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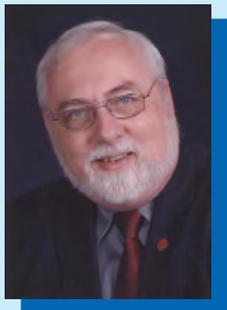


REYNOLDSBURG ST. PIUS X CHURCH:
PRAYERFUL, INFORMED, UNSELFISH, SENT

The Editor's Notebook

Christian Self-Renewal

By David Garick, Editor



We are closing in on the final days of Lent. So how is that penance, prayer, abstinence, and almsgiving coming along? It's tempting to think back and feel good about how we have succeeded in keeping away from the cheeseburgers on Fridays, or how many times we went to adoration or confession. Or perhaps it is the other way around, and we feel guilty because we didn't accomplish those things very well. We are very results-driven as a people. And, as usual, we miss the point of what Lent is all about. Fortunately, St. Paul is there to bring us back to reality.

The reading from his letter to the Philippians contained in this Sunday's Mass speaks well to that point: "I even consider everything as a loss because of the supreme good of knowing Jesus Christ my Lord. For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things and I consider them so much rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him."

In other words, our successes and failures are not really what matters. The important thing is that we put aside our own goals and achievement, forget our shortcomings and failures, and embrace the fact that the center of our existence, the primary value of our life, is Jesus.

In this week's Gospel, Jesus spares the woman caught in adultery from a stoning by reminding her accusers that they, too, have sinned. He forgives her, but does not say that what she did was all

right. Rather, he challenges her to "go and from now on do not sin any more."

This is the renewal that Lent is all about. We need to draw a line on the past and start anew. This is what God wishes us to do. This renewal is not a once-and-for-all thing. We constantly fall short through our weakness, pride, and human sinfulness. But Holy Week is almost here and we will again experience Christ's passion as he takes on all of our sins out of incredible love for us, and then on Easter morning wins the victory not just for himself, but for each of us, so we can attain eternal joy with him.

The challenge is not in what we have done or failed to do, but what we can do from now on. We may not be happy with where we are in life. We may be confused and slightly screwed-up. We are afraid of the risk of being open and committed to Christ. It is hard to say that all-inclusive "yes" to God and to pay the price. Most of us are not there yet. But I think we can take a step forward. We can take a crack at self-renewal. We make no claim to be ideal Christians -- that would be our human pride pulling us back. We only struggle continually to be followers of Christ, to keep him in our hearts, to learn his way, to strain toward our model of human living, Jesus the Lord.

Pope: Missionaries of Charity killed in Yemen are 'martyrs of charity'

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

The four Missionaries of Charity murdered on Friday, March 4 in Yemen "are the martyrs of today," Pope Francis said. "They gave their blood for the church."

After reciting the Angelus with thousands of people gathered in St. Peter's Square on Sunday, March 6, Pope Francis publicly offered his condolences to the Missionaries of Charity and prayed that the religious order's founder, Blessed Teresa of Kolkata, would "accompany to paradise these daughters of hers, martyrs of charity, and that she would intercede for peace and a sacred respect for human life."

The four Missionaries of Charity and 12 other people were killed by uniformed gunmen, who entered the home the sisters operate for the elderly and disabled in Aden.

The superior of the Missionaries of Charity at the home survived by hiding, according to the Vatican's Fides news agency. Father Tom Uzunnalil, an Indian Salesian priest who had been living at the home since Holy Family Parish in Aden was sacked and burned in September, was missing after the attack.

Pope Francis said that although the martyred sisters would not make news headlines, they "gave their blood for the church."

The sisters and the 14 others who were killed "are victims of the attack by those who killed them, but also (victims) of indifference, this globalization of indifference that just doesn't care," the pope said.

Yemen has been experiencing a political crisis since 2011 and is often described as being in a state of

civil war with members of the Shi'ite and Sunni Muslim communities vying for power. In the midst of the tensions, terrorist groups have been operating in the nation, including groups believed to be associated with the Islamic State and al-Qaida.

Although most Christians have fled the country, a handful of Salesian priests and about 20 Missionaries of Charity chose to stay and continue their ministry.

In a condolence message released on Saturday, March 5 by the Vatican, Pope Francis described the Aden murders as an "act of senseless and diabolical violence."

The pope "prays that this pointless slaughter will awaken consciences, lead to a change of heart, and inspire all parties to lay down their arms and take up the path of dialogue," the message said. "In the name of God, he calls upon all parties in the present conflict to renounce violence, and to renew their commitment to the people of Yemen, particularly those most in need, whom the sisters and their helpers sought to serve."

Bishop Paul Hinder, head of the vicariate of Southern Arabia, which includes Yemen, told AsiaNews, a Rome-based missionary news agency, that at 8:30 a.m. on March 4, "persons in uniform" broke into the Aden compound, killing the guard and all employees who tried to stop them. "They then reached the sisters and opened fire," he said.

Two of the sisters killed were Rwandan, one was from India, and one was from Kenya, the bishop said. Father Uzunnalil apparently was kidnapped, he added.

"The signal was clear: This has to do with religion," Bishop Hinder said.



Front Page photo:
The interior of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church. The altar mosaic includes symbols of the four Gospel writers and the "chi rho" symbol for Jesus Christ.

CT photo by Tim Puet



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Vatican announces consistory to approve canonization of Mother Teresa

By Junno Arocho Esteves

Catholic News Service

Pope Francis will preside over a consistory to approve the canonization of five men and women, including Blessed Teresa of Kolkata, the Vatican announced.

The consistory on Tuesday, March 15, will also determine the approval of canonization of Argentine "gaucho priest" Blessed Jose Gabriel del Rosario Brochero and Blessed Jose Sanchez del Rio, a 14-year-old Mexican boy martyred for refusing to renounce his faith during the Cristero War of the 1920s, the Vatican said on March 7.

The meeting of cardinals and promoters of the sainthood causes, also known as an "ordinary public consistory," formally ends the process of approving a new saint.

Although canonization dates are often announced at the consistory, it is widely believed Blessed Teresa's canoniza-

tion will take place on Sunday, Sept. 4. That date celebrates the Jubilee of Workers and Volunteers of Mercy and is the day before the 19th anniversary of her death on Sept. 5, 1997.

Pope Francis on Dec. 17, 2015, approved a second miracle attributed to Blessed Teresa's intercession. The postulator for her sainthood cause, Father Brian Kolodiejchuk of the Missionaries of Charity, said the second miracle that was approved involved the healing of a now 42-year-old mechanical engineer in Santos, Brazil.

Doctors diagnosed the man with a viral brain infection that resulted in multiple brain abscesses, the priest said in a statement published on Dec. 18 by AsiaNews, the Rome-based missionary news agency. Treatments given were ineffective and the man went into a coma, the postulator wrote.

The then-newly married man's wife had spent months praying to Blessed Teresa, and her prayers were joined by

those of her relatives and friends when her dying husband was taken to the operating room on Dec. 9, 2008.

When the surgeon entered the operating room, he reported that he found the patient awake, free of pain, and asking, "What am I doing here?" Doctors reported the man showed no more symptoms. A Vatican medical commission voted unanimously in September 2015 that the healing was inexplicable.

Pope St. John Paul II had made an exception to the usual canonization process in Mother Teresa's case by allowing her sainthood cause to be opened without waiting the usual five



years after a candidate's death. He beatified her in 2003.

The order she started -- the Missionaries of Charity -- continues its outreach to the "poorest of the poor."

Columbus St. Patrick to host ordination

Columbus St. Patrick Church is getting ready for what will be a memorable event. Bishop Frederick Campbell will ordain Brother Peter Totleben, OP, to the priesthood at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 19 in the church, 280 N. Grant Ave.

"To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time that an ordination has taken place at St. Patrick Church in its 164-year history," said Father Michael Mary Dosch, OP, pastor of the church. "It is a historic moment for which the entire parish is excited. We are particularly blessed that Brother Peter's ordination to the priesthood is taking place during the 800th anniversary of the Dominican Order and on the Solemnity of St. Joseph, the patron of our province. What a great blessing for St. Patrick's!"

Brother Peter (*pictured*) has been serving as a deacon at St. Patrick since September 2014 while preparing for his ordination to the priesthood. "I'm getting really excited," he said, "St. Patrick's is a special place. The people here have made this one of the best experiences that I have had dur-

ing my entire time as a Dominican. I can't wait to serve our parishioners as a priest of Jesus Christ."

After growing up in Erie, Pennsylvania, and graduating from Pennsylvania State University in 2004, Brother Peter worked as a software developer near Washington for two years. He entered the Dominican Order in August of 2006. He spent one year in the novitiate at Cincinnati St. Gertrude Church, where first-year brothers spend time in prayer, discernment, and training in religious life.

At the end of his novitiate, Brother Peter made temporary vows in August 2007. From there, he moved on to Washington to attend the Dominican House of Studies, the seminary of the Dominican Province of St. Joseph, which covers the eastern United States, including Ohio.

He made his final vows in August 2011 and was ordained to the diaconate in March 2013. While in Columbus, he completed his theological studies by receiving a license of sacred theology degree from the Do-

minican House of Studies.

He has served in a variety of ministerial roles at St. Patrick. He has performed the usual duties of a deacon: preaching, baptizing, marriage preparation, leading Eucharistic Adoration and other devotions, as well as bringing holy Communion to the sick. He also has helped with the parish's religious education, youth ministry, adult education, and young adult programs.

As a priest, he will be taking on the additional duties of celebrating Mass, hearing confessions, and anointing the sick. "I'm a bit overwhelmed at the thought of hearing confessions here, since our priests here are so busy with this ministry," he said, "But I'm happy to help out."

The ordination will be celebrated on the day before Palm Sunday in a sanctuary that promises to be packed with brother Dominicans, family, friends, parishioners, and well-wishers. The newly ordained Father Totleben will celebrate his first mass at St. Patrick at noon on March 20, Palm Sunday. "My first week as a priest is going to be



Holy Week, which is a little different, diving right into the deep end and all. At least I know that the schedule gets less intense from there," he said.

Brother Peter's ordination and first Mass will be open to the public as a sign that a priest is the servant of all the people of God. Father Dosch said a priestly ordination is a celebration of our shared Catholic faith. "Everyone should see at least one ordination during their lifetime," he said.

PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

Candidate

Did you commit to twenty for twenty last week? We are really in the home stretch now toward Holy Week and the Easter Vigil. Our challenge was to begin doing something new each day that was an active fulfillment of our Lenten practices of prayer, almsgiving, and fasting. This was a nice addition for everyone, whether your Lenten sacrifice has been solid, mediocre, or very weak. It is always a nice effort and compliment to enhance your prayer life and your solidarity with the poor through fasting and charitable donations. We can always do better, and it is never too late to start. We always need repentance and forgiveness, and, by the grace of God, we can start or strengthen our Lenten journey at any point. God provides, blesses, and lovingly gives reconciliation whenever we ask for it in sorrow and remorse. We can never give up, even when we continue to fail. Like Jesus' parable of the workers who received the same pay for a day of work, whether they labored for eight hours or two, God's generosity and love know no bounds or limits. Let us take advantage of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and prepare well for going to confession this Lent, before Easter. Only two more weeks to go.

I try not to be too political in this column, and will continue to restrain myself as much as possible. With the Ohio primary occurring this Tuesday, I just cannot resist telling you about the best person out there right now. You might be able to guess who it is. This person is different. He has no political experience at all. He came out of nowhere to be a stand-out among much more polished leaders. He says exactly what is on his mind, and does not care who might be offended. When he first appeared on the scene, he attracted great crowds and a consistent following. His public appearances draw larger-than-expected crowds. Those "in the know" do not take him seriously and predict he eventually will just go away. People could not possibly take him or his message seriously. He comes from an entrepreneurial background, and received his training and some good experience from his father. Some say that he should have just stayed with what he knows best and what he was taught. Even many of the people in his hometown and state scoff at him and reject him because of who he thinks he is. He gets himself in all sorts of trouble because he points fingers at powerful people and says things that cut through the heart. But through it all, he speaks the truth. We must listen to the truth and the sometimes striking facts he states. It is about time that we all paid attention on a daily basis to his leadership and his call to action. In this season of Lent, in 2016, can we bravely transform our lives and follow him? Two thousand years ago, they killed Him and nailed Him to a cross for clearly speaking love, mercy, repentance, and the truth.

Our practical challenge this week is to pray for the grace to cut through all the political nonsense and live up to the challenges of Jesus Christ. He alone makes promises to us that are always kept. Politics, informed voting, and good candidates are very important to a civil and orderly society. But if we all lived our lives according to the example of Jesus Christ, even just most of the time, we would have much less turmoil. He is the only real "candidate" we need to follow. Let us take the time in these final two weeks of Lent to be examples of good Christian stewardship. If we continue to do so, our world will change for the better, in spite of political candidates.

