

The CATHOLIC TIMES

THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS' INFORMATION SOURCE

MAY 7, 2023 • FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER • VOLUME 72:10



JOSEPHINUM'S GOOD SHEPHERD AWARDS

PAGE 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



PRIESTS' ANNIVERSARIES

Thirteen active and retired priests who serve or live in the diocese are celebrating significant anniversaries of their ordination in 2023, including two who received the Sacrament of Holy Orders 65 years ago, Page 6



CONVERGING ROADS

Catholic healthcare professionals came together at the Pontifical College Josephinum's Jessing Center on Saturday, April 22 for the Converging Roads conference focused on ethics and issues in the medical field, Page 10

Family Month aims to celebrate each member

By **Hannah Heil**
Catholic Times Reporter

A diocesan Family Month will take place from Mother's Day through Father's Day, May 14 to June 18, the Diocese of Columbus Office of Marriage and Family Life has announced.

The month is meant to strengthen and enrich diocesan families and celebrate the family as God intended. Each week will focus on a family member.

The first week of Family Month, May 14-20, will celebrate the mother as the bearer of new life and one who is receptive, generous, sensitive and maternal.

The second week, May 21-27, will celebrate the gift of children as the beloved, needing to be nurtured from birth through adulthood.

The third week, May 28-June 3, will celebrate grandparents as repositories of wisdom.

The fourth week, June 4-10, will celebrate the extended family as being integral to a healthy family.

The final week of the month, June 11-18, will celebrate the father as the spiritual head of the household.

"We wanted to draw attention to each role and the importance of each role," said Jennifer Fullin, the diocese's natural family planning and fertility appreciation coordinator. "Not all families will have a

mother and a father, but that is the ideal, and so it's important to recognize."

The idea for a monthlong celebration of God's design for the family was presented to the Marriage and Family Life office by Michele Coldiron of Columbus and Christie McVicker of Delaware.

"A monthlong celebration of the family as God intended, the union between one man and one woman, for life, and any children that are the fruit of their union along with any adopted into the family – there are so many celebrations of the family in the liturgical calendar, yet nowhere is the family lifted up in so obvious a way," said Coldiron, who is the co-founder of *Creative Catholic Works* and *Theology of the Body Minutes*, which are aired on St. Gabriel Catholic Radio.

Resources will be available for parishes and families on the diocesan website (columbuscatholic.org), and events taking place throughout the month will be posted there.

Families can find videos and guides for each week, including "Bringing Children to Adoration," "Beginners Guide to Adoration for Teens" and "Helping Kids Make a Holy Hour."

A Respect Life: Spiritual Bouquet activity for Mother's Day and Father's Day from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops can also be found on the Family Month webpage (<https://bit.ly/3Vedl8Z>).

Themed content will be posted on the

diocese's social media pages, as well as video messages from Bishop Earl Fernandes speaking to the importance of family.

"As the basic unit of society, the importance of maintaining an intact family amidst the struggles of life has lost the luster it once had," said McVicker, who has actively served the Church in a variety of ministries.

"We want to remind people that the joy of keeping the family intact, growing together in holiness while raising the next generation of citizens, will outweigh the, at times, intense struggles couples undergo. Remaining married is worth it."

Families are the "backbone of our Church" and "we need families to create more vocations," said Brooke Warren, marriage formation specialist for the diocese.

The month will be a time of celebration and appreciation for families. It will serve as a reminder that families are a part of the Catholic Church, and the Church is there to support them.

"Our hope is to be of help to the diocese as it starts a movement to bring the eyes of America back to focus on a man and a woman in a monogamous union with any children that are born of their fruitful love by bringing attention to the need to focus on the foundational unit of society – the family," Coldiron said.

Celebrating the role of families in society and the Church from May to June will tie families into events planned by

the diocese for the month.

"There's a lot going on with Eucharistic processions and things that are already happening," Fullin said. "So, we're trying to bring that family lens to what the Church already does, and particularly, welcome families to these things."

For the first week celebrating mothers, there will be a foster care awareness information session, A Family for Every Child, held at Columbus St. Patrick Church on Thursday, May 18, from 6:30-8 p.m.

The event will be sponsored by Springs of Love, Catholic Foster & Adoption Support, and the Office of Marriage and Family Life.

Foster and adoptive families will be present to discuss welcoming foster children into their homes and how the decision has changed their lives and the children they fostered.

Fullin suggested that families consider attending the event "maybe not necessarily to become a foster family, but even just to support the (foster) families because it's a hard thing, and the Church community, the parishes, are really uniquely able to offer support, whether it's just cooking meals or (offering) a little bit of respite for the moms and dads who are 24/7 with the children."

There will be a Family Day at the Museum of Catholic Art and History, located

See **FAMILY**, Page 5

Notre Dame, Newark Catholic to open commencement season

Portsmouth Notre Dame and Newark Catholic high schools will be the first of the 11 diocesan secondary schools to hold graduation ceremonies for their Class of 2023.

Commencement and baccalaureate dates and times for diocesan high schools are:

Portsmouth Notre Dame – Commencement, 1 p.m. Sunday, May 21, school gymnasium; Baccalaureate, 7 p.m. Friday, May 19, Portsmouth Holy Redeemer Church.

Newark Catholic – Commencement, 2 p.m. Sunday, May 21, school auditorium; Baccalaureate, 6:45 p.m. Tuesday, May 16, Newark Blessed Sacrament Church.

Columbus St. Charles Preparatory – Baccalaureate and Commencement, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, May 26, Walter Student Commons.

Columbus St. Francis DeSales – Commencement, 9 a.m. Saturday, May 27, Alumni Stadium; Baccalaureate, 6 p.m. Thursday, May 25, New Albany Church of the Resurrection.

Columbus Bishop Watterson – Commencement, 9:30 a.m. Saturday, May 27, school gymnasium; Baccalaureate, 7 p.m. Thursday, May 25, gymnasium.

Columbus Bishop Hartley – Commencement, 10 a.m. Saturday, May 27, Jack Ryan Field; Baccalaureate, 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 26, Columbus Christ the King Church.

Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans – Commencement, 10 a.m. Saturday, May 27, school gymnasium; Baccalaureate, 7 p.m. Friday, May 26, Zanesville St. Nich-

olas Church.

Lancaster Fisher Catholic – Commencement, 2 p.m. Sunday, May 28, school gymnasium; Baccalaureate, 6 p.m. Friday, May 26, Lancaster St. Bernadette Church.

Columbus Bishop Ready – Commencement, 10 a.m. Saturday June 3, Joe Lang Gymnasium; Baccalaureate, 7 p.m. Friday, June 2, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

Columbus Cristo Rey – Commence-

ment, 1 p.m. Saturday, June 3, Mershon Auditorium, Ohio State University; Baccalaureate, 5 p.m. Thursday, June 1, Columbus Holy Cross Church.

New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic – Commencement, 3 p.m. Sunday, June 4, school gymnasium; Baccalaureate, 1:30 p.m. June 4, gymnasium.

Editor's note: The Catholic Times will publish its annual graduation section in the June 4 issue.

CORRECTION

In a story on Msgr. James Walter that appeared in the April 9 issue of The Catholic Times, Msgr. John Dreese was omitted from the list of current priests in the diocese who have received the honorary title of monsignor.



Front Page photo:

Good Shepherd honorees

Father Jeff Rimelspach (second from left) and Ginger West (third from left) received awards from the Pontifical College Josephinum at its Good Shepherd Dinner on April 17. With them are Bishop Earl Fernandes (left) and Father Steven Beseau, rector-president of the Josephinum. *CT photo by Ken Snow*

The CATHOLIC TIMES

Copyright © 2023. All rights reserved. Catholic Times (USPS 967-000) (ISSN 745-6050) is the official newspaper of the Catholic Diocese of Columbus, Ohio. It is published every other week throughout the year. Subscription rate: \$17 per year, or call and make arrangements with your parish. Periodical Postage Paid at Columbus OH 43218.

Bishop Earl K. Fernandes: President & Publisher
Doug Bean: Editor (dbean@columbuscatholic.org)
Hannah Heil: Reporter (hheil@columbuscatholic.org)
Emma Noel: Layout/Design (enoel@columbuscatholic.org)
Mailing Address: 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215
Editorial/Advertising: (614) 224-5195
Subscriptions: (614) 224-6530
(subscriptions@columbuscatholic.org)

Postmaster: Send address changes to
Catholic Times 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215.
Please allow two to four weeks for change of address.

Josephinum honors priest, lay supporter with awards

By Hannah Heil

Catholic Times Reporter

The Good Shepherd Dinner, held at the Pontifical College Josephinum on April 17, featured a keynote address from Bishop Earl Fernandes and presentation of two of the highest honors bestowed by the Josephinum.

Father Jeff Rimelspach, pastor at Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church, received the Good Shepherd Award.

The award is presented to a member of the clergy who exemplifies in his life and ministry the qualities of a good shepherd. It is the highest honor bestowed by the Josephinum upon a member of the clergy.

Ginger West, a member of the Serra Club of North Columbus and Friends of the Josephinum board, received the Pope Leo XIII Award. It recognizes the recipient's support of priestly vocations and the Josephinum, and it is one of the two highest honors bestowed by the college.

The award is named in honor of the pope who granted pontifical status to the Josephinum in 1892, making it the only pontifical seminary outside of Italy.

The evening began with a welcome from the dinner host couple, Dr. Rama and Anne Mallampalli.

"What a privilege to be a part of the mission at the Josephinum in the formation of holy, generous adaptable and resilient priests for the 21st century and beyond," Anne said. "Holy. Generous. Adaptable. Resilient. This is our call as well. All of us are called to build up the priesthood."

The Mallampallis encouraged support for vocations.

"This broken world needs priests who can bring others to Christ – to save souls," she said. "It needs the Eucharist. It needs all of us to be saints."

The Josephinum Choir & Assembly sang the *Sancte Joseph* (St. Joseph) prayer, and the choir performed the hymn "Come, Christians, Join to Sing."

In his keynote address, Bishop Fernandes reflected on Jesus exhorting the Apostles in the Gospel of John to lay down their lives for the sake of love. (John 15:12-13)

"Jesus says come as one who serves," he said.

Bishop Fernandes said only Christ is the Good Shepherd, but the priesthood calls men to imitate Christ as a shepherd, which means being "willing to sacrifice yourself before you sacrifice others."

Priests are called to feed the sheep with the Body and Blood of Christ, he said. Feeding the Lord's sheep with the Holy Eucharist is a priest's calling.

When Christ asks St. Peter if he loves Him and tells the Apostle to feed His sheep, the bishop said that Christ is asking, "Do you love Me more than the oth-



Father Jeff 'Rimelspach', pastor at Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church, speaks at the Good Shepherd Dinner at the Pontifical College Josephinum after receiving the Good Shepherd Award. CT photos by Ken Snow



Members of the Pontifical College Josephinum choir sing at the Good Shepherd Dinner on April 17.

er Apostles, more than the world?"

"We want to have vocations on our own terms," he said.

However, "God calls us to follow Him, to be His disciple" and "feeding the sheep proceeds from that."

The bishop said the Josephinum fosters friendships with the Lord so men can say, "Yes, Lord, I am your friend, and I will tend to the brokenhearted."

"This institution says, with the Lord, we will give You shepherds – shepherds of Your own heart."

The Josephinum honored Father Rimelspach for exemplifying the qualities of a good shepherd who has a heart unto the Lord's.

"He clearly has the heart of a pastor," said Father Steven Beseau, rector and president of the Josephinum, who presented Father Rimelspach with the award. "He is gentle, he is faithful, conscientious of his duties and methodical in what he does."

Father Rimelspach is a 1979 graduate

of the Josephinum. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1985 and has served as pastor of St. Margaret of Cortona since 2009.

Father Rimelspach served three terms on the Josephinum's Board of Trustees and as chaplain for the Serra Club of North Columbus.

"I aspire continually to live the high ideals I learned and witnessed while a student here," he said of the Josephinum. "In my 37 years of priesthood, my greatest joy is being a pastor. I have served as pastor of three different churches.

"The common thread in all three, as all priests know, is the call to the service of the people of God."

Father Rimelspach said he was attracted to the priesthood through the witness of his uncle, Msgr. Ed Kessler, who was a priest in the Diocese of Columbus for more than 40 years.

Father Rimelspach said he "had the benefit of being taught and formed by many of the 'lifers,' those who spent

their entire lives here at the Josephinum from eighth grade till death, such as Msgr. Fick and Msgr. Durst, who are buried out in these hallowed grounds."

"As we follow in the example of Msgr. Joseph Jessing, (founder of the Josephinum,) I pray that we may, in our own way, always strive to follow and imitate Jesus Christ, who is the Good Shepherd," he said.

Father Beseau presented the Pope Leo XIII award to West, who he said was a "woman of great faith, a staunch defender of Catholic teaching and a defender of the truth."

"She works hard and prays even harder," Father Beseau said.

West is a parishioner at Columbus St. Patrick Church and has traveled to a dozen cities across the country to attend ordinations.

"My whole life has been surrounded by the priests," she said.

West's father was a founding member of the Serra Club in Columbus and Serra International, a lay apostolate dedicated to fostering vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life.

She said she joined the Serra Club as soon as women were permitted to be members, and she developed lifelong friendships with priests from their days in the seminary.

"It has been a joy to travel the country for ordinations."

West recalled encountering priests across the world that she knew from the Josephinum.

She ran into a priest she knew from the seminary while in Rome for New Year's Day 2013 and another priest while visiting a small town in Tennessee, and such occasions are what she "loves about being Catholic."

"It happens all the time," she said of her encounters.

West said she often writes her name as 'Ginger West, COG,' and people ask, 'What degree is that?'

"It stands for 'Child of God,'" she said, "And I write it on my checks, too. It's a good conversation starter because we all are (children of God)."

West attributed to her parents, Patrick and Virginia Hinterschied West, the strong Catholic faith, witness and passion for vocations and for many visits to the Josephinum growing up.

She encouraged the audience to "always be open to the Lord" and "don't shut Him out."

"He loves us so much," she said. "If you haven't tried Him, give Him a chance."

After the award presentations, there was a live auction for a dinner with Bishop Fernandes at the Chancery.

Father Beseau offered final remarks, and the evening concluded with the Josephinum Choir & Assembly singing the *Regina Coeli* (Queen of Heaven) hymn to the Blessed Mother.

Mary as a manual for motherhood

We often hear the phrase “Parenting doesn’t come with a manual.” But what if it did? What if we trusted God as the Father that He is and sought His guidance in our parenting?

I think of the times I cry out, “Lord, I wish I had a mother to guide me through this, someone who understands what it is like to sacrifice and suffer as only a mother does.”

“Funny you should mention that,” He smiles as He raises His eyebrow to His mother, whom He loves so very much and who has given so very much in loving Him.

You see, there is a manual, and Mary continues to write it for us. It’s her mission to help us in our vocation. Who knows motherhood better than the Blessed Mother?

When I was walking through the adoption journey of bringing our daughter Elizabeth home, the Missionaries of Charity who cared for her taught me a short prayer: “Mary, be a mother to me and (insert request).” I would walk throughout my house repeating, “Mary, be a mother to me and finalize this adoption,” handing it over to her to take care of like a mother does. And when we brought Elizabeth home, Mary rejoiced with us!

There are, however, moments in motherhood when words escape us. We have all watched our children suffer. Whether it be the new mom with a teething baby who is sleep deprived and feels like she is drinking from a firehose with all the knowledge she assumes she must automatically know, or the mom of a teenager whose heart is outside her body with grief sitting

ALL THAT WE HAVE

MaryBeth Eberhard

MaryBeth Eberhard writes about marriage, life experiences of a large family and special needs. She attends Sunbury St. John Neumann Church.



on the floor by the living room couch as she prays her child through the night.

Sometimes words evade us. The unknown is too much, and here we meet our humanity. Here is where Mother Mary steps in.

She takes our sleep-deprived, empty well of motherhood in her beautiful and grace-filled hands, because she is, after all, a mother, our mother. We forget sometimes in our own pouring out till the tank is empty that we, too, have a mother beside us. Mary takes this offering and breathes her grace upon it.

I imagine if this offering could be placed on a platter, or in a basket, somehow it is arranged as an illuminated feast for the Lord. You see, she knows who the offering is for because, like a good mother, she knows our hearts. She comforts us, sits with us as we hold vigil with our children, and because she is filled with grace, she fills us from her well and through both this surrender and offering, we are renewed and refreshed in our motherhood.

We are reminded that we are not alone and our hearts lift to heaven in thanksgiving. That is her gift. Mary lifts our hearts to the Father, the source of all wisdom and comfort.

When searching for ways to mother, I have learned

best through observation. Though I purchased all the parenting books, none was as effective as watching both good and bad mothers. But when the going got rough, and as children get older, oh how it does get rough, I needed more than just my coffee shop observations.

A good friend led me to the rosary, and my parenting, my marriage and my life have been blessed for it. Here we see Mary as mother in all her glory. She is trusting and rejoicing at the Annunciation. She is worried and frustrated when Jesus stayed back at the temple, and she could not find Him. She is mournful at His suffering in His passion. And she is honored by Him at her glorious Assumption and crowning in heaven. Her model is beautiful.

