

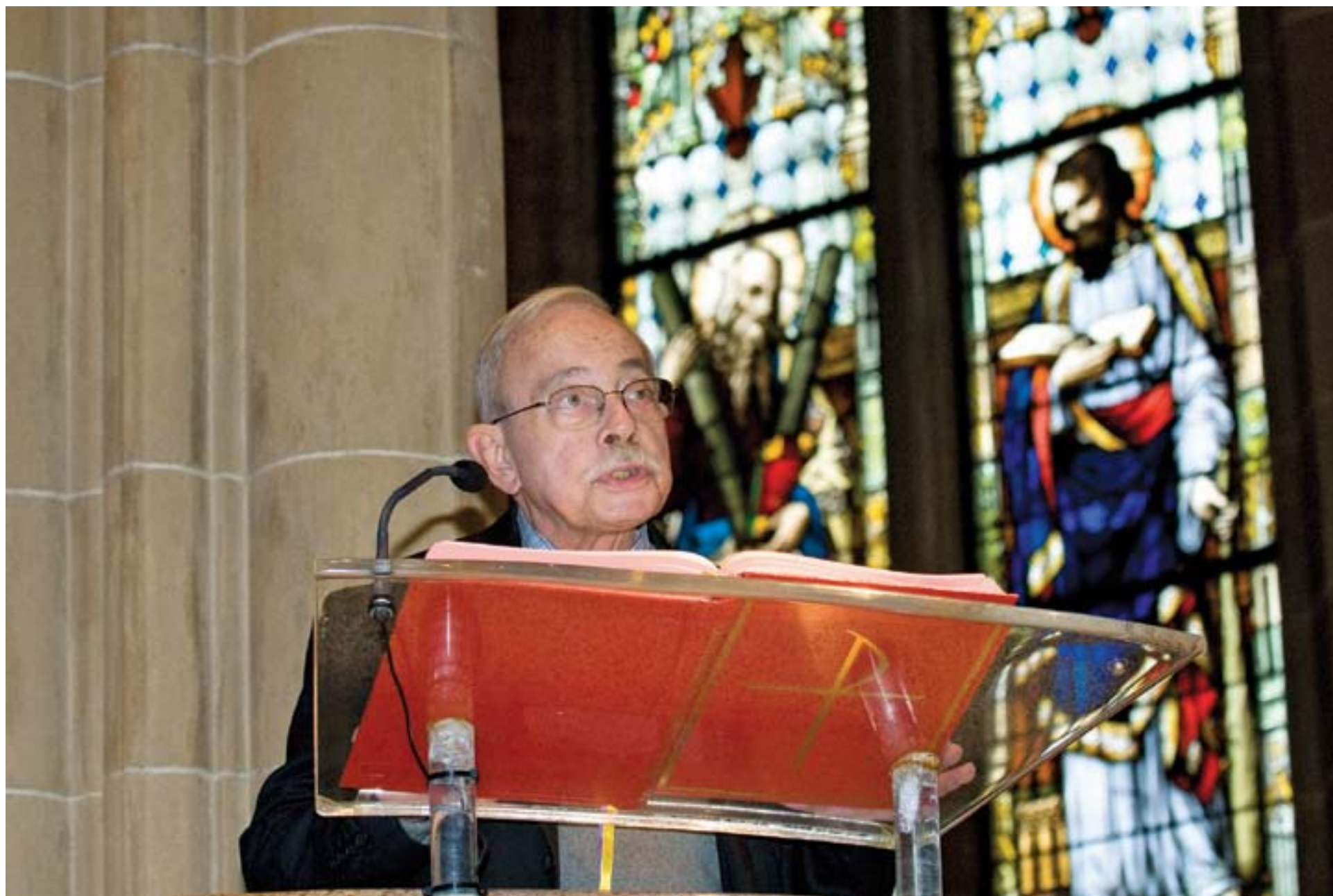


DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

CATHOLIC TIMES

A journal of Catholic life in Ohio

FEBRUARY 5, 2012
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PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

The Editor's Notebook

The Word of the Lord

By David Garick, Editor

Remember the old TV commercial for people seeking financial advice? A person is talking to a friend about investments and says, "Well, my broker is E.F. Hutton, and he says ..." and suddenly the noisy crowd surrounding the pair goes silent because, "When E. F. Hutton talks, people listen." That may have been exaggerated a bit, but it is certainly true about what happens when God speaks.

God has always taken time to communicate to His people. We know that God walked in the Garden of Eden with Adam and talked with him. We also know all too well the words He had for Adam and Eve when they disregarded the things He had told them. We know of how He spoke with Abraham and made His covenant with the people of Israel. And we know how He spoke to Moses from the burning bush. In fact, the Old Testament reading from last Sunday addressed how fearful the people were of the voice of God, so that He agreed to speak to them through humans, including Moses and his successor prophets (Deuteronomy 18:15-20).

He even went so far as to come among us in human form in the person of Jesus Christ, the better to communicate his message of how we are to relate to Him and to each other and to show us the way to salvation. Christ is the Word made flesh, living among us and continuing to relate to us through the teaching of His evangelist apostles.

The Word of the Lord continues to ring in our ears today. Whenever we gather for Mass, we have the opportunity to take in once again the words expressed by God and recorded in sacred scripture. While the bulk of

the liturgy is carried out by clergy, laypeople are called to proclaim the words of God, with the exception of the Gospel.

I am a Mass lector myself. It is a ministry that I find very humbling and extremely rewarding. I have been a lector for more than 30 years. The first time I ever took on this responsibility was when I was in high school. It was a special Mass for the seniors about to graduate. I still remember that reading ... it remains one of my favorites. It's from First Corinthians and begins, "If I speak in human and angelic tongues, but do not have love, I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal. And if I have the gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge; if I have all faith so as to move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing." Those words remain etched in my heart.

I never fail to feel the special presence that comes over me when I allow Isaiah, Jeremiah, or St. Paul to use my voice as their own to once again make the Word of God alive in the hearing of his people. This week, *Catholic Times* talks with a few of the men and women of the Diocese of Columbus entrusted with this wonderful ministry. I am sure that they all join with me in the delight that comes from the knowledge that the following words of the prophet Isaiah are manifested in them: "The Lord GOD has given me a well-trained tongue, That I might know how to answer the weary a word that will waken them.(Isaiah 50:4)." The Word of the Lord.



TOM WAGNER, CATHOLIC MAN OF THE YEAR

Tom Wagner of Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton Parish has been selected as the 2012 diocesan Catholic Man of the Year.



Bishop Frederick Campbell will present him the award at a meeting of the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club on Friday, Feb. 10, at Columbus St. Patrick

Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., following the 11:45 a.m. Mass. The club usually meets on the first Friday of the month, but the meeting was postponed for a week because Bishop Campbell will be in Vatican City during the week of Jan. 29 to report to Pope Benedict XVI and Vatican officials on the state of the Diocese of Columbus.

Bishops are required to make such visits every five years, though that period recently has been stretched to seven or eight years because the number of dioceses worldwide has doubled in the past 50 years. Bishop Campbell will join the other bishops of Ohio and the bishops of Michigan in meeting with the pope and talking to members of the Vatican curia at this time.

Wagner was nominated by several members of his parish and friends to receive the award and was selected by a committee of men representing several diocesan organizations. "My reaction when I learned of this honor was a little bit of numbness," he said. "I certainly was not expecting this. I feel very humbled as I look around the diocese and know of so many great men who deserve this award.

"My wife and a friend of mine apparently were the ones who decided to nominate me. I'm extremely grate-

ful to the wonderful people who wrote nomination letters on my behalf."

John Greve, president of the luncheon club, said Wagner was a unanimous choice among several nominees.

Greve wrote Bishop Campbell that the selection was "based on

his (Wagner's) example of living a deeply committed spiritual life while incorporating heroic virtues to support a wide range of Catholic and community ministries."

"He is an example of Christ to his family, encouraging them to fast, pray together, and to seek God's will," said a nomination letter from parishioner Paul Thoburn. "He is constantly offering hope, love, friendship, and positive reinforcement that follows the path of having faith in the Lord."

A work colleague, Andrew Harris, said Wagner "had many of the characteristics of St. Joseph because he has a strong interior life and also is a strong leader or his family and others at church, work, and elsewhere."

"Tom centers his life around God in a way that is rare to find today," said Lindsey Logsdon, a student active in Seton Parish youth activities who has known him for seven years. "He puts Christ first in life above everything else, and lives his life for the Lord. The best way I can describe Tom to you is that he radiates God's love."

Parishioner David Hopkins said "quietly effective" is the phrase which best describes Wagner. "He is

See **WAGNER**, Page 3

WAGNER, continued from Page 2

an inspiration to everyone whose path he has crossed," he said. "His strength is in his love for God and how he lives his daily life. His actions speak much louder than his few words."

Wagner, a parishioner at Seton since 1994, is a member of his parish pastoral council and spiritual life committee and of the Knights of Columbus. He heads the selection for the presenter for the annual parish mission and is on the startup group to bring the Living Christ retreat to Seton in March. He also has been a youth Confirmation teacher and a youth retreat chaperone for several years.

Each year, he spends a week of his vacation time attending a parish summer work camp to renovate the homes of needy people. Throughout the year, he helps set up people's computers, repairs cars, performs drywall work, and installs furnaces and hot water heaters for free. He annually attends a shoe outreach in Kentucky and Seton's holiday distribution of food baskets in Portsmouth.

He recently shared his home and family with a homeless girl for three months, giving her the necessary guidance to finish her high school curriculum and receive her diploma.

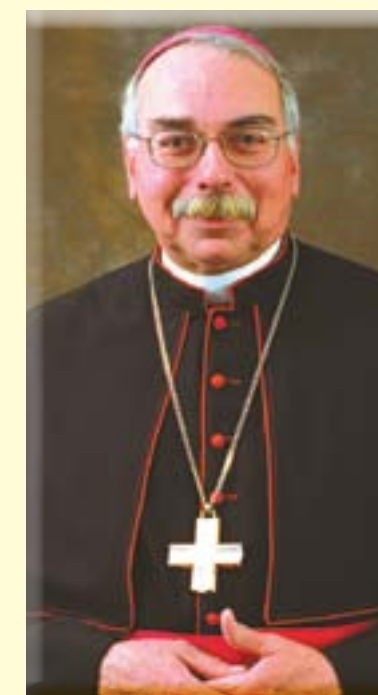
He participates in two men's fellowship groups, leading one of them. He has been a facilitator of Bible study groups and of classes to prepare for the new Mass translation. He has been a small-group faith sharing participant for 12 years, leading many of the sessions. He started monthly first-Friday rosaries in his home and also takes part in weekly rosaries at work.

He annually attends Defending Your Faith conferences at the Franciscan University of Steubenville, is a participant in retreats conducted by the Catholic Men's Retreat League, attempts to attend Mass daily, and for the last 11 years, has been an adorer at 1 a.m. every Sunday for Seton's perpetual Eucharistic adoration.

In addition, he is a volunteer for the Interfaith Hospitality Network, attends the March for Life in Washington, volunteers at the parish festival, and leads marriage preparation classes for couples.

He and his wife, Carol, have been married for 31 years and have four children. He has a degree in electrical engineering and is a consulting member of the technical staff at Alcatel Lucent.