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



100th Day Celebration

Columbus St. Anthony School kindergarten students (from left) Evie Sabo, Orianna Strickland, Jocelyn Armstrong, and Braylon Henderson pose with their plastic cup creation on the 100th day of school. Kindergarten and first-grade students celebrated the 100th day of the 2015-2016 school year by counting to 100, playing with Solo cups, making designs with 100 marshmallows and toothpicks, making hats, singing songs, and putting together a snack with 100 different food items, and the teachers dressed up as though they were 100 years old.

Photo courtesy St. Anthony School

OLB Job Fair

Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Childcare, 4567 Olentangy River Road, Columbus, is hosting a job fair on Monday, March 14 from 7 to 9 a.m., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 4 to 7 p.m.

Full-time and part-time teaching positions are available for anyone inter-

ested in working with children from age six weeks through kindergarten. Please bring copies of your resume.

If you have any questions, contact Lauren Harrington at lharrington@ceducation.org or call (614) 459-8285.

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Divided court examines 'undue burden' test in abortion case

By Carol Zimmermann /Catholic News Service

The U.S. Supreme Court stepped into some contentious waters on Wednesday, March 2 when it heard oral arguments on abortion for the first time in nearly a decade and

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almost 25 years since it issued a major ruling on abortion.

But even though some time has gone by, the court's 1992 ruling in *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* had a front-row seat during the recent arguments about state requirements on Texas abortion clinics, because the "undue burden" test raised in that decision was frequently mentioned in this go-round.

The *Casey* ruling also may have played a part in questions posed by Justice Anthony Kennedy, the only remaining member of the court who helped write that opinion.

And what Kennedy asked or didn't ask on March 2 is being parsed by legal analysts and court watchers alike since he probably will be the deciding vote in the Texas case.

In its previous abortion case in 2007, the Supreme Court ruled 5-4 to uphold the federal ban on partial-birth abortion, which President George W. Bush signed in 2003. The law had withstood several court challenges on constitutional grounds before it was upheld.

In *Casey*, the justices upheld provisions in Pennsylvania law requiring parental consent for minors, a 24-hour waiting period before an abortion, filing of detailed reports about each abortion, and distribution of information about alternatives to abortion.

It struck down a requirement that married women need to notify their husbands before having an abortion.

In essence, it ruled that a state may enact abortion regulations that do not pose an "undue burden" on pregnant women.

The phrase "undue burden" was the expression *du jour* on March 2 and essentially the heart of the argument in *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt*, a challenge by Texas abortion clinics to a 2013 state law requiring them to comply with standards of ambulatory surgical centers and their doctors to have admitting privileges at local hospitals.

Opponents of the state regulations say they are aimed at stopping abortions, because they have forced clinics to close. They say this puts an undue burden on women seeking abortions who have to travel farther to find an available clinic.

In response to claims that the Texas law is an effort to end abortion, Jennifer Carr Allmon, associate director of the Texas Catholic Conference, said in a March 2 statement: "Let's be clear. We will end legalized abortion in America. But that will be done directly and not through a back-door regulatory attempt. Legalized abortion will end because we are winning the hearts and minds of young people in America through common sense and sound science."

The Texas restrictions were signed into law in 2013, but lower-court orders have prevented them from being fully implemented. The Supreme Court in June granted a request for an emergency stay, which blocked enforcement of the provisions.

Before the Texas Legislature adopted the two new restrictions, 41 Texas clinics performed abortions. After the law was passed -- and before it was blocked by the high court -- that number dropped to 19, and is likely to drop to 10 if the court upholds the law.

If the law is fully enforced, the biggest impact will be in the western and southern parts of the state.

A temporary court order allows one clinic in the Rio Grande Valley to remain open while the case is pending.

Last year, the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans largely upheld the law. If the Supreme Court issues a split decision, it will uphold the lower court's decision and affect the three states -- Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas -- covered by the appeals court, not setting a national precedent.

During arguments last year before the appeals court, the solicitor general representing Texas said the state's law didn't place an "undue burden" on women who wanted an abortion because, as he put it, "The undue burden has to require something more than driving distance. People will always have to travel to get an abortion."

In that same courtroom, Stephanie Toti, the plaintiff's attorney, said the law did put an undue burden on women, particularly in west Texas and the Rio Grande Valley. "If a woman in El Paso has to travel 500 miles to get an abortion, that's an undue burden," she said.

The issues were still front and center in the March 2 arguments. Justice Elena Kagan said the law could affect hundreds of thousands of women who would have to travel much farther to reach a clinic.

Scott Keller, solicitor general of Texas, said the major metropolitan areas in the state that currently have clinics would continue to have them. He also noted that more than 90 percent of Texas women live within 150 miles of an abortion clinic.

The law puts "heavy burdens on abortion access that are not medically justified," said Toti, a lawyer for the Center for Reproductive Rights in New York City. He was referring to clinics that closed throughout the state just before or right after the law was enacted.

Five states require providers of either medication or surgical abortion services to have admitting privileges at a local hospital. Another 10 require the provider to have either admitting privileges or another type of relationship with a hospital.

In 2015, Arkansas adopted a new restriction that requires only providers of abortions performed through use of medication to have an agreement with a physician who has admitting privileges. The law does not include a similar requirement for providers of surgical abortions.

Allmon in her statement said the "real question before the court in this case is not whether women deserve access to abortion, but rather whether women deserve safe medical procedures."

How the Supreme Court will rule in *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt* remains to be seen.

Clarke Forsythe, acting president and senior counsel at Americans United for Life, said the court could either reach a 4-4 vote, hold a decision for a later date, or send it back to the trial court, which Kennedy mentioned during the oral argument.

"Based on the argument, it did not seem that the abortion clinics would get five votes on any ground," he said on March 2.

No matter how the court rules, the battle over this issue probably will continue. As Forsythe put it, "We are certainly going to find ourselves in court again arguing over laws to protect women in abortion clinics from immediate and long-term risks."

FASTING DURING LENT; HYPHENATED LAST NAMES

Q. On the two obligatory days of fasting -- Ash Wednesday and Good Friday -- I do fast, but I get very hungry during the latter part of the day. So I sometimes wait until just after midnight and then satisfy my hunger with an amount of food not in keeping with the notion of fasting.

While I believe that I am meeting the letter of my obligation, I am not sure that I am honoring its spirit. What sort of guidance would you offer? (Manalapan, New Jersey)

A. The Catholic Church, it seems to me, is rather modest in the dietary discipline it asks from believers. As you note, there are only two days of fasting on the church's calendar: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On those days, Catholics are to limit themselves to only one full (and meatless) meal.

Some food can be taken at the other regular meal times, but that food (combined) should not equal a full meal. Liquids are permitted at any time, but no solid food should be taken between meals.

The discipline of fasting governs only those between the ages of 18 and 59, and it does not apply to anyone for whom it might create a health risk -- for example, the sick or the frail, pregnant or nursing women -- or even to guests at a meal who cannot fast without offending the host.

We fast, of course, to unite ourselves to Christ and to the burdens he endured on our behalf. Logically, then, this fasting should result in some sacrifice on our part.

In your case, I believe that you are being faithful to



QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

the letter and the spirit of the law (assuming that after midnight, you are not being gluttonous). The fact that you do struggle later in the day means that it does cost you something -- not to mention the fact that you need to stay up so late to satisfy your hunger!

Q. My question centers around a Catholic couple, now divorced, who are having a strong disagreement as to what should be the last name of their two children. The father is adamant that the children's surname should remain the same (i.e., his own), while the mother has filed court papers to have the children's last name be changed to a hyphenated one (i.e., her own maiden name followed by the father's last name).

My question is whether the Catholic Church would be opposed to their having a hyphenated last name. Does the church have a fixed position on this? (Alexandria, Virginia)

A. I am not aware of any church teaching on the use of hyphenated last names, nor do I believe that one exists. The question of what name a woman will use after marriage, it seems to me, is cultural rather than religious.

In some places in Latin America, for example, it is

customary for a married woman to retain her family's name, as well as that of her husband. Even in other cultures in western Europe, it has not been unusual for a married woman to keep her family's name, particularly when that name would be more recognized in the area where they intend to live.

In my own state of New York, the marriage license itself provides a space for a woman to indicate by what name she wishes to be known after marriage.

Interestingly, research in America shows that, from the mid-1970s onward, there was a rise in the number of college-educated women keeping their surname (corresponding to a rise in feminism, as well as an increase in the number of women who had an established professional career before being married).

In the 1990s, however, that trend slowed, and subsequent studies show that women in the United States are largely choosing to take their spouse's last name.

In the case to which you refer, it is unfortunate that the choice of the children's last name has created such acrimony, since that can only hurt the children. Perhaps the couple should see a counselor about working out a solution more amicably. (Also, I do not know the ages of the children, but if they have reached the age of reason, they probably should be consulted on this, since they will be the carriers of whatever name is chosen.)

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

Viking Magic



The St. Andrew Viking Magic team performed recently for its fellow students at Columbus St. Andrew School. Viking Magic is a performing basketball drill team of students from kindergarten through sixth grade that was started by John Masdea and is currently led by Fenton Moore. It is in its 36th year and has performed ballhandling and dribbling exhibitions at halftime for the Cleveland Cavaliers, the Harlem Globetrotters, and many college and high school teams. Layla Stewart is pictured in the foreground dribbling the ball. Behind her is Will Slater and behind him are Charlie Probst (left) and Kaden Jones.

Photo courtesy St. Andrew School



"Bye Bye Birdie" at Fisher

Don't miss the Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School production of "Bye Bye Birdie." Cast members are pictured above. It's the story of Conrad Birdie, the biggest (fictional) rock-and-roll star of the 1950s ever to be drafted into the military. Aspiring English teacher and songwriter Albert is convinced he can make his fortune and marry his girlfriend Rosie if he gets Conrad on "The Ed Sullivan Show" to kiss high-school girl Kim Peterson goodbye. Albert's mother will do anything to break him and Rosie up. Kim and Hugo, her high-school "steady," live in Sweet Apple, Ohio, where most of the action takes place, and they've never seen anything like this before. The show will be presented Friday and Saturday, March 18 and 19, at 7:30 p.m. in the Fisher Catholic auditorium, 1803 Granville Pike. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$6 for students. Visit www.fishercatholic.org to order tickets online.

Prayer Partners: Companions on the Journey to the Easter Sacraments

By Michelle Lemiesz

Director, Diocesan Office for Divine Worship

It is said that prayer is the best gift that one can ever give or receive. *Webster's Dictionary* defines the word as "a solemn request for help or expression of thanks addressed to God or an object of worship." But for those with faith, this definition lacks luster and is somewhat sterile. Prayer is a way of life, the necessary breath of a Christian. Martin Luther is quoted as saying, "To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing." It is being in communion with God, trusting in His love and His mercy, and resting in the knowledge that He is both the source and the destination for our lives.

This year, in our diocese, 435 men and women are entering into full communion with the Catholic Church. A lifetime of searching has brought them to this place, and they are now in the final steps of their journey, weeks away from the reception of the Sacraments at Easter. This is truly an exciting moment in their lives, one that will change them forever. And this year, 158 of them will be remembered by name in daily prayer by their own prayer partner, one of the retired religious sisters or priests at the

Mohun Health Care Center.

The Mohun center is a hidden gem on the east Columbus campus of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. It is a 72-bed, fully licensed and certified nursing care facility that cares for vowed and ordained religious, as well as immediate family of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Leaders of the center recently made the decision to allow Associates of the Dominican Sisters of Peace to be cared for at the facility. The center provides short-term, long-term, and skilled nursing care, and has a special unit for Alzheimer's patients.

As someone who has served on the board of trustees of Mohun for four years, I can testify to the wonderful prayerful healing environment at that facility. Those who now call it home have spent their lives dedicated to God and His Church. They have shared in various ministries throughout their religious life, and they continue to strive, despite their infirmities, to serve the people of God and the Church which they so dearly love. A partnership between them and our office (which coordinates the Rite of Election) seemed like a marriage made in heaven.

Approximately a month before the Rite of Election, I sent an email inviting our RCIA directors to submit the names



of their candidates and catechumens to me. In my mind's eye, I heard the Litany of the Saints becoming a reality. ("All you holy men and women, pray for us.") How powerful these words will be for our elect and candidates, knowing that they are being prayed for and loved by someone they have never met, someone who has dedicated their life to prayer and service. Twenty-one parishes throughout the diocese chose to participate in the program. The activi-

ties director at Mohun sent me the list of the sisters and priests who could engage in this ministry, and the pairing began. Each of the sisters and priests received the names of about four individuals to pray for, and they do so daily, often many times during the day.

At the Rite of Election, each individual from the participating parishes received a personalized card developed by our office, with a quote from Pope Francis reading, "The Church is not a cultural organization, but the family of Jesus." Under the quote were these words: "Dear (name inserted), The Catholic Church in Columbus celebrates and gives thanks to God for your decision to become one with us. This is a momentous step in your life! Please know that as you make the journey to the Easter Sacraments you are being held in prayer by many, and in a special way by: (the name of the religious sister or priest praying for the person). S/he will be praying for you especially from the Rite of Election through the period of Mystagogy ending on the great feast of Pentecost."