But in living out her call of motherhood fully she does not stop. What mother ever does? She continues to show us how to mother as she appears to us in her apparitions. With each visit, she shows us what her children need and how to do it. She encourages us.

At Guadalupe, she teaches us how to build trust with our children: “Am I not your mother?” At Fatima, she shows us the importance of being firm and fierce, and she doesn’t shy away from showing the children that hell is the result of grave sin.

As mothers, though it is difficult, we must be that guide. Mary has that chapter covered, too! Her heart is filled in helping us be the mothers God has created us to be. May we turn to our mother in heaven and seek her example and guidance as we mother from the heart.

Like the Holy Spirit, we, too, can be advocates

In these days between Easter and Pentecost, we remember and contemplate Jesus’ Last Supper discourses found in the Gospel of John, chapters 14, 15 and 16. Before His priestly prayer in Chapter 17, Jesus tells His disciples that He will ask the Father, and He will give them another Advocate (Jesus being the first Advocate) Who will teach them everything and remind them of all that Jesus told and taught them.

The notes in the New American Bible on John 14, where the Advocate is first mentioned, define the Advocate’s role as one of intercessor, teacher, witness to Jesus and a prosecutor of the world.

As I reflect on these passages, it seems to me that we who have received the Holy Spirit at baptism and confirmation are brought into the role of “little ‘a’ advocates” – intercessors, teachers, witnesses to Jesus and prosecutors of those things opposed to the Spirit (under the collective name “the world”).

FAITH IN ACTION | Mark Huddy

Mark Huddy is the Episcopal Moderator for Catholic Charities and the Office for Social Concerns in the Diocese of Columbus.



In essence, that is the mission and vocation of every believer and disciple. If we love God and keep His commandments by loving one another as He loves us, then we can do this work, not on our own but in cooperation with the Holy Spirit living inside us.

Last week, the Catholic Conference of Ohio hosted an Advocacy Day, inviting people from the Catholic dioceses in Ohio to come in person to promote the Church’s vision of a just society within proposed and current Ohio legislation.

A group of about 50 gathered at the conference’s

office for a briefing before heading to the Ohio Statehouse to meet with state senators and representatives to intercede for the vulnerable, teach legislators the basis for the Church’s policy positions and witness to Jesus by their presence and passion and concern to uphold the sacredness and dignity of every human life from conception to natural death.

They were also prosecutors of the world by providing evidence of current realities that deprive people of an opportunity to flourish

and live out their dignity. Jerry Freewalt, director of the Office for Social Concerns, ably led the delegation from the Diocese of Columbus.

Among the topics covered was the death penalty. As stated in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, “the death penalty is inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person.” Ohio Senate Bill 101, a bill supported by the Catholic Conference of Ohio, would bring an end to the use of the death penalty in Ohio.

Other topics discussed with legislators concerned the Ohio biennial operating budget and provisions that would support the family and nourish stable, healthy marital and parental relationships. The conference supports increased funding for the Healthy Beginnings at Home program, which assists pregnant women with housing stabilization services. It supports raising the Medicaid qualification threshold to 300% of the federal poverty level for pregnant women and children under age 19.

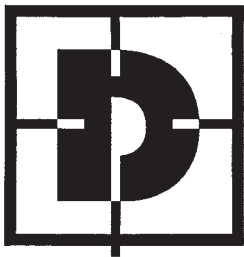
It supports youth and families with complex behavioral health needs by continuing to advocate for robust funding of OhioRISE and the Multi-System Youth Custody Relinquishment fund through Medicaid. It supports regulating and reimbursing doula services through Medicaid. It supports eliminating the sales tax on diapers and other essential items related to raising young children.

The Catholic Conference of Ohio also supports two items not included in the Ohio House version of the state budget. The first is a refundable Earned Income Tax Credit, and the second are Child Tax Credits that directly support families raising children.

If you missed participating in Advocacy Day, you still

See FAITH IN ACTION, Page 5

Compliments of



DEE PRINTING, INC.

4999 Transamerica Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43228

777-8700

the Murnane Family

Specializing in Catholic Church Sunday bulletins and
Serving Columbus Diocese and others since 1974

Eucharistic processions set for June throughout diocese

In June, the diocese will begin the “parish year” of the three-year National Eucharistic Revival initiated by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in June 2022 with a public novena of Eucharistic processions led by Bishop Earl Fernandes.

For nine days leading up to the Solemnity of Corpus Christi on Sunday, June 11, processions will take place at churches throughout the diocese. Individuals, families and parishes are invited to participate in a procession closest to the home church.

“Although our Diocesan Revival Year was subdued, marked by the transition to a new bishop and the Real Presence Real Future initiative, we have a tremen-

dous opportunity to renew our parishes during the next year,” Bishop Fernandes said in a letter to priests of the diocese. “Thus, we will begin year two – the year of parish revival – emphasizing the centrality of the Mass and the Presence of Christ in our communities.”

The locations of the processions with Bishop Fernandes are:

Friday, June 2: Columbus St. Peter Church, 7 p.m. Mass followed by procession at 8 and party at 9.

Saturday, June 3: Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church, 4 p.m. Mass followed by procession.

Sunday, June 4: Lancaster Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, 11:15 a.m. Mass followed by procession.

Monday, June 5: Gahanna St. Matthew Church, 6 p.m. Mass followed by procession.

Tuesday, June 6: Portsmouth Holy Redeemer Church and conclude at Portsmouth St. Mary Church, noon Mass followed by procession and 2 p.m. luncheon.

Wednesday, June 7: Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 7 p.m. Mass followed by procession.

Thursday, June 8: Columbus St. Leo the Great Oratory, 6 p.m. Mass followed by procession.

Friday, June 9: Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul Church, 5:30 p.m. Mass followed by procession.

Saturday, June 10: Westerville St. Paul

Church, 8:30 a.m. Mass followed by procession.

Sunday, June 11: Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 10:30 a.m. Mass followed by procession

Sunday, June 11: West Jefferson Sts. Simon and Jude Church, 3 p.m. Mass followed by procession.

The National Eucharistic Revival will culminate with a National Eucharistic Congress from July 17-21 at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis.

More information about the National Eucharistic Revival can be found at <https://columbuscatholic.org/evangelization/national-eucharistic-revival>.

Via intinction, both Body, Blood distributed in Holy Communion

A reader asks: In your previous column, you mentioned “intinction.” I’ve never heard of that. Can you explain it? – P.B.

Dear P.B.: Intinction is a way of distributing both of the consecrated species, the Body and Blood of Christ, simultaneously. The priest takes a consecrated Host and immerses it into a chalice containing the Precious Blood and then immediately places it on the tongue of the recipient. This form of Holy Communion precludes the possibility of receiving in the hand.

Only a priest or a deacon (and, of course, a bishop) may distribute Holy Communion by intinction. These men are the ordinary ministers of Holy Communion. Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion may not distribute it under the form of intinction.

There are several reasons why a pastor might wish to offer the possibility of Holy Communion by intinction. First, the fuller sign of a banquet takes place when both species of Holy Communion are received. Note that a fuller sign does not mean that Holy Communion is in any way deficient when only one species is received. The fuller sign refers to the Eucharistic banquet.

Second, the fuller sign refers to the unity in the Church: Each one forms a whole by eating and drinking the same food. When our beloved prepares a special meal for us, there is a particular kind of union that takes place by eating and drinking together of the one meal.

Banquets include both food and drink. Our Lord provides us with the food – His Body – and the drink – His Blood. While we often do not have the opportunity to receive both at every Mass, we always have the fullness

SACRAMENTS 101 | Father Paul Jerome Keller, OP, S.T.D.

Father Paul Jerome Keller, O.P., S.T.D., interim director of the diocese’s Office of Divine Worship, is a priest of the Dominican Province of St. Joseph. His doctorate is from Rome in sacramental theology. He currently assists at Columbus St. Patrick Church.



of the Eucharist even if we do not have the fullness of the sign of a banquet.

There are many reasons for the Eucharist to be distributed under only one species, namely the consecrated Host. First and foremost are the practical problems when many communicants are present. At the pope’s Masses, for instance, often tens of thousands attend.

Gauging the amount of wine needed for consecration is difficult. If too little is consecrated, many will not receive both species. If too much is consecrated, dealing with the excess is problematic (it is prohibited to keep the Blood in the tabernacle).

Also, when large crowds are present, jostling can occur leading to spilling of the Blood, a profanation of the worst kind. This can happen even in small groups. It always amazes me to see how nonchalantly some people take the chalice of our Lord’s Blood, as if it were of no more importance than a wine tasting party.

Finally, when, for legitimate reasons, many people prefer not to receive from the chalice, the sign of unity is lessened. This does not mean ill will exists on anyone’s part. But it is not a sign of the full unity of God’s people.

The beauty of intinction is that it allows for the fullness of the sign of a banquet and greatly reduces the possibility of profanation. However, it does not work well for large crowds. First, the difficulty of estimating the necessary amount of wine to consecrate still exists. Also, because only priests and deacons may distribute by intinction, such distribution would take much time unless a small army of priests and deacons was present.

While intinction is not itself the best sign of “drinking” the Blood of Christ, it at least offers the possibility of participating in both species of the Eucharist as a meal.

Finally, speaking so much about the Eucharist as a meal, while important, we should not forget that we are also consuming the sacrifice that Christ offered. The Eucharist is both meal and sacrifice. Whether we receive one species or both, Holy Communion is the time to unite ourselves, body and soul, to Jesus, Who initiates this intimate union.

May we be more deeply conscious of the Guest of our souls as we return to our pews with the utmost reverence. May we spend some minutes devoutly thanking God for coming to us and uniting us with Himself. We derive the greatest graces during this time of thanksgiving to the consecrated Host of this sacred banquet.

Here’s a gem of a prayer to use from St. Thomas Aquinas: O God, in this wonderful sacrament you have left us a memorial of your passion. Help us, we beg you, so to reverence the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may constantly feel within our lives the effects of your redemption. Amen.

FAMILY, continued from Page 2

ed at The Catholic Foundation in downtown Columbus, on Saturday, June 10, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The museum will

FAITH IN ACTION,

continued from Page 4

can advocate on these issues. Hearings on the death penalty will start soon, and the state budget process will continue through June. Call or email your state legislators advocating for the policy positions of the Church in Ohio. For contact information, go to <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/>.

have faith-based activities for children.

Families are encouraged to participate in Eucharistic processions, which will take place in the diocese from June 2-11.

“I think that these different opportunities, and the Eucharistic processions that are going to be happening, are such a great way to share your faith with your kids and to show them you believing in Christ and having a relationship with Christ,” Warren said.

“The Eucharistic processions especially are a beautiful way ... for the faith to come alive for kids. This is all very abstract to (children), but to have this tan-

gible way of sharing the faith with them is going to be great.”

The processions will tie into the “Extended Family” week of Family Month to show that the Church family is part of the extended family.

“I think that really brings in the idea that, our Church family, they’re part of our family and welcoming everybody in, especially the children and families with children, including them and building up this community of our parish,” Warren said.

Fullin said she hopes Eucharistic processions will be a community event that

families are not intimidated by, but feel welcome to and comfortable bringing young children to Eucharistic processions and Adoration.

“I think sometimes it’s just that initial trepidation of taking your family somewhere,” she said. “The Catholic Church can come across as a little bit solemn, a little mysterious and maybe not particularly welcoming to the raucous nature of young families.

“And so, maybe this will just get them into (feeling) like, ‘Been there, done that, I think we can do it again.’”

13 DIOCESAN PRIESTS MARK ANNIVERSARIES

65



**FATHER
STEPHEN
FITZHENRY, OP**

Father Stephen Fitzhenry, OP, 92, a member of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), came to Columbus in 2004 to serve as chaplain to the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace). In 2009, he became chaplain to the Mohun Health Care Center, located next to the sisters' motherhouse in Columbus. He has been a resident of the center since 2014.

Born John Thomas Fitzhenry, he grew up in Cleveland and entered the Dominican novitiate in 1951. He was ordained a priest on June 5, 1958 at St. Dominic Church in Washington by Cardinal Amleto Cicognani, apostolic delegate to the United States. After spending a year at St. Dominic Priory in Youngstown, he became a missionary to Pakistan, where he remained for 20 years.

On his return to the United States, he served as novice master at St. Stephen Priory in Dover, Massachusetts; student master at the Dominican House of Studies in Washington; novice master at St. Gertrude's Priory in Cincinnati; pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas University Parish in Charlottesville, Virginia; and director of continuing education for priests at St. Stephen Priory before coming to Columbus.

65



**FATHER
EDMUND M.
HUSSEY**

Father Edmund M. Hussey, 90, is a resident of Mother Angeline McCrory Manor in Columbus. He is a priest of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati who retired in 1998, moved to Columbus to be closer to family members and served for many years as weekend assistant at Columbus St. Agatha Church.

He was ordained on May 31, 1958 at Cincinnati St. Peter in Chains Cathedral by Cincinnati Archbishop Karl Alter and spent the first 11 years of his priesthood as associate pastor at several Cincinnati parishes and a teacher at Cincinnati Archbishop Elder High School.

Following three years of postgraduate study at Fordham University, he joined the faculty at Mount St. Mary's Seminary of the West in Norwood, where he was a teacher for 10 years. He also taught classes at the University of Dayton and other institutions, was archivist for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and wrote several books on the archdiocese's history. He was pastor for nine years at Yellow Springs St. Paul Church and seven years at Springfield St. Raphael Church before his retirement.

50



**MSGR.
JOHN K. CODY**

Msgr. John K. Cody, 76, grew up in Columbus and was ordained by Auxiliary Bishop Nicholas Elko of Cincinnati on March 23, 1973 in Columbus Christ the King Church.

He has served as pastor at Columbus St. Ladislav, Columbus St. Mary Magdalene, Columbus St. Francis of Assisi and Columbus St. Christopher churches; associate pastor of Columbus St. Timothy, Columbus St. Agatha and Columbus Immaculate Conception churches; administrator of the Johnstown Church of the Ascension and Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church; was in residence at Immaculate Conception and Columbus Holy Family churches; and was a teacher at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School.

He served for nearly 30 years on the Diocesan Tribunal and retired as judicial vicar in July 2017. He also has been director, co-director and a consultant to the diocesan permanent diaconate program and was dean of the North Columbus Deanery, vicar forane overseeing the North Columbus Vicariate, director of the Teens Encounter Christ program and a member of several diocesan boards and commissioners.

He was named a monsignor by Pope St. John Paul II in 1992 and retired from active ministry on July 12, 2016.

50



**FATHER
CHARLES E.
COTTON**

Father Charles E. Cotton, 76, was ordained on May 26, 1973 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral by Cincinnati Archbishop Joseph Bernardin.

The Columbus native was pastor of Columbus St. Thomas the Apostle, Columbus St. Mary Magdalene and Columbus St. Elizabeth churches; an associate pastor of Zanesville St. Nicholas, Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal and Delaware St. Mary churches; a teacher at Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans High School; and chaplain at Mount Carmel Medical Center in Columbus.

He retired on July 12, 2016.

40



**FATHER
KEVIN J.
KAVANAGH**

Father Kevin J. Kavanagh, 66, of Columbus, pastor of Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes Church, was ordained on June 11, 1983 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral by Bishop James Griffin.

He also has been pastor of Delaware St. Mary and Columbus Our Lady of Peace churches; associate pastor at Delaware St. Mary and Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral; and parochial vicar at Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church.

In addition, he served as director and associate director of the Diocesan Office of Liturgy and was a member of the Diocesan Tribunal and the Diocesan College of Consultors.

50



**FATHER
LAWRENCE L.
HUMMER**

Father Lawrence L. Hummer, 76, originally from Cambridge, was ordained on Feb. 2, 1973 by Bishop Paulus Rusch of Innsbruck, Austria at the Collegium Canisianum in Innsbruck, where he was studying theology.

He was pastor of Chillicothe St. Mary Church for 20 years before retiring on July 14, 2020 and served as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy for nine years at bases at North Carolina, Florida and Scotland. He also was pastor of Millersburg St. Peter and Glenmont Sts. Peter and Paul churches; an associate pastor of Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God and Columbus St. Peter churches and the Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral; taught at Columbus Father Wehrle High School; and was a chaplain at Riverside Methodist and Grant hospitals in Columbus.

In addition, he was Scripture columnist for *The Catholic Times* for 26 years, covering time before and after his service with the Navy.

50



**FATHER
EDWARD L.
KECK**

Father Edward L. Keck, 76, of Newark, was ordained by Cincinnati Archbishop Joseph Bernardin in Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on May 26, 1973.

He has been pastor of New Philadelphia Sacred Heart, Newcomerstown St. Francis De Sales and Zoar Holy Trinity churches; and associate pastor of Lancaster St. Mark Church and New Philadelphia Sacred Heart.

He also was a teacher at Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School, interim principal at Lancaster St. Mark School and a member of the Diocesan Priests' Senate and the Diocesan Board of Consultors.