The Man of the Year award was established in 1957. The 2011 recipient was Walter L. "Lee" Brock of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church. The recipient is chosen by members of the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club, the diocesan Catholic men's ministry, the Catholic Men's Retreat League, the Knights of Columbus, and the Serra Club.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I write to you concerning an alarming and serious matter that negatively impacts the Church in the United States directly, and that strikes at the fundamental right to religious liberty for all citizens of any faith. The federal government, which claims to be "of, by, and for the people," has just dealt a heavy blow to almost a quarter of those people - the Catholic population - and to the millions more who are served by the Catholic faithful.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced last week that almost all employers, including Catholic employers, will be forced to offer their employees health coverage that includes sterilization, abortion-inducing drugs, and contraception. Almost all health insurers will be forced to include those "services" in the health policies they write. And almost all

individuals will be forced to buy that coverage as a part of their policies.

In so ruling, the Administration has cast aside the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, denying to Catholics our Nation's first and most fundamental freedom, that of religious liberty. And as a result, unless the rule is overturned, we Catholics will be compelled either to violate our consciences, or to drop health coverage for our employees (and suffer the penalties for doing so). The Administration's sole concession was to give our institutions one year to comply.

We cannot - we will not - comply with this unjust law. People of faith cannot be made second-class citizens. We are already joined by our brothers and sisters of all faiths and many others of good will in this important effort to regain our religious freedom. Our parents and grandparents did not come to these shores to help build America's cities and towns, its infrastructure and institutions, its enterprise and culture, only to have their posterity stripped of their God-given rights. In generations past, the Church has always been able to count on the faithful to stand up and protect her sacred rights and duties. I hope and trust she can count on this generation of Catholics to do the same. Our children and grandchildren deserve nothing less.

And therefore, I would ask of you two things. First, as a community of faith we must commit ourselves to prayer and fasting that wisdom and justice may prevail, and religious liberty may be restored. Without God, we can do nothing; with God, nothing is impossible. Second, I would also recommend visiting www.usccb.org/conscience to learn more about this severe assault on religious liberty, and how to contact Congress in support of legislation that would reverse the Administration's decision.

In the weeks ahead, my diocesan staff will be working with Church leaders at the local, state, and national levels to provide additional information and guidance about what you, as a member of the faithful and a citizen of our great country, can do to bring about this necessary change in federal policy.

Thanking you for your prayers and support, I remain.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Most Rev. Frederick F. Campbell, PhD, DD

Bishop of Columbus



Front page photo:

Don Leonard reads from the Scriptures as he serves as lector during a Mass at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral

CT photo by Jack Kustron

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Pray for the unborn

PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

Judge

Did you offer some of your time, talent, and treasure for the benefit of our Catholic schools this past week? Will we continue to do so? As we respond so generously to the many needs of our Catholic schools and our Catholic education in our parishes, we must keep their positive sustenance and maintenance at the forefront of our efforts. Giving of our time to learn more about our schools confirms our ownership and responsibility to keep them successful, and that means full desks and classrooms, the highest-quality teachers, and the highest standards for all aspects of each student's academic, personal, and spiritual life — especially their Faith. Giving of our talent can genuinely give us a stake in providing for the future of our youth, our society, and our Church. Giving of our treasure proves that we are good and faithful stewards who believe in giving back to God what is to be returned to Him, with good measure. May we continuously provide good and lasting stewardship for our Catholic schools.



Judge not, lest you be judged. You will be judged with the same criteria you have used to judge others. Only God judges our souls, not men. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Whether we use the Golden Rule, a quote from Jesus regarding judgment, or some words of our own, we know how personal a judgment is. None of these words of wisdom are difficult to understand. They are very difficult to live. If you are like me — weak and sinful — you spend way too much time judging others. I am very embarrassed when I realize how many times each day I make a random judgment about others — family, friends, co-workers, and strangers alike. “What an idiot! That guy must be a certified moron! She is a real piece of work! Why would anyone ever associate with her? He is a murderer, and still playing pro football! Did you notice them coming late to Mass again? Did you see what she was wearing? How does he still have a job; he is so lazy! I will not give that derelict a nickel; he will just go buy some booze with it.” Since when did I become God? Since when am I perfect? What will I dig up and remember about my sinful past and present if I just take five minutes to think about it?

President Clinton. Why are so many of us so willing to pass judgment on him and other politicians? Joe Paterno. Why are so many of us happy to see him fall so quickly as we declare him guilty? Newt Gingrich. Why do we instantly judge him on his past and what others have to say about him? These are all well-known people brought to us by our media. So how and why do we judge our family and friends? St. Peter. How would we judge him if we only knew about Jesus referring to him as “Satan,” along with his denial of Jesus three times? St. Paul. How would we judge him if we stopped reading after the stoning of Stephen? St. Mary Magdalene. How would we judge her if we only knew her past before she met Jesus? While we may not know that Clinton, Paterno, and Gingrich are to be saints, we cannot say that they will never be. Look in the mirror. Are you ready to be a saint? We are all called to holiness. In the absence of fame and drama, are we ready to judge ourselves?

Our practical challenge this week is to simply stop judging. Let us start worrying about how we are impacting the world around us, rather than how much others are hurting us. It all begins and ends with you and me. If we want to change the hearts and minds of others, we had better start with the person we see in the mirror. Judge him/her each and every day.

Jeric is director of development and planning for the Columbus Diocese

Sacred Heart School's Science Fair



Coshocton Sacred Heart School's science fair took place on Tuesday, Jan. 17, for fourth-through sixth-graders. Fifth- and sixth-grade winners were eligible to participate in the Coshocton County science fair. Pictured are the fourth-, fifth-, and sixth-grade students who earned a superior rating on their projects (from left): front row, Lacey Richcreek and Lindsey Cox; back row, Mattison Harrison, Hannah Jacobs, Annie Bosson, Josie Fornara, and Grace Gottwalt

Photo courtesy Sacred Heart School

Hartley Style Show

The parents association of Columbus Bishop Hartley High School will sponsor its annual style show and luncheon from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 3, at the Columbus Country Club, 4831 E. Broad St. Doors will open at 10:30.

Models for the show will be seniors at Hartley and mothers of students. Clothes are being provided by Christopher Banks at Polaris, David's Bridal,

and MW Tux. There also will be gift baskets, raffles, and door prizes.

Tickets are \$35. The registration deadline is Tuesday, Feb. 21. Send reservations to BHHS Parents Association, Style Show, 1285 Zettler Road, Columbus, Ohio 43227.

Invitations also are available on Hartley's website at www.bishop-hartley.org.

Family Day of Prayer

The National Day of Prayer for the African American and African family was created by Father James Goode, OFM, in 1989, as a day set aside to give special thanks to God for families and place people's cares in the arms of Jesus.

Black Catholic Ministries of Colum-

bus has been celebrating this day with a prayer service every year since the ministry office was established in 2003, following the National Black Catholic Congress in Chicago in 2002.

This year, the service will take place at 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5, at Columbus St. Thomas Church, 2692 E. 5th Ave.

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FREE TAX RETURN ASSISTANCE AT ODU

Accounting students at Ohio Dominican University will offer free income tax return preparation assistance for qualified individuals through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. VITA offers free tax help to people with low to moderate income (generally \$50,000 and below). Through this innovative and successful program, ODU accounting students offer assistance with special credits, including earned income tax credit, child tax credit, and credit for the elderly.

The VITA program operates at ODU's main campus, 1216 Sunbury Road, in Room 137 of Sansbury Hall. “The program is part of Ohio Dominican's tradition of service to the surrounding community,” said ODU assistant professor and VITA program adviser Bob Osborne. The program opens Saturday, Feb. 25. The schedule for this season is as follows:

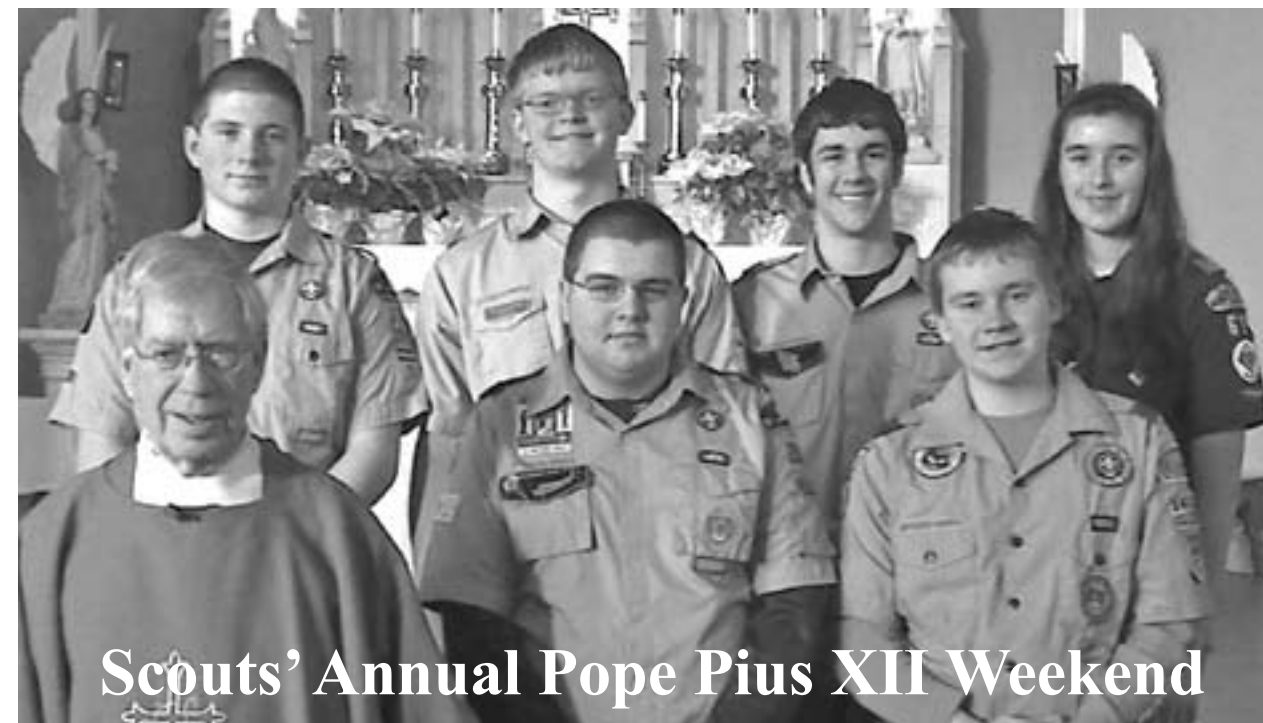
- Every Wednesday from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. (Feb. 29, March 7, 21, and 28, and April 4 and 11. Closed March 14 for spring break).
- Every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Feb. 25, March 3, 10, 24, and 31, and April 7. Closed March 17 for spring break).
- Monday, March 19, and Monday, April 2, from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- VITA site closes Wednesday, April 11.

The Internal Revenue Service certifies as tax preparers the participating accounting students, usually juniors or seniors. Under the supervision of faculty members who are CPAs, students prepare federal, state, local school, and city income tax returns. In addition to free tax return preparation assistance, the program offers free electronic filing (e-filing). Individuals taking advantage of the e-file program will receive their refunds in half the time, compared with returns filed on paper, and even faster if they have their refund deposited directly into their bank account.

