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**LENT: TIME FOR PENANCE,
PRAYER AND ALMSGIVING**

The Editor's Notebook

A Good Lent

By David Garick, Editor



The season of Lent is now upon us. This is a real change of pace for Catholics. It is a time to really reflect on what it means to be Christian. We must step back a bit from the simple comfort of just going to Mass and examine how the presence of Christ within us manifests itself in the manner in which we live our lives. It is not enough to just abstain from meat on Fridays. Fasting is not just giving something up. Fasting is a tool that shifts our focus from the mundane physical aspects of our lives to help us get a better grip on our spiritual relationship with Christ and with the world.

During Lent, we have time to pray and meditate on what our faith really means. But this is not a passive meditation. This is a time to be active in living out the commands of God to make our lives reflect the example that Christ gave us. This is a time to really engage our faith. It can mean spending more time at Mass, Stations of the Cross, or Eucharistic Adoration. It can mean examining our faith through parish missions, retreats, and even communal meals at the weekly fish fry. It also means reaching out to those in need through almsgiving.

Giving alms has always been an important part of Lent. For many people, it means giving money to Catholic charities or some other good cause. But the concept of almsgiving goes much deeper. It is our response to the teachings of Jesus that encourage us to reach out to people in need—not just with our money, but with our time and our talents. Today, we might call it “stewardship.”

Lent gives us the opportunity to cul-

tivate a spirit of generosity. It gives us a chance to share what we have and who we are with other people. It puts us in communion with others and helps us understand that we are all members of the Body of Christ. Pope Benedict XVI spoke about this a few years ago in his Lenten message: “Lent invites us to train ourselves spiritually, also through the practice of almsgiving, in order to grow in charity and recognize in the poor, Christ Himself. In the Acts of the Apostles, we read that the Apostle Peter said to the cripple who was begging alms at the Temple gate: ‘I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, walk’ (Acts 3:6). In giving alms, we offer something material, a sign of the greater gift that we can impart to others through the announcement and witness of Christ, in whose name is found true life. Let this time, then, be marked by a personal and community effort of attachment to Christ in order that we may be witnesses of His love.”

In this issue of *Catholic Times*, you will find many ideas for Lenten spiritual activities and acts of charity through our local Catholic Charities, and other Catholic organizations that help alleviate suffering and spread the faith around the world.

Think carefully about how you will share your time, your talents, and your treasure during Lent. Keep in mind the words of the Lord Jesus, who said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).



Pope Benedict XVI meets Ohio bishops in his library at the Vatican on Feb. 2. Also shown are (from left) Bishops Leonard Blair of Toledo and Richard Lennon of Cleveland; Archbishop Dennis Schnurr and Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Binzer, both of Cincinnati; Bishop Frederick Campbell of Columbus; and Bishop George Murry of Youngstown
CNS photo/L'Osservatore Romano

BISHOP CAMPBELL TALKS ABOUT HIS VISIT TO THE VATICAN

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, Catholic Times

Bishop Fredrick Campbell said he will remember his recent *ad limina* visit to the Vatican for both the hour-long conversation he and his fellow Ohio bishops had with Pope Benedict XVI and the Roman snowstorm that was an unexpected part of the visit.

“It was colder in Rome than it was here throughout my stay,” Bishop Campbell said. “The most spectacular part was the visit with the Holy Father, but that snowstorm really was right up there. It pretty well closed down the city for a day.”

The storm on Feb. 3 and 4 brought 2 ½ inches of snow, the first significant snowfall there since 1986, to Rome and the Vatican, covering the dome of St. Peter’s Basilica with snow and forcing the closure of the Colosseum and the Roman Forum.

Bishop Campbell grew up in upstate New York and was auxiliary bishop of St. Paul-Minneapolis before arriving in Columbus in 2005, so “coming from where I did, it (the snowfall) didn’t surprise me, but the Italians had

difficulty dealing with it” because of their unfamiliarity with such weather, he said.

The snowfall occurred the day after Bishop Campbell and the bishops of Ohio’s five other dioceses met with the pope on Feb. 2 in his library. The bishops of Michigan met him the following day. Bishops of the United States began visiting the pope in groups based on their geographic region in late 2011. All the nation’s bishops will have taken part in the visits by the end of this year.

This was Bishop Campbell’s first such visit, and the first by a bishop of Columbus since 2004, when Bishop James Griffin met with Pope John Paul II at the Vatican. Such visits usually are required of bishops every five years, but that period has been extended because of John Paul’s death in 2005 and the increasing number of bishops worldwide.

It also was the second time Bishop Campbell has seen the former Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger since he was elected pope. The other occurrence

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Correction: The dates for fish fries at Columbus St. Catharine Church were incorrectly listed in the Feb. 19 *Catholic Times*. The correct dates are Fridays, February 24, March 9, and March 23.



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Bishop Frederick F. Campbell, D.D., Ph.D. ~ President & Publisher
David Garick ~ Editor (dgarick@colsdio.org)
Tim Puet ~ Reporter (tpuet@colsdio.org)
Alexandra Keves ~ Graphic Design Manager (akeves@colsdio.org)
Deacon Steve DeMers ~ Business Manager (sdemers@colsdio.org)
Jodie Sfredo ~ Bookkeeper/Circulation Coordinator (jsfredo@colsdio.org)
Mailing Address: 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215
Editorial Staff Telephone (614) 224-5195 FAX (614) 241-2518
Business Staff Telephone (614) 224-6530 FAX (614) 241-2518



Front Page photo: The Catholic Church observes the start of Lent by marking baptized Christians with ashes as a public and communal sign of penance

CNS photo/Nancy Wiechec

VISIT, continued from Page 2

came in 2008, when Pope Benedict visited Washington, D.C. This was a much more personal visit.

“It was a real conversation we had” with the pope, Bishop Campbell said. “There were no formal presentations. It was just a kind of dialogue he had with us. ... There was no specific message. We talked about various aspects of life in our various dioceses in Ohio.

“Obviously, he was very interested in vocations, which we were happy to tell him were up, gratifyingly. He asked about our seminaries, and we were happy to report we have three seminaries in Ohio and they’re filling.

“We also talked to him about the economic situation in the United States and the financial crisis, and how Catholics are responding to that. We talked about marriage and family life, and we also, of course, mentioned that very, very grave situation of the mandate from Health and Human Services.”

Bishop Campbell was referring to a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ruling that would require most Catholic institutions to offer employee health coverage which would pay for artificial contraception and sterilization, both of which are practices that violate Catholic teaching.

President Obama said on Feb. 10 that religious employers could decline to cover contraceptives if they were morally opposed to them, but the insurers that provide their health plans would

be required to offer contraceptives free of charge to women who requested such coverage.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and many additional organizations representing a variety of faiths have said this does not go far enough in protecting religious liberty. Questions also have been raised over how the revision announced by the president will pertain to the many dioceses and Catholic organizations that are self-insured, and whether it could still force entities morally opposed to contraception to pay for such services.

“They’re very concerned about” the mandate at the Vatican, Bishop Campbell said, “both on the part of the Holy Father and the secretary of state.”

Bishop Campbell and many other bishops from across the nation wrote letters in opposition to the proposal which were read at weekend Masses on Jan. 28 and 29. “The reaction to the letter ... was overwhelmingly positive,” Bishop Campbell said.

“I’ve received maybe 10 positive communications to every one that had questions or actually seemed to not be happy with it. I’ve noticed that recently, we’ve been joined by the Orthodox bishops and by the growing number of evangelicals. I think that they recognize the seriousness of the issue,” he said.

The bishop said that although Pope Benedict is nearing his 85th birthday, he appears vigorous and enthusiastic.



Bishops from Ohio and Michigan celebrate Mass at the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls in Rome on Feb. 2 as part of their “ad limina” visit to the Vatican. Bishop Frederick Campbell of Columbus is third from left and Father Shawn Corcoran, chancellor of the Diocese of Columbus, is second from right
CNS photo/Giancarlo Giuliani, Catholic Press Photo

“He was very engaged in our conversation,” Bishop Campbell said. “He knew what questions to ask and listened very carefully to us as we spoke. As I said, it was a very pleasant dialogue. Of course, his schedule is quite heavy day by day, so it’s remarkable that he just sat down with us, and it was just the bishops and the Holy Father. There was no one else in the room.”

At the conclusion of their time with the pope, each of the bishops was given a pectoral cross and blessed objects to share with family and friends. Each bishop was allowed to be accompanied by a priest during the trip. Bishop Campbell had Father Shawn Corcoran, chancellor of the diocese, as his travel companion. They stayed in the Vatican’s House of St. Martha, built during John Paul II’s papacy to house cardinals when they gather in Rome following the death of a pope to choose his successor.

Most of the bishop’s time in Rome was spent visiting the many agencies which serve the church’s needs throughout the world. In anticipation of those visits, the bishops are asked to prepare in advance a report on virtually every aspect of diocesan life, including family life, education, clergy and religious, lay involvement, vocations, priestly formation, religious practices, and demographics.

Among the agencies visited by Bishop Campbell was the Congregation

for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments. “The prefect of the congregation, Cardinal (Antonio) Canizares, congratulated us on the very successful implementation of the new English translation (of the Roman Missal),” the bishop said.

“He talked a little about the challenges facing him in a new translation of the Spanish Missal. Unbeknownst to me, I think there are four or five different Spanish Missals, and of course he would be very interested in this because he himself is a Spaniard.

“In the Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and the Societies of Apostolic Life, we talked about the report from the apostolic visitation to the religious orders” of sisters in the United States, which the congregation is in the process of drafting, Bishop Campbell said.

“With the Congregation for Education, we talked a little about seminaries and Catholic education in general. A meeting with Cardinal (Marc) Ouellet (of Canada), who is prefect of the Congregation for Bishops, was really touching,” the bishop said. “He talked about how a bishop manifests holiness in life and how we call others to that holiness. That was a very wonderful visit.”

Bishop Campbell also visited the Apostolic Signatura, the Vatican’s “Su-

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Bishop Frederick Campbell greets Pope Benedict XVI on Feb. 2. In background are Cleveland Bishop Richard Lennon (left) and Cincinnati Archbishop Dennis Schnurr
CNS/L'Osservatore Romano

PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

Obligations



Did you fight for what you know is right last week? Are you still fighting? Do not ever give up. When it comes to our Faith, and especially the precious gift of life, despair and apathy are our worst enemies. Evil can use these things against us. As a human being, I can understand despair. The evil, and the twisted thinking and rationalization that comes with it, can overwhelm us with the most terrible and inhuman actions and conditions imaginable. It is almost natural for us to throw our hands up and say that these problems are much too large for us to make a difference. The evil can be so exasperating that we become despairing and sad people, and we give up hope. Of course, this is precisely the reaction that evil wishes. On the other hand, apathy is one thing I can neither understand nor accept. Apathy is simply a weak rationalization for inactivity and selfish laziness. We cannot allow ourselves to succumb to the numb and even senseless feeling of indifference. When the very existence of select human lives is challenged, apathy is not a choice. How dare we shrug our shoulders or turn our backs on fellow human lives? God dwells in each of them, from the moment of conception until He, and only He, calls them home.

Another Lent has begun. There is no room for apathy here and now. The wonderful cycle of the liturgical year provides consistent reminders that we are on a lifelong journey, we love God and want to be in Heaven forever, we are sinful humans and we fail, so we need help. We only get help when we embrace it and make the effort. Selfish and lazy rationalization will not get it done. If you have some thoughts on making some very positive strides this Lent, turn them into action. If you have some thoughts on making some very meaningful sacrifices this Lent, act upon them now, if you have not already done so. Any time we take positive action for the sake of the building up of the Body of Christ, it is precisely what we are called to do as Catholic Christians. When we do so during the season of Lent, we satisfy our yearning for becoming one in spirit with the great mystery of the salvation of all people through the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. What is the big mystery? He did this for you, for me, and for each of us as individuals. Ponder that one.

We have serious obligations as Catholics. We are not ashamed to live our lives as Christ taught us. But that commitment demands incredible responsibility and discipline. With the Church – the Body of Christ – of which we are all members, we live for and love God our Father, Jesus our Brother, Mary our Mother, and one another as a family. Jesus takes the Church as His bride, and we take a great lesson from what it means to be good parents. Whether you are married or not, put yourself in the place of a husband or wife, and a parent. Nearly 45 years ago, Pope Paul VI wrote the following in his encyclical *Humanae Vitae*: “Married love requires of husband and wife the full awareness of their obligations in the matter of responsible parenthood; . . . the exercise of responsible parenthood requires that husband and wife, keeping a right order of priorities, recognize their own duties toward God, themselves, their families, and human society; . . . they are bound to ensure that what they do corresponds to the will of God; . . . the very nature of marriage and its use makes His will clear, while the constant teaching of the Church spells it out.” Ponder that one.

Our practical challenge this week is to fulfill our obligations as repentant and hopeful sinners and members of the Body of Christ. Make this a great Lent. Commit to one another as spouses, parents and children, and important parts of the human family. Ponder and then act upon what we must do for the Church and for one another.

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



IRISH FESTIVAL

The Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus, will host its seventh annual Irish Fest from 5 to 11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25. The evening of traditional Irish music, food, and dance celebrating Irish culture and heritage will be preceded by Mass at 4:30 p.m. in St. Turibius Chapel.

The Irish Fest was begun in 2006 to promote good will and raise awareness of the work of the Josephinum in the preparation of priests for the Church of the future. All the money it raises goes to benefit seminarians who experience financial difficulties such as medical and dental bills, books and office supplies, computers, and travel home for family emergencies.

“The Irish Fest allows people to enjoy an evening with the seminarians and to get to know the Josephinum in a more personal way,” said Josephinum rector and president Father James Wehner, STD. “It also provides a means for peo-

ple to help seminarians who have financial needs. The Irish Fest is a fun way to help a great cause.”