Somehow, I think those prayers may well go beyond Pentecost. ... "All you holy men and women, pray for us." Congratulations to our candidates and catechumens, and "Welcome Home!"

Sin makes us blind, but confession heals, pope says

By Cindy Wooden/Catholic News Service

Pope Francis urged people at a Lenten penance service to exercise a little courage, go to confession, and turn away from selfishness and sin and back to God during the Year of Mercy.

"When our desire to be healed becomes more courageous, it leads to prayer, to crying out fervently and persistently for help, as did Bartimaeus: 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me,'" the pope said, quoting from the Gospel of St. Mark.

The penance service in St. Peter's Basilica on Friday, March 4 kicked off the Rome celebration of "24 Hours for the Lord," a period when select churches around the city were to be open all night -- or at least for extended hours -- for confession and eucharistic adoration.

After delivering his homily at the service, Pope Francis walked to one of the confessionals in the basilica and knelt in front of a priest to confess his sins. Then he and 60 priests went to other confessionals, or even just plastic chairs set in quiet corners, to hear confessions.

Like Bartimaeus, who was blind, Catholics go to confession because they want

to see again, the pope said. "Our sins have made us lose sight of all that is good and have robbed us of the beauty of our calling, leading us instead far away from our journey's end," he said.

The blindness of sin "impoverishes and isolates us," the pope said. It prevents people from seeing what is most important and instead makes them focus on themselves "until we are indifferent to others and to what is good."

"How easy and misguided it is to believe that life depends on what we have, on our success and on the approval we receive," the pope said, noting that sin makes people believe "the economy is only for profit and consumption" and "that personal desires are more important than social responsibility."

Pope Francis said the Year of Mercy "is the favorable time to welcome God's presence, to experience his love, and to return to him with all our heart. Like Bartimaeus, let us cast off our cloak and rise to our feet: that is, let us cast aside all that prevents us from racing toward him."

Speaking to priests, particularly those about to administer the sacrament, Pope

Francis urged them to ensure that nothing they do makes it more difficult for people to draw close to Jesus in confession.

Priests are meant to "inspire courage, to support and to lead others to Jesus," he said. "Our ministry is one of accompaniment so that the encounter with the Lord may be personal and intimate, and the heart may open itself to the savior in honesty and without fear."

The gift of priesthood, he said, is a gift that brings with it the ability to facilitate a sinner's personal encounter with the Lord, and, even more, "to stretch out our hand and to absolve, thus making his mercy visible and effective."

"We certainly must not water down the demands of the Gospel, but we cannot risk frustrating the desire of the sinner to be reconciled with the Father," Pope Francis said. "For what the Father awaits more than anything is for his sons and daughters to return home."

"May every man and woman who comes to confession find a father who welcomes them and the Father who forgives them," the pope said in a brief addition to his prepared homily.

Mystagogy program

Father Mark Summers, pastor of Columbus St. Peter Church, will host a program called "What is Mystagogy?" at the church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday April 9.

The fourth stage of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is called mystagogy, from the Greek words meaning "to lead through the mysteries." Traditionally, mystagogy extends through the Easter season, until the feast of Pentecost.

This is a period of accompaniment for new Catholics as they discover what it means to fully participate in the sacramental mysteries of the Church. The newly baptized are called neophytes, from the Greek words meaning "new plant," because the faith has been newly planted in them. Even though their catechetical preparation has been completed, they still have much to learn about what it means to live as Catholic Christians. The same can be said for all Catholics, and the program is open to all.

The cost of the program is \$5. For more information, contact the diocesan Office for Divine Worship at (614) 221-4640.

MOUNT CARMEL NEWS

Zeiss Intra-beam radiation therapy

Mount Carmel Health System is the first hospital group in central Ohio providing the Zeiss Intra-beam intra-operative radiation therapy (IORT) system, a new treatment option for patients with early-stage breast cancer.

The system offers a less-invasive form of radiation therapy for select patients with small, early-stage tumors who are having breast-conserving surgery, also known as a lumpectomy. IORT utilizes a multidisciplinary approach that allows the breast surgical oncologist and radiation oncologist to collaborate during the procedure to deliver a single dose of radiation in 20 to 30 minutes during surgery. The traditional form of radiation requires five to six weeks of daily treatment after surgery.

“This type of radiation therapy, delivered at the time of surgery, is a tremendous advancement in breast cancer therapy,” said Mount Carmel breast surgical oncologist Dr. Shilpa Padia. “We’re excited to introduce this state-of-the-art radiation therapy as we continue to provide the most comprehensive, people-centered breast cancer treatment options to our patients.”

The new treatment option, delivered

during the lumpectomy procedure, reduces treatment time and radiation exposure and ultimately does less damage to the surrounding healthy tissue. IORT also has proven to eliminate or reduce many of the potential side effects associated with conventional radiation treatments, including redness and soreness of the skin, fatigue, and delayed wound healing, among others.

“This innovative treatment will significantly improve our patients’ ability to return to their lives and normal routines much faster and with fewer side effects. At Mount Carmel, we are committed to continuously improving the quality of care we offer to our patients, and this treatment is the latest offering in a series of advanced radiation techniques we have available for women battling breast cancer,” said Dr. Malolan Rajagopalan, Mount Carmel radiation oncologist.

The therapy is being made possible through a donation from the Mount Carmel Foundation. The Mount Carmel system is offering it as a pilot program.

More information on this treatment option is available at www.mount-carmelhealth.com/iort.

New appointments announced

Mount Carmel Health System has announced the appointments of Mary LaFrancois as senior vice president and chief human resources officer for the



Mary LaFrancois

system and of Michael Wilkins as president of Mount Carmel East Hospital.

LaFrancois assumed her new role on Jan. 11. For the past 10 years, she was vice president of human resources at CHRISTUS Spohn Health System in Corpus Christi, Texas. She also has been director of compensation and benefits at the University of Wisconsin Medical Foundation, and manager of human resources consulting at the Information House and Wegner, LLP, CPA, in Madison, Wisconsin.

She received her master’s degree in human resources management from Capella University and holds a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Edgewood College in Madison, Wisconsin.

“I am enthusiastic about joining Mount Carmel and helping continue its emphasis on people-centered care, with a commitment to providing an exceptional culture throughout the



Michael Wilkins

health system and an outstanding patient experience at each of our locations,” she said. Wilkins was chief operating officer for Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn, Illinois. Earlier, he held various roles in the ProMedica Health System in Toledo, including chief operating officer for ProMedica Heart & Vascular Institutes, vice president of professional and support services at The Toledo Hospital/Toledo Children’s Hospital, vice president of support services at Flower Hospital, and regional physician liaison and corporate director of strategic business development for the ProMedica system.

“It’s an exciting time to be joining Mount Carmel as it leads and redefines health care delivery in central Ohio,” he said. “I’m eager to begin my role at Mount Carmel East and provide ongoing leadership for the modernization project and the transformation of Mount Carmel East into a people-centered healthcare campus.”

Wilkins became Mount Carmel East president on Feb. 1.

Part-time Communication Manager

St. John Neumann has an immediate opening for a part-time Communication Manager. This position is responsible for coordinating the communications of the Church, which includes preparing weekly bulletins, updating the parish website, and utilizing email marketing tools such as Constant Contact and iVolunteer.

This position requires competency with various computer software systems, including Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Publisher, Power Point), email, website & social media platforms.

The successful candidate will be able to communicate effectively through written publications as well as have good organizational skills, the ability to work well with others, and be a person of faith and who is able to respect confidentiality.

Salary is commensurate with experience. Application deadline is March 20th. Please send resume to:

**Fr. David Sizemore, fatherdave.saintjohn@gmail.com
or 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury, Ohio, 43074**

St. Andrew student food drive



The Student Council of Columbus St. Andrew School organized a canned food drive to benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Society food pantry, collecting more than 750 cans in one week. Pictured are (from left) Aidan Wiant, Ben Lombardo, and Patrick Carpenter, organizers of the collection.

Photo courtesy St. Andrew School

LIVING Faith

Now it springs forth and you do not perceive it

“Never before has anyone spoken like this man.” That’s what the guards said in response to the Pharisees’ questioning about why they hadn’t arrested Jesus and brought him in. Jesus held them spellbound by what he said and how he said it. Maybe they hadn’t gone to listen, but once they were in earshot, they couldn’t help it. There was something different, something new was afoot, and the man from Galilee was at the center of it.

I imagine many people heard the words, found them interesting, maybe even talked about them over dinner—but didn’t change their lives. They woke up the next morning and went about business as usual. Others, like the Pharisees, heard enough to make them fear for their power and position. Jesus was interesting, but dangerous.

Then there were others, like the guards, like the disciples who listened and were moved in ways



GRACE IN THE MOMENT

Mary van Balen

they couldn’t understand. “Never before has anyone spoken like this man” was the best they could do at the moment. Deep down, Jesus’ words and presence had stirred something within that defied explanation, but was changing hearts and vision.

I thought of their words when I read the passage from Isaiah in this coming Sunday’s first reading: “Remember not the events of the past, / the things of long ago consider not, / see, I am doing something new! / Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?”

What keeps us from seeing something new or from appreciating it? What kept some people from hearing Jesus and allowing his words to fill their hearts, while others did, even if, at the moment, they couldn’t tell you just what those words meant? Understanding would come later.

I think Isaiah’s insight is a good one even today: Sometimes what keeps us from being aware of a new reality is preoccupation with the past. Our minds are so filled with “chatter” that we notice nothing. We are living in our heads, and God is in the present.

It’s easy to get lost in thought and worry

over past hurts: rejections, injustices, and failures. Internal debates can consume hours: What was said or not said. What I could have done but didn’t. What I shouldn’t have done, but did. Perhaps we rehash decisions made and directions taken: How different my life might be if only. ...

Isaiah was right to warn about spending time remembering things of long ago. Not only can we do nothing to change the past, but letting it consume time and attention keeps us from noticing what new life is being offered in the moment. “See, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?”

The prophet sounds incredulous: How could you NOT see it?

Easily. We have much to think and worry about. Jesus spoke of love, of God’s indwelling, of compassion for others and for ourselves. He spoke of suffering and serving the least among us. Such faith, such a message changes the world, a person at a time. We hear those words in Scripture. Pope Francis reminds us of them eloquently in his actions and in his speech as do others in our lives. Creation itself speaks to us of wholeness and interconnectedness if we are paying attention.

But words of wisdom, ancient or not, must enter our hearts and take root there before they become transformative. Only when we notice and respond can something new spring forth. Are we listening? Are we open and welcoming despite the uncertainty of change? The Spirit within each of us is doing something new. Can we see it? Are we, like the guards, unable to pull ourselves away, not understanding, but knowing that some new way of being is offered if we have courage to follow? Do we trust that the same Spirit who stirs our hearts will provide strength to move forward? Do we trust others to do the same?

As we draw nearer to Holy Week and Easter, I wonder about Jesus and the stirrings in his heart. How carefully he listened as he grew and moved into his public ministry. How completely one he was with the Holy Mystery. How deep his trust not only in God, but also in the rest of us—his disciples, those guards, the generations of people to come. Jesus trusted us all to notice, to be transformed, and to carry on the work of salvation he had begun.

It is forever new. “Now it springs forth. Do you not perceive it?”

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Learning About Lent at St. Paul

Members of Kelly Grote’s kindergarten class at Westerville St. Paul School form a heart as they begin to learn about Lent.

Photo courtesy St. Paul School

DCCW Silent Retreat

The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will conduct its annual silent retreat from Friday to Sunday, April 22 to 24 at St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus.

The retreat will be led by Father Anthony Davis, parochial vicar at Columbus St. Anthony Church. The

theme will be "Praying with an Unresponsive God: Insights from Dietrich Bonhoeffer."

Registration is due by Wednesday, April 11. Contact your parish office for a registration form or call Mickey McCormick at the DCCW office at (614) 228-8601.

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Holy Spirit Blessing Bags



Columbus Holy Spirit School's Student Council collected toiletries, socks, and other items and placed them in more than 100 blessing bags which were donated to the Community Kitchen at the St. John Center in Columbus. Pictured are Student Council members (from left) Saron Weldemicael, Kidist Endale, Noah Kuhr, Genevieve Pfister, Isabella Hoffman, and Caroline Wolfinger.

Photo courtesy Holy Spirit School



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Notre Dame Men's Glee Club Lenten Concert

March 12, 2016 at 7:00 pm
At Our Lady of Lourdes
1033 W. 5th Street
Marysville, Ohio 43040

St. Catherine of Siena Lecture

In proclaiming the Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis expressed his hope that this year would be so “steeped in mercy” that we would be impelled to bring everyone “the goodness and tenderness of God.”

St. Catherine of Siena, a 14th-century Dominican Doctor of the Church, offers us profound insights that are of immeasurable help in living this Jubilee Year of Mercy – and the rest of our lives – “steeped in mercy,” according to Sister Mary Ann Fatula, OP. Sister Mary Ann explains that St. Catherine’s unique contribution to this jubilee year is her focus on how we may draw from each Person of the Blessed Trinity the mercy that we do not have and yet are obliged to bring to others.