Because of the volume of tax returns the students prepare, appointments are scheduled through HandsOn Central Ohio (formally First-link) for the VITA site. To make an appointment, call HandsOn Central Ohio at 211 in Franklin County or (614) 221-6766, and ask to speak to the VITA scheduler to set up an appointment at the ODU VITA site.



Pray the Rosary



Scouts' Annual Pope Pius XII Weekend

Despite blowing snow and temperatures as low as 9 degrees, six Catholic Scouts from the Diocese of Columbus gathered at the Top O' the Caves Campground in the Hocking Hills for a weekend in which they were able to both enjoy God's creation and talk about ways of serving humanity in obedience to God's call within the Church.

The Scouts and counselors were taking part in the annual Pope Pius XII weekend sponsored by the diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting. During the weekend, they talk about how being a Christian affects their daily lives, and how their personal talents and abilities might benefit the Christian community through their choice of vocation. They also see God's presence in nature as they hike through the area around

the campground. The weekend concluded with Sunday Mass on Jan. 15 at Logan St. John Church.

The Pope Pius XII emblem program also includes a program of readings before the weekend and a service project afterward. It is available to any registered Catholic Boy Scout who is at least in the ninth grade and has earned the Scouts' Ad Altare Dei emblem. Any Catholic member of a Boy Scout Venture crew also is eligible. The Venture program is for young men and women ages 14 to 21.

Participants in the program, pictured with Msgr. William Dunn, pastor at Logan St. John, were (from left): first row, Brandon Keller and Steven Steigleman; second row, Jacob Moehrman, Stephen Weisenberger, Jeremy Banks, and Bridgette O'Neill

Photo courtesy Kevin Miller

Wesley Glen

Best of BUSINESS 2011

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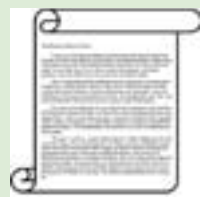
A Community For Life

A quick note from:

THE OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP

THE BISHOP'S LETTER

A unique event happened this past weekend at our parish celebrations. A letter was read from our Bishop during Mass. In fact, every parish in the United States received a letter



lies are given to help us understand the scriptures and how we are to implement them in our daily lives. This letter is a more direct explanation of how our liturgies and our daily lives are connected. It is an expression of the Bishop's role of *chief liturgist* for the Diocese that points out that connection.

The letter that was read highlights some of the many actions we are called to do through our baptismal promise to be a disciple of Christ in this world. First, the letter calls us to prayer. Our baptismal promise calls us to be people of prayer. In the letter, our Bishop asked that we pray for a change of heart in the government's policymakers. Also in the letter, we are asked that as we pray, we fast. Fasting is an action that helps us pray and keeps us more focused on our prayer. The letter also mentions a website that is offered for each of us to use in seeking a better understanding of our faith and why the government actions are a great concern to every Catholic in this nation.

We've asked several deacons to explain this change, and their answers have varied: One said that Communion should not be regularly separated from the eucharistic sacrifice of the Mass; another felt that this helped to convey the notion that Sunday, the day of Christ's resurrection, is the special day when Communion is the norm; and a third remarked that the lack of daily Communion might prompt us to pray harder for more priests. None of these answers satisfies me, as I was raised to believe that receiving this spiritual food every day was the ideal. What is the church's view on this? (Williamsburg, Va.)

This unique event helps us understand the structure of the Catholic Church, how we are the Local Church of Columbus, Ohio, and how all of the local churches of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops work together to further underline that we are the "one, holy, and apostolic Church," as we pray in the Nicene Creed. We experienced both the Bishop's teaching authority over the Local Church and his role as the *chief liturgist* for the Diocese. Through the Bishop's letter, we are reminded of our baptismal commitment to be disciples of Christ. As Christ's disciples, we are to be people of prayer and we are to work to "make disciples of all nations . . . teaching them to observe all that (Christ has) commanded" (Matt 28:19-20). It is the way we live our faith through our celebrations and daily in our lives as we stand up for our faith that we cause others to see Christ as the light to the world.

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We gather each weekend to give thanks and to praise God for the many blessings he has given us and to seek understanding for the events in our lives which we do not understand or have difficulty accepting. Our liturgies help us to form lives that follow the gospel teachings of Christ. There is a connection between our celebrations and the lives we live away from the liturgies we celebrate. Our homi-

WEEKLY COMMUNION SERVICES



QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q In the area where I live, it used to be that, when a priest was not available for a weekday Mass, a deacon or eucharistic minister would distribute holy Communion within the context of a prayer service. But that practice has been discontinued; now instead, when a priest cannot be there for Mass, only a prayer service is offered and Communion is not given out.

We've asked several deacons to explain this change, and their answers have varied: One said that Communion should not be regularly separated from the eucharistic sacrifice of the Mass; another felt that this helped to convey the notion that Sunday, the day of Christ's resurrection, is the special day when Communion is the norm; and a third remarked that the lack of daily Communion might prompt us to pray harder for more priests.

None of these answers satisfies me, as I was raised to believe that receiving this spiritual food every day was the ideal. What is the church's view on this? (Williamsburg, Va.)

A Your question shows a sincere desire to be united as often as possible to Christ through Communion, and that is praiseworthy. The current thinking of the church, however, is to discourage weekday Communion services, based on the essential link between reception of the Eucharist and the sacrifice of the Mass.

Redemptionis Sacramentum, issued in 2004 by the

Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, says of Communion services that "the diocesan bishop . . . must not easily grant permission for such celebrations to be held on weekdays, especially in places where it is possible or would be possible to have the celebration of Mass on the preceding or the following Sunday" (No. 166).

In the Mass, which memorializes and makes real the death and resurrection of Jesus, worshippers unite their own sacrifices with that of Christ, and then are drawn into deeper intimacy by receiving in Communion the very gift they had offered, Jesus himself.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy (now called the Committee on Divine Worship) has noted that "every effort must be undertaken to avoid any confusion" between a Communion service and the celebration of the Mass.

Ten or 15 years ago, when daily Communion services were offered widely (on a priest's day off or when he was sick), one would sometimes hear references to "Sister's Mass" or "the Deacon's Mass" when a substitute service would be provided -- which is the precise confusion the church wants to avoid.

The Mass is the source and summit of Christian worship, and nothing can take its place. (It's even more troubling to a priest when the same parishioner comes into church each

day 20 minutes after Mass has begun -- just in time to receive Communion and walk directly out of church, as though he had managed to grab a "lucky charm" while he hurried by!)

In the matter at hand, it is easy to sympathize with the questioner's plea, conditioned as he has been by a long and devout practice of daily Communion and the benefit derived from it. In view of that, some dioceses have sought a pastoral "compromise" in this regard, such as Milwaukee, which says in its guidelines that, "if there is no priest available for an extended period of weekdays (three or more), a Communion service may be held."

But the more general practice seems to be that Communion is not offered on weekdays when a priest is not present; instead, the Liturgy of the Hours is recited (led by a deacon, religious, or lay parish leader), the rosary may be prayed, or other worthy prayers are offered.

Since the time of Pope Pius X in the early 20th century, several popes have highlighted the value of daily participation in the Mass. The USCCB's guideline is that "when-ever possible, daily Mass should be celebrated in each parish."

When, because of the shortage of priests, such frequency is not possible, parishes are asked to publish the weekday Mass schedules of the Catholic churches nearby, so parishioners will have every opportunity to go to Mass and to receive holy Communion in its full and proper context.

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

ST. ANDREW IMPLEMENTS SPICE FUNDING PROGRAM

Columbus St. Andrew Church will welcome the SPICE program to its parish and school community for the 2012-13 school year. SPICE, which stands for "Special People In Catholic Education," is a funding program that was developed to address the various learning needs and styles of students.

SPICE began at Columbus St. Catharine Church and School as a way to bring greater awareness to students with special needs and to find a way to implement funding for assisting such students in the Diocese of Columbus. The funding can be used at the discretion of the parish and school, thus bringing about the greatest benefit to recipients.

SPICE has the support of the bishop and the diocesan offices of Catholic schools and of education. Several other schools within the diocese also are taking part in it.

SPICE, which relies solely on fund raising efforts within the parish com-

munity, will allow the parish and school to offer opportunities not usually available, such as classroom aides and tutors, speech and occupational therapy, student support materials, and teacher and staff continuing education and development.

The St. Andrew SPICE mission statement said the program "recognizes that each of our parish children are unique individuals with different learning needs. The SPICE Program supports serving the educational needs of these children. We believe that children have different learning styles that provide diversity in the classroom environment. Working together with the support of the SPICE Program, the parish community, pastor, administration, teachers, and parents can help to provide understanding, information, creativity, and willingness to address special educational needs."

For more information, contact St. Andrew School at (614) 451-1626.



ALL SAINTS PRAYER SERVICE

"A person is a person, no matter how small." That is a famous line from the Dr. Seuss book, "Horton Hears a Who," as read by Columbus All Saints Academy students Eileen (left) and Jessica. This was the theme of a prayer service at All Saints on Monday, Jan. 23. Students couldn't join the thousands who went to the March for Life in Washington on that day, but did join them in spirit. Respect for the dignity of life is a theme of the school, and the students joined together in prayer, song, and poetry and spoke for life. The service ended with the rosary, remembering both mothers and children. The prayers were of hope that mothers find the courage to choose life for their unborn

Photo courtesy All Saints Academy

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Answering God's Call

"GOD IS GOOD!
ALL THE TIME!"



Fr. J. Lawrence Reichert

by Tim Puet

"God is good! All the time!"

That's the phrase with which Father J. Lawrence Reichert, pastor of the Church of the Ascension in Johnstown, frequently begins Masses or homilies. He's used it ever since returning to the parish last Nov. 1 after being away for 10 months because of a stroke.

He was stricken just before the 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass on Dec. 5, 2010, was taken immediately to Mount Carmel East Hospital in Columbus, then went to Mount Carmel West for rehabilitation and eventually was transferred to Mother Angeline McCrory Manor in Columbus.

Now that he's back at the parish to lead the celebration of its centennial year, he is continuing his rehabilitation with physical and occupational therapy, spending most of his time in a wheelchair but relearning how to walk, and celebrating Mass on Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday mornings and Saturday evenings.

"One of the sisters at the manor always greeted people by saying 'God is good! All the time!' That struck me as expressing the way I feel, so I've been using it often," Father Reichert said. "I know I'm an optimist. I told my parishioners on New Year's Day that an optimist is the kind of person who stays up until midnight to see the new year in, while a pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves.

"As I recover, I've had a lot of time to ponder what the Lord is calling me to do. 'Ponder' is one of my favorite words because you see it in some significant places in Scripture, such as when Mary is described as pondering the spectacular events taking place in her life by the grace of God.

"I'm impatient to be doing more, but Bishop Campbell put it well when he visited me at the manor not long before I left there. He looked great, and I told him so. He said, 'I feel great, but I want you to remember it took me about two-and-a-half years to get to this point (after an illness which led to the amputation of his left foot). You still have another year-and-a-half to go.'"