He retired on July 12, 2011 and lives in Canton.

40



**FATHER
MARK V.
GHILONI**

Father Mark V. Ghiloni, 69, a Newark native, was ordained by Bishop James Griffin at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on June 11, 1983.

He has been pastor of the Crooksville Church of the Atonement, Portsmouth Holy Redeemer, Columbus St. Anthony and London St. Patrick churches and the Johnstown Church of the Ascension; administrator of the Perry County Consortium of Parishes; and associate pastor of Coshocton Sacred Heart Church and of the consortium when it included New Lexington St. Rose, Corning St. Bernard and the now-closed Murray City St. Philip Neri, New Straitsville St. Augustine and Shawnee St. Mary churches.

He also was a teacher and chaplain at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, with residency at Westerville St. Paul Church, and was a member of the Priests' Senate and the Diocesan College of Consultors.

He retired in July 2021.

40



**FATHER
STEVEN L.
KRILE**

Father Steven L. Krile, 66, pastor of Logan St. John Church, grew up in Sugar Grove. Bishop James Griffin ordained him at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on June 11, 1983.

He has been pastor at Wellston Sts. Peter and Paul, Circleville St. Joseph, Millersburg St. Peter and Glenmont Sts. Peter and Paul churches; associate pastor at Newark St. Francis de Sales, Columbus St. Matthias and Reynoldsburg St. Pius X churches; a teacher at Newark Catholic High School; and chaplain at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School.

40



**FATHER
CHARLES F.
KLINGER**

Father Charles F. Klinger, 80, is from Marietta and was ordained at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on June 11, 1983 by Bishop James Griffin.

He was pastor of Plain City St. Joseph, Zanesville St. Nicholas churches and Westerville St. Paul Church, where he spent 16 years; and associate pastor of Marion St. Mary and Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator churches.

He also taught at the Pontifical College Josephinum, worked in the Diocesan Ecumenical Office and was a member of the Diocesan Tribunal and the Diocesan Personnel Board.

He retired on July 9, 2019.

25



**FATHER
WILLIAM A.
HRITSKO**

Father William A. Hritsko, 59, grew up in Akron and was ordained at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral by Bishop James Griffin on May 30, 1998.

He serves as pastor of Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Heath St. Leonard churches and previously was pastor of Coshocton Sacred Heart Church, priest moderator of Newcomerstown St. Francis de Sales Church and associate pastor of Newark St. Francis de Sales and Westerville St. Paul churches.

25



**FATHER
RAMON
OWERLA**

Father Ramon Owerla, 58, a native of the Philippines, is administrator of Columbus St. Dominic and Holy Rosary-St. John churches and has lived in Columbus since 2011.

He was ordained a priest of the congregation of the Sons of the Immaculate Conception by Archbishop Carmelo Morelos of Zamboanga in the Philippines on May 30, 1998 in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Zamboanga.

He served the Sons of the Immaculate Conception as a vocations director and in the formation of seminarians before coming to the United States to serve as a hospital administrator in St. Paul, Minnesota for two years. He then moved to Toronto, Canada, where he was a parochial vicar for four years before coming to Ohio.

He was a hospital chaplain in Columbus for five years, then became administrator of Columbus St. Elizabeth Church in 2016 when his order was assigned by Bishop Frederick Campbell to take pastoral care of its parishioners. He has served in his current position since 2019 and was incardinated, which is the formal acceptance by a local bishop into his diocese a priest from outside the diocese, into the Diocese of Columbus as a priest on June 1, 2022.

Father Hritsko: an entertainer who became a priest

By Tim Puet

For The Catholic Times

Father Bill Hritsko came to Columbus as an entertainer who thought God might have other plans for him. His instinct was correct, for he ultimately realized he was being called to the priesthood. This year, the pastor of Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Heath St. Leonard churches is celebrating the 25th anniversary of his ordination.

Father Hritsko grew up in Akron and arrived in central Ohio after graduating in 1986 from the University of Akron with a Bachelor of Science degree in industrial and personnel management. "I finished my degree and moved to Columbus to join the professional folk ensemble Zivili," which was based in Columbus, specialized in songs and dances of the southern Slavic nations and existed from 1973 to 2006.

"I was a dancer, musician, featured vocalist and assistant wardrobe director," he said. "I also worked as a research and academic secretary for two doctors in adolescent medicine at Nationwide Children's Hospital. I learned more about pediatrics and gynecology than most priests will ever know."

He also directed a choir from Columbus Holy Spirit Church, which, along with a group from Powell St. Joan of Arc Church, frequently sang at the Mass televised by WCMH-TV, Channel 4 in Columbus, for many years. "I am the only person to fulfill all the liturgical roles for the televised Mass, at which I was at various times a lector, cantor, acolyte, Eucharistic minister, deacon and priest."

After about five years with Zivili and working at the hospital, "I just felt something was not right in my life, and

ANSWERING GOD'S CALL

Answering God's Call profiles the life of a priest, deacon or professed religious sister in the Diocese of Columbus.

I needed something more to bring me a sense of fulfillment," he said.

He had first considered the priesthood while in college and applied to a religious order but said the order's vocations director deterred him from priestly studies. "I'm not saying 'no,' just 'not now,'" the vocations director said. "You have too much talent, and you have to search that out first." In hindsight, it was a good thing," Father Hritsko said.

"What finally persuaded me to go all in on becoming a priest was a vocations talk I heard from a priest who asked his listeners to look at how they loved people best – whether one-on-one or in groups. He said that if it's one-on-one, you should consider marriage, but if it's as a group, you should either remain single or become a priest. I knew that, for me, I loved people best as a group, and I wanted more than just to be single, so that's when I committed myself to pursuing the priesthood."

Father Hritsko's priestly formation occurred at the Pontifical College Josephinum, where he received his bachelor's degree in philosophical studies in 1994 and his master's in divinity in 1998. He was ordained by Bishop James Griffin at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on May 30, 1998.

His first assignment was as associate pastor of Newark St. Francis de Sales Church, where he served from 1998 to 2002. "I was blessed to be in Newark and close to (Granville) St. Edward Church, where I had done my diaconate year with Father Michael Gribble, who helped guide me in the realities of priesthood – good and difficult – through those first years.

"One of my first hard realities was working with a couple pregnant with a child with a genetic defect who would not live. The dad said, 'We are planning her death and funeral when we should be planning her baptism and future,'" Father Hritsko said.

"Also at St. Francis, I had four deathbed baptisms and one experience of celebrating six of the sacraments in less than an hour. I also had my first two Catholic/Jewish weddings in Newark and am currently working on my fifth."

He also took part in several productions of the Licking County Players, with permission from Bishop Griffin. These included productions of "Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?" "Hello, Dolly!" "Once Upon a Mattress" and "The Sound of Music," in which he played the leading male role of Capt. Von Trapp.



Father Bill Hritsko

"The show's 13 performances sold out in almost record time because I think everyone wanted to see Father Bill kiss the girl who played Maria, the nun who became Capt. Von Trapp's wife," Father Hritsko said. "About a year later, I presided at 'Maria's' wedding.

"One of the great things about the plays was the way I was able to evangelize through them. People always had questions for me as a priest about the Catholic faith, and I was happy to answer them."

Father Hritsko was associate pastor at Westerville St. Paul Church from 2002 to 2006, then became pastor at Coshocton Sacred Heart Church from 2006 to 2013. In 2013, he also became priest moderator of Newcomerstown St. Francis de Sales Church while continuing in Coshocton. He was appointed to his current position at Buckeye Lake and Heath in 2014.

"This is my second time having two parishes," he said. "Most importantly in my pastorate here, I have worked to bring the two parishes together as 'sisters' – not just 'clustered.' We have worked to have a fluidity of parishioners attending both churches.

"While each still has its own flavor, we have worked to combine what we can, ahead of what has been suggested by the Real Presence Real Future initiative," particularly in the combined Parish School of Religion and adult Bible and faith study programs.

Father Hritsko is a second-generation immigrant of Slovakian heritage and is an active member of the Croatian Fraternal Union and the Tamburitza Association of America (TAA) – organizations that enable him to keep in touch with his ethnic background and his love of all cultures. The tamburitza refers to a fam-

ily of instruments similar to the mandolin, balalaika or bouzouki.

He attends the TAA's annual adult and children's festival weekends, usually bringing with him "Mass in a box" – a kit that enables him to celebrate Masses with large crowds outside of church. Because of his work with the tamburitza and bringing it to new venues, he has been nominated for possible induction this year into the TAA Hall of Fame.

He tries to spend equal time at both parishes, accompanied by his dog, Rocco Gestas, a 3-year-old mix of corgi and basset hound. "Gestas was the unrepentant thief crucified with Jesus, and Rocco is a true thief," Father Hritsko said. "He steals things like loaves of bread, packages of bagels, Chinese food, candy and especially

plastic, and he's unrepentant whenever he's accused."

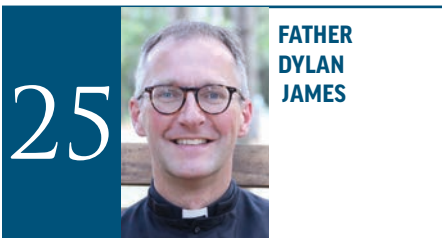
Father Hritsko said that beyond celebrating Mass and the sacraments, he gets his greatest satisfaction as a priest from guiding people through preparations for funerals, weddings and other sacramental occasions. "Touching folks at their most vulnerable and being trusted with people's most difficult times – trauma, loss, personal difficulties – is truly humbling.

"My biggest challenges are not letting these issues affect my heart and spirit and not letting negativity that sometimes comes from congregations, individuals and society make me bitter, hard or angry about ministry. I try to practice a sense of 'holy detachment,' as St. Ignatius suggests.

"My pastor while growing up, Father Jim Slaminka, my strongest model of priesthood, had that sense. I saw his compassion and service lived out – not just a show. He came back from two strokes to serve the parish and really strived to be nonbiased in action and decision," he said.

"My other strong priestly role model is Father Gribble, who was at St. Edward's during my deacon year. I truly respected and resonated with his approach to priesthood: 'Meet your people where they are, be yourself, apologize when you have to, but don't apologize for being yourself.'

"This coincided with advice I received from Donna Trivisonno of Cleveland and Cathy Shaffer of Columbus, with whom I've been friends since before en-



FATHER DYLAN JAMES

Father Dylan James has served at the Pontifical College Josephinum since 2020. He is both a former of students and a professor, teaching moral theology. He was ordained in 1998 and is a priest of the Diocese of Plymouth, England.

American by birth, he was raised in England and spent his summers with family in the United States. He was a pastor for 14 years, serving in Shaftesbury and West Moors, as well as being an associate pastor in Dartmouth, Poole, Exeter and Barnstaple in England.

For 13 of those years, he taught at St. John's Seminary in Womersley, England, and for five years he also gave formation to the Ordinariate (former priests of the Church of England who became Catholic).

See ANSWERING GOD'S CALL,

Page 8

Bishop names three assistant school superintendents

The Office of Catholic Schools announced last week that Bishop Earl Fernandes has named three new assistant superintendents in the diocese who will begin their new duties on July 1.

Holly Peterson has been appointed to serve as the assistant superintendent for academics, Sister John Paul Maher, OP as assistant superintendent for administration and Seth Burkholder as assistant superintendent for operations.

"I am grateful to Bishop Fernandes for his prioritization of Catholic education and for his clear vision for the ministry of education in our diocese," said Dr. Adam Dufault, superintendent. "Our

strong team looks forward to continuing to enact our strategic plan, Real Presence Real Future: Our Catholic Schools and our evangelization plan to bring our students to know and love Jesus."

Dr. Peterson has been the interim assistant principal at Columbus Immaculate Conception School since moving to the diocese in January. She previously served as the principal of Nativity: Faith and Reason Catholic School in the Archdiocese of Denver.

Peterson has an extensive background in teacher education and preparation and more than 30 years of experience teaching in Catholic school classrooms

in California and Italy. She is a parishioner at Powell St. Joan of Arc Church.

Sister John Paul, a member of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist religious order, has been the principal of Worthington St. Michael School for the past eight years. Her experience includes teaching at the elementary and secondary school levels and administrative roles in education, nonprofit management, mission advancement, technology and strategic planning.

Burkholder, a certified public accountant, is currently associate director of data analysis and finance for the Office

of Catholic Schools. Since joining the office in 2020 after working in public accounting and in professional athletics, he has developed tuition, tuition assistance and management structures for the schools. He and his family are parishioners at Gahanna St. Matthew Church.

The Office of Catholic Schools provides leadership, support, guidance and vision to the 50 Catholic schools within the diocese that serve more than 17,000 students and constitute the 27th largest Catholic school system in the United States.

The Catholic crisis over "us"

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

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



Cambridge historian Richard Rex has provocatively proposed that Catholicism today is embroiled in the third great crisis of its bimillennial history.

The first crisis was the fierce, Church-dividing debate over "What is God?" That question was definitively answered by the First Council of Nicaea I (325 A.D.) and the Council of Chalcedon (451).

Nicaea I affirmed that Jesus is truly God, the second Person of the Trinity; Chalcedon affirmed that, through the incarnation of the second Person of the Trinity, divinity and humanity are united in the one person of Jesus Christ. Thus Nicaea I and Chalcedon established the trinitarian and incarnational foundations of Christian orthodoxy for all time.

The second crisis, which led to the fracture of western Christendom in the various 16th century Protestant Reformations, revolved around the question, "What is the Church?"

The Council of Trent gave the orthodox response to that question, in answers refined over time by Pope Pius XII's teaching on the Church as the "Mystical Body of Christ," by the Second Vatican Council's Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, and by the 1985 Extraordinary Synod of Bishops, which synthesized Vatican II's teaching by describing the Church as a communion of disciples in mission.

And the third crisis, through which we're living? That, Professor Rex argued, involves "... a question that once would have been expressed as 'What is man?'"

The fact that this wording is itself seen as problematic is a symptom of the very condition it seeks to diagnose. What is it, in other words, to be human? That, Rex rightly contends, is what's at issue in "an entire alphabet of beliefs and practices: abortion, bisexuality, contraception, divorce, euthanasia, family, gender, homosexuality, infertility treatment ..." And so forth and so on, across

the cratered battlefields of a culture war that, beginning outside the Church, is now being fought within the household of faith.

So: first, a "theological" crisis, in the literal meaning of theology: "speaking about God." Then an ecclesiological crisis. And now an anthropological crisis. The previous two crises were Church-dividing.

The third could well be, as demonstrated by the German apostasy that is threatening to fracture the unity of the Catholic Church, and by the abandonment of Catholicism's biblically-grounded understanding of the human person by prominent bishops, theologians and activists.

The question "Who are we as human beings?" is most sharply posed by gender ideology and the transgender insurgency.

This has now reached the point of absurdity wherein "a drag queen on the Isle of Man" (as Mary Wakefield reported last month in the *Spectator*) "... informed Year 7 pupils that there are exactly 73 genders. When one brave child insisted that there were only two, the drag queen allegedly responded, 'You've upset me,' and sent the child out."

But there is something even worse than this abandonment of any pretense to educational seriousness. And that is the abandonment of any pretense to medical professionalism by American doctors who, influenced more by gender ideology than "the science," and affirmed in their irresponsibility by the American Academy of Pediatrics, prescribe puberty-blocking

drugs and cross-sex hormones to children suffering from the serious mental health problem of gender dysphoria.

This therapeutic cave-in to wokery in the U.S. has now been challenged by the editors of the venerable British newsmagazine, the *Economist* (firmly center-left in its politics), whose editors note that "the medical systems of Britain, Finland, France, Norway, and Sweden" have "all ... raised the alarm, describing [these] treatments as 'experimental' and urging doctors to proceed with 'great medical caution.'"

Then there is Cole Aronson, an Orthodox Jew and keen student of philosophy who published a devastating ethical critique of "sex-reassignment" surgeries on the website *Public Discourse*.

Aronson concluded by observing that it's not only those on the left who must reconsider gender ideology and transgenderism: "Conservatives need to choose between their impulse to let people live as they damn well please and their opposition to the grisly stuff being done by scientists and surgeons."

The voice of the Church is too often muted here, precisely because the Church is ensnared in a crisis over "us": a crisis over the nature and destiny of the human.

The Gospel demands pastoral charity toward those suffering from gender dysphoria and experiencing same-sex attraction. That charity, however, must include truth-telling about who we are, which we learn from divine revelation and human reason. And what we learn from those sources is that gender ideology is as false a god, and as destructive of body and soul, as Baal and Moloch.

Who will say this at the next papal conclave and at Synod 2023?

ANSWERING GOD'S CALL, *continued from Page 7*

tering the seminary. Donna said, 'Don't lose yourself or who you are,' and Cathy told me, 'Remember which side of the pew you were on first. Those are the ones to whom you're ministering.' I've tried to always keep that in mind.

"Being a priest has allowed me to bring together everything I've ever learned or experienced in my life, to show God's love to His people and to draw them to-

gether to worship, learn and know that God loves them even though they are sinners - loved and redeemed sinners," he said.