Sister Mary Ann will explore this topic during a lecture on St. Catherine and the Year of Mercy which will be hosted by Ohio Dominican University’s Center for Dominican Studies at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, April 7 in the Colonial Room of Sansbury Hall on the university’s main campus, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

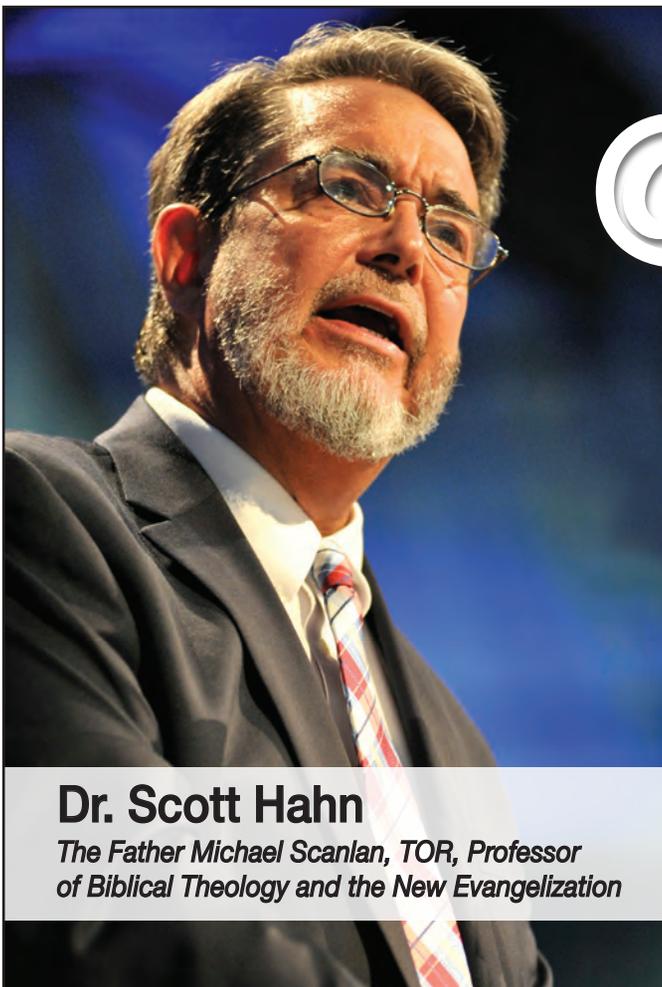
“We are happy to welcome Sister Mary Ann back to ODU, where she

taught for many years, leaving her mark on students and staff,” said Sister Matthias Sterner, OP, director of the Center for Dominican Studies.

Sister Mary Ann is a retired professor of theology. She holds a doctorate in systematic theology from the Catholic University of America and is the author of several books, including *Catherine of Siena’s Way*.

St. Catherine died at age 33 on April 29, 1380. She was canonized by Pope Pius II in July 1461 and named a Doctor of the Church by Pope Paul VI on Oct. 4, 1970. St. Catherine is one of 35 Doctors of the Church and one of four women with the title.

“Catherine’s life was steeped in the Trinity’s mercy in an extraordinary way, and yet it is not about her extraordinary works that Catherine writes,” Sister Mary Ann said. “Instead, she shows us how to ‘live in mercy’ in our own unique, often ordinary, humble ways. May Catherine’s example, insights, and prayer for the Trinity’s mercy upon herself and upon the world take lasting root in our own hearts this beautiful jubilee year.”



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ST. PIUS X WANTS TO ENGAGE MORE PEOPLE

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, Catholic Times

The parish's patron saint has provided Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church with not only a name, but a set of values.

The parish has used its namesake's papal identity to develop a motto, "We are PIUS," which it adopted this fall. Those four letters stand for the attributes of being "Prayerful, Informed, Unselfish, and Sent," with symbols for those four words being included in a logo which also incorporates the familiar *chi rho* symbol for Jesus that is part of the mosaic behind the parish's altar.

(As Msgr. David Funk, the parish's pastor for the past nine years, often points out, the symbol may look like the letters "P" and "X," but represents the first two letters of Christ's name in Greek, and not "Pius X.")

The logo is not meant to replace the current parish logo or to be part of a parish rebranding project. It was the result of working with Parish Council president Susan Gilmore and stewardship committee chair Ray Musselman to develop a visual representation of the message of Matthew Kelly's book *Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic*, which was presented to more than 1,000 people who attended the parish's Christmas Masses. The four letters represent the attributes of prayer, study, generosity, and evangelization which Kelly describes as the hallmarks of a committed Catholic.

Kelly's book is being discussed by four morning and two evening Lenten faith-sharing groups which began meeting Feb.

15. "We're hoping it can stimulate discussion about the parish's future, where we'd like to be a year from now and five or 10 years from now," Gilmore said.

"Kelly talks about how few members are highly engaged in parish life in most parishes and what a difference it would make if that number were to increase by just one percent. He mentions short-term and long-term goals that are achievable at any parish and give us a good road map for growth."

"Anyone can pick up one of these books and see ways they can make their faith grow in small steps which add up," said John Beyer, assistant parish business manager.

Beyer and his wife, Brenda, were active St. Pius parishioners before moving to Virginia five years ago for employment reasons, and eagerly resumed their involvement when they returned to central Ohio last year. "We always appreciated St. Pius, but especially after being away from the parish," Beyer said.

"For whatever reason, we never felt comfortable in the parish we attended in Virginia. St. Pius has a family feeling that it doesn't take long to sense. If you want to become involved in parish life, we offer more than 50 ministries, giving people plenty of opportunity to find one or two that will appeal to them and give them the chance to offer their talents to the parish."

"I became a parishioner in 2001 and met a lot of great parents and kids while coaching volleyball," said business manager Brenda Brammer. "It's a wonderful feeling for my husband and I to be sitting together every Sunday at Mass."

"I'm a lifelong St. Pius parishioner. My parents also were very active in parish life, so the parish has been like a second home to me," Gilmore said. "My husband Tod and I have nine children and have always felt this was a great place to raise a family. Christ has always been at the center of parish life and of our lives, with the help of an outstanding parochial school, Parish School of Religion, and youth programs."

Besides Msgr. Funk, the parish's pastoral staff includes Deacons John Vellani, John DuPrey, and Jim Kelly, and Sister Maxine Shonk, OP, pastoral minister. The parish, located at 1051 S. Waggoner Road, has about 2,000 families who live in Reynoldsburg, Pataskala, Blacklick, and surrounding areas of eastern Franklin and southwest Licking counties.

When it was founded in 1958 during a housing boom, with Father Andrew Hohman as its first pastor, many parishioners produced telephone equipment at the then-new Western Electric plant, which at the time was Columbus' largest industry. The plant was closed and is now the headquarters for Mount Carmel Health, which, along with nearby Mount Carmel East Hospital, have become large employers in their own right.

Today, there's a new wave of housing and commercial growth along East Broad Street and Main Street (U.S. 40), particularly in Licking County, thanks to the continuing growth there of an industrial park and the anticipated opening in October of an Amazon distribution center that will employ as many as 2,000 people.

Especially in the last decade, the population of the area has become much more

diverse, with many new parishioners being from various African nations, of Latino origin, or from southeast Asia. That diversity can be readily seen at the quarterly brunches for new parishioners sponsored by the parish's Romans 12:13 Welcoming Ministry and in the gatherings of parishioners before and after Mass.

Those post-Mass discussions tend to last a little longer these days because the parish expanded its parking lot last year, allowing cars to be parked in rows of two instead of in large groups with no break. "This removed a big stumbling block," Msgr. Funk said. "It makes people feel much more at ease and encourages conversation now that there's no longer the fear of having your car being blocked in or the feeling of having to get out so you're not blocking others."

The parking lot expansion is the most recent of several physical changes that have occurred in the parish in the past two or three years. These have included addition of a mosaic of St. Pius X in the sanctuary in 2014 to honor the centennial of his canonization; installation of full LED lighting in the church; addition of a rosary garden in memory of Adam Schneider, an active parishioner who died in 2013 at age 29; the conversion of Hohman Hall, the parish's original building, into an area dedicated to youth ministry and an after-school latchkey program; and moving of kindergarten classes from Hohman Hall to the parish school building.

Interim principal Carole Winkel, an 18-year member of the St. Pius X School staff, said the school's enrollment of 540 students has remained steady for several years. She notes that the school completed its periodic accreditation cycle with the Ohio Catholic School Accrediting Association in May and is accredited through May 2021. Results of the October 2015 Terra Nova tests for grades two through eight show that St. Pius X students again are performing well above national standards for reading, language, math, sci-

ence, and social studies at all grade levels.



renovation of all classrooms, and adding a science lab. These and other physical changes in the parish complex resulted from work by a site planning commission that is using results of a feasibility study conducted among parishioners a few years ago to consider possible remodeling or expansion projects that would best meet current and future parish needs.

That move was part of an extensive remodeling of the school which also included making it completely air-conditioned,

Classroom remodeling at the school has been accompanied by the addition this year of Chromebook tablet computers for all students in grades six to eight. This allows teachers and students to tap into Google for Education tools that help make the education process more organized and productive and expand its range.

Students and parents in late February took part in a family service night that involved collection of canned food for the Reynoldsburg Helping Hands and east Columbus HEART pantries, plus service projects for Nationwide Children's Hospital, St. Lawrence Haven, the My Very Own Blanket ministry, and the Franklin County Animal Shelter. An all-school penance service took place Thursday, March 10.

The school hosted its main fundraising event, the third annual A Night in Green, on Saturday, March 5. Funds raised that night will be used for continued technological growth, expansion of the school's art and music programs, and updating of libraries in its media center. The first two such events raised more than \$90,000 for educational tools and development.

After-school child care for St. Pius students is offered by a state-licensed latchkey program, led by Beth Antommarchi, which conducts activities in Hohman Hall from 2:30 to 6 p.m. each school day.

This year is the 25th anniversary of conversion of the former parish convent into a children's center, which serves about 125 children ages 3 to 5, has 10 teachers, headed by co-directors Mary Benedict and Sharon Miller, and is open from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays from September through May. Benedict said its theme has always been "Learning With Play." She

said its main emphasis now is kindergarten readiness because state standards for kindergarten have become much more rigid than they used to be.

The parish's annual festival raised about \$17,000 for two heating and air conditioning units for the school gym in 2015. This year's festival will be on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 5 and 6. The festival is the parish's largest social event. Monthly doughnut Sundays after the 10:15 a.m. Mass on the third Sunday of the month also promote community and fellowship on an all-parish basis, as do the parish soup suppers which have been taking place on alternate Wednesday evenings in Lent.

The parish's largest spiritual special event, the annual parish mission, will take place at 7 p.m. this coming Sunday to Tuesday, March 13 to 15. All parish activities usually scheduled for that period will be put on hold to allow parishioners to hear from mission presenter Adam Storey, director of the Marriage and Family Life Office of the Diocese of Des Moines, Iowa. He will speak on the theme "Life of Passion, Life of Love," examining how a life of passion must be rooted in a loving relationship with Jesus.

Other spiritual activities in addition to the regular schedule of Masses and Reconciliation include Anointing of the Sick at two weekend Masses during Advent and Lent (450 people were anointed last year), a Mass of Remembrance for the deceased in November, and an ongoing prayer chain, which has 125 participants.

Large groups from St. Pius attended the diocesan men's and women's conferences last month. The parish men's ministry is in its 13th year and is presenting the second session of the That Man Is You!

program on Thursdays from 5:45 to 7:15 a.m. Despite the early hour, 45 to 50 men gather each week to take part in the program, which combines current research with traditional Catholic teaching to address the pressures and temptations men face today.

Many of the men involved in this program also meet monthly on Saturday mornings to make sandwiches for St. Lawrence Haven and are part of a men's ministry with several other east Columbus parishes. In 2014, the parish men's group began a program on Holy Saturday in which men take turns carrying a cross as Jesus did. That program will continue this year on Saturday, March 26.

Father Hohman Council 5253 of the Knights of Columbus, with about 250 members, is one of the most active councils in the Diocese of Columbus and has won many awards over the years for its work promoting charitable and religious activities.

Each year, it provides financial assistance to specific seminarians and to the diocesan religious vocations and religious education programs, collects funds for the developmentally disabled, conducts soccer and basketball skills challenges and a Catholic essay contest for elementary school students, and provides support to many other diocesan and parish programs. The council raises money for those efforts through fish fries every other Friday during Lent and through a food truck which is at the parish festival and travels to several summer and fall events in Reynoldsburg, Pataskala, and Pickerington.



Top: The exterior of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church, and a sanctuary mosaic installed in 2014 to honor its patron saint. Above: Msgr. David Funk, pastor of the parish for the past nine years; Brenda Brammer, parish business manager (left), John Beyer, assistant business manager; and Susan Gilmore, Parish Council president; a family works on a project during a family service night last month at St. Pius X School.