Musical entertainment for Irish Fest 2011 will take place at two adjoining venues on the Josephinum campus and will include performances by Maidens IV (pictured), Regan Academy of Irish Dance, The General Guinness Band, Ladies of Longford, Shamrock Club Pipes and Drums, and Knot Fibbin’. Beverages and food selections, including fish and chips, will be available for purchase throughout the evening.

Tickets may be purchased at the door and are \$20 for adults and \$5 for youth aged 11 to 16. Children under 11 are free. Presale tickets (\$15 adults; \$5 youth) may be purchased until 4 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24. Call (614) 885-5585 to purchase tickets by phone via credit card, or visit the reception desk in the main lobby of the Josephinum weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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Bishop Flaget Alumni Award



Ross County Probate and Juvenile Court Judge Richard Ward (second from right) was selected as the recipient of this year's Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School Distinguished Alumnus Award. Pictured with the judge are (from left) his son, Hudson; daughter-in-law, Judy; granddaughter, Maddy; and wife, Sherry

Photo courtesy Bishop Flaget School

Catholic Men's Conference

Msgr. Eugene Morris, Pontifical College Josephinum professor and Catholic radio personality, will be among the speakers on Saturday, March 3, at the 15th annual Catholic Men's Conference sponsored by the diocesan Catholic Men's Ministry.

Other speakers will be Scott Hahn, professor of theology and Scripture at the Franciscan University of Steubenville; street corner evangelist Richard Lane; and Father David Schalk, pastor of Columbus Christ the King Church. Bishop Frederick Campbell will be the celebrant and homilist for the conference Mass. The theme of the event, which will begin at 8 a.m. in the Lausche Building of the State Fairgrounds, is "A Call to Action: Be a New Man in Christ."

Msgr. Morris, 46, has been a priest of the Archdiocese of St. Louis since May of 1996. In the archdiocese, he served as the parochial vicar of St. Gabriel the Archangel Church before moving to St. George Church and assuming a full time teaching position at St. Mary's High School.

In 1999, he was invited to pursue further studies at the Pontifical Athenaeum of St. Anselm in Rome. He received a degree in sacramental theology from there

in 2001 and returned to St. Louis, where he began work at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary as assistant professor of sacramental theology. In July 2005, he was selected as director of the archdiocese's office for deacons. One year later, he established the St. Maximilian Kolbe House of Discernment, serving as its director for three years while continuing his other duties.

He was pastor of St. Mary Magdalen Church in the Archdiocese of St. Louis from 2009 until the fall of 2010, when he began work at the Josephinum as director of sacred liturgy and assistant professor in sacred theology. He has served as a lecturer for the Paul VI Catechetical Institute and spiritual adviser to the Marian Catechists in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

Since the summer of 2006, he has been a visiting lecturer at the Liturgical Institute at St. Mary of the Lake University at Mundelein Seminary in suburban Chicago. He is also completing work on a doctorate in Mariology at the International Marian Research Institute in Dayton, writing on the



Mariological contributions of Cardinal John Carberry, former bishop of Columbus.

He is a weekly commentator on Catholic affairs on the "Son Rise Morning Show," heard nationally on EWTN radio and locally on St.

Gabriel Radio every weekday. He also hosts the weekly St. Gabriel Radio program "Celebrating the Christian Mysteries" and frequently gives talks on various topics related to the faith, retreats, and days of recollection locally and nationwide. He formerly hosted a weekly program on WRYT radio in St. Louis and is periodically a spiritual director for "The Inner Life," a program on Relevant Radio.

Registration for the conference is \$27 (\$10 for students, free for priests, deacons and seminarians), with a box lunch included. Checks should be made payable to Catholic Men's Ministry and mailed to Scott Williamson, 5107 Canterbury Drive, Powell, Ohio 43065. For additional information, go to columbuscatholicmen.com or call (614) 798-1792.

A quick note from:

THE OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP

THE RITE OF ELECTION



The Rite of Election. What is it? The word *rite* has several meanings; here, it refers to the specific order of a liturgical celebration. The word *election* has nothing to do with our common understanding of casting votes in our political system and electing the candidate by popular vote. However, it is a process of choosing - it is God's choosing. We are chosen by God to experience God's love embodied in the sacraments. The election is a discernment that God is present in the life of the catechumens and is inviting them into a fuller life of the sacraments of the Church. This discernment process does not happen overnight. Over the course of weeks leading up to the scheduled *Rite of Election*, the catechumens, the RCIA team, the sponsors, the parish staff, and (to the extent possible) the whole community will discern the readiness of the catechumens to proceed to a time of *purification and enlightenment*. This process has its focus on what God has done and is doing in the life of the catechumens. Those found ready are invited to record their name in the *Book of the Elect*.

The celebration of *The Rite of Election* has two parts. There is a sending and a receiving. First, the catechumens are sent by the parish, generally on the First Sunday of Lent. This sending is a public pronouncement that the catechumens are ready to enter a covenant relationship through participation in the sacramental life of the Church. This public pronouncement is done through their presentation to the Bishop. The Gospels tell us that the disciples were sent to do tasks (prepare the Passover room) and to visit towns (without sandals or staff) to

spread the good news. We are sent every Sunday to "love and serve the Lord." This is the first of many sendings these catechumens will receive throughout their journey of faith.

Those who are sent can then be received. The Bishop accepts the judgment of the parish community and receives the catechumens. He invites the catechumens to record their names in the Book of the Elect (Latin *electi*, "those who have been chosen"). The role of the diocesan Bishop becomes especially prominent in *The Rite of Election*. He is the leader of the local Church and is charged with the responsibility of overseeing the entire initiation process. The announcement of the Church's decision to call catechumens to the sacraments of initiation falls to him.

There are also those who wish to join the Catholic Church who have already experienced the sacrament of baptism through another Christian Church. These candidates are also called forth to demonstrate their response to a call of continuing conversion. The candidates for full communion with the Catholic Church are asked to present a record of their baptism to the Bishop. Through their presentation of their prior experience of the first of the sacraments of initiation, they publicly embrace the Catholic Church and demonstrate their commitment to a process of growth in faith and solidarity with the Catholic community.

The richness of this *Rite of Election* can only be experienced through participation in both the sending and the receiving. As part of the parish community, we join with the staff, RCIA team, and fellow parishioners to send forth our candidates and catechumens, expressing our approval of their choice to be one among us. By being present at *The Rite of Election*, we join with Bishop Campbell welcoming, not just our candidates and catechumens, but all candidates and catechumens throughout the diocese to become one with us.

First Friday devotion; bagpipes in church



QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. In order to receive the promise of the grace of final penitence, my understanding is that one must attend Mass on the first Friday for nine consecutive months. Recently, I was attempting to complete that devotion, but on the ninth first Friday, our parish had a Communion service. Is that considered a Mass, and would the promise be granted? (Hydesville, Calif.)

A. First Friday devotion dates back to the last decades of the 17th century, when Jesus appeared to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque in France. In a series of conversations, Jesus urged her to make known the deep love symbolized by his sacred heart.

Among the promises made to her by Christ was that "my all-powerful love will grant to all those who will receive Communion on the first Fridays for nine consecutive months the grace of final repentance; they will not die in my displeasure, nor without receiving the sacraments; and my heart will be their secure refuge in the last hour."

It is important that this devotion not be viewed mechanically, as though in some magical way people could simply "catch Mass" on those nine days and otherwise conduct themselves in utter selfishness and still be guaranteed salvation.

Instead, the presumption is that someone devoted

to the frequent Eucharist would try to match that devotion with a virtuous life and that the power of the Eucharist would help them do that.

As to your question, a Communion service is not a Mass; a Mass is a full eucharistic celebration in which the bread and wine are consecrated, offered to God in union with the sacrifice of Jesus and then received.

Did the Communion service "count" as your ninth first Friday? Of course it did. God is not a giant referee in the sky with a whistle in his mouth looking for fouls to call. He is a loving Father seeking to give us the benefit of every doubt.

You wanted to go to Mass on the ninth first Friday and tried to. You did your best and -- in my mind and, I think, in God's -- that's enough.

Q. For many years, my son has played the bagpipes for Catholic weddings and funerals. Recently, he was hired to play for a Catholic wedding where the bride wanted bagpipes as she processed up the aisle with her father.

The priest celebrating would not allow the bagpipes in church. He said, "Bagpipes are an instrument of war" and could not be played inside a church. My question is this: Was that a diocesan or a personal stance? What, if any, guidelines are there regarding the use

of bagpipes in a Catholic church? (Williamstown, N.J.)

A. The priest was most likely expressing a personal preference rather than a diocesan rule. Some dioceses have guidelines regarding music at liturgies, such as that the music be dignified and of a religious nature.

For the most part, the choice of instrumentation is left to the discretion of the local pastor (I had never heard, by the way, of disallowing bagpipes because they are instrument of war. For that matter, trumpets were, too).

Recently, a New York City police officer was killed responding to a robbery. At his funeral, held at a Catholic parish on Long Island, the casket was led into church with a processional of bagpipes and drums playing "Amazing Grace."

The media commented on the power and dignity of the ceremony.

Recently, I officiated at a wedding where, after the final blessing, the newly married couple was led down the aisle by a bagpiper. It took place in a large Gothic church, and the acoustics allowed for a bagpipe's volume and pitch.

In a smaller structure, where the sound inside could be overwhelming, I have recommended at a funeral that bagpipes be used only outside the church or in the vestibule. Always, the goal of music at any liturgy is simply to help the congregation reflect and pray.

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

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OHIO DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY, BISHOP WATTERSON HIGH SCHOOL PARTNER ON TAX-FILING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Students from Ohio Dominican University and Columbus Bishop Watterson High School have joined forces to offer tax return preparation assistance to the community.

ODU is the first college or university in Ohio to partner with a high school for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

"With this program, a Catholic high school and a Catholic university are working together to provide a valuable service to those with low to moderate incomes in the community," said Bob Osborne, ODU accounting program director and VITA program adviser.

The VITA program offers free tax assistance to people with an annual income of \$50,000 or less. Volunteers provide basic income tax return preparation and help with special credits, including earned income tax credit, child tax credit, and credit for the elderly and/or disabled. In addition to free tax return preparation assistance, the program offers free electronic filing. This is the sixth consecutive year that Ohio Dominican will host the VITA program.

"ODU's collaboration with Bishop Watterson High School exemplifies their shared Catholic commitment to justice and outreach," said Alison M. Benders, ODU's vice president for academic affairs. "We are pleased to host this important service project on our campus."

Twenty-four ODU accounting students and 11 Watterson students have enrolled in the course. The high school students are involved in a college preparatory program through ODU.

"Bishop Watterson instills in its students an understanding that we are called to serve others," said Sheri Cook, Watterson business department chairperson. "This program gives them not only that opportunity, but also a real-world application of skills they learn in the classroom."



Pictured are (from left) Bob Osborne, Ohio Dominican University assistant professor of accounting; Sheri Cook, Bishop Watterson High School business department chair; and Maggie Gilmore, ODU assistant professor of accounting, observing ODU and Watterson students enrolled in the VITA program. Photo courtesy Ohio Dominican University

To participate in the VITA program, ODU and Watterson students must achieve IRS certification as tax preparers. Under faculty supervision, students prepare federal, state, city, and local school income tax returns. Faculty supervisors Osborne and ODU assistant professor of accounting Maggie Gilmore are certified public accountants.

Andrew Powelson, an ODU junior accounting major, has enrolled in the program. "ODU's program has a great reputation for excellent service and very satisfied VITA clients," he said. "I'm happy to be a part of something that's helping the Columbus community."

Mathew Culp, an ODU senior majoring in accounting, agreed. "The VITA program will give all of us on-the-job experience and help families in the community," he said.

Kaitlin McNeish, another ODU senior accounting major, participated in the program last year. "The VITA program is the driving force behind why I am pursuing a career in taxation," McNeish explained. "It gave me the experience I needed to feel confident in my abilities."

Osborne and Cook began discussing Watterson's participation in the VITA program in April 2011, when Cook asked how her students could get involved. ODU had to address several technical issues to make the

partnership possible.

"The VITA program is a senior-level college course," Osborne said. "We had to build a separate course to accommodate high school students. A lot of behind-the-scenes work took place at ODU that enabled us to offer that course."

"We are very excited that our business students are involved in the VITA program," said Marian Hutson, Watterson's principal. "It is an opportunity for our students to live out our Catholic faith and share their knowledge through service to those in need."

Watterson junior Paulina Eberts agreed. "It's always rewarding to help others, and I think it will be a good learning opportunity as well," she said.

"I think this class will help me to become more responsible, while at the same time serving the public good," said Bobby Bryant, a Watterson junior.

ODU students who participate in the VITA program will earn one college credit. Watterson students will acquire hours toward their community service requirement.

"I like the fact that I will earn college credit for this course," said Annie Rudy, a Watterson junior. "I'm probably going to major in business in college, and I think it will be a good experience."

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ON A FIRM FOUNDATION

By Loren Brown



Our Awareness on Ash Wednesday

I'm looking forward to that experience that happens each year on Ash Wednesday when someone politely tells me that I have a smudge on my forehead. I want to be a disciple of Jesus Christ and cheerfully respond with confidence, "Yes, thank you. I am Catholic and today is Ash Wednesday." I am also well aware that Jesus taught us that when we pray, we should go to our inner room. So, at such an important time in our history, when we need to express our Catholicity and also follow Christ's teachings, let me just say I look forward to bringing awareness to the fact that I have ashes on my forehead because I am Catholic, I reject Satan and I want to serve others, like Jesus Christ.

