach them everything and remind them “of all that I told you.” What Jesus told the disciples should be sufficient for every situation they (or we) will ever encounter. All too often, we ignore Jesus’ words and think and act for ourselves. If everything we do, say, or believe is not rooted in the words of Christ, then we should review our situation.

Christ’s peace is an enduring peace. Neither the abandonment of his disciples at his arrest, nor our own sins will destroy that peace, as the risen Christ greets the disciples, repeating three times, “Peace be with you.” This is a peace which the world cannot give. He cautions us not to be troubled or afraid. He meant that. Do not be afraid.

LEGISLATIVE DAY

Eighth-grade Student Council members at Worthington St. Michael School attended the Ohio Catholic Conference’s Legislative Day on Wednesday, April 20. They listened to state leaders talk about issues being discussed in the Ohio Legislature and how some of those issues are related to Catholic teaching. The group then had the opportunity to tour the Statehouse and participate in an interfaith rally. Pictured are (from left) teacher John Wallace and students Chris Wiseman, Henry Brunton, Elizabeth Amland, and Natalie Allton.

Photo courtesy St. Michael School

Father Lawrence L. Hummer, pastor at Chillicothe St. Mary Church, may be reached at hummerl@stmarychillicothe.com.

The Weekday Bible Bible Readings

MONDAY
Acts 16:11-15
Psalm 149:1b-6a, 9b
John 15:26-16:4a

TUESDAY
1 Corinthians 15:1-8
Psalm 19:2-5
John 14:6-14

WEDNESDAY
Acts 17:15, 22-18:1
Psalm 148:1-2, 11-14
John 16:12-15

THURSDAY
Acts 18:1-8
Psalm 98:1-4
John 16:16-20

FRIDAY
Acts 18:9-18
Psalm 47:2-7
John 16:20-23

SATURDAY
Acts 18:23-28
Psalm 47:2-3, 8-10
John 16:23b-28

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF MAY 1, 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-Lifetv (Channel 113 in Ada, Logan, Millersburg, Mary 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
The most important day of your life

During talks around the country in recent years, I’ve been asking Catholic audiences how many of those present know the date of their baptism. The high-end response is a little less than 10 percent. The average is about two or three percent. This, brethren, is a problem.

You know your birthday. You know (or you’d better know, gentlemen) your wedding anniversary. You know your children’s birthdays. So why don’t you know the date when you became a friend and companion of the Lord Jesus Christ—the most important day of your life?

I started thinking about this 30 years ago, when I began working with evangelical Protestants on religious freedom and pro-life issues. (“Religious freedom” in that innocent age meant prying “dissident” Christians and Jews out of the clutches of the KGB, not trying to keep the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services from bullying the Little Sisters of the Poor.) And I discovered that these folks had an interesting way of introducing themselves at meetings.

Throw a dozen Americans, unknown to each other, together, and the normal way of letting people know who you are is by saying what you do: “I’m Jane Smith and I’m a pediatrician.” Or “I’m John Jones and I work for Microsoft.” That’s not how my new acquaintances identified themselves, however. They’d say, “I’m Jane Smith and I was born again on” such-and-such a date, usually a few years back, when Jane obviously would have been an adult. “I’m John Jones and I was born again on …” And so forth and so on.

When the introductions came around to me, I would say, “I’m George Weigel and I was born again on April 29, 1951—at which point I was precisely 12 days old.” It was a shock to some, but it did get a few interesting conversations about sacramental theology going.

Then, when I was working on the first volume of my John Paul II biography, Witness to Hope, I had to describe the pope’s visit to his home town, Wadowice, during his first papal pilgrimage to Poland in June 1979. He of course went to the church he had known as a boy, but what did he do when he got there? He went straight to the baptismal font, knelt, and kissed it. Why? Because St. John Paul knew that the most important day of his life was the day of his baptism—not the day he was ordained a priest, or consecrated a bishop, or elected pope. The day of his baptism was, literally, the font from which everything else in his life flowed.

And that’s not just true of saints. It ought to be true of each of us. Because on the day we were baptized—as infants or teenagers or adults—we became friends of the Lord Jesus Christ and we received a missionary commission. We were commissioned to “Go … and make disciples of all nations … teaching them all that I have commanded you.” That instruction in Matthew 28:19-20 was not just addressed to a ragtag band of 11 men from the cultural and political fringes of the Roman Empire. It was addressed to you and to me, and to everyone else in the Church, on the day of our baptism.

So after my little quiz, I suggest to my audiences that they go home that night, dig out the file where they keep the “Catholic paper,” look up the date of their baptism, memorize it—and then celebrate it every year. Having done this for years, I now find out that there are special graces to be obtained from partying on the date of your baptism: a plenary indulgence may be obtained on the anniversary of baptism by renewing your baptismal promises “according to the approved formula,” which every Catholic ought to know from the Easter Vigil or Easter Sunday Mass, when we renew our baptismal promises as a community.