CT photos by Tim Puet (top left, above center); photos courtesy St. Pius X Church

ST. PIUS X, *continued from Page 13*

Above left: The Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church children's choir, which sings at various Sunday Masses and on Christmas Day, is one of several groups providing music for liturgies. Above right: Members of the parish men's group carry a cross on Holy Saturday. Below: The parish's traditional adult choir sings at the 8:30 or 10:15 a.m. Sunday Masses. Photos courtesy St. Pius X Church

The council also has a women's group which meets monthly and will sponsor its annual cards and games night from 7 to 10 p.m. Tuesday at the school. The theme will be "Flower Power," a celebration of the 1960s. The women use proceeds from the event to provide donations to about a dozen charities.

The parish women's ministry, led by pastoral minister Leah Kelly, meets on the second Wednesday and fourth Tuesday of each month, conducting a rotating series of activities including book discussions, Scripture study, visits by topical speakers, and group service projects.

The Parish School of Religion, directed by De Ann Bukowski, has more than 200 students, taught by more than 60 volunteer catechists. Classes take place on Sunday evenings three times a month and after the noon Sunday Mass once a month, with PSR students providing the music and doing Scripture readings at several of those noon Masses. Following the evening classes, there is usually a family hour in the parish gym.

The students have collected food for St. Lawrence Haven and items for the

parish's annual Adopt-A-Child Christmas program. They currently are focusing on writing prayers for peace, and on May 1 will be taking part in a vocations fair in which people from various religious and secular walks of life describe what they do.

The parish's Vacation Bible School, with a theme of "SonTreasure Island," will take place from 9 a.m. to noon Monday, June 27 to Friday, July 1, with a closing potluck Friday night. About 100 participants and 75 volunteers were involved in the program last year.

Parish youth minister Judie Bryant said The Catholic Foundation has provided a grant for the parish to start an activities program for sixth- through eighth-graders which will begin in the 2016-17 school year. Plans for the program are being made by the team which conducts the parish's high school youth ministry, which meets on Sunday evenings and also has special events such as Taco Tuesdays every couple of months; Girl's and Guy's Nights Out, with young men and women discussing faith and morals in gender-specific



groups; overnight lock-ins; and retreats.

Bryant said the youth group, which has about 75 members, recently started a Twitter page titled "Youth _ Shoutouts" to emphasize positive things about each other, the parish, and the Catholic Church as a way of combating the negativity about those subjects that's often found online.

Parish music director John Pottkotter is in charge of programs that include a traditional adult choir which sings at the 8:30 or 10:15 a.m. Sunday Masses; contemporary music groups Joy in the Morning (5 p.m. Saturday Mass), Merging Spirits (noon Sunday Mass), and New Creation (10:15 a.m. or noon Sunday Mass); a children's choir (various Sunday Masses and Christmas Day); cantors and organists; and a new choir for funeral services, which began singing in January.

The parish has a military outreach program which is active year-round. It currently is collecting personal items to be sent to a USO in Afghanistan. During

the Christmas season, it puts together "care packages" for soldiers. It also assisted more than 200 veterans at the annual Stand Down Columbus event.

An active branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society helps those in needs in the parish, collecting donations one Sunday each month. The parish also supports the St. Francis Center in McArthur and the Joseph's Coat clothing and furniture ministry for east Columbus.

Other parish activities include senior citizens and marriage preparation programs; the Matthew 23:11 Club, providing funeral luncheons and other assistance for people in time of urgent need; a knitting and crocheting group; the Garden Angels gardening group; and the Wondrous Works ministry, which assists parish maintenance director Scott Marsh with repair and upkeep of parish facilities.

For information on these or other parish groups, go to the parish website, www.spxreynoldsburg.com, or call the parish office at (614) 866-2859.



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St. Charles Preparatory School

To register call Kathy Conway at 614-309-7958 or register online at: bethesdahealing.org

www.columbuscatholic.org



GO RED FOR WOMEN CLUB

The cheerleaders at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School have founded a Go Red for Women Club, open to all students, to help share the message that one in three women die of heart disease and stroke. Club members also will inform their peers of the importance of knowing the heart disease risk factors in their family history and will encourage them to make healthy lifestyle choices to prevent these deadly diseases. Club members who participated in the Go Red Foundation's annual luncheon at the Hyatt Regency Columbus are (from left): first row, Natalie Zolnier, Kara Haywood, Paige Anderson, Megan Javitch, and Devon Grube; second row, Gillian Thomas, Tessa Yinger, Tessa Vogel, Serena Johnston, and Becca Roberts.

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

A six-week grief support group for anyone who is adjusting to the loss of a loved one and needs support and comfort will begin meeting Sunday, April 3 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at Worthington St. Michael Church, 5750 N. High St.

A Christian-based manual, suggested readings, and handout material will be available.

Co-facilitators for the group will be C.G. Jones and Mary Ann Koncal.

To register or for more information, call Koncal at (614) 888-1382 or the parish office at (614) 885-7814.

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PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Catholic doctor brings healing, hope to the poor with help from Cross Catholic Outreach

“People grow by giving. Everybody has something to give, whether it’s their time, their knowledge, or their resources,” says Dr. Maria Teresa Losada Monsalve, a woman whose life revolves around giving.

In her case, she’s giving medical care to the poor.

Maria Teresa recently provided care for Jerry, an 18-year-old street dweller and drug addict, at a clinic in downtown Cochabamba. Operated through a Franciscan ministry called the San Lucas Foundation, the clinic provides medical care for poor street dwellers, most often in desperate need of immediate care.

Jerry was brutally beaten in the streets and no hospital would treat his life-threatening head injuries. After easing Jerry’s pain the best she could, and with his very life in the balance, Maria Teresa took him from hospital to hospital throughout the city until one yielded to her pleas and provided Jerry with the critical surgery he needed.

Even though the San Lucas Foundation paid for the care, Maria Teresa said the problem is that sometimes people like Jerry aren’t valued by society.

“Jerry is a drug addict and has serious health problems. When he broke his head and was limping, a lot of people said, ‘Why bother? Why help him? Why not just let him die?’ They see some people as disposable — they don’t see their value to society. I think there’s a divine presence in every human being and those who believe have the duty to care for a person like Jerry, just like they have the duty to care for their own children,” Maria Teresa said.

A devout Catholic and the long-time director of a network of clinics operated by the San Lucas Foundation, Maria Teresa says she sees her work as “a way to practice our Catholic beliefs and knowledge.”

“The presence of crucified Jesus didn’t stay behind 2,000 years ago,” she said. “Christ lives today in those who give and those who receive.”



Dr. Maria Teresa Losada Monsalve is a Catholic woman impacting health in Bolivia.

Jim Cavnar, president of a Catholic humanitarian aid organization called Cross Catholic Outreach that supports San Lucas Foundation, says Catholic lay missionaries like Maria Teresa are bringing physical and spiritual healing to the poor.

“The book of Matthew says, ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ As Catholics, we know it’s not enough to provide care for the body only — we have to care for the soul

as well, and that’s what our partner Maria Teresa and the San Lucas Foundation is doing,” he said.

According to Cavnar, it’s the kind of Christ-inspired aid American Catholics are eager to support.

“Our generous Catholic benefactors who help us support Maria Teresa understand that she’s responding the way Christ himself would want us to respond — with love, compassion, and the Gospel. American Catholics find heavenly

value in that, and I know they’ll continue supporting Cross Catholic as we lift up these brave missionaries of Christ like Maria Teresa,” Cavnar said.

To support the worldwide outreaches of Cross Catholic Outreach, look for the ministry brochure enclosed in this issue of the paper or mail your donation to **Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC01227, PO Box 97168, Washington DC 20090-7168. All contributions to the ministry are tax deductible.**

Cross Catholic Now Endorsed by More Than 90 Bishops, Archbishops

As Cross Catholic Outreach (CCO) continues its range of relief work to help the poor overseas, its efforts are being recognized by a growing number of Catholic leaders in the U.S. and abroad.

“We’ve received an impressive number of endorsements from Bishops and Archbishops — more than 90 at last count,” explained Jim Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach. “They’re impressed by the fact that we’ve done outreaches in almost 40 countries and that we undertake a variety of projects; everything from feeding the hungry and housing the homeless to supplying

safe water and supporting educational opportunities for the poorest of the poor.”

Archbishop Robert Carlson of St. Louis sent one of the more recent letters of encouragement, writing: “It is my hope that this ministry will continue to flourish and reach as many people as possible. I will inform the priests of the Archdiocese of St. Louis of the important work that Cross Catholic Outreach does and elicit their prayerful and financial support for the service you provide to the less fortunate around the world.”

In addition to praising the work CCO accomplishes, many of the Bishops and

Archbishops are also impressed by the unique collaborative relationship Cross Catholic has with the Pontifical Council *Cor Unum* in Rome. This allows the charity to participate in the mercy ministries of the Holy Father himself. In his praise of CCO, **Archbishop Dennis Schnurr of Cincinnati** underscored this unique connection.

“Cross Catholic Outreach’s close collaboration with the Pontifical Council *Cor Unum* is a source of encouragement,” the Archbishop said. “The Holy See has unique knowledge of local situations throughout the world through its papal representatives in

nearly two hundred countries and through its communications with Bishops and others who care for the poor and needy in every corner of the world.”

CCO president Jim Cavnar explained the significance of this connection.

“Our collaboration with *Cor Unum* allows us to fund outreaches in virtually any area of the world, and we have used that method in special cases — to help the victims of natural disasters, for example,” he said. “It only represents a small part of our overall ministry, but it can be a very important benefit in those situations.”

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Cross Catholic Outreach helps bring medical care to the rural, urban poor

Donata Juarez's youngest son, Jose Angel, 3, has the ruddy cheeks and dark eyes of a child raised high in Bolivia's arid mountains. He's a healthy, vibrant boy who smiles easily but becomes solemn and serious when approached by strangers.

"My children give me strength. They keep me going and help me keep working," said Donata, a widow now raising two children alone. She works long hours as a mountain farm laborer to support her family, and her face and hands bear the lines of years of exposure to sun, wind and soil.

Things like electricity and running water are public services that have not yet made their way into most homes in Sapanani Alto. In this village where Donata and her sons live, most homes, like Donata's, are made of clay bricks; others have crumbling earthen walls with dirt floors. Families survive through subsistence farming on land most acknowledge is no longer very fruitful.

Most families here live day-by-day, hand

San Lucas Foundation.

"These clinics are having a tremendous impact on the health of the poor, especially children like Jose Angel," said Jim Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach. The San Lucas Foundation relies heavily on Cross Catholic to financially support its clinics.

Cross Catholic Outreach has even helped the network of clinics expand into previously unreached areas. The ministry has also helped a sister clinic increase its services in downtown Cochabamba, where homeless street dwellers can receive quality medical care.

According to Cavnar, Catholic medical ministries like the San Lucas Foundation are worthy of support because they vastly improve the lives of impoverished families around the world.

"In developing countries, children are dying because they aren't receiving immunizations or basic care. Adults are succumbing to preventable diseases or dying from minor injuries because they are left untreated. Poor

Catholic's support for medical projects is not only far-reaching, but also in line with Catholic teachings.

"Christ's life serves as a prime example of how we should treat the poor," Cavnar said. "He healed them, he restored them and he uplifted them. We aspire to the same approach in our work. We want to serve the poor in a way that preserves their dignity."

As an example, Cavnar told the story of John, a partially paralyzed street dweller who lived a life of misery on the streets of Cochabamba. The San Lucas Foundation regularly sends its volunteers to search for street dwellers needing medical care. When the ministry discovered John, who is unable to walk and was supporting himself only through begging, they immediately brought him to their downtown clinic where they treated his wounds, bathed him and admitted him into their physical therapy facility.

All the while, Cavnar says, the doctors and staff of the San Lucas Foundation treated John as they would have treated Christ: with respect, dignity and love.

"John was literally lying in the streets — he can't stand or walk on his own — and people were passing him by as if he wasn't there. He was hungry, sick and in great need of Christ. There was no one to help him, but these compassionate Catholics stepped in as Christ would have," Cavnar said. "That's the type of medical ministry God is calling all of us to support."

Based on the response Cross Catholic has gotten to medical appeals, American Catholics seem to agree.

"I thank God every day for the 'army' of American Catholics who give generously to our medical projects. Because of them, we've been able to help our ministry partners save thousands of lives all over the world. That's a feat only Christ and his faith-filled followers could accomplish," Cavnar said.

Cavnar says he's confident American Catholics will continue to stand for what is right.

"In 1 John 3:18 it says, 'Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.' Being a Catholic myself, I know American Catholics understand what this means when it comes to helping their poor brothers and sisters in Christ. I know they will continue to bring life-saving care to the poor — it's what



Poor Bolivian families in rural mountain areas lack access to health facilities.

they do," Cavnar said.

It is what they did for Donata and her sons. The rural clinic in Sapanani Alto has helped Donata in many ways: staff there provided prenatal care, they delivered both of her children, they monitored the children's health, they immunized them, and they provided psychological counseling when her husband passed away.

"It has helped my children be healthy — and helped me be healthy too. That means more than I can say," Donata said.



Living in deep poverty, Donata Juarez and her son, Jose Angel, are at constant risk of disease.