Ash Wednesday, we know, is the beginning of our Church's liturgical period of fasting and prayer. It brings awareness of how much we love God and that His love for us is enduring through His forgiveness of our weaknesses. The placement of the ashes on our forehead is also awareness of the commitment we make when we are baptized to be followers of Jesus Christ in our daily lives. This year, with the many challenges to our faith and religious freedom, I want to walk out through the church doors after receiving ashes and celebrating Mass and expose with confidence my receding hairline and say, "Yes, I have ashes on my forehead, I am Catholic, and I love Jesus Christ!"

Speaking of awareness, I can use your help with a survey being conducted by your Catholic

Foundation for the purpose of better serving your parishes and their needs throughout the Diocese of Columbus. Soon you will be learning through your parish announcements and bulletins of a quick, confidential survey that will help The Catholic Foundation continue to improve its impact on the needs of parishes, social services, Catholic education, and vocations throughout the 23 counties of the diocese. Since 1985, your Catholic Foundation has supported these areas of need with more than \$60 million! And your Catholic Foundation provides this impact by ministering in alignment with the teachings of our Catholic faith. Please help us by taking this survey. The results of the survey will provide an understanding of where to focus our efforts to grow the impact of supporting and sustaining the future of our Catholic faith. You can access the survey at www.TCRsurvey.org, or you may complete a paper version available at all Masses at your parish during the next couple of weeks.

The survey will take only a few minutes of your time today and will benefit our Catholic faith for many years to come. I thank you in advance for helping me. Please call me at (614) 443-8893 if you have questions about our survey or if I can assist you in any way. May God bless you and keep you. And may we always be aware of His mercy and love.

Brown is the president and CEO of The Catholic Foundation and a parishioner at St. Joseph Cathedral in Columbus.

LIVING Faith

LENT: A Retreat Opportunity

By Sr. Margie Lavonis, CSC

Over the years, I have heard people say that they wish they had the time to make a retreat or find a way to deepen their spirituality. Many yearn to get closer to God. Lent provides a time for this.

Every year, our Church gives us 40 days to reflect on our spiritual lives and to examine and deepen our relationships with God. Like a retreat, Lent can provide us with an opportunity to slow down and take stock of how well we are living our Baptismal commitment as disciples of Christ.

The Church suggests that we focus on the traditional Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to renew our spiritual lives.

I have found that a good way to examine our prayer is to look at how much quality time we give to developing our friendship with the Lord. Maybe our prayer life is limited to Mass on Sunday and a rote prayer before meals, when we remember. Perhaps we pray mostly when we want or need a favor from God. Let this Lent be different.

No relationship can deepen and grow unless we are willing to listen and share ourselves with the other person. God is no exception. During Lent, if you don't already, set aside at least 15 to 20 minutes each day to be

with God. Go to a quiet place, slow down, and remember that God loves you. Read and reflect upon some scripture each day and get to know the Lord better. Some find it helpful to use the Mass readings for each day. In fact, it would be good to try to go to Mass more than just on Sunday. Add another day.

The second discipline is fasting. For many of us, the first thing we think about when it comes to fasting is to give up some kind of food, like candy or ice cream. Abstaining from food is definitely a way to fast, but there are other and sometimes more meaningful ways. It could be more beneficial to fast from gossip or negative words about others or to leave conversations that engage in negativity or in tearing down someone's reputation. Another suggestion is to try to talk less and become a better listener, both to God and to people who could use some attention. It can be a real discipline to stop and focus on the other person, to really listen to what he or she says instead of waiting to jump in with what you want to say. We should choose the type of fasting that would best benefit our spiritual lives.

The other traditional Lenten discipline is to give alms. When I was in elementary school, we were given mite boxes to save money for a

good cause. That is an important part of it, but it is often easier to give our loose change to the poor than to share the precious gifts of our time and talents to those who need them. Lent calls us to give of ourselves, not just our financial and material resources. During Lent, we might choose a particular person or cause that could use some of our time. In what ways can we get out of ourselves and think more of others?

Besides our time, another thing we may be called to give during Lent is forgiveness. Who are the people in our lives—whether living or dead—that we need to forgive? Or from whom do we need to ask forgiveness? It is not easy to be reconciled with someone we hurt or who hurt us, but it can bring a lot of peace to our hearts.

Hopefully, we will take advantage of this annual opportunity to deepen our life of faith. Classes, papers, jobs, committees, projects, spring breaks, etc. will pass away, but our relationship with God is forever. Let us get to know and serve God better during these days as we prepare for Easter. Don't let this be just another 40 days of the year. Make each day count.

Sister Margie Lavonis is a Sister of the Holy Cross in Notre Dame, Ind.

I DID IT FOR YOU

**By donkey I traveled
To spread the word.
Miracles happened
As you heard.**

**I brought love and courage
Teachings and spirit.
I showed you how to believe,
Never to fear it.**

**You dined at my table.
Your feet I cleansed.
We shared stories of faith
Acting as friends.**

**My value to you was thirty coins.
My followers feared being scorned.
The cock crowed three times.
The crowds grew unwarned.**

**The trial was mockery.
My fate grew dim.
My honesty was denied.
My chances of freedom slim.**

**Anger, spit, hitting, crushing, beating,
Brutal thorns, dove in my flesh and bones
Blood, sweat and tears from my soul
Chains, whips, scourged, stones.**

**My Mother stayed strong.
My God. My God. Why?
The cross I towed was heavy.
My cries. I will die.**

**"They parted my garments among them,
And for my clothing they cast lots."
"Woman, behold your son!"
Keep Him in your prayers and thoughts.**

**Your sword pierced my side.
Blood and water to subside.
My body wrapped in linens.
In the garden tomb I lied.**

**Earth moved. Darkness overcame.
Son of God. Messiah. King of Jews.
Jesus of Nazareth. Lamb of God.
Angels heralded the news.**

**I did this for you.
Father forgive them.
They know not what they do.**

*Lenten poem by Janet Boyd
of Ss. Simon and Jude Parish, West Jefferson*

Care Enough to Act!

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, Catholic Times

Many Catholics in the Diocese of Columbus are unaware of the scope of diocesan-sponsored Catholic charities. This is especially troubling in light of the current economic situation, an extraordinary time of hardship for our brothers and sisters in need.

Six diocesan-related charities – Catholic Social Services, JOIN (the Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs), the St. Francis Center in McArthur, St. Stephen's Community House, St. Vincent Family Center, and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul – are conducting a three-tiered awareness campaign which is being coordinated by the diocese's Office of Social Concerns.

The campaign opened with a message from Bishop Frederick Campbell in the Feb. 19 issue of *Catholic Times*, followed by a direct mailing about the campaign to approximately 81,000 Catholic households. An educational effort with the theme "Care Enough to Act" is supporting the bishop's message and the direct mailing.

Mark Huddy, director of the social concerns office, said, "The central message of the campaign is love of neighbor: a call to members of the Catholic community to continue and increase their expressions of Christian charity."

"During the past three years, need within the 23 counties of our diocese has significantly increased," Huddy said. "In addition to parish-based efforts that serve the poor and vulnerable, our diocesan-sponsored agencies and organizations continue to respond, with less resources available from governmental and Community Chest sources."

A link to the campaign and its participating agencies may be found on the diocesan website at www.charities.coldsdioc.org.



Catholic Social Services

Catholic Social Services (CSS) is a faith-based agency focused on improving the quality of life for people of all faiths and backgrounds in need throughout central and southern Ohio. It has offices in Columbus, Heath, Portsmouth, and Zanesville.

CSS helps vulnerable people at their most vulnerable times. It is careful not to duplicate services, but rather to fill unmet needs and to bridge the gap where other services fall short. CSS programs are focused on strengthen families, guide individuals toward economic stability, and serve as an extended family giving care and support to senior citizens.

Its services for individuals and families include counseling to address life's challenges, as well as post-abortion counseling and crisis pregnancy counseling; domestic violence batterers intervention and anger management in Scioto County; Pathways to Hope, which offers supportive casework for women with children who are survivors of domestic violence; and HOME Choice, providing casework services to help those in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities re-establish independent living.

Services for older adults include supportive casework services to enable seniors to remain independent for as long as possible; money management assistance to increase older adults' ability to remain financially independent; peer senior companionship to reduce isolation; homemaker services for older adults; a long-term care ombudsman

program to advocate for residents in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities; and, in Licking County, transportation to medical appointments.

CSS also offers emergency material assistance, emergency food assistance through the Our Lady of Guadalupe Center, and a payee services program helping those who cannot manage their own financial affairs.



JOIN

JOIN was founded in 1967 by a group of Columbus priests and ministers to begin serving their inner-city neighbors, and its work of charity for God's poor has not stopped since then. Today, JOIN serves 100 or more families each day. Assistance comes in the form of counseling and determining the needs, not merely the wants, of each person or family.

JOIN deals daily with almost every problem imaginable, from birth to death. Client services include help for needy families expecting or welcoming new infant life; advice in fighting red tape for families who need a home or assistance with utility bills and rent; getting people back to work by supplying transportation to apply for or begin a new job; helping people find medical care; giving compassionate advice when a loved one dies and there is not enough money for burial; and many other forms of assistance.

When it is prudent, financial help is given to clients. This help is not an ongoing handout, but a gift in an emergency until the client is able to take respon-

sibility again for obligations.

The agency's director, Ruth Beckman, frequently reminds the JOIN family, "Never miss Christ when He comes to us." JOIN's works are examples of Pope Benedict XVI's teaching that the church has a threefold responsibility: to proclaim the word of God, to celebrate the sacraments, and to exercise the ministry of charity.



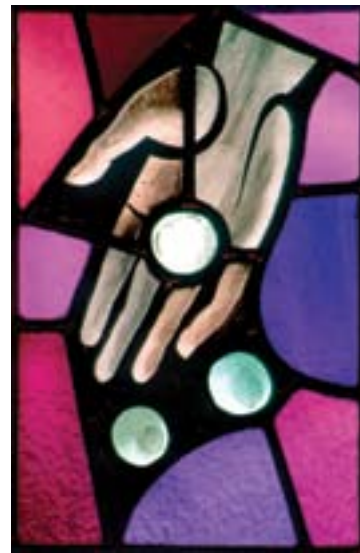
St. Francis Center

The St. Francis Center serves as a Catholic presence in the southeastern part of the diocese. It assists impoverished families in meeting their most basic needs of food and clothing.

Its food pantry travels from the main center in McArthur to four remote corners of Vinton County, which is the smallest county in the state in terms of population and has an average income per resident that is among the lowest in Ohio.

It also is a clothing center for Vinton and surrounding counties. Donations of gently used clothing and other items are accepted from all over the diocese. Besides providing clothing, the center makes donated accessories and household items, ranging from lamps and picture frames to paper and pens, available to its clients. Many of these people have fallen on hard times because of layoffs or job losses, a death in the family, or other unexpected events.

Several families served by the center need its assistance on an ongoing basis. A limited retirement or disability fund often dictates that a family needs outside resources to fully care for it. Even when a family consistently has one or more working adults, common emergen-



cies such as vehicle problems, higher-than-expected utility bills, or medical needs make additional help necessary.



St. Stephen's Community House

St. Stephen's Community House is a hub for advancing self-sufficiency in the community. It is committed to assisting residents in the Linden neighborhood in building community and individual well-being. It assists residents in maximizing their potential through programs and services such as employment, social development, community organization, education, and child care.

Founded in 1919, St. Stephen's Community House supports more than 30,000 indigent children and families annually through programs accredited by the Council on Accreditation. It provides life-sustaining services such as material assistance, family-strengthening programs, youth development and tutoring, senior services, and nationally accredited child care.

Framed with sound business principles, St. Stephen's Community House uses tactics that will ensure and sustain all five of its core programs and ser-

See CHARITIES, Page 11

CHARITIES, continued from Page 10

vice areas. It mandates that all agency operations are aligned with the needs of the community.

For the past 93 years, from the womb to the tomb, St. Stephen's Community House has continued to be consistent in brightening lives in Columbus and upholding a beam of hope for those in need.



St. Vincent Family Center

Since 1875, St. Vincent Family Center has lived out its mission of making good kids better by providing pediatric behavioral health care within a learning community to change the lives of children and families.

Its programs include a kindergarten readiness academy for children ages 3 to 5; community-based treatment services to meet the social and emotional needs of children and families; therapeutic services for deaf children ages 5 to 18 years old throughout Ohio; early childhood mental health treatment for children from birth to age 6 who attend local day care centers; and a Hispanic/Latino program offering culturally appropriate treatment services in school, at home, or at the center.

The center also offers intensive home-based treatment services for anyone aged 3 to 18; outpatient services which provide family-centered counseling for children 4 to 18 and their caregivers; and a residential/respite program supplying 24-hour intensive, structured care for boys and girls aged 5 1/2 to 13 who need long- or short-term residential care.

In addition, it has three therapeutic programs: preschool, providing a structured preschool environment to help children ages 3 to 6 years learn positive behaviors, social and problem-solving skills; school-age, providing structured classrooms for anyone ages 6 to 12 who is experiencing emotional and behavioral difficulties and has not succeeded in regular and special classrooms; and after-school,

offering an intensive, structured program to help children ages 5 1/2 to 12 identify, learn, and practice ways to effectively deal with behaviors and symptoms outside of the classroom.



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a 180-year-old international Catholic lay organization with a goal to lead men and women to grow spiritually by offering help to those in need.

Vincentian volunteers are working every day throughout the diocese to provide food (Vincentians operate a number of food pantries), rent assistance, utility assistance, bus passes, furniture, and virtually anything else that those whom they serve might need. In 2011, Vincentians helped more than 100,000 people within the diocese, regardless of religious affiliation.

The society's diocesan council operates a daily sack lunch line called St. Lawrence Haven, located at Columbus Holy Cross Church, serving as many as 400 people each day. Vincentians also run a free clothing distribution center on East Main Street in a building that is shared with JOIN.

The society also has an advocacy arm known as Voice of the Poor, which provides education on poverty issues and advocates for the poor at all levels of government.