Father Reichert, 67, grew up in Columbus with two brothers and one sister, attended St. John the Evangelist School and Holy Family High School and graduated from Bishop Ready High School. His priestly formation took place at St. Charles Seminary in Columbus and Mount St. Mary Seminary of the West in Norwood. He was ordained at his home parish, St. John the Evangelist, by Bishop Clarence Elwell on May 29, 1971.

He was an assistant pastor at Columbus St. Agatha (1971-74), Columbus St. Catharine (1974-78) and Zanesville St. Nicholas (1978-80), with his duties also including teaching at Columbus Bishop Watterson and Bishop Hartley and Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans high schools. He served as pastor at Columbus Holy Name (1980-91) and Groveport St. Mary (1991-2003), also spending some of that time as a chaplain at The Ohio State University Hospitals, before coming to Johnstown eight-and-a-half years ago.

He credits the late Msgr. Frederick Burkhart, pastor at his home parish, with pointing him toward the priesthood. "I remember one day, my brother and I went to see him at the hospital, and I was struck by how hard he worked with the

patients there and how he never complained. That started me thinking about what a priest's life might be like," he said.

"A bit later, he was talking with us and said 'I think one of the Reichert boys ought to be a priest,' and he pointed to me and said, 'and I think it ought to be you.' He asked me to call Msgr. Paul O'Dea at St. Charles and promise to talk to him. I liked what I saw, so I thought I'd give the priesthood a shot.

"My time at St. Charles had a tremendous effect on me," Father Reichert said. "There was no pushing, no coercion. I met some great people and fantastic teachers, and gradually came to the realization that this was what the Lord was calling me to do."

The first priest for whom he served as assistant pastor was the late Msgr. George Kennedy at St. Agatha. "Father Kennedy went on vacation not long after I was ordained and said I'd be in charge of the parish for two weeks. He'd been there for 40 years, and for him to entrust me with that responsibility really gave me a spirit of confidence," he said. "He also put me in charge of Holy Week services and said 'On Holy Week, you'll be telling me what to do.' That was another great boost.

"Father Kennedy, (the late) Father (William) Rardin at St. Catherine's and Father (James) Walter at St. Nicholas (now pastor at Sugar Grove St. Joseph) all had a great spirit of joy and service. They were very much in love with the work of the Lord, and set a great example I've tried to follow as a pastor."

"One of the things I've enjoyed most as a priest was my work with young people," Father Reichert said. "In seminary, I was a deacon at Mary Help of Christians in Fairborn, and some of the kids I taught there I've been friends with for 40 years. I taught in high schools in the diocese for 10 years and kept up a lot of friendships from there, and I enjoyed working with the kids I used to call my 'little urchins' at Holy Name and the PSR students at St. Mary and here at Ascension.

"One thing I'm unable to do right now which I greatly miss is the sick calls I made every week. I'd go with students from the parish every Thursday at 3 p.m. to take Communion and make visits to the sick and shut-ins and lonely people, and we'd frequently go till 10 or 11 at night," he said. "Physically, I can't return to this yet. Deacon Bill Andrews and many other people have taken up the slack while I'm gone and will be continuing until I can return to this part of ministry. God bless them."

Father Reichert said the three historic figures he admires most are Abraham Lincoln, Mother Teresa, and Pope John Paul II. Items related to Lincoln are found throughout his office. He said he often finds himself thinking of Lincoln's response when asked if he was a man of prayer. "I find myself going to my knees in prayer because it's the only place I have to go," the 16th president said.

"I'm thankful to so many people who have been helpful to me as I recover, especially Kathy Bartolomucci, who's served as my secretary for 28 years in three parishes, and to Deacon Bill," Father Reichert said. "Thanks to the tremendous number of people who sent me cards, notes, and prayers. You've all been a blessing to me, and I ask that you continue to pray for me in my recovery, as I pray for you. Again I say, 'God is good! All the time!'"



Yet Will I Rejoice



The Great Surrender
Megan Thompson

On any given day, there are hundreds of things that might annoy me. My alarm goes off too early. My hair doesn't curl the way I want it to. The water in my shower takes longer to get hot. My coffee pot starts leaking halfway through brewing. My car windows are frosted. My route to work involves dealing with traffic. I can't hear the reading at Mass. Someone uses the word "teen." I have to answer the same question for the seventh time. I forget my lunch. My drink at a coffee shop isn't prepared as well as it could be. Fewer youth group kids show up at an event than I wanted. My printer doesn't work. My phone performs tasks slowly. I can't fall asleep. My life could be an endless supply of letdowns, annoyances, and hindrances. But a life with vision like that only leads to a life empty of joy. A life focused on curses and inconveniences means a life void of the recognition of blessing, and hearts emptied of the fulfillment found in praise.

I'm currently reading a book titled "1,000 Gifts" by Ann Voskamp. Without exaggerating at all, I think this book has changed my heart and my perspective more than any book I've read. In fact, I have purchased almost 20 copies of it for friends and family, solely because I believe that if people embraced the truth found in this book, our world would change. If I embraced the truth found in this book, MY life would change.

The simple message of it is this: fullness of life is found in thanksgiving. Fullness of life is found in praising God for the blessing of gifts. The word *eucharisteo* means "thanksgiving" and within that word is the root *chara*, which means "JOY." The depth

of our joy is determined by the depth of our gratitude. Our fulfillment is determined by the consistency of our praise. And it isn't just praising the Lord for things that are CLEARLY gifts--like the shelter of our homes and the gift of consolation from friends. That fullness of life and depth of joy is found even more by praising God for gifts wrapped in hardship and clothed in confusion.

We can feel frustrated. We can recognize disturbances and maybe even wish for ease. But we can also choose to see blessing. We can choose to have eyes that see the gift of every moment. We can ask for grace to "know how to live in humble circumstances and ... know how to live with abundance" (Philippians 4:12). And how? By DECIDING to "rejoice greatly in the Lord"--in every circumstance. In plenty and in scarcity. In ease and in hardship. In times where we hear the Lord speak clearly and in times where we dwell in spiritual dryness. In times where we have clarity and in times when we can barely see the next step to take. In all, we can CHOOSE praise. And if in all, we CHOOSE praise, we choose joy. We choose fulfillment. We choose the Lord.

So today I want to praise you, Lord, and to broadcast my gratitude to the world by saying thank you for broken coffee pots and holes in clothes and purses that fall apart, because it reminds me that the things of this world are temporal and fading. Thank you that I do not know how to handle all situations, because it forces me to ask for the Spirit's intervention. Thank you that I do not have a husband yet and that dating has been hard, because it shows me that you've given me the desire to be loved in the way that YOU have loved me, God. Thank you for making me flustered when giving youth group talks, to remind me that I speak only by your gifting, not by my own ability. Thank you for my failures, because I have been able to see the beauty and freedom in asking for forgiveness. Thank you for uncertainty and restlessness and times of waiting, because I have palpably felt you stretching my soul and my heart's capacity for you.

"For though the fig tree blossoms not, nor fruit be on the vines. Though the yield of the olive fail and the terraces produce no nourishment. Though the flocks disappear from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet will I rejoice in my saving God (Habbakuk 3:17)." And in that, we find joy. Father, giver of ALL things, we choose to praise. We choose to worship. We choose to abandon. As we bless, give us grace to be the blessing. As we praise, may we be filled with your life. As we give thanks, may we have joy.

Megan Thompson is youth minister at Gahanna St. Matthew Church. She posts her thoughts online at <http://surrendertohislove.blogspot.com>

Finding Your Nemo

By J.P. Leo Thomas

I sometimes stand at amazement that so many are running away from a seemingly endless voyage to nowhere. What they need is right in front of them, but they are either too ignorant or blind to see it. They run here and there as if it were some secret mission to be fulfilled before their clock runs out. I am talking about faith in general. People try aromatherapy, hypnosis, shock therapy, and all other forms of escape. If this doesn't work out, they blame God and try Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, paganism, or a flavor of the day to seek some reasoning to their lives, but this only drives them farther away from the center of which they came.

We all begin at the center of life, in God's womb, in His thoughts and prayers for a beautiful life. God does not create what He himself intends

to destroy. Creation of light and of spirit is the quintessential essence of what we are all about. We are formed from His likeness and each given a special talent to discover. It is this voyage to our self-awareness that can be the most exciting mission to be on. Take it as a compliment, not an insult, that often what God gives you is not found right away. For some, it takes a lifetime of searching to arrive at our destination. Do not feel frustrated at the trials and tribulations we are put through, for they say that steel is forged by fire to make it stronger and more lasting.

I am reminded that we are all made of dark and light and that we must choose which to act upon. When we change in this reality, when we allow God to alter us in His image, we become what we fear the most—ourselves, whole and incomplete.

Surviving the flames of endurance and following along a guided path should be security to many who seek justice as their solution. We seek to be whole in life, to be one with Christ and to make our mark in this world, not to be forgotten. But, remember, incomplete is what we are. Follow the road less taken. Do not seek truth in fiction, as it will never be found; rather, seek out the good in life wherever you can find it. This forms us for the ultimate completion of our spirit, when all is revealed in the end to the face of Christ. No one is an expert. There is only one, and He has no mold to shape, He is truly one-of-a-kind. Like searching for that rare fish in a vast oceanic sea, He will never ever be found.

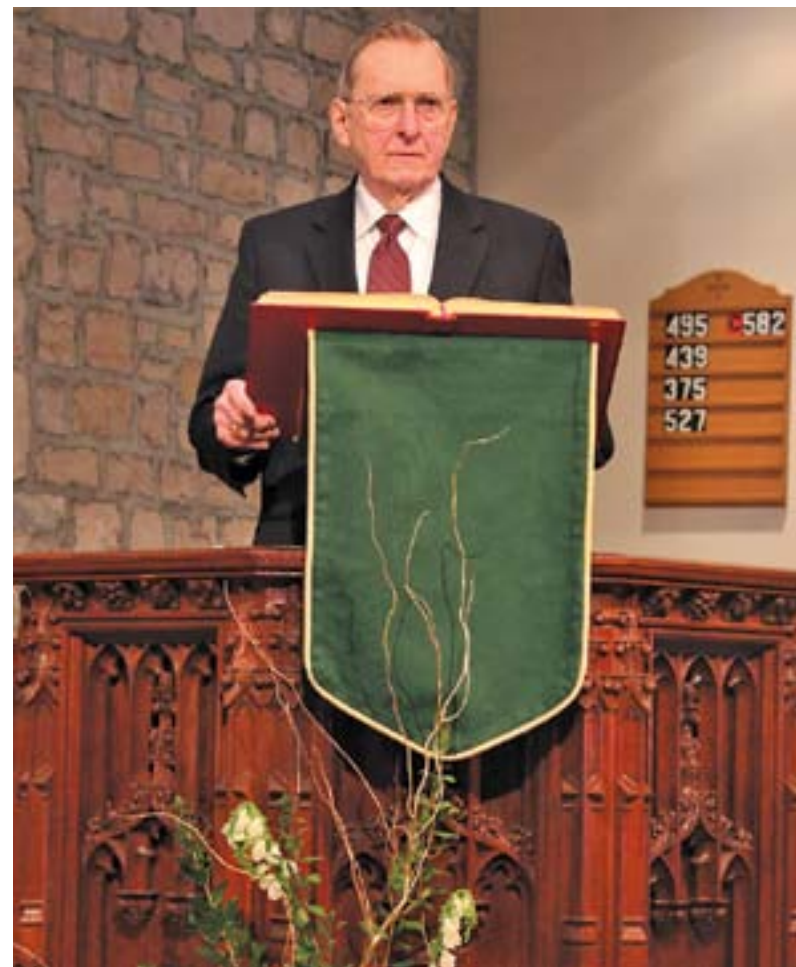
Rather, think of your life as a circle, ending where you have begun, in the womb of Heaven's

child. Rushing about, looking for something that is just not there, is a waste of time and energy, and we have that in limited supply. I also have been guilty of being lured into this kind of activity. But I have found the secret to being happy is in a phrase my mother used to say to me for days on end. I never truly listened to her words until her passing five years ago. I am deeply saddened and regret not telling her of her kindness. Her one simple outlook on life—BE YOURSELF. Guide what you say and where you go and you will never be far from home. My one dearest wish is for you to find your Nemo, wherever that may be.