"My life experiences have given me tools to be able to be right down there in the trenches and up to the rafters with my congregations and community, to meet the people where they are and show that if God can use an entertainer,

He can use anyone."

Father Hritsko will celebrate his 25th anniversary Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Leonard Church, 57 Dorsey Mill Road, at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 28. It will be a joint effort with Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church.

Musicians and singers who have worked with Father Hritsko are invited to participate, and people from all the

parishes he has served are welcome to attend. The Mass setting will be one of his own composed settings.

Following Mass, there will be a lamb and hog roast ("Slavic picnic meets Hawaiian luau," Father Hritsko said). For information and reservations, contact St. Leonard at (740) 522-5270, or Our Lady of Mount Carmel at (740) 928-3266.

LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS

Men's mini-conference set for May 20

The diocesan Catholic Men's Ministry is sponsoring two mini-conferences this year to support the annual diocesan Catholic Men's Conference that takes place in February.

The first mini-conference will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Saturday, May 20 at Columbus St. Catharine Church, 500 S. Gould Road, with Eucharistic Adoration beginning at 6 a.m. The program is timed to avoid conflicts with That Man Is You! and other parish events.

Featured speakers will be Dr. Marion De La Torre, executive director for evangelization and missionary discipleship for the Archdiocese of Detroit, and Father Dan Dury, pastor of Sunbury St. John Neumann Church and former pastor at St. Catharine.

The program will begin with Mass, which is optional, and include a light breakfast and time for small-group discussion. The cost is \$15, with priests and seminarians admitted free. For more information, go to <https://bit.ly/425M6zK>.

Two retreats scheduled at Maria Stein Spiritual Center

The Maria Stein Spiritual Center in Maria Stein, Ohio, has scheduled Eucharistic weekends in May and June.

Father Thomas Gardner will lead a men's retreat sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 11208 of Hilliard St. Brendan Church from Friday to Sunday, May 19-21.

The theme is "Deepening Our Walk with Jesus through the Eucharist." Father Gardner, a priest for seven years, is pastor of Coshocton Sacred Heart and Millersburg St. Peter churches.

Casual attire is appropriate. The cost is \$190, which includes all meals and a private room with bath. Registration and payment may be made by going to <https://www.stbrendans.net/mens-groups>. For more information, contact Gerry at (614) 946-8117 or Gerrylyz90@gmail.com.

"Through the Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary" will be the theme for a retreat from Friday to Sunday, June 2-4. The leader will be Father William Marquis, OP, of Providence (Rhode Island) College.

The retreat is for men and women, with a cost of \$275 for couples and \$200 for single occupancy, including meals and lodging. Reservations are available from Jenny McAndrew at jennymc4life@yahoo.com, (614) 832-3862 or at 5133 Collins Way, Grove City, OH 43123 with checks made payable to Jenny McAndrew.

St. Mary Magdalene Church to display St. Joseph icon

An icon of St. Joseph will be the cen-

terpiece of a special Mass and prayer service at Columbus St. Mary Magdalene Church, 473 S. Roys Ave., at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, May 20.

The Mass and service, flowing from the year of St. Joseph declared by Pope Francis in 2021 and inspired by the apostolic letter *Patris Corde (With a Father's Heart)*, is sponsored by Father Raymond Bauschard Council 13581 of the Knights of Columbus to honor St. Joseph and pray for his intercession in preserving, cultivating and passing on the Catholic faith to future generations.

Alumni invited to attend All Saints Academy event

Columbus All Saints Academy, 2855 E. Livingston Ave., invites alumni of the school and its predecessor, Columbus Christ the King School, to a reunion on Saturday, May 13.

The program will begin with Mass at 4 p.m., followed by a gathering at 5 in the school gym with food from Scotty's Cafe. Music, school tours and memorabilia displays will be part of the program.

For more information, email ckschool-homecoming@gmail.com or allsaint-sacademyhomecoming@gmail.com.

Father Blau to speak May 13 at St. Pius X

Father Thomas Blau, OP, will present the second of four scheduled talks this year on the Eucharist at Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoneer Road, from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 13. His topic will be "Living in the Presence of Our Eucharistic Lord."

Father Blau resides at Columbus St. Patrick Priory and is one of about 1,000 priests Pope Francis appointed as his worldwide missionaries of mercy for the 2015-2016 Jubilee of Mercy. Those priests living in the United States are expected to play a key role in the U.S. bishops' National Eucharistic Revival, which continues through mid-2024.

Eucharistic Adoration and the sacrament of reconciliation will be part of Father Blau's program. Light refreshments and snacks will be available afterward.

Deacon Bonacci writes third book

Deacon Anthony Bonacci of Plain City St. Joseph Church has written his third book, *Everyday Glimpses of God: Inspiring True Stories of God's Presence Among Us*.

The book contains true stories of healings, angel visits, apparent miracles and other revelations of God's presence from clergy members, family, friends and parishioners.

The cost is \$12.95, with net proceeds donated to two charities in Plain City.

Copies are available from Deacon Bonacci and the Generations bookstore in Columbus or online from amazon.com or barnesandnoble.com.

Snacks support Italian prison ministry

The St. Pio Foundation is supporting an Italian ministry for prisoners and former prisoners by selling taralli, an Italian snack food described as a cross between a bagel, a pretzel and a breadstick.

The snacks are made with white wine, flour and olive oil by participants in the ministry, known as A Mano Libera (Freehand), which operates a 25-acre farm in the Italian province of Puglia, near St. Pio of Pietrelcina's shrine at San Giovanni Rotondo.

By learning to make baked goods, the prisoners and former prisoners are preparing themselves to re-enter society with a marketable skill.

The taralli are available at a cost of four 8.8-ounce boxes for \$50 or 12 for \$100, including shipping. For more information, visit www.saintpiofoundation.org/freehand, email info@saintpiofoundation.org or call (203) 416-1471.

Valley Dale presents Mother's Day event

Valley Dale Ballroom, 1590 Sunbury Road, Columbus, will sponsor a Mother's Day concert titled "Valley Does Valli" from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, May 13.

The featured entertainer will be Nick Cosgrove, who starred as Frankie Valli in the Broadway musical *Jersey Boys*, the story of Valli and his musical group, The Four Seasons, whose music has been part of American life since the 1950s.

Performing with Cosgrove will be the 17-piece Rick Brunetto Big Band, Valley Dale's house band, under the baton of Rick Brunetto, director of bands and computer applications at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School.

Tickets are \$59 for VIP seating, including the show, dancing and a cocktail, and \$49 for general seating, and may be purchased at www.valleydaleballroom.com.

Catholic museum to present evening program in May

The Museum of Catholic Art and History, 257 E. Broad St., Columbus, will present a special Night at the Museum program from 5 to 9 p.m. Saturday, May 20.

The museum has been recognized by the Vatican as having the largest diversified collection of Catholic art. Because there is no room to display much of its collection, it frequently rotates displays of paintings, stained glass, vestments, sisters' habits, chalices and other litur-

gical vessels, Bibles, catechisms, other publications and many additional items, ranging in age from the early days of Christianity to the present.

For more information, contact the museum at (614) 618-4030.

Seven-church bus tour set for May 13

The Museum of Catholic Art and History is sponsoring a bus tour visiting seven historic Catholic churches and chapels in Columbus on Saturday, May 13. Stops will include St. Charles Preparatory School and the Pontifical College Josephinum.

When churches were originally designed, they were intended to be glimpses of heaven on earth. Participants will learn about their architecture, history and other interesting facts about each site on the tour.

Cost is \$70, including lunch. The tour is limited to 40 people. For more information, contact the museum at (614) 618-4030 or info@catholicmuseum.org.

Nurses association seeking members

The Columbus council of the National Association of Catholic Nurses-USA invites all Catholic nurses in central Ohio to join the organization, which meets after the 5:45 p.m. Mass on the first Friday of each month at the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave.

The association gives nurses of different backgrounds, but with the same Catholic values, the opportunity to promote moral principles within a Catholic context and stimulate desire for professional development.

It focuses on educational programs, spiritual nourishment, patient advocacy and integration of faith and health, while reaching out to the larger Church and community to support those in need.

For more information, contact Teresa Sipos at (740) 652-5321.

Corpus Christi Church plans Mass, procession, breakfast

Columbus Corpus Christi Church, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., will celebrate the Solemnity of Corpus Christi on Sunday, June 11 with a 9 a.m. Mass followed by a Eucharistic procession.

Alumni and friends are invited to a catered breakfast to be held after the procession at the parish.

Anyone interested in attending the breakfast must RSVP to eventcreate.com/e/corpuschristi or email thefeastofcc@gmail.com.

Medical professionals reminded about importance of listening

By Tim Puet

For The Catholic Times

Listening to what patients are saying rather than assuming knowledge of what's best for them was a key theme at talks presented in April at a meeting of Catholic medical professionals in the Pontifical College Josephinum's Jessing Center.

"If you don't have a good relationship with the patient, forget it. It doesn't matter how many degrees you have," said registered nurse Teresa Sipos, chaplain of Appalachian Behavioral Healthcare in Athens, at the beginning of a presentation on "A Catholic Response to the Mental Health Crisis."

Dr. Natalie King of St. Elizabeth Healthcare in Cincinnati, speaking on "End-of-Life Decision Making and Palliative Care," talked of the challenges physicians face when patients are near death.

"We have to watch our responses so we can avoid a misguided sense of compassion and control," she said. "Too often it's not about what a patient wants, but, 'What do I want?'"

"It's so common in end-of-life situations to be overwhelmed by issues and unable to comprehend the situation. At those times, it can be easy to misunderstand what's happening to the patient because of what's happening to you."

"The Vocation of the Catholic Medical Professional" was the topic of a talk by Drs. Paul Day and Amber Day, a married couple with respective practices of pediatrics and family medicine in Cincinnati. They spoke of qualities such as docility, sincerity, meekness and magnanimity, which are related to the cardinal virtues of prudence, justice, temperance and fortitude.

"Docility, for instance, has been given a negative connotation by society, when what it means is a willingness to be taught and to say, 'I don't know,'" Amber Day said. "This is a rejuvenating and refreshing thing. It opens you up to learning and opens patients to responding because they know you're listening."

Those talks were among seven presentations made Saturday, April 22 during a

program on "Catholic Medicine in a Secular Society." It was the second event in what is to be an annual series titled "Converging Roads," sponsored by the St. John Paul II Foundation, the Diocese of Columbus and the Catholic Medical Association (CMA) of Central Ohio.

Addressing the quality of sincerity, Paul Day described it as "truthfulness, honesty and an enthusiasm to work with others. Genuineness is a challenge here – not being manipulative to get the decision we may desire. Sincerity isn't trying to treat patients in an impersonal manner but being open to what they say and practicing what we preach. Are we willing to be open to them?"

"Meekness is another quality that's often misinterpreted," Amber Day said. "It's not being a doormat but having a serenity of spirit while focusing on the needs of others, allowing yourself to be malleable, maintaining inner peace by avoiding fear."

Paul Day described magnanimity as "the quality of seeking with confidence to do great things with God's help, having a large soul. It's a balance between egocentrism – 'I can do it all' – and inadequacy – 'I can't do anything.'"

The Days described the miracle of the loaves and fishes as an example of magnanimity: "The Apostles had a few loaves and fishes. Jesus said, 'Bring them to me. That is enough,' and everyone had enough to eat, with 12 baskets of leftovers. If we bring the gifts we have to



Bishop Earl Fernandes offers opening remarks.

CT photos by Ken Snow

Him in the same way, He will multiply them."

The couple, who met at a CMA event in Columbus, spoke of Sts. Gianna Molla and Joseph Moscati, Italian physicians who lived in the 20th century, as models for Catholic physicians to emulate. The couple was asked if their shared profession made their marriage stronger, Amber Day replied that it had, describing the CMA as "a uniting factor for us" and quoting from a plaque in the couple's home which says, "Marriage is looking outward together."

Dr. King began and ended her presentation on palliative care and end-of-life issues with a photo of a forest displaying bright autumn colors. "A leaf in the fall is most beautiful just before it dies," she said. "I see so much beauty in my work with the dying and am privileged to be able to share moments with them and learn their thoughts."

She said that although palliative care has become a familiar phrase in this century and the last part of the 20th century, many people do not fully understand what it means. "Palliative care in a Catholic context provides for those with serious illness nearing the end of their lives, doing so with dignity and consistent with Catholic teaching," she said.

Because of continued medical advances, "suffering today is really tough because we're not sure how to respond to it. We're uncomfortable with it as a culture. Technology allows us to live longer but requires frequent, sometimes difficult interventions. Just because we can



Dr. Dennis Doody, MD (center) received the St. Gianna Culture of Life Award from the Catholic Medical Association of Central Ohio from Dr. Michael Parker, MD (left) and Dr. Ashley Fernandes, MD. The award is given to a physician or priest who has contributed to the culture of life through their work and service. Dr. Doody, a pediatrician who has practiced for more than 40 years, helped found the chapter. He is retired from private practice but continues to work on an as-needed basis.



Father Bob Penhallurick, pastor at Hilliard St. Brendan Church and chaplain for the Catholic Medical Association of Central Ohio, confers a commissioning blessing on graduating Ohio State University medical students Russell Bonneville and Ansel Malin.

do something doesn't mean we should.

"This can lead to a denial of mortality. We look at death as an attacker from the outside, something to be resented rather than part of the human condition. This can sometimes lead doctors to forget all about the person in front of them and result in unreasonable expectations. We try to avoid suffering even though it is inevitable," King said.

Because technology has given the medical profession greater opportunities both to prolong and to terminate life, the U.S. Catholic bishops published a list of ethical and religious directives for Catholic health care services in 1971 and have revised it five times, most recently in 2018.



Conference speakers (from left) were Alicia Thompson, DO, MPH, FACOG; Roland Millare, STD; Dominique Monlezun, MD, Ph.D., MPH; Paul Day, MD; Amber Day, MD; Natalie King, MD; Michele Faehnle, BSN, RN, LSN; Ashley Fernandes, MD, Ph.D.; and Teresa Durbak Sipos, DMin, RN.

DIOCESAN FINANCIAL REPORT



MY DEAR FRIENDS IN CHRIST,

Fiscal 2022 saw our Church and Diocese start the return to normalcy with the subsiding of the pandemic. Through it all, we have persevered and been able to depend on the love of the risen Christ and bring hope in the midst of our ongoing challenges. Please know that I pray for you each and every day that you will look to Christ and receive His love.

As your Bishop, I have the responsibility to provide all Catholics in the Diocese of Columbus with an annual view of our financial position and activity. I am pleased to present to you the financial reports of the Diocese of Columbus for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022. Our independent accounting firm has completed their procedures on our reports and have issued an unmodified opinion on them.

While our financial results for the year were still impacted by the COVID pandemic, we saw good progress in our reports to indicate we are returning to pre-pandemic operations. The most significant impact to our results for fiscal 2022 was the downturn in the market which reversed the gains we enjoyed in our endowment and investment funds in fiscal 2021. On the following pages, we hope to provide insight to significant variances between fiscal 2021 and fiscal 2022.

As I come to my first anniversary as your Bishop, I am humbled and honored by your continued generosity for our parishes, schools, and Diocesan programs. While our Diocese faces many challenges at the time of implementation of Real Presence Real Future, we also have a great opportunity to evangelize and carry out our mission for years to come. Your continued support is critical to our success.

Grateful for your generosity during the past year and offering my prayerful best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Earl U. Fernandez

MOST REVEREND EARL K. FERNANDES
Bishop of the Diocese of Columbus



**DIOCESAN ORGANIZATION
FINANCIAL REVIEW | FOR FYE JUNE 30, 2022 & 2021**



The financial statements titled **CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS – DIOCESAN ORGANIZATION**, represent the combined financial position and activity for the Chancery, the Catholic Cemeteries, the Diocesan Offices and funds managed at a diocesan level (i.e. Parish Aid, Self Insurance and Varia Trust Funds). The information presented was extracted from audited financial statements. These statements do not include the financial position or activity of our parishes or schools, or agencies that are governed by their own boards, as each reports their financial information separately to their communities.

The financial statements for the Diocesan Organization are audited by the independent CPA firm of Schneider Downs & Co., Inc. The audit was conducted according to auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2022 and June 30, 2021, the auditors issued an unmodified opinion.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, Net Assets decreased by 12.6% from the previous fiscal year. Our financial position and results were impact by several factors but primarily related to the weak performance in markets. The highlights of the audit are:

FIRST, our investment and invested trust funds experienced the most volatility due to the downturn in the market for fiscal 2022. The positive results of fiscal 2021 were erased with a \$21 million loss in our portfolios at the end of fiscal 2022.

SECOND, revenues from the Bishop's Annual Appeal for 2022 came in at \$6.1 million which is in line with pre-COVID appeals. Due to COVID and a late start to the appeal in 2020, the revenue from 2020 appeal had to be recognized in 2021 which inflated the 2021 revenue to \$10.9 million.

THIRD, we completed the sale of two properties that brought in nearly \$2.1 million in revenue.