In the Diocese of Columbus, the society has 62 parish-based chapters with more than 1,500 members, as well as five youth chapters for students in Catholic junior high and high schools.

VISIT, continued from Page 3



Ohio and Michigan bishops take part in a Mass at the tomb of Pope John Paul II during their "ad limina" visit to the Vatican. Bishop Frederick Campbell is second from left in front row. CNS photo

preme Court," headed by Cardinal Raymond Burke, former archbishop of St. Louis, to discuss matters concerning diocesan tribunals and their work with marriage cases, as well as other canonical procedures. He also said the congregations for both clergy and education both talked about plans to celebrate next year's the 50th anniversary of restoring the permanent diaconate.

"There's a great deal of stress in all the congregations on the New Evangelization. That was very clearly communicated to us," he said.

"I was very surprised as we made our visits by the international character of the Roman Curia," the Vatican's administrative apparatus, Bishop Campbell said. "Actually, the Curia is very modest in size. I think there are some dioceses in the United States that have more people working for them. There were a number of Americans, Latin Americans, Spaniards, Frenchmen. It was quite

an interesting mix of individuals."

The title of the *ad limina* visit comes from the Latin phrase *ad limina apostolorum* (to the thresholds of the apostles), a reference to the pilgrimage to the tombs of Sts. Peter and Paul that the bishops are required to make. They visited St. Peter's tomb on Feb. 1 and St. Paul's on Feb. 2.

"We gathered there to say Mass and to reaffirm our sense of the apostolicity of the church, its universality, and its union with the successor of Peter as pope," Bishop Campbell said.

He said that since the Vatican is a sovereign state surrounded by the city of

Rome, one of the more interesting parts of the visit for him was crossing from one nation into another and back almost every day. He said he didn't have to show his passport every time because he was recognized as a bishop temporarily in residence at the Vatican.

"There's kind of a different character between the two," he said. "It's much quieter in Vatican City, although thousands of tourists walk through, even in that bad weather. One detail I found of interest is that the Vatican has an international ATM machine, but the instructions are in Latin. It's an interesting mix of traditional and modern technology."

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LENTEN PROGRAMS IN THE DIOCESE

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, Catholic Times

Churches throughout the Diocese of Columbus will be presenting a variety of Lenten programs focusing on prayer, penance, and preparation for Easter.

Most parishes will conduct penance services, either individually or in conjunction with other parishes in their deanery. Many also will offer the traditional Lenten devotion of Stations of the Cross.

In addition to those activities, special seasonal events planned by parishes of the diocese include the following:

Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel – “Encountering Christ in the Words of the Mass,” a DVD series on the new translation of the Roman Missal, Sundays, Feb. 26 and March 4, 11, 18, and 25, 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Chillicothe St. Peter – Life in the Spirit seminar, Mondays, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Topics: “God’s Love and Salvation,” Feb. 27; “New Life and Receiving God’s Gifts,” March 5; “Baptism in the Holy Spirit,” March 12; “Growth and Transformation,” March 19.

Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal – “The Heart of the Passion: The Way to Calvary,” a dramatic presentation of the Passion story as told by its participants, Sunday, April 1, 7 p.m.

Columbus St. Andrew – Parish mission conducted by the

Redemptorist Fathers. Theme: “Return, Renew, Rejoice Through the Sacraments,” Sunday, Feb. 26, to Wednesday, Feb. 29, 7 to 8 p.m. Nightly topics: “The Bible,” Sunday; “The Cross,” Monday; “The Ashes,” Tuesday (Reconciliation available); “The Altar,” Wednesday (with Mass and free will offering).

Columbus St. Elizabeth – Taize prayer service, followed by Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, Sunday, March 11, 5:30 p.m. Taize is a meditative form of prayer using music with moments of peaceful silence. Day of retreat featuring “A Biblical Walk Through the Mass,” a five-part presentation of the Great Adventure Catholic Bible study series, Saturday, March 24, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Columbus St. Patrick – Parish mission conducted by Father Giles Dimock, OP, chaplain of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, of Ann Arbor, Mich. He will preach at all Masses on Sunday, March 25, with the mission from Monday to Thursday, March 26 to 29, at 7 p.m.

Columbus St. Timothy – Parish mission conducted by Father Raphael Bonanno, OFM, of Boston, former missionary to Brazil and the Holy Land. Sunday, Feb. 26 to Wednesday, Feb. 29, 7 p.m., with weekday morning Mass at 9 a.m. Each evening session opens with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and closes with Benediction, except for the concluding Mass.

Topics: “Living in the Embrace of God’s Love,” Feb. 26; “Forgiveness as the Path to Peace,” Feb. 27; “Healing the Human Heart,” Feb. 28; “Called to be Witnesses of the Good News in Our Times,” Feb. 29.

Danville St. Luke – Ecumenical services and luncheons sponsored by the Association of Danville Area Ministers, Thursdays, noon, except during Holy Week, when the event will be on Good Friday at noon. Seder meal, Sunday, April 1, 6:30 p.m., community center. Tenebrae service, designed to recreate the sense of betrayal, abandonment, and agony related to Good Friday events, Wednesday, April 4, 8:30 p.m. Living Stations of the Cross, Friday, April 6, 8:30 p.m.

Delaware St. Mary – “The Case for Catholicism,” with parishioner Jake Tawney, author of the recent *Catholic Times* series on the new translation of the Roman Missal, Fridays, 7:45 to 8:45 p.m. Topics: “The Case for God: The Truth of God’s Existence,” March 2; “The Case for Christ: The Truth of Christianity,” March 9; “The Case for the Church: The Truth of Catholicism,” March 16; “The Case for the Blessed Mother: The Truth of the Marian Doctrine,” March 30. Living Stations of the Cross presented by St. Mary School children, Friday, March 23, 7 p.m.

Gahanna St. Matthew – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Wednesday, Feb. 29, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., with confessions from 6 to 6:30.

Granville St. Edward – Soup supper and speaker series with Father Jay Harrington, OP, of the Pontifical College Josephinum, Tuesdays, 6 p.m. Topics: “Prayer,” Feb. 28; “Fasting,” March 6; speaker and topic to be announced, March 13; “Almsgiving,” March 20; “Penance and Conversion,” March 27.

Lancaster St. Mary – Great Adventure Bible series, “A Quick Journey Through the Bible” with Jeff Cavins, Thursdays, Feb. 23 and March 1, 8, 15, and 22, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Spirit Center. Parish women’s retreat conducted by Father Denis Kigozi, pastor of Columbus St. Thomas Church, Friday, March 9, to Sunday, March 11, Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center, Newark. Theme: “Alive in God!” Parish mission conducted by Father Josh Wagner, pastor of Columbus St. Dominic and Holy Rosary-St. John churches, Monday, March 19 to Wednesday, March 21, 7 to 9 p.m., with Reconciliation on Tuesday.

Marion St. Mary – Parish mission, “Luke Live, Part 3,” a dramatic presentation of the 13th to 18th chapters of the Gospel of Luke by Father James DiLuzio, CSP, Monday, March 5 to Wednesday, March 7, 7 to 8:30 p.m., with alternate sessions after Masses at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday. “The Real Presence: Exposition and Adoration Before the Blessed Sacrament,” with Msgr. Eugene Morris of the Pontifical College Josephinum, Monday, March 12, 7:30 p.m. “You and Holy Joe,” with Sister Joann Brodman,

OSF, and Bonnie Nolan, Monday, March 19 (Feast of St. Joseph), 7 p.m.; Seder meal, Monday, March 26, 6:30 p.m.

New Boston St. Monica, Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains – Parish mission with Bishop James Griffin, Saturday, March 17 to Sunday, March 19. Masses: Saturday, 4 p.m. (St. Monica) and Sunday, 8:30 (St. Peter) and 11:15 a.m. (St. Monica); Holy Hour with Rosary, Evening Prayer, and Benediction, Sunday, 5:30 p.m., St. Peter; Mass for the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Monday, 5:30 p.m., penance service with Benediction, Monday, 7:30 p.m., both at St. Monica.

Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton – Parish mission conducted by Father Rod Damico, parochial vicar, Columbus Corpus Christi, St. Ladislav, and St. Mary churches, Sunday, March 18 to Tuesday, March 20, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Theme: “Finding God in Our Daily Life.” Free soup supper at 6 p.m. March 18.

Plain City St. Joseph – Vespers, Sunday, Feb. 26, 6 p.m.

Powell St. Joan of Arc – Parish mission conducted by composer and musician Tom Booth, Saturday to Tuesday, Feb. 25 to 28. Workshop and morning of reflection, Feb. 25, 9 to 11 a.m.; evening sessions, Feb. 26 and 27, 7 to 8:30 p.m.; morning sessions with Mass, followed by presentation and brunch with child care provided, Feb. 27 and 28, 8:30 a.m.; closing Mass, followed by evening session, Feb. 28, 6:15 to 8:30 p.m.

Reynoldsburg St. Pius X – Parish mission conducted by Father Josh Wagner, Monday, Feb. 27 to Wednesday, Feb. 29, 7 p.m. Theme: “The Four Phrases That Will change Your Life.” Soup suppers benefiting Operation Rice Bowl, Wednesdays, Feb. 29 and March 14 and 28, 5 to 7 p.m. Anointing of the Sick, Saturday, March 17, 5 p.m. Mass and Sunday, March 18, 8:30 a.m. Mass.

Sunbury St. John Neumann – Speaker series, Fridays, 7:30 p.m. Speakers and topics, Feb. 24. Jake Tawney, “Catholic Moral Teaching from Aristotle to Aquinas to Today”; March 2, Deacon Tom Berg Jr., “Addressing the Reality of Evil”; March 9, youth variety show; March 16, Father Pat Toner, “Divine Mercy”; March 23, former Ohio State quarterback Stanley Jackson, “Respect Life”; March 30, Deacon Carl Calcara, “Catholic Mystic Josefa Menendez.” Tenebrae service, Sunday, April 1, sundown.

Worthington St. Michael – Parish mission conducted by Msgr. Eugene Morris of the Pontifical College Josephinum, Sunday, March 25 to Thursday, March 29, 6:30 p.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. other days. Theme: “Understanding the Lord’s Divine Mercy – Preparing for the Easter Mysteries.” Reconciliation available following Sunday talk; question and answer session, 10 a.m. Monday; Mass on Tuesday; Eucharistic Adoration, 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. Wednesday; Chaplet of Divine Mercy recitation following Thursday talk.



“now is a very acceptable salvation
behold, now is the day of salvation”

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION THROUGHOUT THE DIOCESE

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, Catholic Times

For readers who may be interested in taking part in Eucharistic devotions during Lent, here is an updated list of parishes in the diocese where Eucharistic adoration or exposition takes place on a regular basis.

In addition to the activities listed, Lenten penance services will be conducted at a number of parishes. Readers are advised to contact parishes for specific dates and times.

Anyone with additions or corrections to this list may contact Tim Puet at *Catholic Times*.

Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel – Exposition: All Sundays of Lent, noon to 4 p.m.

Cardington Sacred Hearts – Exposition: First Fridays, 9:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Chillicothe St. Peter – Exposition: Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Columbus Christ the King – Exposition: First Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Columbus Holy Cross – First Fridays, from end of 7:30 p.m. Mass to 7:30 a.m. Saturday. All-night Eucharistic vigil begins with Mass, followed by communal prayers, litanies, Rosaries, hymns and quiet time between prayers until 11:30, then exposition and private prayer until 7:30 a.m.

Columbus Holy Family – Exposition: Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., Thursdays, 10 a.m. continuous to 11:45 a.m. Friday, ending with Benediction. Contact church for details concerning entry.

Columbus Holy Name – During day in chapel, followed by Vespers and Mass at 5:30 p.m.

Columbus Immaculate Conception – Exposition: 24 hours, seven days a week, except during the Sacred Triduum, in the children's center (former convent). Press rear entry buzzer.

Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal – Exposition: First Friday, from end of 9 a.m. Mass through Holy Hour at 6 p.m.

Columbus Our Lady of Peace – Exposition, Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Columbus Our Lady of Victory – Exposition: First Friday, from 8 p.m. Friday to start of 8 a.m. Saturday Mass.

Columbus St. Andrew – Exposition: Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays,



Fridays, from end of 6:30 a.m. Mass to 8:15 a.m.; Tuesdays, from end of 8:30 a.m. Mass to 9 p.m.

Columbus St. Anthony – Exposition: First Fridays, from end of 9 a.m. Mass to noon.

Columbus St. Catharine – Exposition: First Friday, after 8:30 a.m. Mass to 2:30 p.m. Holy Hour; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursdays with exposition and Benediction.

Columbus St. Cecilia – Exposition: First Fridays, 9 a.m. Friday to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Columbus St. Christopher – Adoration and prayer ministry: Weekdays from end of 8:30 a.m. Mass to 4:30 p.m.

Columbus St. Elizabeth – Exposition: second Sunday of the month, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral – Exposition: First Sundays, from end of 5:15 p.m. Mass to Benediction and Compline at 9 p.m.

Columbus St. Ladislav – Adoration: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays in former convent. Call Sister Wilma Ross, SCN, at (614) 444-2598 for instructions on how to enter.

Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona – Exposition: Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Columbus St. Mary – Exposition: First Fridays, from after noon Mass to 5 p.m.

Columbus St. Mary Magdalene – Exposition: second Monday of the month, 11 a.m. to noon in church; fourth Saturday of the month, 9 a.m. to noon in Bishop Campbell Hall.

Columbus St. Patrick – Regular Adoration: Third and fourth Fridays of the month, 8 p.m. Friday to 7 a.m. Saturday. Regular Exposition: 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. Fridays.

Columbus St. Stephen – Exposition, Wednesdays, 5 to 6 p.m., and first Fridays, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., both ending with Benediction.