Owning your baptism is the precondition to being a member of that “church permanently in mission” which Pope Francis calls us to be. So own it, celebrate it—and then put that renewal of grace to use in inviting others to become friends of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

New nuncio to U.S. says he’s ready to listen and learn

By Cindy Wooden/Catholic News Service

Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the new papal nuncio to the United States, said he is ready to learn about the nation’s Catholic Church and will try his best to be Pope Francis’ emissary, particularly in promoting a church that is close to those who suffer.

The archbishop, who had a private meeting at the Vatican with Pope Francis on April 21, gave interviews the next day to the English and the Italian programs of Vatican Radio.

The 70-year-old French native has been in the Vatican diplomatic corps for almost 40 years and said a nuncio’s job is to help the pope fulfill his ministry of building up local churches and respecting their diversity, while keeping them united with the universal church.

“The difficulty or the challenge,” he said, is “to listen, to be careful about what’s going on, to understand, to exercise dialogue— I think that’s very important—to discover the beauty, the richness of the culture of the people, the way the people live, (and) to help the inculturation of the Gospel in a particular culture.”

At the same time, he said, a nuncio’s mission is “to help the pope understand -- the pope and those that work with him -- to understand what’s going on.”

Archbishop Pierre (right, with Pope Francis) said the richness of the Catholic Church comes from that combination of valuing peoples and cultures and their local expressions of faith while being united universally.

The archbishop told Vatican Radio’s English program, “I’m quite excited—sometimes fearful, about leaving Mexico and going to the United States. He said his reaction was “oh” when the pope told him of his new assignment “because it’s such a big country, such a big history, but you know I’m trustful in God and very, very grateful for this mission which is given to me.”

“I know I have to learn in the same way that, when I arrived in Mexico nine years ago, I had to learn a lot and I’m still learning, so I’m sure that during this year the American people -- particularly the bishops, the priests, the religious, the laypeople -- will be my teachers,” he said.

The first mission the pope gives his nuncios and the whole church, obviously, is to proclaim the Gospel, he said. Next, there is “the way the pope wants us and the church to be close to people, especially those who suffer, the poor. This is also what I’ve perceived in what he has told me, and I will try my best to be a faithful emissary of the pope.”

Speaking to Vatican Radio’s Italian program, Archbishop Pierre said being nuncio to the United States is “an enormous, difficult” ministry, but he is ready to take up the task. “The first thing is to learn, to listen, and I think that one of the qualities the pope asks of us is to be able to listen and not go in with preconceived ideas,” he said.
Authorities say arson destroyed Idaho church; bishop pledges to rebuild

By Michael Brown
Catholic News Service

Federal investigators consider a fire that destroyed a church near the Canadian border to be arson.

Agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the office of the Idaho state fire marshal were attempting to determine exactly what sparked the blaze that destroyed St. Ann Church on Thursday, April 21.

Located 27 miles from the Canadian border, St. Ann is the northernmost Catholic church in Idaho. Two months earlier, the building had been hit by vandals, with damage including satanic symbols drawn on the walls and the defacing of a statue.

No injuries were reported. The building sustained extensive damage and was razed after investigators concluded their work.

“We have been heartened by the prayers and support of the community and of Catholics and others around the state reaching out to the people of St. Ann’s in this hour of need,” said Bishop Peter F. Christensen of Boise, in a statement released later that day.

“Catholics have worshipped at St. Ann’s for more than 120 years. We are cooperating with authorities investigating the cause of the blaze,” he added.

“Join me in praying for the people of St. Ann’s and all those affected by this fire,” he said.

Celebrating Mass on Sunday, April 24 at Bonners Ferry United Methodist Church, across from the St. Ann site, Bishop Christensen said, “I want to give you some hope and I want to give you a challenge, too. This church will be rebuilt.”

News reports said that around 2 a.m., it appears that three separate fires started in the basement of the church, built in 1963. Flames quickly spread throughout the building. Reports indicated that additional vandalism and defacement of statues took place before the fires were set.

Father Carlos A. Perez, parish administrator, was in the rectory nearby, which sustained significant smoke damage.

If the fire is the result of a cult or anti-Catholic group, it is not the first time a Catholic parish has been attacked in northern Idaho. In 1986, a bomb was set off outside the St. Pius X Church rectory in nearby Coeur d’Alene as Father William A. Wassmuth, pastor, was sitting inside. Father Wassmuth, uninjured by the blast, was an outspoken supporter of human rights. Several Aryan Nation leaders were found guilty of setting off the bomb.