May you feel the gentle breath of the Holy Spirit and may His peace be with you always. J.P. Leo Thomas is a parishioner at Gahanna St. Matthew Church.

LECTORS USE THEIR VOCAL SKILLS TO SHARE THE WORD

PREPARATION HELPS THEM PERFORM LITURGICAL ROLE AS 'THE MOUTHPIECE OF GOD'



Top: Bill Adams, who has been a lector at Powell St. John of Arc Church since it was founded in 1987 and now trains the approximately 90 lectors who assist at Masses in the parish

Photo by Gordon Mawhinney

Bottom: Donna Kashuk has been a lector at the Church of the Ascension in Johnstown since a former pastor recruited her 28 years ago

CT photo by Tim Puet



BY TIM PUET

Reporter, Catholic Times

The words of the prophets and sacred writers of the Old and New Testaments have resonated through the centuries to arouse and teach the faithful and bring them closer to God. Today, those words are proclaimed at Mass by priests and deacons, who are ordained ministers, and by laypersons carrying out the duties of the ministry of lector.

"The lector is instituted to proclaim the readings from Sacred Scripture, with the exception of the Gospel," according to the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, the document placed at the beginning of the Missal which explains how to properly celebrate Mass. "He may also announce the intentions for the Universal Prayer (also known as the Prayer of the Faithful) and, in the absence of a psalmist, recite the Psalm between the readings."

Although the document subsequently expands on that explanation of a lector's duties at Mass, it doesn't list any formal requirements for people who wish to be lectors. "The main requirement for a lector is the ability to proclaim the Scriptures well, because lectors are lending their voices to God, whose word they are proclaiming," said Deacon Martin Davies, director of the diocesan Office for Divine Worship.

"Comfort with public speaking is an important gift, but it does not in itself render a person capable of effective liturgical proclamation, for our purpose is to celebrate the faith shared by the worshippers," he said. "The ministry of lector is a charisma for the building up of the community, and it does re-

quire some native abilities such as confidence, poise, and sensitivity to the assembly. Reading skills, the ability to develop proclamation techniques, and a clear and steady voice are attributes of a good lector.

"When Scripture is truly proclaimed with conviction, the readings can stir souls to gratitude, call sinners to conversion, console the despairing, and exhort those who have become lax. Therefore, the lector proclaims the Word transparently so that the Word itself, not the proclaimer, is placed in the foreground."

It's always advisable to have a trained lector to perform Scriptural readings other than the Gospel whenever a lector is present at daily or Sunday Mass, Deacon Davies said. He also said that at special events such as children's Masses, weddings, or funerals, the readings should not be spoken by persons who are not already lectors.

"Lectors have the skills and the training to perform that ministry," he said. "If all you do is read words, you're not fulfilling the ministry. When someone is stumbling on what's being read, it detracts from the Word of God and its proper proclamation and from the whole experience of the Mass."

Deacon Davies also noted that although there is similarity in their roles in that both involve the proclamation of Scripture, the ministry of lector is different from the ministry of reader.

"The role of lector is a lay ministry, one a priest or deacon should not assume if a competent lay person is present," he said. "The ministry of reader should be seen as one

of the steps toward ordination for seminarians and permanent deacon candidates." This step is generally taken two years before deacon ordination.

"I believe that as a lector, I am the mouthpiece of God," said Debbie Clegg, a lector for more than 30 years, who trains the approximately 50 lectors at Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton Parish. "For a few moments, being a lector puts me in a special place of tremendous responsibility, and I dare not go there unprepared."

She said her favorite Scriptural reading is the portion of the Book of Exodus describing the Israelites' flight from Egypt, which is part of the Easter Vigil service.

"It's so rich," she said. "I've been reading it for several years. People say they've been enriched by the reading, and that makes doing it and preparing for it worthwhile."

Clegg said she and other lectors from Seton who are scheduled to read on a particular Sunday and are able to gather on Wednesday mornings meet at that time each week to review that Sunday's readings. "When I examine the readings closely, I hope to find a way they can apply to everyday life, and often am able to do that," she said. "Being a lector involves more than just a few moments standing in front of the congregation."

Other lectors contacted by the *Catholic Times* for this story all agreed with the importance of carefully studying the Scriptural text they are to read and taking the time to practice reading it aloud.

"Reading the Scriptures has made me pay much more attention to both what is said

and how the lector says it," said Sam Samuelson, who began serving as a lector about 25 years ago at Westerville St. Paul Church and now does so at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral. "A lector needs to go over the text sufficiently to really understand what it says. Otherwise, it does nothing to contribute to the atmosphere of the Mass and inspire the congregation."

"If there's one thing that bothers me about the quality of lectoring on occasion, it's that too many people get up to the ambo and start reading the Scripture, and it sounds like they're reading off a shopping list. You can't do that. It's a serious responsibility."

Clegg said she keeps in mind a phrase that was a favorite of the late Deacon David Kruse.

"He would look at me and say, 'Debbie, it's all about prayer, preparation, and practice,'" she said.

"Probably the best thing I can think of to tell other lectors is 'Speak up!,' Samuelson said. "That's especially true in a large space like the cathedral. If you do it right, you can be heard clearly by people in the last row."

"Some of the best advice I ever got about being a lector came from an uncle," said Donna Kashuk of the Church of the Ascension in Johnstown, a lector for 28 years. "He told me, 'Read so that to you, it seems painfully slow, and that means you're doing it about right.' He said most people tend to rush through a reading, and he was right. I've always tried to adhere to that advice and repeat it to myself."

"Read slow and project to the last row" is the advice John

Thompson of Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church said he would give any lector. "Preparation is the key for strongly proclaiming the Word. When you've read through a passage two or three times, you get to realize what the key words are and what your pace and timing should be. There are books for lectors which help with that, and they have been of great assistance to me."

One of the most frequently used publications of this type is a lector training guide from Liturgy Training Publications of Chicago. "It's an excellent tool," Bill Adams, a lector at Powell St. Joan of Arc Church since it was founded 25 years ago, said about the guide. "It gives a little background for each reading, a pronunciation key, and suggestions for intonation and pacing."

"Around 1994, the diocese put out a very good training tool titled 'The Lector: Herald of God's Word,' and I use it to train new lectors at the parish. It's in three sections. I have all of them go through the first section with me and give them a DVD I made of it. They go over the rest at home."

St. Joan of Arc, one of the diocese's largest parishes, has one of its largest groups of lectors — about 90. Adams conducts periodic training sessions for new lectors and sends out assignment schedules for them every three months. As at most parishes in the diocese, lectors are mainly assigned to particular Masses.

"At some of the less-attended Masses, we cycle through the list more quickly than for the ones more people attend, but we average one to two assignments per quarter, depending on the Mass. With six Masses

per weekend, we need 12 lectors, so we go through the full list quickly," he said. "We get more no-shows than I would like, so I can't stress enough the importance of fulfilling an assignment or finding a substitute if you can't make it."

Adams said that Father Raymond Larussa, pastor at St. Joan of Arc, has been actively trying to include more young people in liturgical roles, including that of lector. The parish recently added a 5:30 p.m. Sunday Mass oriented toward young people. High school students from the Parish School of Religion serve as lectors and musicians for the Mass. Adams said nine youths have been trained to date as lectors as part of that program.

Lectors come from all walks of life. Some have a natural affinity for the position, such as Clegg, a former teacher of English, speech, and drama and an occasional substitute in those subjects; Samuelson, a teacher and lecturer on architecture at The Ohio State University for 30 years; and Don Leonard, who taught in the language department at Xavier University in Cincinnati before moving to Columbus to work for the State Employment Relations Board and becoming a lector at St. Joseph Cathedral.

Leonard said he began as a lector "kind of accidentally. I wanted to get involved in parish life after I joined the cathedral, which many people forget is also a parish of its own, around 1998. So I just volunteered for any liturgical ministry, and lector was one where there was a need."

Kashuk said a former pastor in Johnstown needed someone to do the Sunday Mass readings. "I was active in the parish. He



Debbie Clegg of Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, reading from the Scriptures at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral in 2006

CT file photo by Ken Snow

pointed at me and said 'You're it,' and I've been doing it ever since," she said.

Terry and Kim White both were lectors in the Episcopal Church before making their profession of faith as Catholics in 2005 and becoming lectors at Ada Our Lady of Lourdes Church in 2007.

The Whites are both Hardin County sheriff's deputies and occasionally have served as lectors just after getting off work. "I have gone to church after being in very stressful situations, such as a bomb call out of the bomb squad," Terry White said.

"Things can get very intense on our team, dealing with items that could cause us to meet our Maker in short order. However, I leave the stress on the altar and feel so very happy to be there and to be able to fulfill my role as lector."

One of the most common fears people have is the fear of public speaking. Many lectors who were not used to be-

ing in front of an audience said they had to overcome that fear when they began their ministry of proclaiming Scripture.

"Don't be afraid to do it," Leonard said. "Although I had been a teacher at one time, I didn't know whether I'd be good at reading the Scriptures, but I just tried it and soon it became very clear this was something I could handle. I think there are lots of people who are intelligent and quite capable of interpreting the text who would be great lectors if they just gave it a try."

"Our advice for those wanting to become lectors is 'Go for it,'" the Whites said.

"You can speak in front of parish members and realize they will be supportive and, most of all, forgiving of your blunders, you will find there is even more meaning in the Mass because you are part of that Mass. Mass is the greatest thing since peanut butter. We get to commune directly with Our Lord. Now how can you beat that anywhere else?"

WATTERSON ANNUAL RON SHAY ALUMNI BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



Columbus Bishop Watterson High School hosted its annual Ron Shay Alumni Basketball Tournament recently. More than 125 alumni returned to enjoy a day of hoops and camaraderie. The men's teams from the classes of 1975, 1996, and 2007 emerged victorious in their brackets, while honors for the women's bracket went to the class of 1994.

Pictured are (from left): Class of 1975 men, first row, Jerry Sullivan, Rich Finn, Tom Naderhoff, and Charlie Moses; second row, John Downey, Chris Bruzese, Jim Guinan, Sean Cleary, and Steve Pagura.