John was suffering in the streets until the San Lucas Foundation stepped in to help.

to mouth. They worry if there will be enough money for food, clothing or adequate shelter. Despite having to live this dirt-poor existence, mothers like Donata now have an extremely important resource available to them thanks to the help of American Catholics. For some, it is the first time they have access to adequate medical care.

Prenatal care and medically-supervised childbirth. Basic immunizations against childhood diseases. Regular check-ups from caring doctors. These are just a few of the services families in Sapanani Alto and other rural Bolivian communities enjoy now through a network of Catholic clinics operated by the

mothers run a tremendous risk of infection or death because they're forced to give birth at home. Our goal is to keep these preventable tragedies from happening, and we believe the most effective way to do that is to support Catholic medical ministries already in place, working hard on behalf of the poor," Cavnar said.

Cross Catholic Outreach also ships desperately-needed supplies, such as medicines and hospital equipment, to Catholic medical ministries overseas.

From providing orthopedic surgeries in the Dominican Republic to supporting a far-flung clinic in rural Ethiopia, Cavnar says Cross

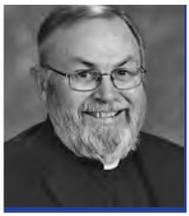
How to Help:

Your help is needed for Cross Catholic Outreach to bring Christ's mercy to the poorest of the poor. To make a donation, use the enclosed postage-paid brochure or mail a gift to: Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC01227, PO Box 97168, Washington DC 20090-7168.



Fifth Sunday of Lent (Cycle C)

Mercy trumps judgment: the greatest gospel lesson



Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

**Isaiah 43:16-21;
Philippians 3:8-14;
John 8:1-11**

Even though the prophet Isaiah begins his reflection in Sunday's first reading by recalling the past events connected with Israel's deliverance from the Egyptians, he reminds Israel not to look back: "Remember not the events of the past, the things of long ago consider not; see, I am doing something new!"

The "new" thing will take place in the desert by transforming it. Rivers will replace the wasteland; wild beasts will honor the Lord. This is all part of what some have called "creative redemption" in the second part of Isaiah (chapters 40-55). By this point in their history, the Israelites' very lives had become a wasteland. The devastation and ruin of exile had left the land barren and ruined. Wild beasts roamed about scavenging whatever they could find. But the prophet announces that the Lord is going to transform all this into something fresh and new.

The poet/prophet sees in all this activity a kind of new creation, or at least the recreation of what had been allowed to decline. This applied to both nature and to this people, who had been torn from their moorings by the exile and devastation of their land. The Lord does this so that the people may again praise the Lord.

The Gospel reading is probably the most tender scene in all the Gospels. It is unique to John, but was probably not part of the original Gospel. In the eastern churches, it was not included in standard Greek manuscripts until about the ninth century. In the Western churches which preserved the Scriptures in Latin, it was known as early as the third century.

Vatican statistics report increase in baptized Catholics worldwide

The number of baptized Catholics worldwide has grown at a faster rate than that of the world's population, according to Vatican statistics. Although the number of priests has increased globally, the number has decreased slightly in Europe and Oceania, according to the Vatican's Central Office for Church Statistics. The figures are presented in the *Annuario Pontificio 2016*, the Vatican yearbook, and will appear in the *Statistical Yearbook of the Church*, which gives detailed figures on the church's workforce, sacramental

Some think that because Jesus seemed too quick to forgive the woman, it was excluded in the East because those churches insisted on strict penitential practice. Some think it originally belonged to Luke's Gospel. Whatever the answer to those puzzling questions, we can thank God and the early Church for preserving the story because of how well it demonstrates the mercy of God, so manifest in the ministry of Jesus.

The text makes clear that the woman was caught in the act of adultery. The scribes and the Pharisees lead her to Jesus, pointing out that the law of Moses commanded that such a woman be stoned. Leviticus 20:10 orders adulterous women to be killed, without saying how. Deuteronomy 22:21 orders stoning to death for an unmarried virgin guilty of unchastity. Some think that is the issue here. As often occurs in the Gospels, Jesus is being tested so he can be charged with violating the law. Thus, Danker offers the translation "a young married woman" in the *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament* (third edition) to cover both laws. By doodling in the dirt, Jesus refuses to play the game.

When pressed for an answer, he delivers the well-known line "Let the one among you without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." The accusers all disappear one by one as they think about their own lives. It is a question whether the woman already had been tried and convicted before being brought to Jesus. If so, then if Jesus ordered something else, he would be going against a legitimate judgment already rendered.

In the end, he leaves it to the accusers to decide what they will do and they all fade away, until only Jesus and the woman remain. The merciful Jesus bids her to go her way, but to avoid sin. Mercy trumps judgment. Father Raymond Brown notes of this passage: "The delicate balance between the justice of Jesus in not condoning the sin and his mercy in forgiving the sinner is one of the great gospel lessons." I would say it is the greatest gospel lesson.

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

life, dioceses and parishes as of Dec. 31, 2014.

The number of baptized Catholics reached 1.27 billion, or 17.8 percent of the global population, the statistics office reported on Saturday, March 5. Despite the increase of Catholics worldwide, the yearbook noted a "less dynamic" growth of only two percent in Europe. While the continent is home to almost 40 percent of the Catholic global population, the percentage of the world's Catholics living in Europe has slowly decreased over the past nine years, it said.

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY

Daniel 13:1-9,15-17,19-30,33-62
Psalm 23:1-6
John 8:12-20

TUESDAY

Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm 102:2-3,16-21
John 8:21-30

WEDNESDAY

Daniel 3:14-20,91-92,95
Daniel 3:52-56 (Ps)
John 8:31-42

THURSDAY

Genesis 17:3-9
Psalm 105:4-9
John 8:51-59

FRIDAY

Jeremiah 20:10-13
Psalm 18:2-7
John 10:31-42

SATURDAY

2 Samuel 7:4-5a,12-14a,16
Psalm 89:2-5,27,29
Romans 4:13,16-18,22
Matthew 1:16,18-21,24a
or Luke 2:41-51a

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF MARCH 13, 2016

SUNDAY MASS

10:30 a.m. Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

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

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Time Warner Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or WOW Channel 378).

(Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight). Mass from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 6:30 a.m. on ION TV (AT&T U-verse Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirecTV Channel 305).

DAILY MASS

8 a.m., Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Birmingham, Ala. (Encores at noon, 7 p.m. and midnight). See EWTN above; and on I-Lifetv (Channel 113 in Ada, Logan, Millersburg, Murray City and Washington C.H.; Channel 125 in Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown and New Philadelphia; and Channel 207 in Zanesville); 8 p.m., St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

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

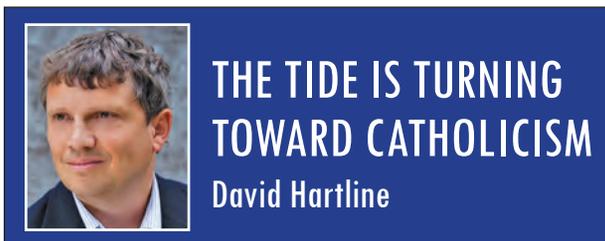
True Humility and True Mercy vs. False Humility and False Mercy

Jesus never promised that the life of a believer would be easy. He simply told us it was the most honest way to live.

Lent is also a time where the age-old battle between true humility and true mercy is pitted against false humility and false mercy. Pope Francis often uses these terms when he talks to the faithful about being a true Christian.

What are false humility and false mercy? People with false humility might hear someone compliment them about their Christian witness, and respond by talking about all of the retreats they have attended, all of the books they have read, and how much they given to the less fortunate. People with true humility might briefly tell the person complimenting them that the road has not been easy, but God has helped them on their journey.

The trajectory is the same for those who give witness to true mercy and false mercy. Truly merciful people might tell others about their conversion, give helpful advice on how to not fall into the same trap, and offer assistance, as best they can, to help other people live as Christ commanded. People offering false mercy might tell sinners that God loves them just the way they are and that sin is just a relative term. The proper response is that God loves you the way you are, but he also loves you enough not to let you stay that way.



People with true humility might have a nice fish dinner on Friday during Lent at one of the many fish fries around the diocese. People with false humility might tell non-Catholic friends that they can't go to a steakhouse on Friday because of Lenten constraints, then follow with a suggestion that they go to a fancy, over-the-top seafood restaurant and have lobster or a rare fish dinner, topped off with expensive caviar -- not exactly the profile of Lenten sacrifice.

People with true humility might go on a trip to a holy place such as Rome, Jerusalem, Lourdes, Fatima, or the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe. They might mention how they were able to tour the surrounding area and enjoy the sights while they were there. People with false humility might mention the same trip, then bore or enrage their friends with details about the five-star resorts they stayed in after stopping at the holy site, adding their complaints about the sorry state of modern first-class travel, compared with its part glories.

I wish I could say I was making this up, but it does

happen, and I have heard too many of the details.

If you have true humility, you might talk about the name-calling and the dirty tricks going in our current political campaign season and say that is really sad and that there has to be a better way, though it is nothing new. You might also mention that it reminds you of some of the bad habits and judgments you have made about others in your life, but have tried to correct.

A person with false humility might be enraged at what is going during the campaign, but then make fun of someone's appearance behind his or her back and snicker at all of that person's supposed shortcomings. Believe me, I wish I could plead innocence in all of these matters.

When you have children, it makes you reflect more closely on your behavior and thoughts, both apparent and subtle. I have tried to restrain my negative thoughts during key sporting events, but I have to admit that it is a work in progress. I would like to believe that while it may be humbling, Lent gives us the opportunity to reflect on what we need to do to get rid of the false humility and false mercy we sometimes display in our daily lives.

Hartline is the author of "The Tide is Turning Toward Catholicism" and a former teacher and administrator for the diocese.

Finding God's Message In The Ordinary

By Katherine Kraft

I am not an artist, not by any stretch of the imagination. However, the one thing I do enjoy doing is painting. Not with watercolors or in the style of Bob Ross. I'm talking about just plain old painting of walls or other objects to change their color. I have painted every room in my house, but my winter project was to repaint my master bathroom from a dark to light color.

So I did the usual not-so-favorite prepainting tasks of taking pictures off the wall, clearing the space, taping on baseboard and windows, and donning my painting clothes. After priming the wall, I was so excited to paint the color, as I use a glaze technique that I also used in another bathroom and couldn't wait for this to turn out the same way. I hadn't even painted half a wall when I felt disappointed. It looked nothing like my other bathroom and nothing like I hoped. I painted a little longer to cover more wall

space, but I still was not pleased with it. "Great," I thought. "I probably need to do a second coat." Mind you, I have never needed to do a second coat with this technique before. But even with a second coat, I still was not expecting it to look any better. So I cleaned up and put the paint away for another day.

Having mastered in procrastination and being an expert in coming up with any excuse not to continue this project, it took me a while until I grudgingly dragged the paint supplies out again and began the second coat. Again, I had not even completed half a wall when I was completely shocked. Much to my amazement and delight, the second coat made all the difference, and it looked beautiful. This time when I finished painting, I was overjoyed at how perfect it looked, and was inspired to continue priming and painting the rest of the bathroom. (It still took me more than a month to finish, but that's another story.)

While I was painting this second coat and transforming my disappointment into beauty and joy, I immediately understood God's message to me in this simple task: "We must persevere and never give up hope, for we do not know what lies ahead." I have been wrestling for the past few years with what direction my life should take and what ministry and mission God wants me to complete. He has gradually pointed me in a direction, but, in my mind, this journey is taking way too long. I become frustrated, depressed, bitter, and cynical wondering if I will ever find my path and reach my destination.

However, in this simple, ordinary task of painting my bathroom, I found hope. Similar to that first coat that didn't give me the result I was looking for and left me feeling disappointed, so, too, sometimes it seems as if I am just wandering, not really fulfilled in my work and life and feeling disappointed. But you see, this is a time of

preparation and perseverance – trusting that the second coat is coming. And when that second coat comes in my life, everything will fall into place. It will be beautiful and looking just as God had intended.

As we journey through Lent, may we all be filled with hope for what is to come, trusting that God will make our lives beautiful, no matter what stains show through or what disappointments we feel. Perseverance through prayer, spending time with Jesus in Adoration, and reading Sacred Scripture have been my strength while I wait ... and wait ... and wait. God never disappoints. His plan is always better. We just need to have the patience to wait for things to happen in His time – a difficult lesson I continue to strive to master, and one which I will keep in prayer as I journey through this Lent.

Katherine Kraft is a parishioner at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church.