FOURTH, our liability for pension benefits and liability for priest post-retirement benefits decreased significantly. In accordance with current accounting principles, we are required to measure these liabilities using current economic factors although these liabilities will be funded and paid well into the future (over the next 40 years or more). The overall positive movement in the discount rate at year-end, along with strong market returns on pension assets, decreased the value of our liabilities. The impact of these changes has been recognized as an increase in net assets in the Statement of Activity. It should be noted that although for financial reporting purposes we reflect an overall liability for pension benefits, our actuaries have confirmed that our pension fund is sound.

FINALLY, there was a significant decrease in the issuance of new Parish Aid Fund loans for major fundraising and capital campaigns at the Parish level. We chose to delay these campaigns until recommendations from the Diocesan Strategic Plan, Real Presence/Real Future were finalized.



DIOCESAN PARISHES FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR FYE JUNE 30, 2022 & 2021

The financial statement titled **CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS – PARISHES**, represents the consolidation of the receipts and disbursements for the parishes and associated elementary schools of the Catholic Diocese of Columbus. This statement was compiled from the unaudited financial reports submitted by those organizations.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, Total Parish Receipts decreased 2.2%. Offertory increased 5.9% compared to the prior year. The increase in Offertory was a result of the return to normal activities as the pandemic eased. Fund Drive receipts decreased 26.1% due primarily to our major strategic plan, Real Presence/Real Future, where the Diocese made the decision to put on hold major capital fundraising and capital projects. Religious Education income came back to normal levels and increased 40.8% due again to the resumption of normal activities as COVID restrictions eased.

School Income increased 8.2%, while school costs increased by 0.2%. The school income increase was primarily due to an increase in overall enrollment.

Total Parish Disbursements increased 2.7% year to year mainly due to increases in Parish Salary & Benefits, Parish Operating Expenses and Religious Education Salary and Benefits, and Other Religious Education Costs due again to the return of normal activities as the COVID restrictions eased.

Overall, Excess Receipts over Disbursements decreased by 30.9%.

2021 was not an ordinary fiscal year due to the pandemic and government assistance through the forgiveness of Paycheck Protection Loan program. With the return to normal activities in 2022, our Parishes returned to traditional % levels of Excess Receipts over Disbursements.

It should be noted that during 2022, New Loans, Payments on Loans and funds spent on Major Capital Expenditures decreased significantly due to completing the strategic plan for the Diocese, Real Presence Real Future, and the decision to put all major capital and fundraising projects on hold.

For those interested in the financial results for a particular parish, please contact that parish directly.



DIOCESAN HIGH SCHOOLS FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR FYE JUNE 30, 2022 & 2021

The financial statements titled **CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS – HIGH SCHOOLS**, represent the combined financial position and activity for the Diocesan High Schools.

The financial statements for the High Schools are reviewed by the independent CPA firm of Schneider Downs & Co., Inc. The review was conducted according to Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

On an overall basis, Net Assets for the High Schools decreased .1% or \$140 thousand. That is, we essentially remained flat year over year. However, Total Revenues and Support were down from 2021 by 156% or \$15.4 million. The factors contributing to this:

The High Schools experienced a significant downturn in market returns on their endowment assets. The assets that generated returns of \$10.1 in 2021 experienced a loss of \$5.7 million in 2022. This accounts for the majority of the change in Revenues and Support.

Also, the revenue from PPP loan forgiveness program went away in 2022.

Contributions & grants decreased 31.9% or \$3.7 million as capital campaigns at 3 High Schools were winding down.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, enrollment across all High Schools was consistent compared to the prior year. Overall tuition income increased by 7.3% or \$2.4 million over the prior year.

Also, as COVID restrictions eased in 2022, we saw a significant increase in revenues from Extracurricular Activities of \$2.7 million.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

ASSETS	As of 6/30/2022	As of 6/30/2021
Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 25,360,829	\$ 15,622,761
Accounts receivable, net	3,628,796	4,237,581
Pledges receivable, net	1,182,997	1,240,859
Inventory	1,974,701	2,103,338
Prepaid expenses	10,592	239,325
Investments	148,168,783	139,663,257
Loans and advances receivable, net	14,307,236	27,194,255
Land under sale contract	3,576,893	4,844,550
Property and equipment, net	16,067,745	15,084,410
Beneficial interest in perpetual trusts	36,465,450	43,475,315
Total Assets	\$ 250,744,022	\$ 253,705,651
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 1,743,791	\$ 1,432,054
Agency funds	387,558	412,681
Deposits payable	107,253,972	89,416,539
Accrued expenses	2,010,452	1,613,654
Deferred revenue	71,174	487,934
Self-insurance reserve	3,065,000	2,348,200
Priest post-retirement benefits	10,616,393	14,989,449
Liability for pension benefits - lay	33,789,709	37,962,473
Liability for pension benefits - priests	3,132,923	3,602,753
Total Liabilities	162,070,972	152,265,737
NET ASSETS	88,673,050	101,439,914
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 250,744,022	\$ 253,705,651

DIocese IN FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	As of 6/30/2022	As of 6/30/2021
Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 25,360,829	\$ 15,622,761
Accounts receivable, net	3,628,796	4,237,581
Pledges receivable, net	1,182,997	1,240,859
Inventory	1,974,701	2,103,338
Prepaid expenses	10,592	239,325
Investments	148,168,783	139,663,257
Loans and advances receivable, net	14,307,236	27,194,255
Land under sale contract	3,576,893	4,844,550
Property and equipment, net	16,067,745	15,084,410
Beneficial interest in perpetual trusts	36,465,450	43,475,315
Total Assets	\$ 250,744,022	\$ 253,705,651
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 1,743,791	\$ 1,432,054
Agency funds	387,558	412,681
Deposits payable	107,253,972	89,416,539
Accrued expenses	2,010,452	1,613,654
Deferred revenue	71,174	487,934
Self-insurance reserve	3,065,000	2,348,200
Priest post-retirement benefits	10,616,393	14,989,449
Liability for pension benefits - lay	33,789,709	37,962,473
Liability for pension benefits - priests	3,132,923	3,602,753
Total Liabilities	162,070,972	152,265,737
NET ASSETS	88,673,050	101,439,914
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 250,744,022	\$ 253,705,651

DIOCESE FUNCTIONAL

	As of 6/30/2022	As of 6/30/2021
ASSETS		
Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 25,360,829	\$ 15,622,761
Accounts receivable, net	3,628,796	4,237,581
Pledges receivable, net	1,182,997	1,240,859
Inventory	1,974,701	2,103,338
Prepaid expenses	10,592	239,325
Investments	148,168,783	139,663,257
Loans and advances receivable, net	14,307,236	27,194,255
Land under sale contract	3,576,893	4,844,550
Property and equipment, net	16,067,745	15,084,410
Beneficial interest in perpetual trusts	36,465,450	43,475,315
Total Assets	\$ 250,744,022	\$ 253,705,651
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 1,743,791	\$ 1,432,054
Agency funds	387,558	412,681
Deposits payable	107,253,972	89,416,539
Accrued expenses	2,010,452	1,613,654
Deferred revenue	71,174	487,934
Self-insurance reserve	3,065,000	2,348,200
Priest post-retirement benefits	10,616,393	14,989,449
Liability for pension benefits - lay	33,789,709	37,962,473
Liability for pension benefits - priests	3,132,923	3,602,753
Total Liabilities	162,070,972	152,265,737
NET ASSETS	88,673,050	101,439,914
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 250,744,022	\$ 253,705,651

HS FINANCIAL POSITION

	As of 6/30/2022	As of 6/30/2021
ASSETS		
Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 25,360,829	\$ 15,622,761
Accounts receivable, net	3,628,796	4,237,581
Pledges receivable, net	1,182,997	1,240,859
Inventory	1,974,701	2,103,338
Prepaid expenses	10,592	239,325
Investments	148,168,783	139,663,257
Loans and advances receivable, net	14,307,236	27,194,255
Land under sale contract	3,576,893	4,844,550
Property and equipment, net	16,067,745	15,084,410
Beneficial interest in perpetual trusts	36,465,450	43,475,315
Total Assets	\$ 250,744,022	\$ 253,705,651
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 1,743,791	\$ 1,432,054
Agency funds	387,558	412,681
Deposits payable	107,253,972	89,416,539
Accrued expenses	2,010,452	1,613,654
Deferred revenue	71,174	487,934
Self-insurance reserve	3,065,000	2,348,200
Priest post-retirement benefits	10,616,393	14,989,449
Liability for pension benefits - lay	33,789,709	37,962,473
Liability for pension benefits - priests	3,132,923	3,602,753
Total Liabilities	162,070,972	152,265,737
NET ASSETS	88,673,050	101,439,914
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 250,744,022	\$ 253,705,651

HS ACTIVITY

	As of 6/30/2022	As of 6/30/2021
ASSETS		
Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 25,360,829	\$ 15,622,761
Accounts receivable, net	3,628,796	4,237,581
Pledges receivable, net	1,182,997	1,240,859
Inventory	1,974,701	2,103,338
Prepaid expenses	10,592	239,325
Investments	148,168,783	139,663,257
Loans and advances receivable, net	14,307,236	27,194,255
Land under sale contract	3,576,893	4,844,550
Property and equipment, net	16,067,745	15,084,410
Beneficial interest in perpetual trusts	36,465,450	43,475,315
Total Assets	\$ 250,744,022	\$ 253,705,651

	As of 6/30/2022	As of 6/30/2021
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 1,743,791	\$ 1,432,054
Agency funds	387,558	412,681
Deposits payable	107,253,972	89,416,539
Accrued expenses	2,010,452	1,613,654
Deferred revenue	71,174	487,934
Self-insurance reserve	3,065,000	2,348,200
Priest post-retirement benefits	10,616,393	14,989,449
Liability for pension benefits - lay	33,789,709	37,962,473
Liability for pension benefits - priests	3,132,923	3,602,753
Total Liabilities	162,070,972	152,265,737
NET ASSETS	88,673,050	101,439,914
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 250,744,022	\$ 253,705,651

HS FUNCTION

Year Ended 6/30/2022

	Programs	Fundraising	Total
Salaries and benefits	\$ 31,614,960	\$ 1,103,018	\$ 32,717,978
Extracurricular activities and cafeteria	\$ 8,669,992	\$ -	\$ 8,669,992
Depreciation and amortization	\$ 4,457,055	\$ -	\$ 4,457,055
Building, grounds and utilities	\$ 3,380,355	\$ -	\$ 3,380,355
Bad debt expense	\$ 1,075,779	\$ -	\$ 1,075,779
Departmental costs	\$ 892,583	\$ -	\$ 892,583
Technology	\$ 817,591	\$ -	\$ 817,591
Office supplies	\$ 559,734	\$ 247,550	\$ 807,284
Other	\$ 503,974	\$ -	\$ 503,974
Central administrative fees	\$ 119,519	\$ -	\$ 119,519
Interest	\$ 117,425	\$ -	\$ 117,425
Total Expenses	\$ 52,208,967	\$ 1,350,568	\$ 53,559,535

Year Ended 6/30/2021

	Programs	Fundraising	Total
Salaries and benefits	\$ 30,812,789	\$ 928,919	\$ 31,741,708
Extracurricular activities and cafeteria	6,880,159	-	6,880,159
Depreciation and amortization	4,160,218	-	4,160,218
Building, grounds and utilities	2,869,027	-	2,869,027
Bad debt expense	570,347	-	570,347
Departmental costs	540,947	-	540,947
Technology	734,185	-	734,185
Office supplies	539,829	235,643	775,472
Other	420,507	-	420,507
Central administrative fees	114,646	-	114,646
Interest	106,364	-	106,364
Total Expenses	\$ 47,749,018	\$ 1,164,562	\$ 48,913,580

PARISHES

Year Ended 6/30/2022 Year Ended 6/30/2021

Offertory	\$ 59,245,262	\$ 55,925,571
Fund Drives	4,982,894	6,739,789
Gifts & Bequests	4,728,255	4,460,278
Diocesan Support	2,805,536	5,759,398
Other Parish Income	7,818,310	14,160,685
Religious Education Income	1,305,790	927,325
School Income	53,710,724	49,635,169
Total Receipts	134,596,772	137,608,214

DISBURSEMENTS:

Parish Salary & Benefits	25,543,609	25,011,767
Parish Operating Expenses	21,328,484	19,353,400
Diocesan Assessment	4,272,172	4,628,666
Depreciation	7,786,784	7,615,865
Debt Interest Payments	470,198	574,769
Religious Education Salary & Benefits	4,131,809	4,044,097
Other Religious Education Costs	1,684,744	965,171
School Salary & Benefits	47,634,722	47,774,726
Other School Costs	7,972,201	7,723,150

Total Disbursements	120,824,722	117,691,611
Excess Receipts over Disbursements	\$ 13,772,050	\$ 19,916,603

New Loan Funds	\$ 3,343,305	\$ 4,911,584
Payments on Loans	\$ 4,403,466	\$ 11,340,493
Major Capital Expenditures		\$ 14,104,438



CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION

MEN'S MINI-CONFERENCE

• **MAY 20, 2023** •

St. Catharine Monsignor Sorohan Parish Center
500 S. Gould Rd. | Columbus, OH 43209

Join men from across the Diocese to learn how to receive, live and proclaim the Kerygma - the Good News of Jesus Christ - *in our everyday lives!*

A Power-Packed Half-Day Designed for Catholic Men!

Mass • Light Breakfast • Speakers • Small Group Discussions
9:00am - 12:30pm (Optional Mass at 8:30am)

FEATURING



Father Dan Dury
Pastor of St. John Neumann Church



Dr. Marlon De La Torre
Sr Director of Evangelization for the Diocese of Columbus



REGISTER & MORE: www.CatholicMensMinistry.com

Foster parenting: an education in love

May is National Foster Care Awareness Month. In the 23 counties of the Columbus diocese, 7,097 children are in foster care and 655 await adoption. These children desperately need loving foster families who will show them the love of God.

Ask God if He might be calling you to foster. If you cannot foster, you can support a foster family, do a service project or choose from the “10 Ways to Support Vulnerable Children in Foster Care” (see chart).

Together we can build a culture of fostering and adoption in Catholic parishes.

By Dr. Kimberly Henkel

When Laura and her husband, Kyle, speak about the way their family has grown, they echo a sentiment I hear from many foster and adoptive families: “Our hearts are always capable of expanding to love more.”

The shape their beautiful Catholic family has taken is different from what they anticipated when they first married. It was formed through longing, loss, trust and more love than they thought possible.

Laura and Kyle always desired a big family and explained that in the early years of their marriage, they sadly lost six children to miscarriage. Grieving those losses was an intense process, and in that process they began to realize: “We had space in our hearts and home and deeply desired to parent children who needed us. We thought that since God had been teaching us how to say goodbye, perhaps He was calling us to become foster parents.”

Laura and Kyle took the requisite foster classes, got certified as foster parents and welcomed two children, an 8-month-old and a 2-year-old, into their home in a foster-to-adopt placement.

There is a high likelihood in foster-to-adopt placements that the state will receive permanent custody of children who will then be eligible to be adopted. The foster care agency creates a plan for birth parents to ensure they can eventually provide a healthy and stable environment for their children. If the birth parents follow the plan, their children can return home. Part of the plan includes weekly or biweekly visits with the children.

“Because we were hoping to adopt, I had a hard time initially with these visits,” Laura said. “It was humbling for me to drop the children off with their birth mother when I felt like I was their mother. I wanted to be their mom.”

Laura explained how difficult and confusing it was for the children and also for her, but as time went on, she saw how hard the biological mother was working to get her children back, which made her realize how much their mother loved them.

“I began to see the value in family preservation when reunification truly could be in the best interests of the children.”

As the visits continued, Laura met the birth mother, and they began to connect. “I could tell she was grateful for the love I was pouring into her children. I began seeing the person behind the broken situation, and it made me realize that this was not about me, but instead it was about loving these kids and praying for God’s will to come to fruition.”

Loving and letting go

After nine months, the state deemed it was safe for the children to be returned to their birth mother.

“It was one of the hardest days of our lives,” Laura said. “We pulled over just before meeting to return the children to their mother and cried and hugged our babies

10 ways to support vulnerable children in foster care

1. Pray
2. Use social media
3. Register at www.CarePortal.org
4. Raise awareness
5. Support a foster family
6. One-time service projects
7. Host a foster parents night out
8. Become a respite provider
9. Become a foster parent
10. Support Springs of Love

www.springsoflove.org

really tight. They had been with us for nine months, and we loved them with all our hearts.”

Their birth mother was so grateful for the love Laura and Kyle had given to her children, and Laura understood how some people don’t have the support they need to raise their children. Laura gave the birth mother her phone number but didn’t expect to hear from her again.

A couple of days later, however, she was overjoyed to receive a text with photos of the precious children they had come to love. A beautiful relationship has since developed with frequent calls, texts and photos, and Laura and Kyle continue offering support and love.

“With foster care, a family has the opportunity to create lifelong bonds with children and their families,” Laura said. “Their family will always be part of our family. Our family has only expanded through doing foster care.”

New beginnings

Shortly after their foster children were reunited with their birth mother, Laura

and Kyle welcomed a new baby boy, Theo, into their family through adoption. Laura spoke of the immense joy of having a baby in their home again.