Columbus St. Timothy – Exposition: Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Danville St. Luke – Exposition: Once a month (date varies), from after 10 a.m. Mass until 8 p.m. prayer service Sunday.

Delaware St. Mary – Exposition, First Sundays, from end of 12:15 p.m. Mass to 3 p.m.

Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare – Exposition: First Fridays from end of 9 a.m. Mass to 5 p.m., in Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Gahanna St. Matthew – Exposition: Fourth Wednesday, 2 to 7 p.m.

Granville St. Edward – Exposition: 9:30 a.m. Monday to 9 a.m. Tuesday.

Jackson Holy Trinity – Exposition: First Fridays, 11 a.m. to noon.

Kenton Immaculate Conception – Exposition: First Fridays, from after 8 a.m. Mass to 5 p.m.

Lancaster St. Bernadette – Exposition: Monday through Friday, 5 a.m. to midnight in chapel. Knock on front door to gain admittance.

Logan St. John – Exposition: First Fridays, from 9 a.m. Friday to 8 p.m. Saturday, in adoration chapel.

Marion St. Mary – Adoration: Fridays, from after 8:30 a.m. Mass to 9 a.m. Saturday. Exposition: First Fridays, from after 8:30 a.m. Mass to 5 p.m.

Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes – Exposition: First Fridays, from after 5:15 p.m. Mass to 9 a.m. Saturday.

Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul – Exposition: 5 p.m. Thursday to 5 p.m. Friday, followed by Mass and Benediction.

New Albany Church of the Resurrection – Exposition: First Sunday of each month, from end of 11 a.m. Mass to 5 p.m. Adoration: Every day except from 5 to 6 p.m. Saturday and 9 to 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. to noon Sunday, and during the Sacred Triduum. Exposition and Adoration are in the church's Reservation Chapel, accessible to the public from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Doors are locked and access card is needed at other times. People may request a card by e-mailing www.churchoftheresurrection.com.

New Lexington St. Rose – Exposition: First Fridays, from after 8 or 9 a.m. Mass to 4 p.m.

New Philadelphia Sacred Heart – Exposition: 9 a.m. Tuesday to 5:15 p.m. Wednesday.

Newark Blessed Sacrament – Exposition: Noon to midnight Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays in chapel; 9 a.m. to midnight Wednesdays in sanctuary.

Newark St. Francis de Sales – Exposition: 7 p.m. Sunday to 4 p.m. Saturday, in day chapel behind sanctuary.

Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton – Adoration: 24 hours, seven days a week, except when Mass is being celebrated and during the Sacred Triduum, in the church's Eucharistic Chapel.

Plain City St. Joseph – Exposition: 6 to 8 a.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays; 6 a.m. every Thursday to 8 a.m. Friday; 6 to 9 p.m. Fridays; evening hours follow 5:30 p.m. Mass and Vespers.

Portsmouth Holy Redeemer – Exposition: Tuesdays, 5 to 6 p.m.

Powell St. Joan of Arc – Exposition: 9 a.m. Wednesday to 8 a.m. Friday.

Sunbury St. John Neumann – Exposition: 5 p.m. Monday to 6 p.m. Tuesday. Church is locked from 6 p.m. Monday to 8 a.m. Tuesday. Non-scheduled adorers who wish to visit during these hours should contact amydavis@hotmail.com.

Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne – Exposition: Holy Days of Obligation; all night on Feast of Corpus Christi.

Waverly St. Mary – Exposition: First Wednesday, from end of 6:30 p.m. Mass to Benediction at 8 p.m.

West Jefferson Ss. Simon and Jude – Exposition: Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Westerville St. Paul – Exposition: Thursdays during Lent, after 8:30 a.m. Mass until Benediction at 6:45 p.m.

Worthington St. Michael – Exposition: 24 hours, seven days a week, except from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday and during the Sacred Triduum, in the church's Adoration Chapel.

Zaleski St. Sylvester – Exposition: Thursdays, from after 8 a.m. Mass to 7 p.m.

Zanesville St. Nicholas – Exposition: First Fridays, 8 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas – Exposition: Fridays, noon to 9 p.m.

University Students Find Christ and Community During St. Paul's Outreach Fan into Flame Retreat

By SARAH DEAK

Heartland Retreat Center's Hickory Lodge shook with songs of praise and joy as nearly 120 university students gathered in Marengo to attend the annual Fan into Flame retreat, hosted by St. Paul's Outreach (SPO) during the weekend of Feb. 2 to 4. Students attended from Ohio State, Ohio Dominican, Bowling Green State, and West Virginia universities and Columbus State Community College, helping make this Ohio's largest-ever Fan into Flame retreat. Each student arrived with a unique story, view on faith, and relationship with Christ, and each left knowing he or she had a deep, personal encounter with our Lord and the power of the Holy Spirit.

The retreat consisted of a series of talks centered on the transition from knowing about Jesus Christ to encountering Him. Students heard from their peers about their own encounters with Christ and were provided encouragement and support in embracing God's love and plan for their lives.

Ohio State junior Andrew Zuk shared



his personal testimony with his fellow students, saying his first Fan into Flame retreat "gave God a tiny window, and He blew it wide open." OSU graduate Brent Diller spoke about dedicating one's whole life to God, encouraging students to continue living as a witness to Christ beyond the retreat experience. Diller called on his peers on to strive toward the small daily miracles of life found in acts of service and love.

Following the retreat, attendees are encouraged to stay strong in their commitment to God through becoming involved with the SPO community. SPO helps keep students accountable with a strong Catholic community, hosting weekly events on campuses, engaging individuals in small-group Bible stud-

ies, and providing opportunities for intentional community life through living in an SPO household. SPO households are established at OSU, ODU, and BGSU and provide a hub for community and evangelization.

St. Paul's Outreach is a lay evangelistic outreach and community. Founded in 1985 in St. Paul, Minn., the organization came to Ohio when a group of SPO missionaries put on a Fan into Flame retreat for a group of students in 2004. Since then, St. Paul's Outreach has been building environments that bring the Catholic faith alive on campuses throughout Ohio.

Sarah Deak serves St. Paul's Outreach as development coordinator and, with her fellow SPO missionaries, strives to bring the good news of God's love to college campuses throughout Ohio. For more information or to get involved with SPO, visit stpaulsoutreach.wordpress.com or www.spoweb.org, or email ohio@spoweb.org.

New PDHC location

Pregnancy Decision Health Centers (PDHC) opened its fifth Caring Center on Monday, Feb. 6, in the Linden area of northeast Columbus. The center will serve the young women of that community who are faced with an unexpected pregnancy. The services it offers at no cost include pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, material aid, connection to community resources, and accurate information on pregnancy, abortion, and alternatives.

The center is positioned to serve a population that has been underserved. While African Americans comprise a little more than 12 percent of the population in Ohio, they represent 37 percent of women having abortions in Ohio. State statistics from 2010, the most recent available, say 10,528 African American children were aborted in Ohio that year.

"There is a moral imperative to offer women of all races, ages, income levels, and religious affiliation real choices when they are faced with an unexpected

pregnancy," says Tim Welsh, president of Pregnancy Decision Health Centers. "We are thrilled to be in the position to be of service to the Linden community."

Welsh said that locating where the need is greatest is nothing new to PDHC. "Our location at the Ohio State University campus is a good example of our longstanding reputation for being where women need us most," he said. "Being located in the heart of the campus area allows us to serve women who are at high risk for abortion."

PDHC also operates centers on West Broad Street and Cleveland Avenue in Columbus and has a location in Lancaster, allowing the organization to serve a diverse population.

For more than 30 years, the organization has been serving the needs of women and their families in central Ohio, assisting more than 15,000 women through its centers and 24-hour hotline. To volunteer for this lifesaving work at PDHC, visit www.pdhc.org or call (614) 888-8774.

Help The Catholic Foundation help your parish.



Scan here to take our survey

Please take our brief, confidential survey at www.TCFsurvey.org

Surveys will also be available at Masses on March 3-4, 10-11 and 17-18.

Thank you for your participation.



Connecting Your Gift in One Faith

The Catholic Foundation serves every parish within the 23-county Diocese of Columbus.

St. Catharine's K of C Fish Fry
500 S Gould Rd, Columbus • Friday, February 24 • 5-8 pm
ALL YOU CAN EAT- Dine-in, Carry-out and Drive-thru
Adults \$9; Seniors (65+) & Children (under 18) \$7;
Family Special \$25 (2 adults and all children under 18 in family)
Fried Ocean Perch, Baked Cod, Fries, Macaroni, Coleslaw, Applesauce, Rolls, Dessert and Beverage



PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Catholic Nutrition Center Saves Lives — Before, After Results are Breathtaking

Children like Carmen are what keep Ana Aleman going even on her worst day.

She found baby Carmen lying in an old milk crate on a side street in El Progreso, Honduras. Abandoned by her family, the frail infant's skin clung to her bones. She was severely malnourished — nearly dead.

Ana, the director of Prince of Peace Nutrition Center, rescued her and brought her back to her ministry for treatment.

Now Carmen is a happy, healthy toddler. The care she received at Prince of Peace Nutrition Center has literally saved her life.

"How can you see a need like baby Carmen's and turn away?" says Ana Aleman, a devout Catholic. "My faith compels me to help these children. And I thank God every day that I have the opportunity to work here. This is what Christ meant when he said we should live out our faith."

A Texas native, Aleman came to Honduras 10 years ago on a mission trip, and she never left. Moved to tears after seeing tiny children with skeleton-like bodies and desperate mothers begging passersby for help, she decided to open the nutrition center that now provides life-saving care to dozens of malnourished children whose destitute parents cannot afford to feed them.

"We see so many sad cases coming here. It is truly heartbreaking," she says. "Children are the most tragic victims of poverty. They are helpless to protect themselves, and their impoverished parents are simply incapable of caring for them."

Aleman explains that the mothers who bring their children to the nutrition center are living at the most severe levels of poverty — typically living on less than \$1 per day. They are also uneducated and may be providing



Ana Aleman makes a difference — thanks to the U.S. donors who support Cross Catholic's outreach.

their children with poor food choices, leading to vitamin deficiencies and other health problems. Such babies come in to the center weighing little more than a newborn even though they may actually be nearly a year old.

At the nutrition center the children are provided with five daily meals, and they remain under close supervision until they are nursed back to health. Meanwhile, their mothers are taught how to prepare nutritious meals using inexpensive foods available locally. This training insures that the children don't relapse into the same malnourished state they arrived in once they leave Prince of Peace.

"The mothers are thrilled to see their children recover," Aleman says. "After seeing their children suffer, it is also a relief for them to have solutions — ways of warding off malnutrition with the training they've received."

Carmen Hernandez, a mother whose 2-year-old son has been at the nutrition center for two months, was overwhelmed by how quickly he recovered from a severe case of malnutrition.

"Joel was so sick even the local hospital turned us away," says Hernandez, who then brought him to Prince of Peace. "This place is wonderful. My son's recovery is a miracle."

Dramatic recoveries like Joel's are what Aleman lives for, however, she knows that

is a mission she could never accomplish alone. She acknowledges the nutrition center depends on the financial support of Cross Catholic Outreach and its Catholic donors in the U.S. They, she says, empower her to serve.

"It is amazing what we can do by working together. Cross Catholic Outreach's donors play a role and Ana Aleman plays a role. Neither can be whole without the other," says Jim Cavnar, the American charity's president. "In fact, Cross Catholic Outreach was created with that perspective in mind. We wanted to develop a stronger connection between Catholics in the U.S. and Catholics who serve overseas. We wanted parishioners in America to see what a huge difference their support makes in the lives of the poor — and, at the same time, sought to give the poor an opportunity to bless us with their great faith. In that way, the Church is united and all of us are blessed."

To make a tax-deductible contribution to Cross Catholic Outreach and its work with Catholic ministries overseas, use either the enclosed postage-paid brochure or send donations to: Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC00841, PO Box 9558, Wilton, NH 03086-9558.

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. We have been thrilled with the results so far."

accomplishes, many of the Bishops and Archbishops are also impressed by the unique collaborative relationship Cross 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

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



"Before" and "after" photos of Kelvin show the dramatic impact of the Center's loving care.

"Cross" Now Endorsed by More Than 50 U.S. 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.

"We've received an impressive number of endorsements from American Bishops and Archbishops — more than 50 Catholic leaders at last count," explained Jim Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach. "They're impressed by the fact that we've done outreaches in more than 40 countries and that we undertake a variety of projects; everything from feeding the hungry and housing the homeless to supplying safe water

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Escaping the Deadly Cycle of Poverty

Cross Catholic Outreach Celebrates Success of its Global Mission

Mercedes Nuez's day begins at 6:30 a.m. when she enters Guatemala City's huge, rat-infested dump. The single mother will spend the next 13 hours wading through piles of steaming garbage in search of items that she can sell for a few cents to one of the city's recyclers.

The work is backbreaking. With each breath of methane gas rising from the trash, she feels as if her lungs may burst — but she keeps going because she knows that if she stops her daughters won't eat tonight.

For Nuez and the nearly 2,000 poor families who live off this massive garbage dump, a hard life is all they know.

"Life is very hard here. The days are long, and there aren't many sources of help for people like me," says Nuez, who has been working in the dump since she was 14 years old. "I never went to school, but I am thankful my girls are getting an education. Maybe then they can escape the life I have had to live."

The education Nuez is talking about is an afterschool program created to help the city's poor. Their school, on the edge of the dump, is an important ray of hope in the otherwise beleaguered community.



Mercedes Nuez (left) lives on the outskirts of the dump, but she has higher hopes for her children and the other families who work there.

in basic social services for children is a key to alleviating their poverty," Cavnar adds. "By providing education along with food and medical care, we help break the cycle of poverty that's dominated the lives families for generations."