Pray for our dead

BALSER, William, 84, March 5
St. Leonard Church, Heath

BASALLA, Josie, 94, March 3
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

BATTS, Richard E., 87, March 3
St. Philip Church, Columbus

CROW, Harley F., 71, March 4
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

DeASCENTIS, Rocky C., 63, March 5
St. Elizabeth Church, Columbus

DEMBINSKI, Ronald R., 69, March 2
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

DOWDELL, David M., 67, March 2
St. Peter Church, Columbus

DUSENBERRY, Clara B. "Tootie," 95, March 5
St. Rose Church, New Lexington

FLINT, Mary L., 86, Feb. 21
St. Dominic Church, Columbus

FORESMAN, Carol J., 56, March 1
St. Patrick Church, Columbus

HEID, Lynda, 73, Feb. 23
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

HUBBARD, Kay, 68, Feb. 28
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Buckeye Lake

JIMENEZ, Linda D., 61, Feb. 28
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

KIRKHART, Roger "Buzz," 73, Feb. 29
St. Vincent de Paul Church, Mount Vernon

MacDONALD, Jean M., 79, March 3
St. Mary Church, Groveport

MANSON, Virginia A., 94, March 2
Holy Family Church, Columbus

MAZZOLA, Judith A., 74, Feb. 29
St. Peter Church, Columbus

McKENZIE, Marion F. "Bud," 85, Feb. 16
St. Vincent de Paul Church, Mount Vernon

NORTH, Gloria M., 89, Feb. 29
Our Lady of Peace Church, Columbus

PALLAS, Mary, 94, Feb. 25
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

SAUER, Jean L., 80, Feb. 26
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Buckeye Lake

STROUD, William C., 72, Feb. 27
St. Mary Church, Delaware

SULLIVAN, Richard A., 84, Feb. 26
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

TARTELL, Helen M., 88, March 2
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

WHITE, Marie, Feb. 29
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City

WILE, Alice P., 86, March 1
Christ the King Church, Columbus

Sister Gavin Hagan, OSF

Funeral Mass for Sister Gavin Hagan, OSF, who died Thursday, Feb. 25, was held Thursday, March 3 in the Chapel of Our Lady of Lourdes at Assisi Heights in Rochester, Minnesota. Burial was at Calvary Cemetery in Rochester.

She was born Jane Ellen Hagan on Feb. 22, 1925, in Glendive, Montana, to Paul and Aimee (Barry) Hagan. She entered the Sisters of St. Francis of Rochester in 1945 and made her first vows in 1948 and perpetual vows in 1951. She received a bachelor's degree in history from the College of St. Teresa in Winona, Minnesota, in 1946 and a master's degree in education from the University of Minnesota in 1956. She also studied at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota; Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh; and the University of Portland (Oregon).

In 1966, she accepted a Fulbright grant to attend a seminar in Middle East studies through the American University of Beirut. In 1985, she participated in a sabbatical program at the University of Notre Dame.

She served at Portsmouth Notre Dame High School from 1954-58 and 1964-66 and at Columbus Bishop Wehrle High School, where she was assistant principal and principal, from 1966-76. She returned to Portsmouth as pastoral assistant at St. Mary Church from 1986-2000, then moved to Rochester, where she lived until her death.

She also was a high-school and college teacher and administrator in Minnesota, and served as oral historian for her congregation from 1976-78.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Father Barry Hagan, CSC. Survivors include a brother, Thomas (Alberta), and two nephews.

Richard P. Judy

Funeral Mass for Richard P. Judy, 88, of Huntington, West Virginia, who died Wednesday, Feb. 24, was held Wednesday, March 2 at Logan St. John Church. Burial was at Oak Grove Cemetery, Logan.

He was born June 12, 1927 to Frank and Marie (Haley) Judy.

He graduated from Logan High School in 1945 and Ohio University in 1949, served in the Navy in World War II, and worked for the Ohio Youth Commission until his retirement in 1980. He then entered the Order of St. Benedict

at the Abbey in Lisle, Illinois, where he was a cloistered monk until 1986. He continued to be associated with the abbey, living in Downers Grove, Illinois, until 2009, when he moved to Huntington. During that time, he earned a degree in religious studies at Benedictine University in Lisle.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Robert, Frank, and Carl; and sister, Coletta Van Atta. He is survived by a niece and several great-nieces and nephews and great-great-nieces and nephews.

To have an obituary printed in the **Catholic Times**, send it to:
tpuet@columbuscatholic.org

CLASSIFIED

LENTEN FISH FRY

Fridays 5-8 pm, Feb 12-March 18

ST. MICHAEL CHURCH

5750 N. High St., Worthington
Fish Dinner: Regular-\$8; Small-\$6
Macaroni Cheese Dinner - \$6
Clam Chowder, Desserts - \$1
Dine In, Drive Thru & Carryout

ST. MARGARET OF CORTONA CHURCH

1600 N. Hague Ave, Columbus

18TH ANNUAL

"BEST FISH FRY DINNER IN TOWN!"

Fridays during Lent,

Feb. 12th - Mar. 18th, 4:30 - 7:30 PM

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

Adults/\$9.50; Seniors/\$9.00;

Children (10 & under) -\$4.50

Pop, Beer, & Carryouts available. Info: 279-1690

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CHURCH

1559 Roxbury Road, MarbleCliff (Parish Life Center)

FISH FRY DINNERS

Fridays, 2/12 -3/18, 4:30 -7 pm

Fresh Ocean Perch (fried)

Baked Potatoes, French Fries or Rice Salad or Slaw, Beverages, Dessert included
\$9 Adults, \$5 Kids • *Carryouts available*

ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH

6077 Sharon Woods Blvd, Columbus

Lenten Fish Fry • February 12

\$9: Adult dinner -Baked & Fried Fish, Shrimp

\$6 Small dinner: Fish or Grilled Cheese

Sandwiches Mac & Cheese

Includes 2 sides, biscuit, dessert & beverage

Carryout available

Followed by a concert by Dan Schutte at 7 p.m.

Concert cost \$15

ST. CHRISTOPHER CHURCH

LENTEN PASTA DINNER

1420 Grandview Avenue

Trinity School Cafeteria

Fridays: Feb. 12 - March 18 • 5-7pm

\$7.00 for adults/\$4.00 for kids/\$25.00 per Family

Pasta Sauce Provided by local area restaurants

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ST. ANDREW CHURCH

Nugent Hall (below the church)

1899 McCoy Rd. Upper Arlington

February 12, 19, 26 March 4, 11, 18

4:30 -7:00 P.M.

Baked cod or deep fried perch, sides, dessert & beverage included, also cheese pizza & mac 'n cheese

Adult \$10, Child (10 and under) \$5

Carryout \$9 / \$4 (no dessert or beverage)

H A P P E N I N G S

MARCH

THROUGH MARCH 20, SUNDAY

40 Days for Life

7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Founder's Women's Health Care Center, 1243 E. Broad St., Columbus. 40 Days for Life campaign of daily sidewalk vigils in front of clinic. **614-445-8508**

10, 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.

Scripture, Encyclical Study at Marion St. Mary

6 to 7:30 p.m., St. Mary Church, 251 N. Main St., Marion. Study of the Letter of James and the encyclical "Laudato Si'" with Deacon Todd Tucky. **740-382-2118**

'ReMoved' at Corpus Christi

6:30 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. "ReMoved," a film about a 10-year-old girl navigating the foster care system, followed by discussion with Buckeye Ranch case worker LaVeda Foster and an adult who grew up in the system. **614-512-3731**

'Rediscover Jesus' at Plain City St. Joseph

7 to 8 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave., Plain City. Fourth in five-week series of talks based on "Rediscover Jesus" by Matthew Kelly.

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**

Theology on Tap Meeting

7 to 9 p.m., El Vaquero Restaurant, 3230 Olentangy River Road, Columbus. Meeting of Theology on Tap discus-

sion and social group for young Catholics. Topic: "Post-Abortion Healing" with Pegi Deeter, director of abortion recovery services for Pregnancy Decision Health Centers.

Catechism Uncorked in Delaware

7 p.m., Amato's Woodfired Pizza, 6 S. Sandusky St., Delaware. Catechism Uncorked social for 36- to 64-year-olds, sponsored by Delaware St. Mary Church adult faith formation program, featuring social time, questions for a special guest, and food available for purchase.

Sung Vespers at St. Margaret of Cortona

7:30 p.m., St. Margaret of Cortona Church, 1600 N. Hague Ave., Columbus. Sung Vespers, following Stations of the Cross during weekly Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Family Life Program at St. Matthew

7:30 to 8:30 p.m., St. Matthew Church, 807 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna, Program on "Rediscovering the Sacredness of Family Life" with Dr. Jo Ann Paradise, national consultant for Our Sunday Visitor curriculum division.

11, FRIDAY

Meditation Walk at Shepherd's Corner

6:30 to 8 p.m., Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Columbus. Meditation walk led by Sister Marguerite Chandler, OP. Theme: "The Treasure of Darkness." Fee \$5. **614-866-4302**

Scripture, Music Program at Church of the Resurrection

7 to 8 p.m., Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus. "A Lenten Evening of Scripture and Sacred Music: Solo Vocal Selections of This Prayerful Season." **614-855-1400**

Discussion of 'Rediscover Jesus' at St. John Neumann

7:30 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. Fifth of six Friday-night discussion programs on "Rediscover Jesus" by Matthew Kelly. **740-965-1358**

11-13, FRIDAY-SUNDAY

Dominican Sisters of Peace 'Come and See' Retreat

6 p.m., Dominican Sisters of Peace Motherhouse, 2320 Airport Drive, Columbus. "Come and See" discernment retreat for single Catholic women ages 18 to 45.

12, SATURDAY

Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City

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

Safety and Security Training Session at New Albany

10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany. Diocese-sponsored safety and security training session for parish staff and volunteers, presented by OSS-International. RSVP to 614-224-2251

St. Mary Magdalene Speaker Series

5 p.m., St. Mary Magdalene Church, 473 S. Roys Ave., Columbus. Parish Year of Mercy series continues with Monica Siemer of The Lamb Catholic Worker group speaking on "Sheltering." RSVP to 614-274-1121, extension 13.

Notre Dame Glee Club Concert at Marysville

7 p.m., Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 1033 W. 5th St., Marysville. Concert by University of Notre Dame Glee Club.

13, SUNDAY

Exposition at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

9:15 to 10:15 a.m., Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 5133 Walnut St. S.E., Buckeye Lake. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, continuing every Sunday during Lent.

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education

10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. "The Bible and the Mass, Part 3" with Deacon Greg Eiden.

Kateri Prayer Circle at St. Mark

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

Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic Meeting

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

Catholic Record Society Meeting

2 p.m., Undercroft, St. Michael Church, 5750 N. High St., Worthington. Catholic Record Society quarterly meeting. Speaker: Max Longley, author of "For the Union and the Catholic Church: Four Converts in the Civil War."

Adoration, Vespers, Benediction at Lancaster St. Mary

4 p.m., St. Mary Church, 132 S. High St., Lancaster. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, sung Vespers, and Benediction. **740-653-0997**

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**

13-15, SUNDAY-TUESDAY

Parish Mission at Columbus St. Patrick

7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Parish mission with Father Carleton Jones, OP, prior of St. Dominic's Priory, Washington. Theme: "Behold the Wood of the Cross." **614-224-8522**

Parish Mission at St. Pius X

7 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Parish mission with Adam Storey, director of the Marriage and Family Life Office for the Diocese of Des Moines, Iowa. Theme: "Life of Passion, Life of Love."

14, MONDAY

Lenten Quiet Morning at Corpus Christi

10 a.m. to noon, Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Fifth of six Lenten quiet mornings of reflection on the Lenten readings through the prism of mercy. **614-512-3731**

Adoration, Evening Prayer at New Philadelphia

5 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 139 3rd St. N.E., New Philadelphia. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and confessions, followed by Evening Prayer. **330-343-6976**

Bethesda Post-Abortion Healing Ministry

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

Our Lady of Peace Men's Bible Study

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

'Exploring the Passion' at St. John Neumann

7 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. "Exploring the Passion" liturgy. **740-965-1358**

14-16, MONDAY-WEDNESDAY

Parish Mission at St. Agatha

7 p.m., St. Agatha Church, 1860 Northam Road, Columbus. Parish mission with Father Joshua Wagner, pastor of Columbus St. Dominic and Holy Rosary-St. John churches. Theme: "The Four Phrases That Will Change Your Life."

15, TUESDAY

Adoration, Mass, Speaker at Dover St. Joseph

5 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 613 N. Tuscarawas Ave., Dover. Eucharistic Adoration, followed by Mass at 6 and talk from 7 to 8 with Dr. John Bergsma of Franciscan University of Steubenville. Topic: "Seven Habits of a Highly Effective Catholic."

Lenten Soup Supper at Plain City St. Joseph

Parish activity center, St. Joseph Church, 670 W. Main St., Plain City. Lenten soup supper following 5:30 p.m. Mass.

Lenten Soup Supper at St. Edward

6 p.m., St. Edward Church, 785 Newark-Granville Road, Granville. Lenten soup supper with parish music director Paul Radkowski speaking on "A Reason to Hope."

Lenten Soup Supper at Ss. Simon and Jude

Following 6 p.m. Mass, Ss. Simon and Jude Church, 9350 High Free Pike, West Jefferson. Soup and salad supper.

Rosary for Life at St. Joan of Arc

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

Diocesan Honor Choir Concert at Grove City

6:30 p.m., Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3730 Broadway Grove City. Ninth annual diocesan honor choir concert, featuring singers from diocesan elementary schools, Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, and Ohio Dominican University. **614-367-9736**

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.