Studies show that children, as well as birth mothers, fare better with an open adoption that includes various degrees of contact between birth parents and the children whom they’ve placed for adoption from occasional photos and texts to in-person visits.

An open adoption is also a beautiful way to honor a birth mother in her heroic decision to choose life by inviting her to be a part of her child’s life.

Laura and Kyle decided on an open adoption. “We do lots of video chats with our son’s birth mom and pray for her every night,” Laura said. “We invited her to his first birthday party, his baptism and over to our home for visits so she can snuggle and love on him. We felt it was important for our son and for her.”

Laura has discovered that instead of feeling threatened by Theo’s birth mother, she is grateful that Theo has more people in his life who love him. Nurturing this relationship has reinforced how her son belongs first and foremost to God.

The same month that Laura and Kyle adopted, Laura found out she was pregnant again. Her son, Levi, was born just seven months after Theo.

“After the birth of Levi, we were able to really reflect on the gifts we had been given – how our home, hearts and family were expanded beyond our wildest hopes,” Laura said.

“We felt so incredibly grateful to God for the wonderful blessing of our two sons and for the merciful ways He weaved not only our suffering and heartache, but also

See FOSTER, Page 21

Fourth-graders raise money to help foster kids

By Allison Scalfano

In December, my fourth-graders at Delaware St. Mary School were doing online research for organizations that help the needy. We found one organization with a button that said, “Click Here to Donate.” The whole class cheered, “Click the button!”

I said we couldn’t donate unless we had money to give, and immediately kids shouted out fundraising ideas. We decided to have a bake sale, and after doing personal research, the kids decided to support My Very Own Blanket.

My Very Own Blanket is a Westerville-based, non-profit organization founded in 1999 that gives a blanket made by volunteers to every child in the foster care system and children in need to provide a feeling of comfort and security as they take the blankets from home to home.

Thousands of personalized blankets with the child’s name are donated yearly. So far this year, according to My Very Own Blanket’s website, 8,500 blankets have been received toward a 2023 goal of 35,000.

In my class, we have kids who are part of foster families, and they felt a personal connection to this organization.

The next few weeks were filled with making posters, researching recipes and more. We ran a bake sale at each weekly Lenten fish fry at St. Mary Church. Each week, kids baked treats, came to the fish fry and greeted people from our church with smiles and information about My Very Own Blanket.

We were amazed by people’s generosity to us! After six weeks of bake sales, the kids had raised \$1,135. They are so happy to give this money to support kids like them who need love and care.

Allison Scalfano is a fourth-grade teacher at Delaware St. Mary School.



Members of Allison Scalfano's fourth-grade class at Delaware St. Mary School organized a fundraiser for My Very Own Blanket, which donates handmade blankets to children in the foster care system.

Photo courtesy St. Mary School

Fifth Sunday of Easter Year A

We can help with God's work

Acts 6:1-7
Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19
1 Peter 2:4-9
John 14:1-12

Easter revealed two major surprises to the early Christian community.

First, the promise of resurrection is true. Jesus Christ rose from the dead and forever put an end to that doubt. In many ways, Jesus showed that He is alive and that He is the same Jesus Who suffered and died. Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. He is risen indeed! We must grow in our faith in that truth and come to understand its many implications.

The second, perhaps even more difficult truth is that the promise of resurrection and Christian living is intended for everyone. Language and customs that are different can get in the way of communicating the needs of diverse members of the community, and misunderstandings occur. It has been so from the beginning. The account of the challenge of the Greek-speaking widows is only the first of many such tales.

All we have to do is to look at our parish experiences today, and we find many who complain that their needs are neglected. Even though we tend to "speak the same language" in our usual communities, we still find differing expectations and ways of communicating what is perceived to be missing in the life of the Church. During COVID times, we missed being together and celebrating liturgically and socially.

Now, we seem to have lost the lesson that this time was meant to teach us. Pastors hear parishioners complain that things are not happening as they once did. Current generations are measured against "remembered standards" often

Sixth Sunday of Easter Year A

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Father Timothy Hayes

Father Timothy M. Hayes is pastor of Chillicothe St. Mary and St. Peter; and Waverly, St. Mary, Queen of the Missions.



without real attention to their situations.

It is wrong to judge anyone on the basis of "the way we were." If we think about it honestly, we tend to have a "nostalgia for the never was." The folks of past generations are our pioneers, and they gave us a legacy, but they did not face some obstacles that we experience.

Pay attention to what the Apostolic generation did. They acknowledged the complaints as expressing real needs. But they did not "neglect the Word." Instead, they kept their eyes fixed on the proclamation of the Gospel. They found a creative way to extend the ministry by choosing the first deacons, helpers at the table, who were entrusted by the Apostles with a ministry of service, charity and the Word.

In our time, the renewal of the diaconate has shown us that deacons are still a great grace to the Church. Every priest who has worked with the deacons in his parish has discovered that they are a great help in the ministry.

Deacons may not have to speak Greek to help a particular subgroup in the community, though those who speak Spanish are invaluable to both the priest and the growing Latino population. Yet, deacons often serve as a bridge between the people and the shepherds who are entrusted with them. This is especially true when the priests are moved around, and the deacons, due to their family and job situations, are more stable presences in the community.

Often the best way for priests and deacons to discover what can be done as members of a pastoral team is to sit

is to love the Father and the Spirit, to share in the very life of God. When the Church does this, she allows every member to participate without competitions and with mutual understanding of one another's gifts.

The Deacon Philip proclaimed the Faith clearly and many came to believe and were baptized. Recognizing what Philip had accomplished, the Apostles then did what Jesus entrusted to them, sending Peter and John to the new Christian community of Samaria, imparting the Spirit by the laying on of hands. This gesture is still used in our time in Confirmation, Ordination and other Sacraments as well. This is collaboration in the best sense of the term.

Having lived through these days with the Neophytes of the Church, those newly baptized or received into full communion in the Catholic Church, and confirmed by

The Weekday Bible Readings

5/8-5/13

MONDAY

Acts 14:5-18
Psalm 115:1-4, 15-16
John 14:21-26

TUESDAY

Acts 14:19-28
Psalm 145:10-13ab, 21
John 14:27-31a

WEDNESDAY

Acts 15:1-6
Psalm 122:1-5
John 15:1-8

THURSDAY

Acts 15:7-21
Psalm 96:1-3, 10
John 15:9-11

FRIDAY

Acts 15:22-31
Psalm 57:8-10, 12
John 15:12-17

SATURDAY

Acts 16:1-10
Psalm 100:1-3, 5
John 15:18-21

5/15-5/20

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

Acts 16:22-34
Psalm 138:1-3, 7c-8
John 16:5-11

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

Acts 18:9-18
Psalm 47:2, 3, 8-10
John 16:23b-28

SATURDAY

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

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION Mass Schedule: Weeks of May 7 and May 14, 2023

SUNDAY MASS

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

10:30 a.m. Mass from Portsmouth St. Mary Church on St. Gabriel Radio (FM 88.3), Portsmouth.

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

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

(Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).

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

Mass from Massillon St. Mary Church at 10:30 a.m. on WILB radio (AM 1060, FM 94.5 and 89.5), Canton, heard in Tuscarawas, Holmes, and Coshocton counties.

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, Ada, Logan, Millersburg, Murray City, Washington C.H.; Channel 125, Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown and New Philadelphia; Channel 207, Zanesville); 8 p.m., St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

12:05 p.m. weekdays, 8 a.m. Saturdays, Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com and diocesan website, www.columbuscatholic.org. (Saturdays on radio only).

Videos of Masses are available at any time on the internet at these and many other parish websites: Mattingly Settlement St. Mary (www.stannstmary.org); Columbus St. Patrick (www.stpatrickcolumbus.org); Delaware St. Mary (www.delawarestmary.org); Sunbury St. John Neumann (www.saintjohnsunbury.org); and Columbus Immaculate Conception (www.iccols.org). Check your parish website for additional information.

WE PRAY THE SEASONAL PRAPERS FOR WEEKS I AND II OF THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS

at the table together – eating breakfast between Masses on Sunday mornings, sharing a meal once a month, getting to know each other informally, perhaps even playing board games together. It is fun to invite deacons' wives to join this and hear their insights as well.

What about those who have complaints that are new? We can learn from the choices of the Apostles. Keep our eyes fixed on the goal. Put the Word at the center. Then we can invite those with baptismal ministries and the power of the Spirit that flows from their confirmation to dis-

cover new forms of service, responding to new needs or to old needs in new ways.

Here is something to take to your heart: Before you complain to your pastor that someone is not doing his or her job or according to your expectation, think how you could do something about it or suggest someone with a particular skill who could make a difference.

Jesus promises us: "Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father."

Collaborative, not competitive, ministries is Catholic way

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17
Psalm 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20
1 Peter 3:15-18
John 14:15-21

Often, our experience of Church tends to isolate the ministries from one another. We have to relearn what the first generation knew instinctively. Every ministry has a contribution to make. Only when we work together do we give a true witness of the way God shares His gifts.

Jesus told His Apostles before they were ready to understand, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth." He would share the Communion that was His with the Father and the Spirit with the disciples who kept their attention on Love. To love Jesus, keeping His commandments

the laying on of hands, we are all reminded that we are meant to work together for the growth of the Church. This can serve as a reminder that the tendency of our world to see competition among the ministries is not Catholic way.

Just as the Apostles built on the effective ministry of Philip, through the same Spirit, we can discover deeper ways of cooperation. True collaboration points to the reality of interdependent ministries. Each new member of the Church has something unique to offer. The Spirit forms us into one body.

Given the invitation to be able "to give a reason for our Hope," this is a good moment to review our own path to Faith. It is parallel to the first growth of the Church.

Jesus makes a promise to us, even before we can understand. Following His guidance, doing His commands and loving Him, we find our way into com-

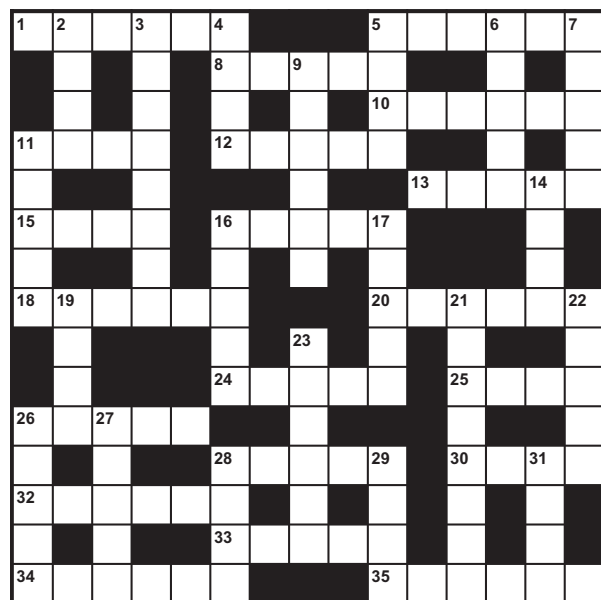
munion with God and with the Church. Both aspects are necessary.

Confident that we have received the Spirit, each of us must discern our own way of "sharing our story." What are the questions that have been answered for us? What questions do others ask us that we find ready responses in our own hearts? To whom are we now being sent?

As we articulate our Faith, we must be ready to invite others to build on what we have accomplished. This is the work of the Church. It is God's work entrusted to us. Our interdependent ministries draw us into unity. The more we trust in the Spirit of God at work in us and through us, the more truly we become a collective witness of the Gospel. Our world longs for such a witness.

What is the reason for your Hope? Whose ministries are needed to continue to build up what you have done?

CATHOLIC CROSSWORD



www.wordgamesforcatholics.com

ACROSS

- 1 Biblical wood
- 5 Catholic actor of gangster movie fame
- 8 A Doctor of the Church
- 10 St. ___ Merici
- 11 Exodus pest
- 12 Non-ordained members of the Church
- 13 Common biblical harvest
- 15 Opposite or absence of good
- 16 ___ Dame
- 18 Ahab desired his vineyard
- 20 One of four
- 24 "You are the ___ of the world." (Mt 5:14)
- 25 "___ was in the beginning, is now..."
- 26 Christmas song
- 28 Saucer for the Eucharist
- 30 Sacred image
- 32 Diocese in Montana
- 33 Parable of the ___ of great price
- 34 Council of 325 AD
- 35 Most solemn Christian feast

DOWN

- 2 Son of Adam
- 3 Abbot's Catholic partner
- 4 Brother of 2D
- 5 Feet in the image beheld by Nebuchadnezzar
- 6 Dinah, to Esau
- 7 Biblical expanding agent
- 9 Holy one, in Paris
- 11 Ordinary Time color
- 14 An end to repent?
- 16 ___ obstat
- 17 Octave
- 19 The Archdiocese of Edmonton is in this province (abbr.)
- 21 ___ of the Cross
- 22 Language of the Church
- 23 Patron saint of jewelers
- 26 Catholic singer and songwriter George M.
- 27 Article of clothing or bone of a saint
- 28 Hemingway, convert to Catholicism, as known to his friends
- 29 River Moses turned to blood
- 31 How many times each day the soldiers of Joshua marched around Jericho

MEDICAL, continued from Page 10

King said the key to a Catholic response to end-of-life issues is what the directives prescribe as proportionate care. "Proportionate means are those that in the judgment of the patient offer a reasonable hope of benefit and do not entail an excessive burden or impose excessive expense on the family or the community," the directives say.

"A person may forgo extraordinary or disproportionate means of preserving life. Disproportionate means are those that in the patient's judgment do not offer a reasonable hope of benefit, entail an excessive burden or impose excessive expense."

One example of proportionality involves the use of feeding tubes for nutrition and medication. This is considered as ordinary basic care, but when death is imminent and a patient is unable to take in food or medication, it can be disproportionate, depending on the situation.

"It becomes a case of balancing extremes," King said. "How to live well without clinging to life, and how to die well without ignoring the dignity of life, especially in cases where we cannot cure. There is no strict right or wrong. The question becomes, 'What good (or harm) can this do for the dying person?'"

"Palliative care provides an extra layer of support for people at any age and in any stage of an illness, along with curative treatment," she said. "It's a team effort using many professionals to treat physical symptoms as well as psychological, spiritual and social issues and to coordinate advanced care planning and set goals of care using a total person approach."

She also spoke of the importance of advanced medical directives (AMDs), which are legal documents that provide instructions about a patient's health care when

they are unable to speak for themselves because of a medical condition. These include living wills and durable medical power of attorney documents.

King said all advanced directives for Catholics should provide a declaration of the desire for care in accordance with Catholic teaching, the importance of assessing that care to determine whether it is proportionate and a rejection of assisted suicide.

She also said she wanted to dispel several myths concerning hospice care. "Hospice is not a place. It's not mainly for old cancer patients. It won't stop previous treatments. It's not somewhere where everyone gets morphine drips, and you're not trapped there," she said.

"You can have hospice care at home or in an area set aside for hospice patients. It won't perform artificial nutrition or hydration, and it's not only for end-of-life patients," King said. "People can and do reach a state where hospice care is not needed, and it frequently results in people living longer."

Sipos' talk on a Catholic response to mental health issues focused on her work in Athens and at the Maryhaven behavioral health center in Columbus.

"Most of my patients have been involuntarily committed, usually by court order, following a crime and have been diagnosed as having schizoaffective disorder, often because of substance abuse. But if you listen carefully to them, you

will find many cases of extraordinary spirituality," she said.

"Part of the treatment at Appalachian Healthcare and Maryhaven is spiritually based. About one-third of my patients regularly attend spiritual care group, and a lot have talked to me about the holiness and dignity of life.

"I love the patients I work with. I ask them about the value of suffering, and they give profound answers, beginning with 'I am alive.' They understand that suffering has brought them to a place of understanding.

"They are not having a difficult day; they are having a traumatic life, which many of them have endured for decades. This gives them a perspective many do not have in a superficial, secular world," Sipos said.

"Many of them had bad experiences in the emergency room, of being talked down to. Some of them have been incarcerated and suffered horrible treatment in jail, especially the women, and have developed unhealthy survival skills.

"One of my patients 'accidentally' painted the face of Jesus on a canvas, with a Sacred Heart image on the other side. There was no way the paint 'bled through' to make that image. He didn't know it was there, and it looked like a real human heart.

"He also painted images of Mary on a

See MEDICAL, Page 20

Words of Wisdom
by Pat Battaglia, aka Dr. Fun

Draw a path from letter to letter to spell the words given in capital letters that completes the wisdom statement. Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left or diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

Pray hardest when ...

O	R	A	Y	
P	T	H	S	
T	A	E	T	I
S	R	D	I	

IT IS HARDEST TO PRAY

© 2023 International Puzzle Features

LANDSCAPING
OAKLAND NURSERY
VOTED BEST IN THE U.S.

Now is the best time to plan and design your landscape, patios, pools, walk-ways, retaining walls, and sprinkler systems.