And the alternative is shockingly bleak for those who do not benefit from an education.

For example, the illiterate poor typically live on \$2.50 or less a day, and their living conditions are both dangerous and a health threat. A recent study by UNICEF found that, 24,000 children die each day because of poverty. One in three lack adequate shelter, while one in five don't have clean water to drink. If an education can bring better conditions and opportunities, it is literally saving lives.

"There are undoubtedly practical reasons to do what we are doing to educate the poor, but that's only one of our motivations — our desire to manifest God's love is another important reason," Cavnar says. "God called us to help our neighbors and to show Christ-like compassion by meeting their needs. By helping people like Mercedes Nuez and her children we are serving God and following Christ's teachings."

Cavnar highlighted Cross Catholic's outreach to 8-year-old Humphrey as another example of how the charity puts its faith into action.

Humphrey and his siblings, Nancy, 5, and

John, 4, were abandoned by their family. They lived for almost three years by themselves in a dilapidated, one-room shanty in the middle of the notorious Kibera Slum of Nairobi, Kenya.

To call their life "difficult" would be an understatement. Humphrey wasn't even in third grade yet, but he was forced to juggle work and school in a desperate attempt to support his younger siblings. He and the younger children often went without food.

Fortunately, the struggling children were discovered by a group of Catholic nuns who provide food, educational opportunities and spiritual counseling to AIDS orphans and vulnerable children living in the slum. With financial support from Cross Catholic Outreach, they were able to give the fledgling family the help they needed.

"Without the help we provided, these children probably would not have survived," Cavnar says. "Thankfully, they now have a

safe place to live, clothes to wear, plenty of food to eat, and they are able to attend school every day. Their suffering is over."

Cavnar explains that life-saving programs like this wouldn't exist without the support Cross Catholic receives from its generous Catholic donors in the U.S.

"Our Catholic benefactors are vital to the success of our work. Without them, we would not be able to support Catholic outreaches in Africa, Central America, the Philippines and elsewhere," Cavnar says. "Our success is only possible because of their generous spirit. They are the heroes in this story."

To make a tax-deductible contribution to Cross Catholic Outreach and its work with ministries overseas, use either the enclosed postage-paid brochure or send donations to: Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC00841, PO Box 9558, Wilton, NH 03086-9558.



How to Help:

Your help is needed for Cross Catholic Outreach to bring Christ's mercy to the poorest of the poor. Use the enclosed postage-paid brochure to mail your gift or send it to Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC00841, PO Box 9558, Wilton, NH 03086-9558.



First Sunday of Lent (Cycle B)

Noah's covenant and Christ's temptation



Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

Genesis 9:8-15
1 Peter 3:18-22
Mark 1:12-15

The covenant with Noah comes only after most of the first creation has been destroyed. Now God (*Elohim*) promises Noah never again to destroy creatures with the kind of flood that has just ended. The sign of **this** covenant, which will act as a reminder to God never to destroy everything again, is the rainbow in the sky.

It seems a little late, since the bow appears **after** a storm. The covenant with Abraham that will follow in Genesis 17 will be marked by the circumcision of all males. If nothing else, the signs of these covenants were emphatic.

Curiously, God establishes this covenant with all living creatures, because all living creatures except those in the ark were destroyed in the flood. If one accepts that this covenant with Noah comes from the priestly source, then it is easy to see that the Genesis compiler had in view the devastation of the Babylonian Exile when he pieced this story together.

Just as the Exile brought with it destroyed lives, loss of property, and destruction of the Temple and the city of Jerusalem, so, too, the flood brought destruction everywhere, except to Noah and his entourage. And just as God establishes a covenant with Noah and promises never to destroy creation again in this way, so the Lord re-establishes the covenant with Israel.

Certainly there are places where the Noah flood story brushes up against the Babylonian flood story (part of the Gilgamesh epic). Moreover, in Babylonian tradition, the god Marduk hangs his bow in the heavens after

he defeats Tiamat, the goddess of the deep waters. The Hebrew word *keset* means both a bow used in war and a rainbow. This enables the Genesis author to use the image in a very similar way to the Babylonian myth before him.

The evil of the people of Noah's day brought down God's wrath on them. The evil of Israel, which ignored the warnings of the prophets, brought down the nation. So went the theology of retribution. Crime brought punishment. But now God promises that future punishments will not wipe out everything.

The Gospel for the First Sunday of Lent is always about the temptation of Christ, which imitates to some extent Israel's 40-year trial in the desert. However, with Mark, the temptation story is short and sweet. It is limited to two short verses. Mark alone says that the spirit "drove him" into the desert. Matthew and Luke say he was led by the spirit into the desert.

Mark says quite simply that he was there in the desert 40 days, being tempted (or tested) by Satan. Mark's other curious remark is that he was with the wild animals and that angels ministered to him. Some have tried to suggest that the story had teaching value to early Christians, who were warned that after their own baptisms, they could expect to be tempted by Satan, too. This incident follows immediately Jesus' own baptism by John in the Jordan. But Mark makes no such link.

Rather than point to Jesus' first victory over Satan in this desert experience, Mark simply mentions the wild beasts which were with him and presumably did him no harm as he was ministered to by angels. That claims victory without actually saying so.

After this, Mark begins the public ministry of Jesus by clearing the stage with the arrest of John, thereby allowing Jesus to enter, announcing the time of fulfillment: "The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the gospel." Christians would do well to meditate on that ever-elusive notion that the kingdom of God is at hand.

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

JERSEY RETIRED

Marquis Miller (right) and his younger brother, Steven, shake hands at a ceremony at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School marking the retirement of Marquis Miller's high school basketball number. Both Millers graduated from the school in 1977. Marquis Miller led the Cardinals to three straight Central Catholic League championships from 1975-77 and their first Central District title in 1976. He was a two-time first-team All-Ohio player and was chosen as the state's player of the year in his senior season. Miller went on to play for Ohio State and was on the Buckeyes' 1980 team that made it to the NCAA's Elite Eight. Following his graduation from OSU, he held a variety of positions in business and education. He currently is vice president of field operations for the National Minority Supplier Development Council in New York. His jersey retirement at halftime of a game against Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School was sponsored by My Brother's Keeper, a minority student organization at St. Charles that is focused on increasing minority student enrollment through recruitment, inclusion, and retention programs.

Photo courtesy St. Charles Preparatory School

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
Leviticus 19:1-2,11-18
Psalm 19:8-10,15
Matthew 25:31-46

TUESDAY
Isaiah 55:10-11
Psalm 34:4-7,16-19
Matthew 6:7-15

WEDNESDAY
Jonah 3:1-10
Psalm 51:3-4,12-13,18-19
Luke 11:29-32

THURSDAY
Esther C: 12,14-16,23-25
Psalm 138:1-3,7c-8
Matthew 7:7-12

FRIDAY
Ezekiel 18:21-28
Psalm 130:1-8
Matthew 5:20-26

SATURDAY
Deuteronomy 26:16-19
Psalm 119:1-2,4-5,7-8
Matthew 5:43-48

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 26, 2012

SUNDAY MASS
10:30 a.m. Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (820 AM), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.
Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 7:30 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus. Check local cable system for WWHO's 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 Kenton Immaculate Conception Church at 10 a.m. on Time Warner Cable Channel 6 (Hardin County).
Mass from Portsmouth St. Mary Church at noon on Time Warner Channel 24 in Scioto County.

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); Noon, St. Gabriel Radio (820 AM), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

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

HHS and Soft Totalitarianism



THE CATHOLIC
DIFFERENCE
George Weigel

The Obama administration's recently-announced HHS regulations, which would require Catholic institutions to subsidize health insurance coverage that provides sterilization, abortifacient drugs and contraceptives, should be located within the context of the administration's three-year long effort to define religious freedom down.

As the administration has demonstrated in its international human rights policy, it regards religious freedom as a kind of privacy right: the right to freedom of worship, which the administration seems to regard as analogous to any other optional, recreational activity. No serious student of religious freedom, however, takes the redefinition of religious freedom as freedom-to-worship seriously. For if that redefinition were true, there would be "religious freedom" in Saudi Arabia, so long as the "worship" in question were conducted behind closed doors. And that is manifestly absurd.

The HHS regulations announced on Jan. 20 are one domestic expression of defining-religious-freedom-down. The administration does not propose to, say, restore the 1970 ICEL translations of the prayer texts of the Mass; that, even HHS might concede, is a violation of religious freedom. But the administration did not think it a violation of religious freedom for its Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to try and overturn the longstanding legal understanding which held that religious institutions have a secure First Amendment right to choose their ministers by their own criteria—until it was told that it had gone way over the line in January's Hosanna-Tabor Supreme Court decision (a judicial smackdown in which the administration's own Court nominees joined).

Students Commissioned into St. Vincent DePaul Society

Whether it's making sandwiches for St. Lawrence Haven in Columbus or babysitting children while their parents attend classes through Bridges Over Poverty in Newark, the junior high and high school students in the St. Vincent De Paul Society say they are focused on making a difference and helping the poor.

Father Thomas Petry of Columbus St. Anthony Church invited the students to listen to the authentic voice of Christ during the St. Vincent de Paul youth commissioning ceremony and Mass on Sunday, Jan. 29, at his church. Students from the society's Columbus Bishop Ready, Bishop Watterson, and St. Francis DeSales high school and Columbus St. Anthony and Newark St. Francis de Sales middle school chapters committed to promoting its works among people their age.

As a sign of their commitment, they

brought canned goods for food pantries to the altar during the offertory.

Danielle O'Brien, president of the DeSales High School chapter, said involvement with the society is "something strong in my family, and I believe in the call."

In a letter, Bishop Frederick Campbell, who couldn't be at the ceremony because he was on his way to Rome, invited the young people to learn from the poor.

Students at Newark St. Francis de Sales School are doing just that with their babysitting ministry.

"It's fun. I love being with friends and I feel good about doing it for poor people," said Emily Nutter.

Her schoolmate, Allison Pressey, said her grandmother told her about the society and "explained how you can help people. It makes me feel good."

Bill Sparks, president of the Columbus diocesan council of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, thanked the students for all they do serving those in need.

"I love helping the poor and helping people," said Logan Broskie of St. Anthony School.

Father Petry said he hopes the youths keep that sense of ministry. "I treasure what you are doing," he told them.

Those commissioned include:

St. Francis de Sales School: Allison Pressey, Lauren Burd, Grace Wright, Mariel Pugh, and Emily Nutter.

St. Anthony School: Elizabeth Anderson, Ila Boley, Brandon Braughton, Logan Broskie, Dominique Capparuccini, Ryan Corkrean, Mara Dennison, Glenn Eatman, Robel Fegadu, Gigi Howard, Will Kuypers, Kaylee Leary, Nicholas Limbert, Erin Matthews, Jacee Palmer, Jake Paugh, Dylan Payne, Alyssa Po-

The social doctrine of the Catholic Church emphasizes the importance of the mediating institutions of civil society in living freedom nobly and well. John Paul II coined the phrase "the subjectivity of society" to refer to these institutions, which include the family, religious communities, and voluntary organizations of all sorts. In *Centesimus Annus*, the late pope taught that, among their many other contributions to the common good, these institutions are crucial schools of freedom in which the tyrants that all of us are at age two are turned into democrats: the kind of people who can build free and virtuous societies.

It seems increasingly clear that the Obama administration does not share this vision of a richly textured democracy in which civil society plays an important, independent role. Rather, it sees only the state and the individual, honoring the institutions of civil society insofar as they can be turned into simulacra of the state. Those with a sense of the ironies of American history will find it, well, ironic that it should be the Catholic Church—long held suspect for its alleged anti-democratic tendencies—that is now cast in the role of chief defender of the fundamental principles of democracy. But that is the task that Catholics have been given.

It is a task in which we dare not fail—for our sake, and for the future of American democracy.

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

Weigel's column is distributed by the Denver Catholic Register, the official newspaper of the Archdiocese of Denver. Phone: 303-715-3215.

laski, Delaney Rice, Morgan Rowan, Mary Saforah, Dena Studer, and Rachel Williams.

Bishop Ready High School: Trianna Connelly, Brigid Cullivan, Olivia DePassio, Stefanie Fair, Kelley Garrison, Halston Jones, Eric Knapke, Scott Knapke, Ashley Parisi, Daniel Perry, and Kasey VanHoose

Bishop Watterson High School: Carol Rieth, Maria Ritchey, and Jacob Ritchey, representing the school's chapter.

DeSales High School: Lauren Asman, Rachel Braun, Andrea Devakul, Erin Gerrity, Megan Gerrity, Shawn Gerrity, Jenny Hamilton, Jessie Hamilton, Katie Hamilton, Alice Ho, Kirsten Hohman, Isabel Holgado, Katie Julian, Maura McCabe, Danielle O'Brien, Emily Piatt, Sarah Schockling, and Alyssa Sherman.