The first St. Ann Church was erected in 1894, with the help of Boise’s first spiritual leader, Bishop Alphonse J. Glorieux, who traveled the length of the state to help build it with his own hands.

News reports said police have not arrested anyone in connection with the fire, but are following up on several credible leads.

Brown is editor of The Idaho Catholic Register, newspaper of the Diocese of Boise.
28, THURSDAY
May 1, 2016

Holy Hour of Reparation at Columbus Sacred Heart
7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus. Free workshop for catechists on “A Church on the Move: How to Get Mission and Mercy in Motion” with author Joe Paprocki. Sponsored by diocesan Office of Religious Education & Catechesis. Light snacks available. 614-221-4633

Newman Center Young Professionals Group
7:30 p.m. St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave., Columbus. Meeting of center’s group for young professionals and graduate students in their 20s and 30s, with Karen Broering, leader of the center’s Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program for children. 614-291-4674

28-MAY 1, THURSDAY-SUNDAY
Bishop Hartley Presents “Oklahomah!
7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Columbus Performing Arts Center, 549 Franklin Ave., Columbus. Columbus Bishop Hartley High School’s theater department presents Rodgers and Hammerstein’s “Oklahomah!” Tickets $10 at door. 614-237-5421

St. Charles Presents “Godspell”
8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. School’s theater department presents the musical “Godspell.” Tickets $10 adults, $5 students. 614-252-6714

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

Ecology Seminar at Corpus Christi
7 to 9 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Live streaming of seminar on “Have We Lost Our Minds (Literally)? Ecology in an Age of Technology” from Shalem Institute in Washington with Sister Ilia Delio, OSF, theology professor at Villanova University. Suggested donation $5. Maximum 30 participants. 614-512-3731

JOIN BiblioBenefit at St. Andrew
7 to 10 p.m., Nugent Hall, St. Andrew Church, 1899 McCoy Road, Columbus. Twelfth annual BiblioBenefit fundraising dinner for joint Organization for Inner-City Needs. Tickets $50. Theme: “Under the Tuscan Moon.” 614-241-2531

30, SATURDAY
Walking With Purpose Workshop at St. John Neumann
8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 2433 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. Workshop to introduce Walking With Purpose discipleship ministry for women, with representatives of the program and the four diocesan parishes using it. Free breakfast, lunch provided. 740-965-1358

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.

Citywide Prayer Gathering at Church of Our Lady
9 a.m. to noon, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Citywide prayer gathering sponsored by diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Begins with Mass, followed by light breakfast, and Holy Hour with Living Stones band, Reconciliation, individual prayer ministry available. Bring a breakfast dish to share. 614-886-8266

1, 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.

St. Bernadette School Open House
Noon to 2 p.m. St. Bernadette School, 1352 Wheeling Ave. Lancaster. Open house for parents of prospective students. Ice cream available. 740-654-3137

Music for Double Choir at Washington Court House
3 p.m., St. Colman of Cloyne Church, 219 S. North St., Washington Court House. Concerts in a Country Church series presents “Double, Double, Bass and Treble,” a concert of music for a double choir, with the parish choir and friends from surrounding communities. Tickets $10. 877-232-5731

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

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

Compline at Cathedral
9 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Chanting of Compline. 614-241-2586

2, MONDAY
Aquinas Alumni Luncheon
Noon, St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. Monthly Columbus Aquinas High School alumni luncheon.

ASK Faith Formation Program at St. John Neumann
7 p.m., Faith and Family Center, St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. ASK (Adults Seeking Knowledge) adult faith formation question-and-answer program. Food, drinks available. 740-965-1358

3, TUESDAY
“Sacred Women” Program Benefiting Mount Carmel
6:30 p.m., Grove City United Methodist Church, 2684 Columbus St., Grove City. “Sacred Women: Celebrating Courage, Survival, and Transformation” program honoring five inspirational Grove City-area women. Tickets $25; children 18 and younger free. Proceeds support Mount Carmel Foundation programs benefiting Grove City.

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 interested in 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. 740-654-6928

4, WEDNESDAY
Red Mass at Cathedral
5:15 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Annual Red Mass for those in professions dealing with law and justice, with Father Monte Hoyles, chancellor of the Diocese of Toledo, as homilist and Bishop Frederick Campbell as principal celebrant. 614-224-1295

5, 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 at Holy Family
6 to 7 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Holy Hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by meeting of parish Holy Name and Junior Holy Name societies, with refreshments. 614-221-4323

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

6, 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.

Catholic Men’s Luncheon Club
12:35 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Catholic Men’s Luncheon Club meeting. Talk by Father Paul Noble, diocesan vocations director.

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.