Class of 1994 women, Adrienne Ristas McAninch, Jody Allen White, Becky Egelhoff, Meg Uritus Zimpfer, Meghan Cooney Cromley, Rachel Tarbox, and Kim Walters Peck

Photos courtesy Bishop Watterson High School



DeSales award nomination

Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School would like to celebrate the accomplishments of members of the DeSales family with the school's seventh annual alumni awards of distinction.

If you feel you know someone

deserving of this award, honor him or her with a nomination.

The nomination deadline is Friday, March 16. Applications are available on the DeSales website, www.stfrancisdesaleshs.org, under the "Alumni & Friends" tab.

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College Goal Sunday

OHIO DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY

Ohio Dominican University is proud to host College Goal Sunday, the free statewide college financial aid event designed to help students and parents complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Join us at 2 p.m., February 12, 2012. The event will take place on the second floor of Erskine Hall on ODU's main campus.

Register for the free event at www.ohiocollegegoalsunday.org. For more information, contact ODU's Financial Aid Office at 614-251-4778 or finaid@ohiodominican.edu.

1216 Sunbury Road | Columbus, Ohio 43219 | 614.251.4500 | ohiodominican.edu

Scioto County sends large contingent to National Walk for Life

By Ruth Boll

While many residents traveled on their own to the annual March for Life in Washington, the Scioto County Deanery sent a bus full of walkers for the 2012 march.

Mildred Panganiban of New Boston was one of the travelers on her first trip to the march. "I love life, even the smallest creature, but more so a human life," said the Philippine immigrant. "I am so fully behind life and the pro-life movement. I am hoping that the march will help change the existing law that allows abortion. America is a leader nation, and, if we can stop abortion here, other places will stop abortion."

The 25 bus riders traveled to Washington on Sunday, Jan. 22, then were on the bus before 6 a.m. the next day to get to the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception for the Mass that ended an overnight vigil of prayer. This year, the Mass was presided over by Archbishop Timothy Dolan of New York, who has been designated to be elevated to the College of Cardinals next month.

The area residents joined more than 3,000 people listening to Archbishop Dolan preach on what he described as the most important civil rights issue of our day. He repeatedly referred to the "radiant inspiration" of the walkers. He also expressed

his hope for the future of the pro-life movement because of the number of youth participating in the march. He compared the fight to the struggle between David and Goliath, saying that "while the New York Giants won last night, Goliath the giant did not."

He also mentioned briefly the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services mandate that denies religious organizations the right to conscientiously refuse to fund abortifacients through their employee health-care programs.

President Barack Obama had contacted Archbishop Dolan two days earlier to deliver the bad news, telling him the Catholic Church would have a year to comply with the mandate.

"We have a year to figure out how to violate our consciences," Archbishop Dolan has said.

Father Adam Streitenberger, pastor of Portsmouth St. Mary Church, was participating in his ninth March for Life. He said, "The big thing this year is that we always talked about stopping abortions and the government funding of abortion, but now the government is insisting that religious organizations pay for abortions in their health plans and insurance packages."

After Mass, the local group toured the basilica, which is

the eighth-largest church in the world. Father Streitenberger remarked that the Mass there was one of the most impressive things in which he has participated. "The huge church is packed to the gills with someone sitting in every inch of the space," he said. With more than 100 priests and 50 bishops, it is a very impressive thing. It is also kind of like a big family reunion for the whole Catholic Church in America."

The group moved to the National Mall for speeches, many by leaders in the pro-life movement, including three U.S. House members from southern Ohio -- Speaker John Boehner and Reps. Jean Schmidt and Bill Johnson. Boehner said he has 11 brothers and sisters, acknowledging that this did not make it easy for his mother, then saying he was glad all his siblings were alive.

The local marchers joined 100,000 people walking to the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court building. In 1973, the court wiped out all state laws regulating abortion through its *Roe v. Wade* decision.

Chip Walder of Waverly, a retired employee of that community's atomic plant, said he hoped the decision would be overturned soon. "What sticks out for me is the number of young people that are at this



march," he said. "This gives great hope that their faith and conviction will bring about a change."

Walder has made the trip many times before and plans to come again next year. "As long as I am able, I will continue to come here, or until it (*Roe v. Wade*) is overturned," he said. "I think it will happen -- maybe not in my lifetime, but it will."

Joyce Riepenhoff of Minford, a retired world languages teacher, was on her first march. "I was quite impressed to be in the midst of such a huge mass of people, all being of the same mind and same heart," she said.

Annette Roth, a recreation therapist at the Veterans Administration hospital in Chillicothe, said she was marching to proclaim truth. "It is a lie to believe that life does not start at conception," she said.

"We have to speak up and say that that is not right (to say otherwise)."

Cody Craft, a college student and an aspirant to the priesthood, agreed. "If you look at the research, it is that life begins at conception," he said. "We are sacrificing the babies so that we can grow richer."

Paul Vanhooose of South Shore, Ky., said, "I walk because we are killing the babies. Everyone agrees that it is wrong, but we can't just agree and not do anything to stop it."

Father Joe Yokum, pastor at Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains Church, also sees other benefits to the march. "I walk ... to bring the Catholic perspective of life to the world," he said. "Everyone (says) ... it is just Catholics (at the march), but ... Anglicans, Lutherans and Baptists ... were there, and we are able to dialogue and stand across the lines."

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Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle B)

Suffering: A mystery beyond our understanding



Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

Job 7:1-4,6-7

I Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23

Mark 1:29-39

The section from Job is part of his answer to his friend Eliphaz on the question of why he has wound up in the terrible situation he is in. By this point, he has lost his children and his property and has been stricken with an outbreak of boils covering him from head to toe. Why this should befall such a fine man as Job, his friends do not know. But, together with Job, they are going to try finding out why.

Job decides that human life is mere drudgery, which means a dull and endless routine of one disaster after another. He thinks that he has been assigned (by God) to suffer such misery. I recommend reading the entire Chapter Seven of Job to get a full flavor of how miserable he feels. Of course, most of what he is describing can be handled by this or that pill, if we believe today's advertising.

Job loses sleep because of his misery, and he has convinced himself that he will never see happiness again. His dilemma centers on the fact that he knows he has done nothing wrong, so he cannot understand why he is suffering, as though such suffering could be understood if it were a punishment for some sin. Job's problem is worse by far, because he cannot understand why God would allow this to happen to one as faithful as Job has been to the Lord.

Obviously, we all wonder about suffering, and most of us actually ask God (or others) about it. In the end,

Deacon Bob Ghiloni planning 20th pilgrimage to Italy

In 1958, while stationed with the Army in France, Deacon Bob Ghiloni was able to find his cousins still living in Italy, the home of his immigrant father. The relationship with his first cousins (and once-removed cousins) blossomed immediately and has continued to this day. He has continued to communicate with them ever since.

In 1977, he took his whole family to Italy with him for the first time. On several occasions since then, he returned with them. He then started taking his grandchildren as they reached a 'good' age. He has been blessed with audiences with four popes: John XXIII, Paul VI, John Paul II, and Benedict XVI. He never tires of visiting Italy, always finding something new to see and savor.

In 2004, he started taking groups of people back

there is no satisfactory answer which is, in fact, satisfactory if we think about it. If we were ever able to say, "Oh, I see," then we'd be playing God instead of praying to God. We call this human suffering a mystery for a reason. It is precisely because we do not understand it, nor can we, that we wonder about such things. It is up to God to help us deal with it as we are able. But we will never understand why there is human suffering, or why one suffers and another does not.

The end of Jesus' first public day brings the healing of Simon Peter's mother-in-law (yes, Peter was married). After sunset (before sunset, the Law forbade people to carry anyone) people brought to him many who were ill or demon-possessed, and he tended to them.

After this busy day, Jesus gets up early the next day and goes to a remote place to pray. That means he left the village of Capernaum and went to a deserted place -- something like he had done after his baptism. He is usually in company with others throughout the Gospels, but on rare occasions he goes off alone, always to pray. There's a lesson there for all of us, the need for community prayer notwithstanding. Sometimes we just have to be alone with the Lord.

Simon and others hunt him down, telling him, "Everyone is looking for you." One could discuss whether it was because of his "teaching with authority" from Mark 1:27 or whether it was because he was doing so much healing among them. Jesus seems to understand it as an encouragement to preach elsewhere as he says "For this purpose I have come (literally, 'for this I have come out')."

The general statement that he was preaching and casting out demons throughout all of Galilee in their synagogues makes it seem as though there were an awful lot of dysfunctional Galileans in those days. Mark probably intended to say that Jesus preached in their synagogues and cast out demons all over Galilee.

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

with him, stopping in Venice, Sicily, and always in Rome and Assisi and Loppia, the village of his ancestors. This November, he again will take a group back to the land of his ancestors and the heart of the Catholic faith in Rome, stopping along the way in eight other cities, towns, and villages. Among those stops will be Venice, Florence, Sienna and San Gimignano, Pisa, Loppia, Assisi, and Orvieto (site of one of the miracles of the body and blood of Christ), before the pilgrimage concludes in Rome, where the group will be part of a Vatican audience with Pope Benedict.

There are still some openings for this trip.

Deacon Ghiloni may be contacted at (740) 345-1122, or via email at dcnbobg1117@roadrunner.com for more information.

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
1 Kings 8:1-7,9-13
Psalm 132:6-10
Mark 6:53-56

TUESDAY
1 Kings 8:22-23,27-30
Psalm 84:3-5,10-11
Mark 7:1-13

WEDNESDAY
1 Kings 10:1-10
Psalm 37:5-6,30-31,39-40
Mark 7:14-23

THURSDAY
1 Kings 11:4-13
Psalm 106:3-4,35-37,40
Mark 7:24-30

FRIDAY
1 Kings 11:29-32;12:19
Psalm 81:10-15
Mark 7:31-37

SATURDAY
1 Kings 12:26-32;13:33-34
Psalm 106:6-7,19-22
Mark 8:1-10

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 5, 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

Is Catholic Education Important?

You have read my past Catholic Schools Week columns, in which I wrote about the positives of Catholic schools and the need for more of them. In this column, I would like to bring to your attention why Catholic education, in all its realms, is so important.

Some powerful and influential forces in the Western world are increasingly telling us that religion is personal and shouldn't be shared on the national political stage. Yet the latest whims of the modern world are treated as religion by the very forces that seem to have little use for religion. They are happy to shove their secular religion of "anything goes" down our throat while we must accept their agenda, no questions asked.

A few days ago in our diocese, an extraordinary event occurred: Parishes were given a letter to be read from our spiritual shepherd, Bishop Frederick Campbell. In his letter Bishop Campbell wanted his flock to know of attempts by the federal Health and Human Services Department to force Catholic employers to provide abortion and contraceptive health care services to their employees, in violation of the core beliefs of our faith. Obviously, this is an assault on liberty, and many people of various different political persuasions have spoken out against this mandate. However, I have read the reaction of certain militant secularists who relish religion being "put in its place" -- a troublesome quote, indeed.

This is why Catholic education is so vital. Too many of the faithful are ignorant of their faith, which is a



THE TIDE IS TURNING
TOWARD CATHOLICISM
David Hartline

recipe for disaster. Ignorance is a dangerous thing when one surveys the landscape, which is full of folks who don't much care for our views.