16, WEDNESDAY

Abortion Recovery Network Group

9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Westerville Area Resource Ministry, 150 Heatherdown Drive, Westerville. Abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program. and wants to stay connected. **614-444-4411**

Lenten Soup Supper at St. Pius X

5 to 6:30 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Lenten soup supper. **614-866-2859**

Lenten Soup Supper at St. Agatha

6 p.m., St. Agatha Church, 1860 Northam Road, Columbus. Lenten soup supper benefiting Hands Together program in Haiti. **614-488-6149**

Scripture, Encyclical Study at Delaware St. Mary

6 to 7:30 p.m., Beitel Commons, St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware. Study of the Letter of James and the encyclical "Laudato Si'" with Deacon Todd Tucky.

16-19, WEDNESDAY-SATURDAY

Three Bags Full Consignment Sale

7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday (ticket required), 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday (selected items half-price Friday night and Saturday). Community Wesleyan Church, 161 Myrtle Ave., Newark. Three Bags Full consignment sale of children's items. Unsold and unclaimed items are donated to Catholic and pro-life charities. **614-561-5300**

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

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

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

'Happenings' submissions

Notices for items of Catholic interest must be received at least 12 days before expected publication date. We will print them as space permits.

Items not received before this deadline may not be published.

Listings cannot be taken by phone.

Mail to: The Catholic Times

Happenings,

197 East Gay St., Columbus, OH 43215

Fax to: 614-241-2518

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BOOK REVIEW

Saints and Spies: Pope Pius XII's secret war against Hitler

By Junno Arocho Esteves/Catholic News Service

Pope Pius XII, who some critics say remained silent during the Holocaust, played a pivotal role in coordinating covert spy operations and efforts to take down Adolf Hitler, a U.S. author said.

"Pius XII conspired with the German resistance to try and get rid of Hitler on not just one but three occasions -- from 1939 to 1945 -- and that's the story that I tell," Mark Riebling told Catholic News Service on March 1.

In his book, *Church of Spies: The Pope's Secret War Against Hitler*, Riebling's research unveils a series of plots and acts of espionage involving Pope Pius that sought to bring down the tyrannical Nazi regime, which was responsible for the death of an estimated six million Jews.

One of the stars of Riebling's book is Joseph Muller, a German Catholic who worked as an intelligence agent for both the CIA and the Vatican, the author said.

"Joseph Muller was caught between his country and his church. And in the end, his country became so evil that he worked with his church to try and have a regime change," Riebling told CNS.

At the start of the war, Muller visited the Vatican on several occasions passing correspondence to Pope Pius, who, while publicly appearing neutral, served as an intermediary and passed along information to British and Allied intelligence, Riebling said.

Although he and other members of the German resistance were ultimately discovered and sent to concentration camps, Muller and several others survived, keeping the knowledge of Pope Pius's actions against the Nazis alive.

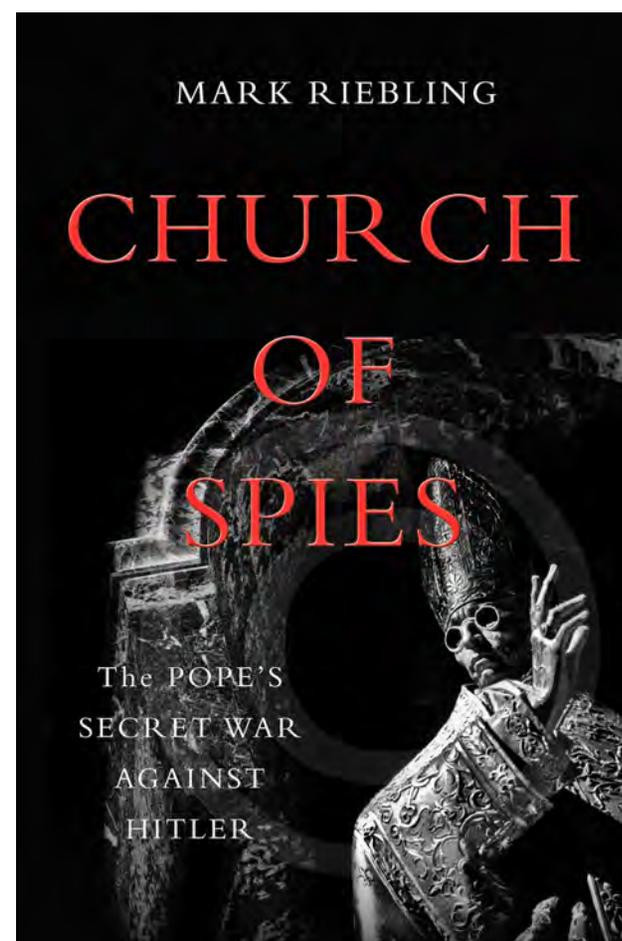
Despite the pope's disdain for the Nazis' actions, authors critical of what they consider to be his public silence continued pushing the notion that he was "Hitler's pope," Riebling said. The documents he researched from several unpublished sources, including the Vatican secret archives and Germany's *Institut für Zeitgeschichte*, countered those notions and led him to write his book.

"Rather than considering what he did not say -- about which billions of words have been published in English alone -- I thought, 'Why not just look at what he actually did, even if it's in secret?' And that took me many, many years to piece together," Riebling told CNS.

While the evidence currently available does not support the notion that Pope Pius remained silent over the Holocaust, Riebling said, the pope continues to be used as a "scapegoat" for the inaction of some Christians against the persecution of the Jewish people.

The U.S. historian added that while he must remain objective, the research into the actions of Pope Pius paint a different picture.

"From all of the information I have seen, he was a



very saintly man and there is nothing that I have seen or from anyone I know who has seen the archives -- particularly the former (postulator) of his beatification proceedings, Father Peter Gumpel -- nothing that any of us has seen indicates he did anything contrary to faith or morals as they were defined at the time or against church law," he said.

Riebling, who gave Pope Francis a copy of his book in Spanish after a general audience in St. Peter's Square on March 2, said he hopes the Vatican's secret archives will be opened soon to look further into historical records and place the "debate about Pius XII, which has big implications for interfaith relations, on a different footing." Although Pope Benedict XVI authorized allowing scholars access to the secret archives' documents dating before 1939, papers from the World War II years still are being catalogued.

The story of Pope Pius and those who "who went to the gallows for their complicity and plots to remove Hitler," Riebling said, is a reminder of the heroism that human beings are capable of, particularly when people are being persecuted and killed for their faith.

"People don't have any myths or stories to live by, nothing to encourage them on how to behave in times of moral crisis in these crucial, demanding moral decisions," the author said. He added that terrorist organizations like the Islamic State are in touch with their history and myths and "don't have any problem going in and risking their lives for their cause."

"I think this book, *Church of Spies*, really points a way to a recovery of Christendom, which I think can help the West unite itself against something which would really do us all in," Riebling said.

Notre Dame Glee Club to perform in Marysville

Under the direction of Daniel C. Stowe, the University of Notre Dame Glee Club will perform a concert at Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 1033 W. 5th St., at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 12. Admission is free.

The glee club, one of the most renowned all-male choruses in the United States, will feature a program of a *cappella* works that covers a range from medieval works to contemporary compositions for male chorus. The group will be stopping in Marysville as part of its 2016 centennial spring tour.

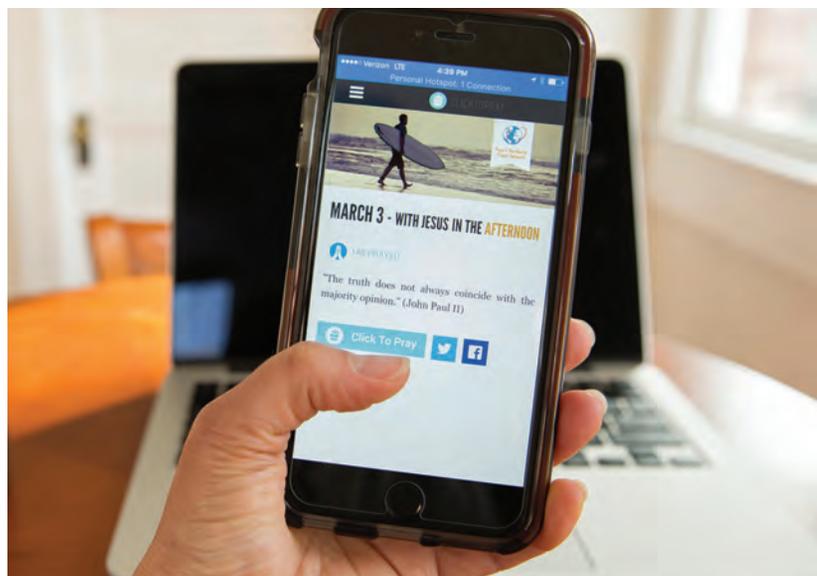
The program for each of the glee club's performances is always filled with variety that highlights its scholasticism, musicianship, and dynamic control as an ensemble. "We want our audiences to

receive an educational experience as well," says director Daniel Stowe.

The first half of the program typically features music from the Renaissance, Classical, and Romantic eras. The music will include sacred contemporary pieces, highlighted by Franz Biebl's *Ave Maria* for double men's chorus, a signature selection of the glee club. The program continues with an exciting second half of sea chants, folk songs, barbershop tunes, and African-American spirituals.

The concert will conclude with the university's internationally recognized fight song, *The Notre Dame Victory March*, and the Notre Dame *Alma Mater*, led by glee club member Erik Klaus, an Our Lady of Lourdes parishioner.

Mobile app seeks to connect people around the world through prayer



By Gaby Maniscalco
Catholic News Service

The Apostleship of Prayer has created a mobile app -- Click to Pray -- that aims to connect people around the world to pray for the pope's monthly intentions.

The app was created as part of the re-launch of the Apostleship of Prayer, the Jesuit-run outreach that has given Catholics the pope's monthly prayer intentions since 1890.

In an interview with Vatican Radio, Jesuit Father Frederic Fornos, international director of the apostleship, said the app responds to Pope Francis' message for World Communications Day 2016, which stresses the power that modern means of communications have to build bridges between people.

"The app accompanies you throughout your day. It connects you with thousands of people who find purpose in praying every day for the challenges of humanity and for the mission of the church as the pope proposes in his monthly prayer intentions," according to the Click to Pray website.

The app allows the user to choose three times throughout the day to receive prayers. "You set the time you want to start your day in the morning. You select another moment during the day to receive an inspirational thought.

And, finally, you select a moment in the evening to close your day with a daily review," the website says.

Vatican Radio reported that users also can opt to receive notifications to remind them to pray. The app also offers the option of writing one's own intention or prayer.

The app is the second new media feature to be rolled out this year by the Apostleship of Prayer. Working with the Vatican Television Center, it also began a video series in January featuring Pope Francis discussing his universal prayer intention. The monthly videos are uploaded on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube on the first Friday of each month.

While the pope speaks in Spanish, the videos have subtitles for 10 languages, Father Fornos told Vatican Radio in January.

In a later interview about the app, Father Fornos said Pope Francis had told Father Adolfo Nicolas, the Jesuit superior general, that he is "very happy with the re-foundation, re-creation of the worldwide network of the Apostleship of Prayer and with the fact that in this Year of Mercy it can help people pray in communion with him."

The Click to Pray app is available for iPhone, Android, and Windows. The prayers also can be found at clicktopray.org.

St. Brigid Author Visit

Jennifer Maschari, a former teacher at Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare School, returned to the school for two days earlier this month to talk about her first book, "The Remarkable Journey of Charlie Price." Before her visit, students planned many activities to welcome her and show their enthusiasm for her book. She was greeted during the opening assembly by a Sphero and LEGO robot presentation. Robotics Club students worked on coding the robots to



make them move in the shape of her name and in the shape of a red balloon, a symbol from the book. The hallways were lined with bright decorations, and student lockers were turned into "filing cabinets" to symbolize a theme from the book. Maschari spent two days working in small groups with students in grades five through eight on activities such as creating their own characters, creating stories incorporating mystery items pulled from a brown bag, and learning about the writing and editing process. Maschari taught at the school from 2006-14 and is now concentrating on writing fiction for students in sixth through eighth grades. More information on her and the book may be found at www.jen-maschari.com.

Photo courtesy St. Brigid of Kildare School

Columbus Knights Honor Diocesan Clergy

Six students from Columbus diocesan high schools received \$1,000 scholarships from the Greater Columbus Chapter of the Knights of Columbus during the Knights' 18th annual clergy appreciation dinner at Villa Milano in Columbus, which nearly 600 people attended. All diocesan clergy, consecrated religious, and seminarians were guests of the chapter. The scholarships are provided for high-school tuition assistance, and were among 39 awarded to students throughout Ohio's six dioceses. Since the scholarship program's inception, more than \$620,000 in scholarships have been awarded statewide. Pictured (from left) are:



absent when the picture was taken was recipient Kathleen Colvin, Columbus Bishop Ready High School.

Photo courtesy Knights of Columbus

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