Pray for our dead

ADJIMAN, Michael K., 54, Jan. 25
Holy Resurrection Melkite Catholic Church, Columbus

AUGUSTINE, Valeria, 95, Feb. 14
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

COURTRIGHT, Dorothy M., 92, Feb. 16
Ss. Simon and Jude Church, West Jefferson

DEARDORFF, Ingrid, 22 months, Feb. 15
St. Mary Church, Portsmouth

ELSNER, Dorothy B., 96, formerly of Columbus, Feb. 17
St. Victor Church, Richfield

EMIG, William H., 91, Feb. 14
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

ERNEY, Duane J., 88, Feb. 15
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

FALTER, Richard L., 80, Feb. 11
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

GOMEZ, Michael W., 38, Feb. 5
Holy Family Church, Columbus

GROTE, Lawrence T., 76, Feb. 16
St. Leo Church, Columbus

LOOMIS, Lynn K., 67, Feb. 19
St. Anthony Church, Columbus

MARCHIONNA, Victor, 90, Feb. 12
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

MARTINELLI, Esther, 86, Feb. 12
Immaculate Conception Church, Dennison

McDONALD, Michael, 53, Feb. 14
St. Colman of Cloyne Church, Washington Court House

NORTHUP, Jerry, 65, Feb. 16
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

OTTMAN, JoAnn, 77, Feb. 19
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

PEREZ, Dr. John F., 72, Feb. 17
St. Peter Church, Columbus

RIESER, Kathleen M., 56, Feb. 17
St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus

SANDMAN, Carl M., 78, Feb. 18
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

SCHAFFER, David W., 86, Feb. 15
Our Lady of Peace Church, Columbus

SIMPSON, Eric J., 34, Feb. 16
St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury

SMART, Emma M., 80, Feb. 12
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

STAMMLER, Raymond N., 72, Feb. 12
St. Mary Church, Columbus

THOMAS, George J., 89, Feb. 12
St. Ladislav Church, Columbus

THOMAS, Harold J. "Bud," 90, Feb. 13
Sacred Heart Church, Coshocton

WEILAND, Dawn K., 52, Feb. 14
Pope John XXIII Church, Canal Winchester

WILCHECK, John, 93, Feb. 12
St. Michael Church, Worthington

WIRTHMAN, Mary J., 78, Feb. 10
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

Wilma V. Amrine

Funeral Mass for Wilma V. Amrine, 88, who died Monday, Feb. 20, will be held Saturday, Feb. 25, at Columbus St. Timothy Church.

She was born May 11, 1923, in Somerset to Clarence and Mary Snider.

She was a founding member of St. Timothy Church and for many years was director of its Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (later Parish School of Religion) program. She also set up the parish's program for visiting the sick and assisted other parishes in starting similar programs.

She assisted Bishops Michael Ready, Clarence Isenmann, John Carberry,

Clarence Elwell, and Edward Herrmann with several diocesan fund drives, including the one to build Columbus Bishop Watterson High School. She also was a master charter member of the Council for Retarded Children and an emeritus board member of Mount Aloysius Academy in New Lexington.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert L.; son, Robert J.; daughter, Catherine; and sisters, Helen Stricker and Janet Davis. Survivors include son, Donald; daughter, Mary; and sisters, Mary Anglim, Patricia (Duke) Brewer, and Joan Rohr.

Submit obituaries to
tpuet@colsdio.org

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Bishop Ready Scholarship Exams for Incoming Freshmen

Columbus Bishop Ready High School, 707 Salisbury Road, has scheduled its placement exam for incoming freshmen for Saturday, March 3, from 8:45 a.m. to noon.

The school's scholarship exam for incoming freshmen is scheduled for two Saturdays: March 10 and March 24.

Program explores environmental efforts from religious perspective

The Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus, will present a program based on a film titled "Renewal: Stories from America's Religious-Environmental Movement," from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, March 6. "Renewal" is the first feature-length documentary film to capture the vitality and diversity of today's religious-environmental activists.

Current eighth-grade students who plan to enter the school's freshman class in the fall of 2012 may choose either date to take the scholarship exam, which runs from 9 to 11 a.m.

For more information, call the school at (614) 276-5263.

From within their Christian, Jewish, Buddhist, and Muslim traditions, Americans are becoming caretakers of the Earth, re-examining what it means to be human and how we live on this planet. Their stories of combating global warming and of recycling, land preservation, and teaching love and respect for life are the heart of "Renewal."

H A P P E N I N G S

CLASSIFIED

LENTEN FISH FRY'S - COME JOIN US
ST. ANDREW CHURCH
1899 McCoy Rd. Upper Arlington
FEBRUARY 24, MARCH 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
4:30 - 7:00 P.M.
BAKED COD OR DEEP FRIED PERCH SIDES, DESSERT & BEVERAGE INCLUDED ALSO CHEESE PIZZA & MAC 'N CHEESE
ADULT \$8, CHILD (UNDER 12) \$4
CARRY OUT \$7 (NO DESSERT OR BEVERAGE)

ST. JOAN OF ARC PARISH
10700 Liberty Rd, Powell
WEEKLY FISH FRY
FRIDAYS FEB. 24 — MARCH 30, 5:30 - 7:30 PM
(SPONSORED BY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS)
ALL YOU CAN EAT MEAL INCLUDES BAKED & FRIED FISH, FRENCH FRIES, MAC & CHEESE, GREEN BEANS, COLE SLAW, ROLLS, SOFT DRINKS
Adults: \$8.50, Seniors: \$7.50, Children: \$4, Carry-out: \$8.50

LENTEN FISH FRY
FRIDAYS 5-8 pm, Feb 24 - Mar 30
ST. MICHAEL CHURCH
5750 N. High St., Worthington
FISH DINNER: REG/\$8; SMALL/\$6
MACARONI-CHEESE DINNER/\$6
Dine In, Drive Thru & Carryout

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 Deacon Steve DeMers at 614-224-6530 or 800-511-0584.

'Happenings' submissions
Notices for items of Catholic interest must be received at least 12 days before expected publication date. We will print them as space permits. Items not received before this deadline may not be published. Listings cannot be taken by phone. Mail to: The Catholic Times Happenings, 197 East Gay St., Columbus, OH 43215 Fax to: 614-241-2518 E-mail as text to tpuet@colsdio.org

ST. CHRISTOPHER CHURCH
LENTEN PASTA DINNER
1420 Grandview Ave / Trinity School Cafeteria
Fridays, Feb 24 - Mar 30 - 5PM - 8PM
\$ 7 ADULTS / \$ 4 KIDS / \$ 25 PER FAMILY
SAUCES PROVIDED BY LOCAL RESTAURANTS
FEB 24TH — EMELIOS CATERING
MARCH 2ND — Z CUCINA RISTORANTE

ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR CHURCH
4131 Clime Road, Columbus
WEEKLY LENTEN FISH FRY
Fridays, Feb 24 - Mar 30 - 5:30-7:00 pm
ALL YOU CAN EAT FISH (fried or baked), CHOICE OF TWO SIDE DISHES, BEVERAGE AND DESSERT INCLUDED
\$9/adults, \$8/seniors, \$4.50/ages 4-12 (family discounts available)
For further information call 614-272-5206

ST. MARGARET OF CORTONA CHURCH
1600 N. Hague Ave, Columbus
14TH ANNUAL
"BEST FISH FRY DINNER IN TOWN!"
Fridays, Feb 24 - March 30, 4:30 - 7:30 PM
Fried Perch or Baked Cod, French Fries, Baked Potato, Baked Steak Fries, Cole Slaw, Applesauce, Roll & Butter, Desserts. Free seconds & coffee!
Adults - \$9.00; Seniors - \$8.50; Children (10 & under) - \$4.00
POP, BEER, & CARRIOUTS AVAILABLE • Info: 279-1690

ST. BRENDAN'S FISH FRY
in the school @ 4475 Dublin Rd, Hilliard
FRIDAYS DURING LENT
2/24 - 3/30 • 4:30 - 7:30 PM
ADULTS / \$8.50 - CHILDREN / \$3.50
CARRY-OUT AVAILABLE

ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH
6077 Sharon Woods Blvd, Columbus
LENTEN FISH FRY EVERY FRIDAY
Feb 24 - March 30, 5-7PM
BAKED & FRIED FISH, AND FISH SANDWICHES, SHRIMP, GRILLED CHEESE, PLUS PIEROGIES
Cost is: \$8 adult, \$6 Fish Sandwich & Pierogies, \$5 child
Carryout is available • Come enjoy and have fun

ST. TIMOTHY'S PARISH
1088 Thomas Lane, Columbus, 43220
ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER
SUNDAY, MARCH 4 - NOON - 7 PM
Adults \$8; Seniors \$7; Child 12 and under \$5
ALL YOU CAN EAT PASTA HOMEMADE MEATBALLS CARRYOUT AVAILABLE

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH
1033 W 5th Street, Marysville
ANNUAL LENTEN FISH FRY DINNERS
Fridays, Feb 24 - Mar 30 - 5 to 8 p.m.
Both fried and baked fish, with fries or baked potato, coleslaw or applesauce; pizza and mac-n-cheese available
\$10 all-u-can-eat, \$8 regular, \$6 seniors, \$5 kid's

ALL YOU CAN EAT PASTA DINNER
St. John the Baptist Church, 720 Hamlet St., Columbus
Sunday, March 11 • 11:30 am-5:30 pm
ADULTS / \$10 - CHILDREN / \$5 - (family rates available)
Pasta, meatballs, sausage, salad, desserts
For info & reservation by 3/7, call Katy at 614.595.2326

SAVE THE DATE
Friday, April 27, 2012
"Come JOIN the Highland Fling"
BiblioBenefit VIII • Go roam'in' in the gloamin' to **ST. ANDREW PARISH HALL**
The Joint Organization for Inner City Needs (JOIN)
Watch for more information in your parish bulletin!

FEBRUARY

DAILY THROUGH APRIL 1
40 Days for Life
Continuous, sidewalk in front of Complete Healthcare for Women, 5888 Cleveland Ave., Columbus. 40 Days for Life Lenten vigil at abortion clinic. **614-445-8508**

23, THURSDAY
20s Group Meeting at Columbus St. Patrick 7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Weekly meeting of parish's new 20s Group. All young adults invited. Begins with Holy Hour, followed at 8 by program. **614-406-9516**
'Courage' Support Group Meeting
7:30 p.m., A Catholic organization providing support for individuals with same-sex attractions.
Mary Louise **614-436-8676**

23-26, THURSDAY-SUNDAY
'Elephant's Graveyard' at St. Charles 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. School drama department presents central Ohio premiere of "Elephant's Graveyard," a drama by George Brant.

25, SATURDAY
Columbus Catholic Women's Conference 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Lausche Building, State Fairgrounds, Columbus. Fifth annual Columbus Catholic Women's Conference, with talks by Leah Darrow, Yvonne Florczak-Seeman, Jenn Giroux, and Gloria Anson.
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. **614-565-8654**

Bishop Watterson Entrance Exam
9 to 11:15 a.m., Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road. Entrance exam for incoming freshmen.
Josephinum Irish Fest
5 to 11 p.m., Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. Seventh annual Irish Fest commemorating the Feast of St. Patrick, with traditional Irish music, food and dance, following 4:30 p.m. Mass. **614-885-5585**
Leah Darrow Talk at St. Andrew
6:30 to 8 p.m., Parish hall, St. Andrew Church, 1899 McCoy Road, Columbus. Former "America's Next Top Model" contestant Leah Darrow shares her testimony of mercy and forgiveness. For anyone 14 and older.

25-28, SATURDAY-TUESDAY
Parish Mission at St. Joan of Arc
St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Parish mission conducted by composer and musician Tom Booth. Workshop and morning of reflection, 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday; evening sessions, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Sunday and Monday; morning sessions, 8:30 a.m. Monday and Tuesday; closing Mass, 6:15 p.m. Tuesday. **614-761-0905**

26, SUNDAY
St. Christopher Adult Religious Education
10 to 11:15 a.m., St. Christopher Parish Center, 1420 Grandview Ave., Columbus. "Receiving Truth by Recognizing Christ in the Neediest Among Us" with Mark Huddy, diocesan social concerns director. **614-488-9971**
Praise Mass at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
11 a.m., Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Praise Mass with upbeat contemporary music. **614-861-1242**
St. Catherine of Bologna Secular Franciscans
2:30 to 5 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave., Columbus. Rosary, Liturgy of the Hours, followed by general meeting, ongoing formation, and social. **614-276-1953**
Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. **706-761-4054**

26-29, SUNDAY-WEDNESDAY
Parish Mission at St. Andrew
7 to 8 p.m., St. Andrew Church, 1899 McCoy Road, Columbus. Parish mission conducted by the Redemptorist Fathers. Theme: "Return, Renew, Rejoice Through the Sacraments." **614-451-4290**
Parish Mission at St. Timothy
7 p.m., St. Timothy Church, 1088 Thomas Lane, Columbus. Parish mission conducted by Father Raphael Bonanno, OFM, of Boston, former missionary to Brazil and the Holy Land. Weekday Masses at 9 a.m. **614-451-2671**

27, MONDAY
Bethesda Post-Abortion Healing Ministry
6:30 p.m., support group meeting, 2744 Dover Road, (Christ the King Church campus), Columbus. **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. **614-459-2766**

Aaron Diehl Concert at St. Christopher
7:30 p.m., St. Christopher Church, 1420 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Concert with jazz pianist Aaron Diehl honoring his former teacher and principal, Kathy McClermon of the diocesan Schools Office. **614-486-0457**



CONCERT

Tribute to Kathleen Cody McClernon

Renowned jazz pianist Aaron Diehl will pay tribute to Kathleen Cody McClernon, his teacher and principal at Columbus St. Mary School, in a concert of spiritual and religious music at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27, at Columbus St. Christopher Church, 1420 Grandview Ave. Its setting will be that of Evensong, the evening prayer service also known as Vespers.

McClernon will be retiring at the end of the school year after 46 years of service in the Diocese of Columbus. She said Diehl was “a quiet and unassuming child” whose musical talent was recognizable early on. By the time he

was in fifth grade, he was playing the piano and organ at liturgies and other school events.

On graduating from Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, Diehl immediately went on tour with the Wynnton Marsalis Septet. Since his graduation from the Julliard School of Music in 2007 he has played with the Boston Symphony and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, and has been featured on NPR’s radio show “Jazz Piano.” He has toured extensively throughout the nation, and has performed in jazz festivals in Europe, South America, and Asia. He holds the Cole Porter Jazz

Fellowship awarded by the American Pianists Association.