Being a parent is a great joy for my wife and I. The joy that comes from seeing a child grow and mature from Day One is something that cannot be conveyed in mere words. However, with that joy comes a lot of responsibility. Parents has natural ingrained worries and apprehension for their child. We want the best. Because of it, a little worrying is par for the course.

Parents increasingly spend thousands of dollars on summer sports camps, music, and theater academies. The list goes on and on. Being a sports fan and a former coach, as well as a big music fan who has seen more than my fair share of concerts, I know from Scripture that the following is true: On Judgment Day, God will not quiz me on my athletic prowess and musical knowledge. I will be judged for how well I knew my faith, lived my faith, and imparted it to others, especially my family.

Catholic schools have to be available for all, which is why the Cristo Rey project is so important. We

need that option for everyone, and that can only come with the generosity of the laity toward building such schools and the clergy toward getting behind the effort. Each successive population shift in our diocese has been met with new schools and churches. It wasn't cheap, but Catholics were a great deal more impoverished then as compared to now, so it can be done. Malls and shopping centers move to where people are located, and so must we.

For many people, the combination of paying for Catholic education on top of local school taxes isn't a cheap proposition. I pay those taxes, too. Keep in mind that in addition to the spiritual benefits, many colleges look quite favorably on Catholic schools when it comes to scholarship and grant awards.

I could write a book on how Catholic schools helped me in my spiritual development. Suffice it to say that even though I was educated in the warm and fuzzy era of the 1970s and early 1980s, I still learned a great deal about my faith (Catholic education is a great deal better today). The lifelong friendships and spirit of community made our Catholic school a special place. This made me realize that we should view our world as my friends viewed our Catholic school, as a moment in time during which we grew to see the value of God, His love for us, and our responsibility to share that message with all we meet.

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



OVER-50 GROUP VISITS MARIA STEIN

Members of the Over-50 Group of Portsmouth St. Mary Church recently made a pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Holy Relics at Maria Stein, staying there overnight. They were accompanied by Father David Young (fourth from left, back row), pastor of West Portsmouth Our Lady of Sorrows, Pond Creek Holy Trinity, and Otway Our Lady of Lourdes churches, who celebrated Mass in the chapel of the Maria Stein Retreat Center. The group also visited nine of the 34 Catholic churches located in a 10-square-mile area of west central Ohio which includes Maria Stein, giving the region the nickname of "land of the cross-tipped churches," and toured the Bicycle Museum of America in New Bremen

Photo courtesy Ellis Holcomb

Pray for our dead

BRENNAN, John M., 64, Jan. 30
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

BRUZZESE, Patricia V., 84, Jan. 28
St. Anthony Church, Columbus

BUONI, Alfred, 80, Jan. 25
St. Elizabeth Church, Columbus

CASTROP, Helen R., 93, Jan. 27
St. Anthony Church, Columbus

COLOPY, Brice D., 29, Jan. 24
Church of the Ascension, Johnstown

CUNNINGHAM, Mary M., 93, Jan. 28
St. Patrick Church, London

de FIEBRE, Conrad W., 88, Jan. 26
St. Peter Church, Columbus

FEDERER, Donald G., 79, Jan. 28
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Buckeye Lake

HAYDEN, Nora, Jan. 26
St. Thomas More Newman Center, Columbus

KISH, Lynda K., 69, Jan. 23
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

McKINLEY, Victoria B., 87, Jan. 25
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

McKNIGHT, Clyde R. "Ray," 81, Jan. 28
St. Mary Church, Groveport

McLAIN, Robert T., 82, Jan. 25
St. Bernard Church, Corning

MOHR, Charles "Kris," 71, Jan. 25
St. Philip Church, Columbus

MONTAVON, Robert F., 89, Jan. 14
St. Peter in Chains Church, Wheelersburg

PROULX, Dolores C., 80, Jan. 29
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

REA, Paul W., 90, Jan. 22
Our Lady of Peace Church, Columbus

SMITH, Joan M., 85, Jan. 26
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

TRUCKLY, Janet D., 70, Jan. 28
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

URTON, Constance B., 86, Jan. 21
St. Paul Church, Westerville

VELICAN, Richard, 71, Jan. 10
St. Edward Church, Granville

WING, Carl "Bill," 59, Jan. 23
Holy Family Church, Columbus

WYNN, John R., 63, Jan. 25
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

ZADRAZIL, Joseph L., 82, Jan. 16
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

College Financial Aid Event

Ohio Dominican University will host a free statewide college financial aid event, College Goal Sunday, at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12. The event will be on the second floor of Erskine Hall, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

The Ohio Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (OASFAA) is presenting the event to assist students and parents with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This aid includes the Federal Pell Grant, student loans, and need-based state grants.

Families should register at www.ohio-collegegoalsunday.org or by calling (1-800) 233-6734. Walk-ins are welcome, but registration is encouraged.

The FAFSA is the key to funding a college education and helping families overcome financial barriers that otherwise prevent students from attending their desired institution. Studies show that a student is 50 percent more likely to attend college when he or she completes the FAFSA.

OASFAA is a nonprofit professional organization for individuals actively engaged in the administration of financial aid within the state of Ohio for higher education.

Prospective Ohio Dominican students seeking additional information should contact ODU's financial aid office at (614) 251-4778 or email finaid@ohio-dominican.edu.

Black History Fair

Black Catholic Ministries of the Diocese of Columbus is sponsoring a Black History Collectors and Memorabilia Fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, at the Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus.

Dr. Annette E. Jefferson of the Ohio Humanities Council will be presenting "I Be Harriet Tubman," a living history portrayal of the famed abolitionist and

humanitarian, at 2 p.m. during the fair. Admission for both events is free.

Vendor registration and fee information may be obtained from Black Catholic Ministries. The form must be completed and returned by Sunday, Feb. 5.

For more information, contact Black Catholic Ministries at (614) 228-0024.

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Sister Margaret McDonough, OP

Funeral Mass for Sister Margaret McDonough, OP, 92, who died Tuesday, Jan. 24, was held Saturday, Jan. 28, at the Martin de Porres Center in Columbus. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born Gertrude Marie McDonough on June 21, 1919, in Newark, N.J., to Francis and Genevieve (Wallace) McDonough. She earned a bachelor of science degree from St. Mary of the Springs College (now Ohio Dominican University).

She entered the novitiate of the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace) in 1937 and made her profession of vows in 1939. She was prefect of study halls at Columbus Bishop

Watterson High School in the 1962-63 school year and was a teacher and principal in grade schools in the Diocese of Steubenville and in Detroit, Pittsburgh, New York, and Santa Fe, N.M.

She also served her congregation in various capacities at the Motherhouse and at the Mohan Health Care Center, where she had lived since 1988. Following her retirement, she worked in the medical records department at St. Anthony Hospital, Columbus, from 1990-93.

She was preceded in death by her parents; stepmother, Mary (Dolan); brothers, Francis and Lawrence; and sisters, Rose McDonough and Pat Joste. She is survived by nieces, nephews, and cousins.

send obituaries to
tpuet@colsdioc.org

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Carry-out will be available!

FEBRUARY

2, THURSDAY

Candlemas Service at Columbus St. Patrick 6:30 to 8 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Mass of Our Lord's Presentation at the Temple,

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@colsdioc.org

followed by blessing of candles and candlelight procession through church, with traditional Dominican chant and oblatio candelabrum, a special Dominican custom.

DivorceCare for Kids at St. Matthew
6:30 to 8 p.m., Spirit Room, St. Matthew Church, 807 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna. First session of 13-week DivorceCare for Kids program to help children heal from the pain caused by separation or divorce. 614-442-7650
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

Open House at Bishop Hartley
7 to 8:30 p.m., Bishop Hartley High School, 1285 Zettler Road, Columbus. Open house for prospective students and their parents. 614-237-5421

3, FRIDAY

Tradition Breakfast at DeSales
7:45 a.m., St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, Columbus. Annual Tradition Breakfast for students and their DeSales alumni guests, preceded by Mass at 7. 614-267-7808, extension 142

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

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

St. John Chrysostom First Friday Sale
4 to 6 p.m., St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church, 5858 Cleveland Ave., Columbus. First Friday sale of pirogi, stuffed cabbage, noodles, and baked goods. 614-882-7578

Theology of the Body Talk at St. John Neumann
7 p.m., Upper social hall, St. John Neumann Church, 9633 East State Route 37, Sunbury. Third of four talks by Catholic writer and educator Jake Tawney on how we can see our lives through the lens of Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body. Subject: "Sharpening Our Focus: Our Relationship as Man and Woman in the World." For anyone 17 and older. 740-965-1358

All-Night Exposition at Our Lady of Victory
Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8 p.m. until Mass at 8 a.m. Saturday, sponsored by church's Knights of Columbus council and Columbus Serra Club.

3-5, FRIDAY-SUNDAY

Women's Retreat at St. Therese's
St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Retreat for women, directed by Father Joshua Wagner, pastor of Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John and St. Dominic churches. Theme: "The Four Stages of Love." 614-836-9086

4, SATURDAY

Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City
9 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave., Plain City. Saturday Life and Mercy Mass, followed by rosary and confession. 614-565-8654
Mary's Little Children Prayer Group
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. 8:30 a.m., confessions, 9 a.m., Mass, followed by Fatima prayers and Rosary (Shepherds of Christ format); 10 a.m., meeting. 614-861-4888

5, SUNDAY

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education
10 to 11:15 a.m., St. Christopher Parish Center,

1420 Grandview Ave., Columbus. "Holy Preaching, Holy Art," with Sister Thoma Swanson, OP. 614-488-9971

Exposition at Church of the Resurrection
Our Lady of the Resurrection Chapel, Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, beginning with procession into chapel following 11 a.m. Mass and continuing to 5 p.m. 614-933-9318

Cathedral Organ Recital
3 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Craig Cramer, University of Notre Dame organ professor, presents the fourth of six recitals featuring the complete organ works of Dieterich Buxtehude. 614-241-2526

Family Day of Prayer at St. Thomas
4 p.m., St. Thomas Church, 2692 E. 5th Ave., Columbus. Day of Prayer for the African American and African Family, sponsored by diocesan Black Catholic Ministries.

Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. 706-761-4054
Compline at Cathedral
9 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Chanting of Compline. 614-241-2526

6, MONDAY

Marian Prayer Group
7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Mass for Catholic family life. 614-235-7435
The Lamb Catholic Worker Prayer Group
7 p.m., St. Thomas Church, 2692 E. 5th Ave., Columbus. Twice-monthly meeting of The Lamb Catholic Worker Charismatic Prayer Group. 614-832-9525

7, TUESDAY

Serra Club of North Columbus Meeting
Noon, Jessing Center, Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. Serra Club of North Columbus meeting with Jim Anderson, development director for St. Gabriel Radio.
Prayer Group Meeting at St. Mark
7 p.m., St. Raymond Room, St. Mark Center, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Light of Life Prayer Group meeting. 740-653-4919

'Landings' Meeting at Newman Center
7 p.m., St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave., Columbus. Fifth meeting of eight-week "Landings" program for returning and inactive Catholics. 614-291-4674, extension 100

'Catholicism' Series at St. Pius X
7 to 8:30 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Video of "Our Tainted Nature's Solitary Boast: Mary, the Mother of God," Part 4 of Father Robert Barron's "Catholicism" series, followed by discussion. 614-866-2859

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

8, WEDNESDAY

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

5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Room 259, Bishop Griffin Student Center, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Information session for master of science in physician assistant studies program.