614-268-3834


MUETZEL
SINCE 1967

- PLUMBING
- HEATING
- COOLING

614-299-7700
MUETZEL.COM


IGEL
Since 1911

GEORGE J. IGEL & CO., INC.
2040 ALUM CREEK DRIVE . COLUMBUS, OHIO
614.445.8421 . www.buildwithigel.com

SITE DEVELOPMENT . EARTHWORK . UTILITIES
CONCRETE . STABILIZATION . EARTH RETENTION
ROLLER COMPACTED CONCRETE . ASPHALT PAVING

JOHN N. SCHILLING INC.
Since 1894

- Air Conditioning
- Heating
- **Roofing**
- Sheet Metal Work

1488 Bliss St. • 614.252.4915
WWW.JOHNSCHILLINGINC.COM

SHERIDAN
FUNERAL HOME

740-653-4633

222 S. COLUMBUS STREET
LANCASTER, OHIO 43130
WWW.SHERIDANFUNERALHOME.NET

Information meetings outline proposed abortion amendment

Ohio ballot information meetings kicked off last week with events at Columbus St. Catharine, Circleville St. Joseph, Marion St. Mary and Cardington Sacred Hearts churches.

The meetings are a collaborative effort among Greater Columbus Right to Life, the diocesan Office for Social Concerns and the Catholic Medical Association of Central Ohio. Those organizations are members of a statewide coalition formed to defeat a proposed constitutional amendment that would allow abortion on demand through all nine months of pregnancy in the Buckeye state.

The meetings were the first in a series scheduled in the coming months throughout the diocese. The purpose is to provide insight into social teaching and political action, explain the ballot initiative process, outline existing Ohio law, explain what the proposed amendment would do and invite the community to help defeat it at the ballot box in November.

Mark Huddy, director for Catholic Charities and Social Concerns in the diocese, said during the meeting at St. Catharine the



A session to provide information about an abortion ballot amendment initiative in Ohio was held at Columbus St. Catharine Church. Photo courtesy St. Catharine Church

bishops of the state, through the Catholic Conference of Ohio, have asked the faithful to unite in prayer, fasting and action to uphold the dignity of human life and to defeat the proposed amendment.

Jerry Freewalt, director of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns, provided background on the ballot process: A coalition of abortion rights advocates is seeking to gather the signatures of about 415,000 Ohio voters

in at least 44 counties by July 5. If they are successful, it will trigger placing the proposed amendment on the ballot in November.

Dr. Michael Parker, immediate past national president of the Catholic Medical Association and a practicing obstetrician and gynecologist in central Ohio, offered background on state law. He said he chooses to practice medicine in a life-affirming way and that Ohio's existing law allows him to care for a woman who is experiencing an ectopic pregnancy, a miscarriage or even a medical emergency that means her pregnancy cannot continue. He also shared that if the proposed amendment is adopted, it would push doctors like him out of practice in Ohio because they would no longer be able to exercise their conscience rights to refuse to perform an abortion.

In the final part of the program, Beth Vanderkooi, executive director of Greater Columbus Right to Life, called the proposed amendment a dangerous and extreme proposal being pushed by groups such as the American Civil Liberties Union. If it is adopted, she said, Ohioans will face abortion through all nine months

of pregnancy; an elimination of parental notification and consent before their children undergo life-altering procedures such as abortion, hormone therapy or gender-conforming surgery; and would see the repeal of common-sense provisions protecting the health and safety of women and unborn children.

Before concluding, participants were walked through a program that outlines how to discuss the issue with friends and family and how to help defeat the ballot initiative. Suggestions included prayer and fasting, volunteering and donating.

"This program was excellent," one attendee said. "I had heard how extreme the amendment was and I'd seen the ads, but I have also seen some people say it is no big deal. Now I understand just how serious this is and why we need to get involved."

Tom, a parishioner at St. Catharine, said, "I had a hard time falling asleep (after this talk). We have to defeat this."

Similar informational programs are scheduled in the next few weeks, as well as a few still being finalized. Visit gcrtl.org/stop for resources, events and more information.

Panel discusses abortion ruling, amendment at Women's Care Center event

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

The Friends of the Women's Care Center hosted a night of drinks, desserts and discussion on the U.S. Supreme Court's Dobbs decision at The Fives in Columbus on April 26.

A guest panel answered questions about the June 2022 decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, which overturned Roe v. Wade, the 1973 ruling that made abortion legal in all 50 states. The panel addressed the impact the decision has on the Women's Care Center, which assists women facing unexpected pregnancies and with parenting their children after birth, at its two Columbus locations, and how to navigate discussions about it.

The panel also answered questions regarding a ballot initiative proposed in Ohio that is seeking to secure a statewide right to abortion.

State lawmakers, individuals and pastors at Catholic parishes across the Diocese of Columbus attended the event.

The panel included Don Brey, a constitutional lawyer, graduate of Yale Law School and parishioner at Columbus St. Patrick Church. Brey was named to The Best Lawyers in America publication and is an active member of the Knights of Malta Catholic lay religious order.

Also on the panel were Drs. Ashley Fernandes and Michael Parker. Fernandes is the associate director of bioethics at the Ohio State University College of Medicine, a clinical professor of pediatrics at Nationwide Children's Hospital and a member of the Ohio Right to Life board of trustees.

Parker is a past national president of the

Catholic Medical Association, a medical consultant and board member for the Women's Care Center, and he frequently testifies at the Ohio Statehouse on pro-life legislation.

Madeline Pesavento, the outreach director for the Columbus Women's Care Center, sat on the panel and answered questions relating to the center's work.

The panel was moderated by Katelyn Kaman, a member of the center's Board of Directors.

Father Steven P. Beseau, the rector and president of the Pontifical College Josephinum, offered an opening prayer for the evening. He also serves on the center's board.

"One of the greatest gifts was Madeline asking me to be on the board," Father Beseau said.

Pesavento shared that 1 in 8 babies in Franklin County are born to mothers who come to the Women's Care Center and 9 out of 10 women served there choose life for their babies.

She said the center offers parenting classes, is staffed with trained professional counselors and continues to serve women after their baby is born. All services are free.

"We are with women from cradle to kindergarten," Pesavento said. "They are genuinely grateful for the support they receive inside our doors."

The panel was asked whether abortion can be deemed essential to women's



Supporters of the Women's Care Center in Columbus listen to a guest panel speak about issues impacting pro-life efforts. Photo courtesy Women's Care Center

health care, which is a frequent argument used by abortion supporters.

Fernandes said the question of abortion being essential is a "narrative" that was introduced several years ago to reflect the changing culture. "It's absolutely not essential," he emphasized.

Parker spoke to what he has witnessed as a practicing obstetrician-gynecologist at Mount Carmel St. Ann's Hospital in Westerville.

"I see women coming in with complications from surgical abortions," he said. "Not all cases are reported, and the abortionist does not know if a woman is having complications afterward."

For this reason, Parker said, data on abortions reported to the Centers for Disease Control is often "flimsy."

Health care is about promoting the good, Fernandes said. As a professor of bioethics, he studies medical ethics.

The act of abortion, he said, should be considered in terms of, "Is it good?" and ethics and philosophy will answer that question.

Fernandes said Roe v. Wade greatly affected the medical culture, and it will take awhile to "peel back from the abortion care concept."

"People in medicine are so committed to the abortion regime," he said. "The culture can change the law, and the law can change the culture."

Fernandes gave the example of the 1967 Loving v. Virginia Supreme Court decision to legalize interracial marriage. At the time, he said, "only 4% (of the U.S. population) agreed with the decision."

He said interracial marriage is now widely accepted, and in the same way, it will take a change in culture to accept the Dobbs decision, which states that the right to abortion is not protected by the U.S. Constitution.

When it comes to navigating discussions on the topic, Fernandes advised the audience to "be kind, gentle and listen as much as can be. That is the only way to reach people's hearts."

Pesavento agreed that this is the stance of the Women's Care Center, whose staff members take an "unconditionally loving, nonjudgmental approach" to each woman they serve.

The panel also answered questions on "The Right to Reproductive Freedom with Protections for Health and Safety" amendment to the Ohio Constitution proposed by Planned Parenthood, Ohio Physicians for Reproductive Rights and Ohioans for Reproductive Freedom. They need 413,446 valid signatures before July 5 to put the proposal on the ballot in November 2023.

The ballot initiative seeks to amend Article I of the Ohio Constitution by adding a Section 22 declaring that "every individual has a right to make and carry out one's own reproductive decisions, including but

See CARE CENTER, Page 22

Cristo Rey honors Bishop Emeritus Campbell



Bishop Emeritus Frederick Campbell was honored at a Mass on Monday, April 17 at St. Joseph Cathedral with the Milt Schott Award given annually to a person who has been vital to the success of Columbus Cristo Rey High School. The award is named after one of the original members of the high school's board of trustees. Cristo Rey is celebrating its 10th academic year of existence after its founding in Columbus in 2013, when Bishop Campbell led the diocese before retiring in 2019. He was an advocate for bringing the school to Columbus, which is one of 38 Cristo Rey college preparatory schools that educates 12,300 students nationwide. Cristo Rey's curriculum includes a corporate work study program that prepares students for college and beyond. *Photo courtesy Abigail Pitones*

15 students confirmed at Plain City St. Joseph



Newly confirmed eighth graders at Plain City St. Joseph Church are joined by Deacon Tony Bonacci, Bishop Earl Fernandes and Father Joseph Trapp after Mass on Sunday, April 23. *Photo courtesy St. Joseph Church*

Visiting Angels
LIVING ASSISTANCE SERVICES

Call today Start today

no minimums!

1 Hr. up to 24 Hr. Care

We send you the Best Home Caregivers

Rates as low as \$16.46 per hour!

"We Do Things Your Way"

614-80-ANGEL (614-802-6435)

Call or text for more info. www.v-angels.com



WHERE "GET TO" GIVING GROWS

There is giving because you feel like you have to. And giving because you get to. The Catholic Foundation is here for those who experience the joy of giving and want to make a real-world impact with their gifts. And we can start right where you are.

To learn more, contact Scott Hartman at shartman@catholic-foundation.org.

Catholic-Foundation.org/Start



Pregnancy Decision Health Centers invites you to an

Estate Planning Seminar

Join us for an evening of fellowship and education in the basics of Estate and Funeral Planning

MAY 1 | MON 6:30 PM MAY 9 | TUES 6:30 PM

OR

PDHC
665 E. Dublin Granville Road
Columbus, Ohio 43229
4th Floor Conference Room

The Catholic Foundation
257 E. Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Lang Conference Room

PRESENTATIONS BY:

Robert E. Ryan of Egan-Ryan Funeral Service
James M. Vonau, Esq. of Decker Vonau & Carr, LLC

Appetizers and refreshments will be served
This is a non-fundraising event

Kindly RSVP by April 24th to Kate Hamrick:
614.888.8774 ext. 6117
kateh@pdhc.org

In partnership with

PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

ANDREWS, Ann M. (Erndl), 90, April 17
St. Mary Church, Delaware

BUCKLES, David C., 79, April 19
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

LANG, Judith A., 63, April 16
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

STURGILL, Bonnie (McGill), 67, April 8
St. Rose of Lima Church, New Lexington

APALIYAH, Godwin T., 53, April 7
St. Colman of Cloyne Church, Washington Court House

CALLAHAN, John A., 83, April 22
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

McPHADEN, David B., 70, April 27
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

VOLPE, Diva M., 89, April 16
St. James the Less Church, Columbus

BARROW, Joseph A., 72, April 3
St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus

JACKSON, Elinor (Kennedy), 93, April 13
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

RIFE, Jane S. (Sweeney), 84, April 10
St. Cecilia Church, Columbus

WILCOX, Sara (Adams), 73, April 14
St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

BAUER, Hans Rolf W., 94, April 11
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

KARCH (BRADY), Rose T. (Trapp), 90, April 20
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

SCHUMM, John J., 50, April 22
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

WOHRLE, Daniel J., 88, April 21
St. Bernard Church, Corning

BRENNER, William E., 69, April 19
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

KREUZ, John A., 89, April 3
Resurrection Cemetery Chapel, Lewis Center

SMITH, Gerald "Jerry," 80, April 16
St. Matthias Church, Columbus

WUICHNER, Judy (Stomm), 78, April 23
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

Dustin R. Hahn

Funeral Mass for Dustin R. Hahn, 42, who died Tuesday, April 18, was celebrated Friday, April 21 at Logan St. John Church. Burial was at Oak Grove Cemetery, Logan.

He was born on Feb. 21, 1981 in Logan to James and Elizabeth (Vollmer) Hahn.

He was a member of St. John Church and took pride in serving breakfasts

with its Knights of Columbus council. He also was a member of the 2011 state Special Olympics champion Hocking Chiefs basketball team.

He was preceded in death by his father. Survivors include his mother and two brothers, Father William Hahn, diocesan vicar for clergy, and James (Nicole).

Sharon L. Lieb

Funeral Mass for Sharon L. Lieb, 76, who died Monday, April 17, was celebrated Friday, April 21 at Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church.

She was born on July 7, 1946 to Robert and Juanita (Dudley) Brock and was a 1964 graduate of Columbus Eastmoor High School.

She served for more than 25 years as parish administrator at Our Lady of

Mount Carmel Church, in addition to being bookkeeper for Heath St. Leonard Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and brothers Robert and Jeffrey. Survivors include her husband, George W. "Bill"; a son, Aaron (Emily); a daughter, Amy Kane; two grandsons and a granddaughter.

Bishop Gilbert I. Sheldon

Funeral Mass for Bishop Gilbert I. Sheldon, 96, the third bishop of the Diocese of Steubenville, who died Monday, April 24, was celebrated Tuesday, May 2 at Steubenville Holy Rosary Church.

"Bishop Sheldon personified a shepherd's generosity and compassionate heart. His love for the people of God was evident in his travels throughout the diocese as he shared the good news of Jesus Christ. As his episcopal motto illustrated, he was strong in the faith," said Bishop Jeffrey Monforton, the current bishop of Steubenville.

Bishop Sheldon served as bishop of Steubenville from April 2, 1992 until his retirement in 2002, after he had reached the mandatory retirement age for bishops of 75. He succeeded Bishop Albert Ottenweller, who retired in 1992, also for age reasons.

He was born on Sept. 20, 1926 in Cleveland, one of 12 children of Ignatius and Stephanie (Olszewski) Sheldon.

He received his early education in Cleveland and enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps after graduation from high school in 1944. He went on to receive de-

grees from John Carroll University and St. Mary Seminary, both in Cleveland, and the Ohio Consortium of Seminaries in Columbus. In addition, he has been awarded honorary degrees from Wheeling Jesuit University and Franciscan University of Steubenville.

He was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Cleveland on Feb. 28, 1953 by Archbishop Edward Hoban. On June 11, 1976, he was ordained an auxiliary bishop of Cleveland by Bishop (later Cardinal) James Hickey.

While bishop of Steubenville, he served on the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' committees for Latin America, Administration, National Advisory Council, Missions and Nominations, and as a board member of the Pontifical College Josephinum.



MEDICAL, continued from Page 17

lake and Peter receiving the keys to the kingdom. He didn't have any religious upbringing or art training. These came from the spirituality which had formed inside him in spite of living a hard life.

"As a chaplain, I've seen several instances where patients' real spirituality wasn't accepted by people in authority. One man said he talked to God, and you could see his face shine like that of Moses when describing these encounters. A psychiatrist tried to give him involuntary psychiatric hospitalization and force him to take antipsychotic medication for being spiritually delusional.

"But he was able to get a public defender who was a practicing Catholic and ordered a second psychiatric opinion. The second psychiatrist and the judge did not find the man psychotic and released him immediately.

"In another case, two believing Christian women in a state psychiatric hospital were labeled spiritually delusional. After a believing advanced-practice registered nurse ordered faith-based counseling for them, the diagnosis for them was rescinded. There are many other cases like this.

"I see my patients loving each other," said Sipos, who also chairs the Colum-

bus council of the National Association of Catholic Nurses. "Please take good care of them. Like the abandoned people that Mother Teresa served who were dirty, smelling and dying, they are the face of God.

"As she said, 'Do all things with great love.' In loving one another, through our works we bring an increase in grace and a growth in divine love. We greatly underestimate the power of prayer and the difference it will mean in our world," Sipos said.

Other speakers and topics were Dr. Ashley Fernandes of Ohio State University and Roland Millare of the St. John Paul II Foundation on "Christian Anthropology as a Foundation for Ethical Medicine"; Dr. Dominique Monlezun of the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center on "Catholic Social Doctrine and Its Implications for Health Care"; Dr. Alicia W. Thompson of Westerville on "Infertility and Artificial Reproductive Technologies"; and Drs. King and Thompson and registered nurse Michele Faehnle on "Ethical Challenges in Accompanying Women With Holistic Medical Care."

Bishop Earl Fernandes, Dr. Fernandes' brother, gave opening remarks, and the program closed with Mass and a reception.

About 100 people attended, including several laypersons, among whom was Barbara Distelhorst of Powell St. Joan of Arc Church, who registered on the day before the conference.