“Jazz is the only truly American musical form. The more I have learned about it, the more I have come to appreciate it,” said McClernon, who has been associate director of curriculum and instruction for the diocesan Office of Catholic Schools for the past seven years. “It demands that the musicians rely on each other and respect each other,” she said. “It also requires them to ‘choose, connect, collaborate, contribute, and create’ – utilizing the five ‘C’s of 21st Century learning skills that guide the development of our curricu-

lum today.”

There is no admission for the concert, but a free will offering will be taken up.

The proceeds will be donated to the Doyle Memorial Fund of The Catholic Foundation of the Diocese of Columbus. The fund helps make Catholic education possible for children with special needs – a cause that McClernon has been passionate about throughout her career as an educator. “I am awed and humbled that Aaron wants to do this, not only in celebration of my retirement, but for children of our Catholic schools,” she said.



BOOK REVIEW

FAST LIVING: How the Church Will End Extreme Poverty

Author aims to move Christians to help end world poverty
Reviewed by Graham Yearley
 Catholic News Service

The “Occupy Wall Street” movement has reassured many that the fervor for social reform, so prevalent in the baby boom generation, has not died in American young people. While that movement’s goals are confusing to some, there is no mistaking what Scott Todd, author of “Fast Living,” is seeking to change; his goal is nothing less than ending extreme poverty worldwide. Extreme poverty is defined as having less than \$1 a day to meet the basic needs of shelter and food.

Todd contends that governments cannot accomplish this task because political conflicts stand in their way. Only Christian churches

can end extreme poverty, because it is demanded of them. The love of neighbor and the love of God are one and the same. Armed with money (at least in the Western world) and the will and determination found in Christ’s preferential love of the poor, the church can bring about this change, but not without changing its believers first.

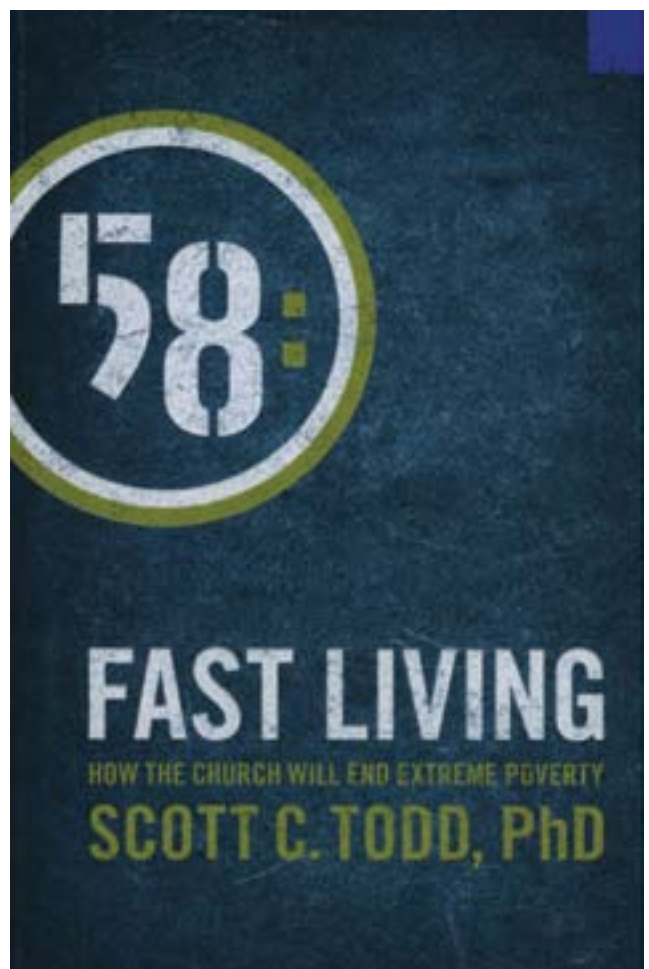
If it is obvious that Christians would want to end extreme poverty, why haven’t we? Todd argues that it is because we do not believe we can, based on a serious misunderstanding of Jesus’ words in John 12:8: “The poor are always with us.”

Many biblical scholars maintain that Jesus was addressing Judas and Judas’ mistaken priorities when he objects to the pouring out of expensive oils on Jesus’ feet. Judas argues that the oils could

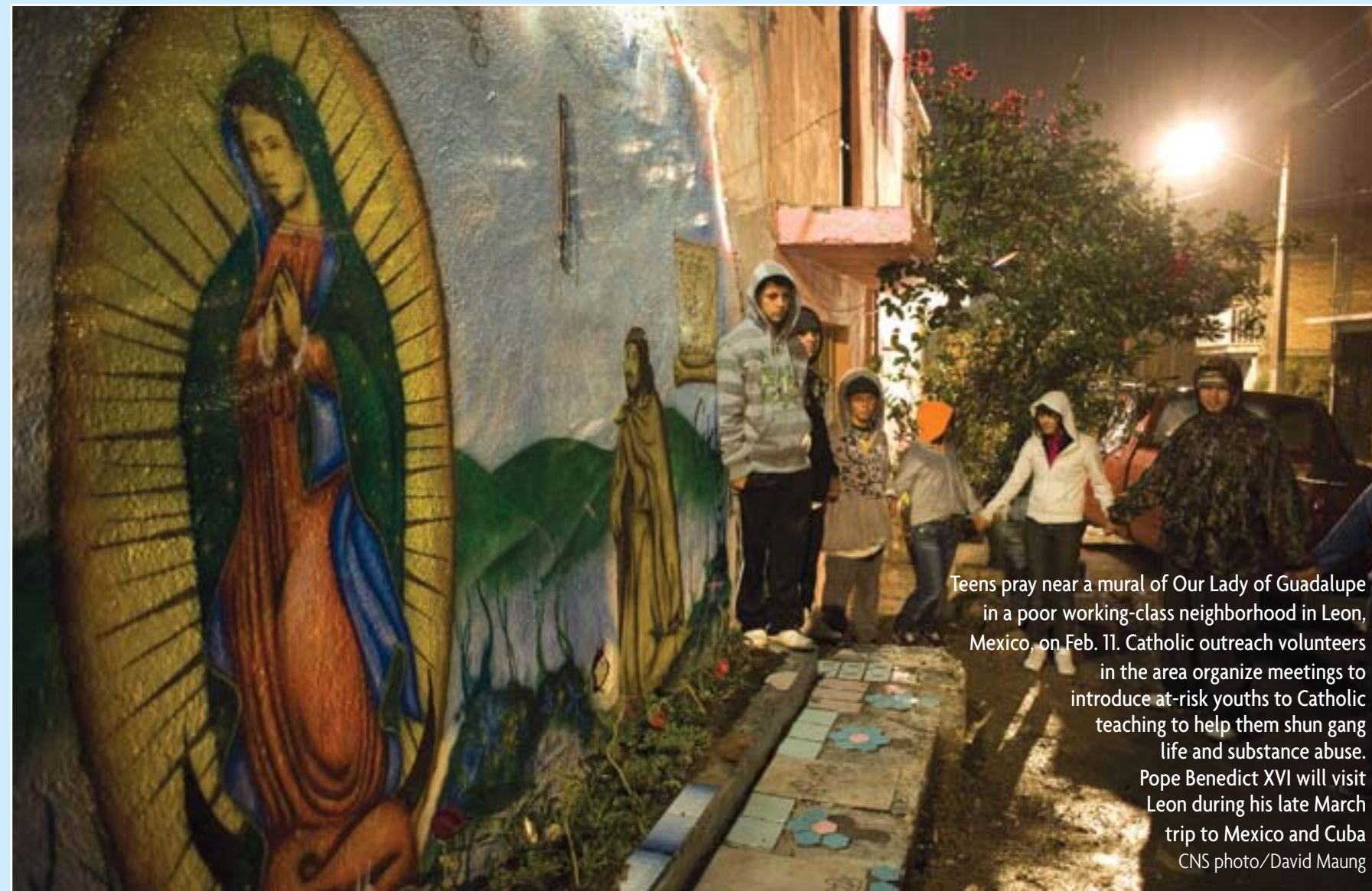
be sold to benefit the poor. When Jesus admonishes Judas, it is because he is asking Judas to value his presence while he is with his apostles, not making a blanket statement about accepting poverty as inevitable.

Todd recommends taking up the ancient practice of fasting as a starting place to serve the poor by experiencing what they experience. Abstaining from food voluntarily is not the same as being forced to go hungry, but if enough Christians fast, it could create, in Todd’s opinion, an outpouring of love and service because we will know something of how they feel.

Yearley received his certificate of advanced study in theology at the Ecumenical Institute of St. Mary’s Seminary and University in Baltimore.



NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD IN PHOTOS



Teens pray near a mural of Our Lady of Guadalupe in a poor working-class neighborhood in Leon, Mexico, on Feb. 11. Catholic outreach volunteers in the area organize meetings to introduce at-risk youths to Catholic teaching to help them shun gang life and substance abuse. Pope Benedict XVI will visit Leon during his late March trip to Mexico and Cuba
 CNS photo/David Maung



Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan, Archbishop of New York (far left) and Cardinal Edwin F. O’Brien, grand master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem and Archbishop of Baltimore, smile after receiving their red hats from Pope Benedict XVI during a consistory in St. Peter’s Basilica at the Vatican. The pope created 22 new cardinals from 13 nations – including two from the United States and one from Canada
 CNS photo/Paul Haring

The Gospel: A Gift to Share, Good News to Communicate

By Leandro M. Tapay

Diocesan Missions Director

In the Diocese of Columbus, the weekend of Feb. 25 and 26 is designated for the Black and Indian Missions collection.

This national collection, designated by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, was established in 1884 at the Plenary Council in Baltimore, to ask parishes throughout the United States to assist communities which do not have the financial base to support the Church. These communities exist in almost all the dioceses in the United States — from the inner cities to the outland tribal reservations. For more than a century, the proceeds of the collection have helped the Black and Indian missions keep the light of faith shining in these communities.

"Faith: Anchored in Jesus, Alive in Mission," the theme of the 2012 collection, echoes Pope Benedict's announcement of 2012 as a special "Year of Faith." The command to go to the whole world to spread the Gospel is continually revived in every celebration of the Holy Eucharist, which concludes by re-echoing the mandate the Risen Jesus gave to the Apostles, "Ite Missa Est - Go and proclaim . . ." (Matt 28:19). The Mass concludes with a call to witness to what has been experienced: the saving power of God through His word and through His

Body and Blood.

All those who have encountered the Risen Lord have felt the need to proclaim the news of it to others, as did the two disciples of Emmaus. After recognizing the Lord in the breaking of the bread, "they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the Eleven gathered together" and reported what had happened to them on the road (Luke 24: 33-34).

Blessed John Paul II, in his apostolic letter "Novo Millennio Ineunte," urges us to be watchful and to be always ready to recognize Jesus' face and run to our brothers and sisters with the Good News: "We have seen the Lord." The pope reaffirmed the need to renew our commitment to proclaim the Gospel to everyone and to share "the enthusiasm of the very first Christians."

Mission work is the most precious service that the Church can render to humanity and to all individuals who are seeking the profound reasons to live fulfilled lives, according to John Paul II. The Church can never be closed in on herself. She is rooted in specific places in order to go beyond them. The mission of Christ the Redeemer, which is entrusted to the Church, is still very far from completion, John Paul said. An overall view of the human race shows that Christ's mission is still only beginning and that we must commit our-

selves whole heartedly to its service (Redemptoris Missio).

Pope Benedict XVI, in his 2011 World Mission Sunday message, said that the Church's universal mission involves all, all things and always. The Gospel is not an exclusive possession of whoever has received it. But, rather, it is a gift to share, it is Good News to communicate.

The gift of the Gospel is entrusted to all the baptized, who are "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people" (1 Peter 2:9), so that they may declare His wonderful deeds. The Pope said that attention to and cooperation in the Church's evangelizing work in the world cannot be limited to a few moments or special occasions. Nor can it be considered as one of many pastoral activities.

The Church's missionary dimension is essential. Therefore, it must always be borne in mind. It is important that both individual baptized people and ecclesial communities be involved in the mission, not sporadically or occasionally, but in a constant manner, as a form of Christian life, Pope Benedict said.

Together, let us stand in union with the Holy Father, who calls us to a deeper faith and relationship with the Lord Jesus. May we always have the grace to remain close to Christ. May Christ give us the grace to keep His mission of love, reconciliation, and peace alive.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

During the weekend of Feb. 25 and 26, we will observe the Black and Indian Missions collection at all Masses. The national campaign for America's mission lands has been serving the Catholic Church in the United States since 1884.

From inner cities to outland reservations, missionaries have been living in communities which do not have the financial base to support the Church. Through our contributions, we work hand in hand with these missionaries who deliver the light of Christ to the impoverished, the isolated, and the long-suffering Black, Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut peoples of our home Church.

These communities exist in almost every diocese in the United States. Missionaries, religious, catechists, and devoted lay people work tirelessly in parishes, missions and reservations to promote the faith.

I ask for your continued support of the Black and Indian Missions collection.

Together, let us truly be missionaries through our sacrifice and the love of Jesus Christ we share.

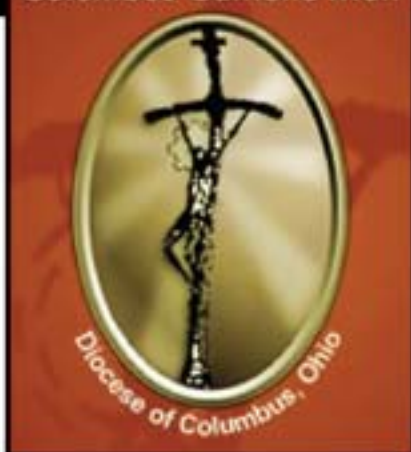
Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Frederick F. Campbell, DD, PhD
Bishop of Columbus

15TH ANNUAL CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

"A CALL TO ACTION: BE A NEW MAN IN CHRIST"

Columbus Catholic Men



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Due to the popularity of this event, men are encouraged to carpool!