9, THURSDAY

Retreat with Joe Paprocki at St. Brigid of Kildare
9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Hendricks Hall, St. Brigid of Kildare Church, 7179 Avery Road, Dublin. Retreat with author and speaker Joe Paprocki on five characteristics that can help us be more intentional in living and sharing our Catholic faith. 740-369-8228
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

10, FRIDAY

Catholic Men's Luncheon Club
12:15 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Catholic Men's Luncheon Club meeting, with Bishop Frederick Campbell presenting diocesan Catholic Man of the Year award to Tom Wagner of Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton Parish. Details at www.columbuscatholicmen.com.

Empty Bowls Fund Raiser at DeSales
5:30 p.m., St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, Columbus. Empty Bowls fund raiser for Mid-Ohio Food-Bank. Free soup and bread will be served, with handmade ceramic bowls available for a donation. 614-267-6822
Theology of the Body Talk at St. John Neumann
7 p.m., Upper social hall, St. John Neumann Church, 9633 East State Route 37, Sunbury. Last of four talks by Catholic writer and educator Jake Tawney on how we can see our lives through the lens of Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body. Subject: "Seeing Clearly: Our Relationship as We Return Back to God." For anyone 17 and older. 740-965-1358

Valentine's Day Dance at St. Joan of Arc
8 to 11 p.m., St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Valentine's Day dance for adult couples with the Rick Brunetto Big Band, preceded by Mass and blessing for married couples. 614-761-0905

10-12, FRIDAY-SUNDAY

Youth Ministry Leaders Retreat at Sts. Peter and Paul
Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center, 2734 Seminary Road S.E., Newark. Retreat for all adult youth ministry leaders, sponsored by diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, directed by Father Vinny McKiernan, CSP. Theme: "Remembering Who You Are." 614-241-2565
Women's Retreat at St. Therese's
St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Retreat for women, sponsored by Gahanna St. Matthew Church, directed by Sister Maxine Shonk, OP. Theme: "Living a Mary Life in a Martha World." 614-855-3543

11, SATURDAY

Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City
9 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave., Plain City. Saturday Life and Mercy Mass, followed by rosary and confession. 614-565-8654
Catholic Record Society Meeting
11 a.m., Westminster Thurber Community, Neil Avenue and Goodale Street, Columbus. Catholic Record Society winter meeting, with Sister Barbara Hahl, CSC, senior vice president of system mission of Mount Carmel Health System speaking on Mount Carmel West Hospital's 125-year history. Registration deadline Feb. 2. 614-268-4166

focus on ART

THEATER PRODUCTION

ALICE IN WONDERLAND



Join the student thespians at Columbus Bishop Ready High School, 707 Salisbury Road, as the Mad Hatter, the March Hare, the White Rabbit, Tweedledee and Tweedledum meet Alice on her adventures in Wonderland.

Based on Lewis Carroll's enduring book, the fanciful characters come to life on Ready's Little Theater stage under the direction of Jill Larger. More than 35 students (not counting crew!) are involved in the production. The Red Queen, the King of Hearts, the White Queen, and Knave of Hearts will be there, along with the Caterpillar, the Mock Turtle, the Frog Footman, and other beloved characters.

Performances will take place on Friday, Feb. 17, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 18, at 2 p.m.; and Sunday, Feb. 20, at 2 and 7 p.m. It's family-friendly entertainment that will engage grandparents and grandchildren alike, and all ages in between!

Admission is \$10 for adults, \$9 for those 65 and over, and \$8 for students. For more information, call Bishop Ready High School at (614) 276-5263.

Photo: Anthony Herrmann plays the White Rabbit, Stephanie Carrier is Alice, and Elaina Ferko is the Red Queen

Photo courtesy Bishop Ready High School

BOOK REVIEW

"A People of Hope: Archbishop Timothy Dolan in conversation with John L. Allen Jr."

Archbishop's entertaining musings make one happy to be Catholic

"A People of Hope: Archbishop Timothy Dolan in conversation with John L. Allen Jr." Image Books (New York, 2011) \$25.

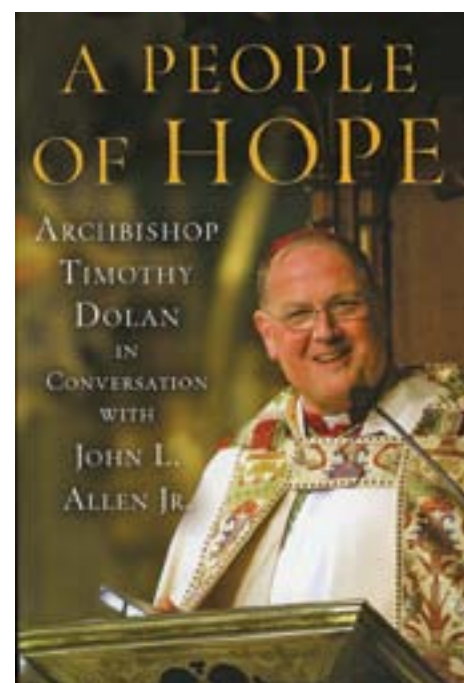
Reviewed by Peggy Weber
Catholic News Service

In the introduction of "A People of Hope," John Allen quotes a woman from Westchester County, N.Y., who was moved to tears after a visit by Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan to her parish.

She said, "I'm a lifelong Catholic, but the last few years, it's been so hard ... with the sex-abuse scandals, with bishops who don't seem to listen, with all of it. I came tonight not knowing what to expect, but this guy ... I don't know, somehow he just makes me feel good about being Catholic."

Her reaction in a parish hall is what readers will probably feel after finishing this interesting and entertaining book. One feels good about being Catholic and knowing the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops is being led by Archbishop Dolan as president. The archbishop will become a cardinal on Feb. 19.

Even if one disagrees with Archbishop



Dolan, one still has to like him. He is described by Allen at "affirmative orthodoxy on steroids."

Archbishop Dolan will not disagree with the Vatican (although he does say that if anyone had asked him about the current Vatican-sponsored visitation of American nuns, he would have advised against

it). However, he also will not ostracize or deal meanly with those with whom he and the church disagree.

Archbishop Dolan says, "My hunch is that I'll have more luck trying to nudge them closer to what the church considers to be the truth if I'm in contact, in dialogue, than if I'm standing off to the side tossing rhetorical bricks."

Allen does a splendid job of introducing Archbishop Dolan and probing his mind. Allen acknowledges that this book is not a biography. Rather, it lets the reader into the thoughts and personality of the archbishop, who was profiled on "60 Minutes" and is what one might call a "rising star" in the American Catholic Church.

Allen also gives the readers some "inside baseball" understanding of the topics of each chapter. Yet he is very careful not to insert himself into the book. It is very clear that this is Archbishop Dolan's book.

Both Allen and the archbishop have a clear and likeable communication style. It might have been a nightmare to edit hours of interviews and appearances, but the finished product seems polished and easy.

And the book truly contains many gems by Archbishop Dolan. For example, in the chapter about "Affirmative Ortho-

doxy," Archbishop Dolan says, "I worry that we've become a glorified Rotary Club. We're so stumbling over the 'how' of Catholic life that I think we've lost the 'who,' meaning Jesus."

Both authors show a keen sense of humor in their writing and responses, although one of the best lines is when Archbishop Dolan quotes Hilaire Belloc saying, "I've come to reluctantly accept that the Roman Catholic Church must be divine, because no merely human institution governed by such imbecility could have survived a fortnight."

Although the book does not tell us too much about the life of Archbishop Dolan, it does provide some great insights into what has formed and shaped him -- his home parish, his education and years in Rome, his friendships.

However, Archbishop Dolan provides the most telling statement about his life: "To this day, I think of myself as a priest, not a bishop or archbishop, and there's nothing else I ever wanted to be."

His contentment and joy are apparent in this book. It is infectious and truly makes one feel good about being a Catholic.

Weber is a columnist and reporter with Catholic Communications in the Diocese of Springfield, Mass.

NEWS IN PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



Pope Benedict XVI poses with judges to mark the start of the judiciary year of the Roman Rota at the Vatican on Jan. 21. The Rota is the church's central appellate court

CNS photo/L'Osservatore Romano via Reuters



Carpenter Jose Ernesto Fernandez, pictured on Jan. 30, works on a chair to be used by Pope Benedict XVI during his visit to Leon, Mexico. Fernandez said only the finest mahogany is being used, and several carvers and carpenters are working on the chair for the pope's four-day stay in Mexico in late March

CNS photo/Mario Armas, Reuters



A demonstrator holds up a crucifix and a Quran during a protest at Tahrir Square in Cairo on Jan. 26. Scores of Egyptian youth protesters marking the one-year anniversary of the uprising that ousted Hosni Mubarak bedded down in Tahrir Square and pledged to stay put until the ruling military council hands power to civilians

CNS photo/Suhaib Salem, Reuters

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE WILL HEAR FROM WOMAN WHO OVERCAME THE TRAUMA OF ABORTION

The theme of the 2012 Diocesan Catholic Women's Conference is "Clothed with Strength and Dignity, Becoming a Worthy Woman of God (Proverbs 31:10-31)." Featured speaker Yvonne Florczak-Seeman is a living testament to that theme.

At age 16, she ran away with her boyfriend and became pregnant. She chose to have an abortion, which led to depression, continual feelings of guilt, and a sense of constant torment. To numb the pain, she began using drugs and even attempted suicide. In her depressed state, she continued to be sexually involved with her boyfriend and had four additional abortions. Several years later, she finally turned to the only means of peace -- her Heavenly Father.

By God's grace, she has risen above the difficulties of her past. Today, she is married and is the mother of four children: Kevin (15), Michael (10), Sarah



(5), and Daniel (18 months).

Her desire to keep others from experiencing the trauma she went through has given her the courage to speak out on behalf of the unborn and post-abortive

women. For the past 10 years, she has spoken to tens of thousands of middle- and high-school students about the consequences of abortion and the importance of chastity, through a program run by the Archdiocese of Chicago.

She also shares her testimony and describes the difficulty of overcoming the effects of abortion on television and radio programs. She has done this on Fox News through "Hannity's America," Telemundo Spanish Television, the Total Living Network, and Comcast cable, and has become a regular guest on the Drew Mariani Show on Relevant Radio.

Florczak-Seeman also desires to bring a message of hope and healing to post-abortive women. One of the ways she does this is by hosting retreats for post-abortive women through Project Rachel. She has developed a ministry called "Time to Speak," which is de-

signed to educate people about the consequences of abortion and to mobilize post-abortive women to come out of denial and into healing.

She has written two books. The first, "A Time to Speak," is a journal for post-abortive women to help them work through the process of healing. The other book is a 12-week Bible study program for post-abortive women titled "A Time to Heal."

The Catholic Women's Conference will take place on Saturday, Feb. 25, in the Lausche Building at the State Fairgrounds. Doors open at 7 a.m., followed by Mass with Bishop Frederick Campbell at 8, along with the Sacrament of Reconciliation, breakfast, speakers, lunch, break times, and Catholic vendor booths. Closing prayer is at 3 p.m.

To register, visit www.columbus-catholicwomen.com for full details of the conference.

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