"My husband's father had been a doctor, and my husband was a lawyer, and I understood all the conflicts that are out

See MEDICAL, Page 21

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

A	C	A	C	I	A		C	A	G	N	E	Y			
A	O		B	A	S	I	L		I		E				
I	S		E	A		A	N	G	E	L	A				
G	N	A	T		L	A	I	T		C		S			
R		E			N			W	H	E	A	T			
E	V	I	L		N	O	T	R	E			N			
E		L		I	E		I			C					
N	A	B	O	T	H			G	O	S	P	E	L		
L				I	A		H		T			A			
T				L	I	G	H	T		A	S	I	T		
C	A	R	O	L			A			T		I			
O		E			P	A	T	E	N		I	C	O	N	
H	E	L	E	N	A		H		I		O	N			
A		I			P	E	A	R	L		N		C		
N	I	C	A	E	A					E	A	S	T	E	R



WORDS OF WISDOM SOLUTION

Diocese planning organ, vocal training for parish musicians, singers

To help parishes enhance the sacredness of their liturgies, the diocese's director of music has outlined initiatives that he hopes to implement in the coming year.

Dr. Richard Fitzgerald, who also serves as the director of music and as an organist at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, was appointed by Bishop Earl Fernandes last fall to take on additional duties at the diocesan level to guide and unify music directors and musicians in parishes.

Fitzgerald took the first step toward that goal with a Gold Mass for musicians on Nov. 18 at the cathedral, bringing together approximately 75 choir leaders and singers from throughout the diocese to rehearse and participate in an ensemble at a Mass celebrated by Bishop Fernandes.

"I think it's imperative that we establish some sense of community and an outlet for all musicians within the diocese to come together and share ideas and resources, and to have a sense of camaraderie and feel a little less isolated," Fitzgerald said.

"There's a sense of isolation in parishes because we're all so busy, and then COVID made us more isolated."

Sacred music that enhances the Mass was one of the bishop's directives to Fitzgerald and Father Paul Keller, OP, the interim director of the diocese's Office for Divine Liturgy, when he appointed them to the diocesan positions last year.

"We're following the bishop's initiative on what he would like liturgical music to be," Fitzgerald said, "which is very much in line with Church teaching on music. We're trying to establish some parameters."

In addition to providing musical resources, Fitzgerald plans to offer diocesan organist and vocal training programs in the future.

The organist training program, which could begin as early as this fall, will be led by Amanda Renée Mole, the cathedral's principal organist and assistant director of music, with the help of other skilled church organists in the diocese who have received formal training on the instrument.

"She's imminently qualified," Fitzgerald said. "She has a great concert career and she's an excellent pedagogue, and I think she's the perfect person for this."

Fitzgerald envisions candidates for the program to be anyone with some piano background who has interest in playing the organ. In particular, he would like to encourage "teenagers who have had piano training that maybe want to get a foot in the door."

Finding qualified organists can be a struggle for parishes. Oftentimes, organists are self-taught and have never received formal instruction. The program would be open to them as well.

"The lessons would be sponsored by the parish and sponsored in part by the diocese," Fitzgerald said. "And it would include not just the teaching but materials."

"We want to make it as convenient as possible for the students, and so I would imagine that most of the training would happen in the parishes. That being said, we'd also love to expose them to the organ at the cathedral, which is a great instrument to teach on."

"The goal is to promulgate the organ as the primary instrument of the Mass and to train people to become good church organists, not necessarily concert organists."

A similar vocal training program would be geared toward choir members and cantors who would like to improve their singing but haven't had formal training.

Fitzgerald has asked Dawn Beckman, a professional singer and member of the cathedral's schola and a cantor there, to be the primary instructor for voice.

One of the differences between the vocal and organ programs would be the possibility of group settings with voice training.

"Possibly five to 10 people working on the same thing at the same time with each other," Fitzgerald said.

His hope is to get the voice and cantor training off the ground by this fall "with

the same idea of creating a network of teachers, with the teaching going on mostly in the parishes."

"I imagine there are many choir members who have never had formal training in music reading and/or vocal technique, and my hope is that a vocalist training program would give them some outlet to learn and to improve their ministry."

In addition to the voice classes, Fitzgerald plans to continue to offer what he calls a one-day crash course in liturgical chant at the cathedral in late summer that's open to anyone.

"Last year is the first time we did it, and we got a good response," he said. "There were people from the community who participated."

Also in the planning stages is an annual one-day retreat for church musicians and priests that likely will take place in the summer at the cathedral.

The agenda would include a keynote talk possibly given by Bishop Fernandes, workshops on techniques and other topics, repertoire, singing through various pieces, liturgical planning, sacred music and a closing Mass or Vespers service.

"People coming together to share different experiences is of great value," Fitzgerald said. "It's opportunities such as these that help us to learn the bishop's desires in relation to sacred music for the Mass."

Lent at St. Dominic includes devotions, events

Columbus St. Dominic Church marked the Lenten season with both muted celebrations and special events that made the solemn penitential period deeply meaningful.

On Sunday, Feb. 26, parishioners celebrated Black History Month with a focus on heroic Black Catholics. At a luncheon for the occasion, speakers recounted the life of St. Josephine Bakhita, who was kidnapped as a girl in Sudan by slave traders, suffered beatings, cruelty and being sold repeatedly until she wound up in Italy where she was left in the care of the Canossian sisters. She went to court, won her freedom and spent the rest of her life in service to others as a

Canossian sister.

The presentation also commemorated the selfless service of six African American candidates for sainthood: Venerable Father Augustus Tolton, Venerable Henriette DeLille and Venerable Pierre Toussaint; and Servants of God Sister Thea Bowman, Mother Elizabeth Lange and Julia Greeley.

In March, Beverly Thompson, who was director of religious education at St. Dominic for more than 20 years, offered a deep dive into the origins and meaning of traditional Lenten practices and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

She explained everything from the meaning of the word "Lent" (from the

Old English word "lencten," meaning "springtime") to clarifying the obligations of fasting and abstinence as Catholics imitate Jesus' 40 days in the desert fasting and praying.

Thompson also explained the significance of Adoration, the vestments, monstrance and other sacred objects and the various prayers and songs for this liturgy. It was a good primer for those unfamiliar with Adoration, a refresher for those already familiar and an invitation for all to make the special devotion part of their prayer life during Lent and beyond.

St. Dominic has Adoration on the first Friday of every month after 11 a.m. Mass

and the second Sunday of each month following 11:30 a.m. Mass.

Also in March, the St. Dominic community witnessed the confirmation of eight young people. The Mass was a joy-filled combination of St. Dominic's gospel Mass and the liturgical flavor of Cameroon West Africa where the students' families are from.

Bishop Earl Fernandes conferred the sacrament and said how special it was to have an international gathering that included a Philippine priest (Father Ramon Owera, pastor), Father Jesse Chick from Cameroon and himself of Indian heritage.

MEDICAL, continued from Page 20

there today," she said. "So, I came because I wanted to listen to what the Catholic medical community has to say.

"I need encouragement where all of this (bioethics) is concerned because I'm older, so I know what we've come from. And I'm grateful, I am encouraged. I'm taking hope away from this." Distelhorst had her registration fee refunded by winning a raffle among last-minute ticket purchasers.

During the lunch break, medi-

cal professionals recited the Promise of the Catholic Health Care Professional, a variation of the Hippocratic Oath, and the CMA presented its annual awards.

The St. Luke Faith and Reason Award for fourth-year medical students was presented to Dr. Ansel Malin, who will be graduating from the Ohio State University medical school later this year. Pro-life pharmacists Dorie and Greg France were recipients of the St. Mother Teresa Service to Medi-

cine Award for nonphysicians.

Dr. Dennis Doody, a pediatrician for more than 40 years who was among the founders of the CMA, received the St. Gianna Courage in Medicine Award for physicians or priests. The Pope St. John Paul II Culture of Life Award for organizations exemplifying the CMA's mission and values went to the Women's Care Center of Columbus and was accepted by center representatives Madeline Pesavento and Katie Beiter.

FOSTER, continued from Page 15

that of those who had become part of our story through fostering and adoption, into beauty and redemption.

"Through everything, we have learned that our hearts are always capable of expanding to love more."

To share a foster or adoption story, contact Kimberly at info@springsoflove.org. To learn more about fostering and adoption, visit springsoflove.org.

Springs of Love was founded to encourage, educate and equip Catholics to discern and live out the call to foster and adopt. A new Springs of Love video series is available on Formed and EWTN On-Demand. Go to springsoflove.org for the Be Not Afraid Foster and Adoption Discernment Retreat and more resources.

Dr. Kimberly Henkel is founder of Springs of Love.

Deaf retreat held at Resurrection

More than 60 deaf Catholics from Cincinnati, Cleveland, Kentucky, Michigan and central Ohio gathered for a daylong retreat on Saturday, April 22 at New Albany Church of the Resurrection. The retreat, titled "Mary Calls Us to Be Holy," was the second for the church.

The retreat presenter was Father Mike Depcik, OSFS, one of nine deaf priests in the United States. Father Depcik, who currently ministers to deaf Catholics for the Archdiocese of Detroit, has given workshops throughout the United States, Canada, Africa, Australia and Europe.

He co-authored a video curriculum for deaf youth titled "Confirmation: Strengthen in Faith" and hosts a weekly video vlog of reflections on the Sunday readings for the Catholic deaf community. Learn more by visiting <https://www.frmnd.org>.

At the retreat, each participant received a rosary and prayer book blessed by Father Depcik and had the opportunity to receive anointing of the sick and go to confession. Father Dave Cornett, of the Steubenville diocese and fluent in American Sign Language (ASL), assisted with confession.

Father Denis Kigozi, pastor at Church of the Resurrection, and Father Anish Thomas, HGN, parochial vicar, celebrated Mass with Father Depcik. The Mass was celebrated in ASL with Chadd Navejar providing voice interpretation for the hearing community and Jessica Metzger interpreting the music. Navejar and Metzger also provided interpreting services at the retreat.

Since 2004, Church of the Resurrec-



Father Mike Depcik, OSFS (center), a deaf priest, celebrates Mass for the deaf community at New Albany Church of the Resurrection on April 22. Assisting are Father Dennis Kigozi (right), the parish pastor, and Father Anish Thomas, HGN, the parochial vicar. *CT photo by Ken Snow*

tion has had a Deaf Ministry providing interpreting services during liturgies for the deaf/hard of hearing community.

The deaf are encouraged to participate in church ministries and programs.



RUNOHIO

SERVING RUNNERS FOR 35 YEARS!

SUBSCRIBE TODAY

One Year - \$12

runsignup.com/runohio

Ohio's source for running | www.runohio.com

Matt McGowan - runohio@ee.net






Pregnancy Decision
Health Centers

32ND ANNUAL GOLF FOR LIFE
COLUMBUS

MONDAY MAY 22, 2023

THE LAKES GOLF
AND COUNTRY CLUB



SupportLifePDHC.org



CARE CENTER, continued from Page 18

not limited to decisions on ... abortion."

The petition states that an abortion may not be prohibited "if in the professional judgment of the pregnant patient's treating physician it is necessary to protect the pregnant patient's life or health."

With the passage of the amendment, "nothing interferes with the doctor-patient relationship or the right to have an abortion in the state of Ohio," Parker said.

He said abortions are currently legal up to 22 weeks in the state, but with an amendment to the Ohio Constitution, "abortion would be allowed in all stages of pregnancy," meaning, "every abortion is elective," and the "amendment allows for back-alley abortions."

Parker said nobody, including doctors, could interfere with an individual's right to have an abortion, which would create long-term threats to the ability to practice medicine because doctors who morally object to abortion would not have the freedom of conscience protections to refuse to perform an abortion.

The petition is targeting pregnancy

health-care centers, Parker said, because if centers have an ultrasound machine and provide such services, they are deemed medical centers and must follow the law.

"Only 4% of doctors are behind this," Fernandes said. "The other 96% either do not care or are pro-life."

There are currently two resolutions -- one in the Ohio House of Representatives and one in the Ohio Senate -- that would initiate a special statewide election on Aug. 8 allowing Ohio citizens to change the number of votes needed to defeat a proposed amendment from a 50% threshold to a 60% threshold, Brey said. In another change, petition signatures would be required from all 88 Ohio counties rather than the current rule of 44 counties.

Fernandes said now is the time for advocacy, prayer and putting boots on the ground to support the Women's Care Center.

"As my late parents would say, pray," he said. "Get every single person to do the same."

Parker said it is possible to bear witness to the faith in daily life and in a professional career.

He wears a crucifix over his medical scrubs while working at the hospital, he said, and his doctor's office includes an image of the Holy Family and a statue of St. Gianna Beretta Molla, a pediatric physician, wife and mother who sacrificed her life for the wellbeing of her unborn child.

Fernandes and Parker encouraged Catholics to be bold, unafraid and willing to sacrifice social acceptance to defend their faith.

"Once we know the truth, we can't turn away from it."



Beautifully Handcrafted Memorials

From *Our Family* to *Yours*



MODLICH
Monument Company

614-276-1439 modlich-monument.com

St. Andrew students stage art show



Columbus St. Andrew School students from preschool to eighth grade displayed more than 800 of their creations at the annual spring art show in April. The exhibition, which included live music and poetry readings, was curated by art teacher Denise Coyne. (Left photo) Second-grade student Emery Baker shares her ceramic art with her mother, Mindy Kowalski, and (right photo) sixth-grader Agatha Foley stands with her artwork created using print-stamping and painting techniques. *Photos courtesy St. Andrew School*

St. Michael turns 'R.E.D.' to support deployed military



Worthington St. Michael School celebrated Ohio Military Family Spirit Week from April 17 to 21 with a number of activities that included members of the school community wearing red for "R.E.D." (Remember Everyone Deployed) Day on Friday. Students participated in a contest to design a prayer card to pray for military members and made "mail call" cards for veterans participating in the Columbus Honor Flight to show gratitude. Books were read aloud in classes that informed students about the U.S. military and student council members wrote and led the school in a prayer titled Student Council Prayer for the Military: "Dear Jesus, Please protect the members of our St. Michael community that are on active duty. Please comfort their families and provide peace to their worried hearts. Please watch over our active duty military members who have risked their lives to protect our country and our freedom. Amen" Special prayer intentions each day during morning announcements were: Monday, Military families and the challenges they face daily; Tuesday, Military children and families moving; Wednesday, Military families in foreign countries; Thursday, military children attending a new school; and Friday, military children and family members deployed. This effort is part of a larger commitment to educate in the virtue of patriotism and is in accord with one of the school's core beliefs to practice the virtue of patriotism to give due honor to God and country. *Photo courtesy St. Michael School*

DeSales juniors qualify for national merit program



Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School juniors (from left) Beau Gantz, Maria Thomas and Brandon Heil qualified for the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program as a result of their performance on the 2022 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. From more than 1.3 million entrants, each of the students is among the 50,000 highest scoring participants. They will be recognized in the fall as semifinalists or commended students. *Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School*

DeSales student-athletes commit to colleges



Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School seniors from spring signing day who will continue their athletic careers in college are (front row from left) Liz Meeker, track and field, Tiffin University; Kennedy Hawk, softball, Case Western Reserve University; Josie Dages, cross country, Walsh University; Jake Pierce, golf, Ohio Northern University; (back row from left) Asher Hayles, football, Ashland University; Ben Famosa, football, Tiffin University; Niko Kreuzer, baseball, University of Charleston; Nathan Hickey, baseball, Taylor University; Carter Folian, baseball, Sussex Community College; Tyler Blackburn, baseball, Chatham University; Neal Godfrey, track and field, Wittenberg University; and Enoch Oye, soccer, Ashland University. *Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School*

Turn Your Tax Dollars into Scholarships for Our Catholic Schools...



...and help make an authentic Catholic education affordable and accessible for all!

Thanks to a law passed in late 2021, as an Ohio taxpayer, when you make a donation to the **Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund**, you receive a dollar-for-dollar credit* on your state income tax liability while creating much-needed scholarship dollars for **Our Catholic Schools** in the Diocese of Columbus.

Visit our web site or scan the QR code to learn more!

*Ohio tax credit is limited up to \$750 per person, or \$1,500 if married filing jointly. Consult your tax advisor for guidance. The Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund is a certified scholarship granting organization in the state of Ohio.



www.emmausroadscholarship.org



SERVICES AT YOUR CATHOLIC CEMETERIES OF COLUMBUS

MONDAY, MAY 29, 2023

ST. JOSEPH

6440 S. High Street
(Route 23) South of I-270

11 A.M. MASS
IN OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS CHAPEL
Flag Ceremony at 12:00 Noon
614-491-2751

RESURRECTION

9571 N. High Street
(Route 23) North of I-270

1 P.M. MASS
IN CHAPEL MAUSOLEUM
Flag Ceremony at 12:00 Noon
614-888-1805

HOLY CROSS

11539 National Rd. S.W.
(Route 40) East of I-270

11 A.M. MASS
IN CHAPEL MAUSOLEUM
Flag Ceremony at 10:30 a.m.
740-927-4442

MT. CALVARY

581 Mt. Calvary Avenue
at West Mound Street

**11 A.M. LITURGY OF
THE HOURS**
ON PRIEST'S CIRCLE
614-491-2751