Transitional Deacon Ordination at Cathedral
7 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Mass of ordination of seminarian Daniel Olvera as a transitional deacon by Bishop Frederick Campbell, followed by reception.

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.

7, SATURDAY
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.

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

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.

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.
The third event of the 2015-2016 "Concerts in a Country Church" series at Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne Church, titled "Double, Double, Bass and Treble," will take place at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 1.

The concert will feature the choir of St. Colman Church, a quartet of soloists, and a second choir from Cedarville University in a program of music for double choir.

"In the sense that a choir of 16 is more than just four voices amplified, a double choir is also more than just two choirs singing together. The opportunity to have two separate choirs in concert, as well as utilizing eight or more separate parts, is not one that happens with great frequency, so we are particularly pleased to be able to do this program," said the series' director, Craig Jaynes, who also is music director of the church.

Soloists will include Kristin Preston and Brenda Riley of Washington Court House and Calvin and Mark Spencer of Cedarville. The Spencers have performed at St. Colman in past years.

Works featured will include, among others: "God Is Gone Up" by Gerald Finzi, Felix Mendelssohn's "Ave Maria," and the "Mass in G Minor" by Ralph Vaughan Williams.

Tickets may be purchased at the door for $10. The church is located at 219 S. North St., two blocks east and one block south of the Fayette County Courthouse.
When it comes to happiness, there’s no app for that, pope tells teens

By Junno Arocho Esteves  
Catholic News Service

Happiness “is not an app that you can download on your phones, nor will the latest update help you become free and great in loving,” Pope Francis told thousands of teenagers.

Young people from around the world flocked to Rome for a special Year of Mercy event for those aged 13-16.

The celebrations began on Saturday, April 23 with confessions in St. Peter’s Square.

The pope caught many off guard as he made an unannounced visit to the square on that day. After greeting several people, he placed a purple stole over his shoulders and sat down, joining more than 150 priests offering the sacrament of reconciliation.

Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, said the pope “listened to the confessions of 16 boys and girls,” spending more than an hour in the square.

The pope told the young people at a Mass the following day that true freedom is priceless and comes from making the courageous decision to do good – not from the mediocre belief that happiness can be easily obtained through worldly possessions and fashion.

A person’s happiness has “has no price and cannot be bought,” the pope said during the Mass in St. Peter’s Square.

Gray clouds looming over the square did little to deter an estimated 100,000 young teens and pilgrims from attending the final Mass of the jubilee celebration.

In his homily, the pope encouraged the youths to carry out the “enormous responsibility” entrusted to the disciples by Jesus in the Sunday Gospel reading: “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Love, Pope Francis said, is the “only valid ‘document’ identifying us as Christians” and the only path to happiness.

True love is free “without being possessive” of people or worldly things, he said. “There is always a temptation to let our affections be tainted by an instinctive desire to take, to have what we find pleasing; our consumerist culture reinforces this tendency. Yet when we hold on too tightly to something, it fades, it dies and then we feel confused, empty inside,” he said.

The freedom that comes from love, he continued, does not come from “doing whatever you want,” which only makes people “self-centered and aloof,” but is a gift that comes from “being able to choose good.”

“Be skeptical about people who want to make you believe that you are only important if you act tough like the heroes in films or if you wear the latest fashions. Your happiness has no price. It cannot be bought,” the pope stressed.

The first day of the celebration ended late April 23 with music and testimonies at Rome’s Olympic Stadium for an estimated 70,000 young people.

In a video message played at the rally, Pope Francis compared the absence of Jesus in one’s life to being somewhere without a cellphone signal, making it impossible to connect with each other.

“Just remember that if Jesus is not in your life, it is as though there was no signal,” he said. “Let’s always place ourselves where we have the signal – the family, the parish, the school – because in this world we will always have something to say that is good and true.”
Columbus St. Andrew School first-grade students are shown with one of their art projects. They collected used bottle caps, washed them, and mounted them on wooden frames to make mosaics. They learned about recycling, sorting, graphing, and mosaics. The final products were displayed around the outside of the school.

**St. Andrew bottle cap mosaic art**

Columbus St. Andrew School first-grade students are shown with one of their art projects. They collected used bottle caps, washed them, and mounted them on wooden frames to make mosaics. They learned about recycling, sorting, graphing, and mosaics. The final products were displayed around the outside of the school.

**Year of Mercy banner**

Columbus Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Childcare, which serves students ranging from six weeks old to kindergarten age, is celebrating the Year of Mercy by passing a special banner throughout the school. The Year of Mercy banner is traveling from the youngest infant and toddler students to those in kindergarten. Students also made cards for the sick, lonely, and homebound, and tied together a blanket to be given to someone in need.  

**Columbus St. Mary Right to Read Week**

Columbus St. Mary School students form the solar system as a celebration of Right to Read Week.