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FOUR SEMINARIANS ORDAINED AS DEACONS

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Changes at the St. Thomas More Newman Center next to the Ohio State University campus in Columbus continue with an interior renovation that includes the chapel, Page 4



FESTIVAL TIME

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Two permanent deacons named to new positions

Bishop Earl Fernandes has appointed Deacon Frank Iannarino as the director of ministry and life for the permanent diaconate in the diocese and Deacon Steve Petrill as the director of diaconal formation.

Deacons Iannarino and Petrill previously held the titles of director and associate director, respectively, in the diocesan Office of the Diaconate. Their appointments to the new positions became effective May 1.

As director of ministry and life of the diaconate, Deacon Iannarino will be responsible for planning and directing all activities and operations in relation to ordained deacons. He will authorize action, after consultation with the director of diaconal formation, the vicar for clergy and the bishop of Columbus, for the good of the Church in the diocese.

Deacon Iannarino, who had served as director since 1992 when Bishop James Griffin established the diocese's Office of the Diaconate, will continue to lead 11 candidates currently in formation who hope to be ordained in 2024.



Deacon Petrill



Deacon Iannarino

Ordained as a deacon in 1989 by Bishop Griffin, Iannarino also currently serves as a deacon at Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church, procurator-advocate for the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal and an adjunct instructor at the Pontifical College Josephinum Diaconate Institute. Previous assignments include adminis-

trator at Columbus St. John the Baptist Church and chaplain at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School.

As the director of diaconal formation, Deacon Petrill exercises responsibility for the inquirer, aspirant and candidate formation in the diaconate. He also oversees the design, implementation and evaluation of the formation program.

Deacon Petrill will begin to screen a class of aspirants and direct a new candidate cohort who will be chosen to begin in January 2025.

Named associate director of the Office of the Diaconate in 2022, Deacon Petrill cur-

rently serves at St. Brigid of Kildare Church. He previously was assigned to Powell St. Joan of Arc Church after his ordination by Bishop Frederick Campbell in 2016.

Deacon Petrill is a professor of psychology at Ohio State University. He also serves as a board member at the Josephinum.

The permanent diaconate was restored in the United States after the Second Vatican Council. The ordination of the first permanent deacons in the Diocese of Columbus took place in 1975.

Deacon candidates who are selected during the inquiry process study for four years in the Diaconate School of Theology before receiving the sacrament of holy orders.

Permanent deacons serve part time or full time in parishes, schools, hospitals, prisons or other ministries. They assist bishops and priests in proclaiming the Gospel at Mass, administering the sacraments and doing charitable work.

Most of the 120 permanent deacons in the diocese are married and have jobs outside the Church or are retired.

Bishop Griffin marks 40th anniversary of installation in Columbus

Bishop Griffin celebrates 40th anniversary of installation in Columbus

Bishop James Griffin marked another milestone in his 63-year career as a priest and bishop on Tuesday, April 25, which was the 40th anniversary of his installation as the 10th bishop of Columbus.

The retired bishop said there was nothing special to mark the occasion. He celebrated Mass at the condo where he has lived in Powell since retiring as

bishop for health reasons in 2004.

Bishop Griffin had been an auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Cleveland when he was appointed by Pope St. John Paul II on Feb. 7, 1983 to succeed retiring Bishop Edward Herrmann. Bishop Frederick Campbell, then auxiliary bishop of St. Paul-Minneapolis, was Bishop Griffin's successor in Columbus.

Bishop Campbell also lives in retirement in the Columbus area. The two frequently attend diocesan clergy gather-

ings and other events together.

Bishop Griffin was shepherd of the Diocese of Columbus for 21 years, longer than anyone except Bishop James Hartley, whose tenure began in 1904 and lasted for 40 years until his death in 1944.

Knee replacement surgery after his retirement enabled Bishop Griffin to keep a busy schedule. He served as a weekend associate priest at Powell St. Joan of Arc Church and played golf often on the course adjacent to his home until the COVID pandemic hit in mid-March 2020.

He said he now walks to the golf course but doesn't play. He still will celebrate Mass in a church on occasion if a priest needs help.

He said his thoughts on his future are much the same as those he expressed to *The Catholic Times* in an August



Bishop Emeritus James Griffin concelebrates the diocesan Chrism Mass on Tuesday, April 4 at Westerville St. Paul Church.

CT photo by Ken Snow

2022 interview. The retired bishop said then, "Old age has been a gift from God because of how it's allowed me to look back and appreciate what I've done, to live in the present and enjoy the opportunities of each day and to look forward to the joy of returning to God. At my age, death is a constant thought. I feel ready for it, and when I get up every morning, the first thing I do is say, 'God, thank you for this day.'"

CORRECTIONS

The diocesan financial report is being republished in this issue of *The Catholic Times* to include all of the financial statements from the previous fiscal year. In the May 7 edition of *The Catholic Times*, an error led to the duplication and omission of several statements.

A story on a Friends of the Women's Care Center gathering to discuss the U.S. Supreme Court's Dobbs decision and an Ohio abortion amendment in the May 7 issue inadvertently attributed a comment to Dr. Ashley Fernandes about the percentage of doctors being behind a petition targeting pregnancy centers. Dr. Ashley Fernandes did not make that comment.

An article in the May 7 issue incorrectly listed the times and locations for the baccalaureate Mass and graduation ceremony at Columbus Bishop Hartley High School. The baccalaureate is at 7 p.m. Friday, May 26 at Columbus St. Catharine Church and the commencement ceremony is at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 27 at Ohio Dominican University's Alumni Hall.



Front Page photo: DIOCESAN SEMINARIANS ORDAINED AS DEACONS

Newly ordained transitional deacons outside Westerville St. Paul Church on Friday, May 5 with Bishop Earl Fernandes (center) are (from left) Michael Haemmerle, Tyler Carter, Jason Fox and David England.

CT photo by Ken Snow

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10 new deaneries will support priests in diocese

As the diocese continues to prepare for further implementation of the Real Presence Real Future initiative in the coming weeks, Bishop Earl Fernandes has announced a structure of additional support for priests with the institution of 10 deaneries based on geography.

Each deanery, also called a vicariate, will be led by a dean or vicar forane, a termed used in Canon Law to describe the priest appointed by the bishop to serve in this role.

Essentially, the dean or vicar forane works to promote and coordinate pastoral activity in his vicariate at the behest of the bishop while providing spiritual, liturgical and personal support to the priests in his region.

The 10 vicariates are spread throughout the diocese and include as few as seven parishes and as many as 16. A list of vicariates and vicar foranes can be found in an accompanying chart.

The vicariate structure will be implemented when new clergy assignments take effect in July.

This format replaces the current structure of three regional vicariates under the leadership of Fathers David Schalk, David Sizemore and Bob Penhallurick.

The restructuring of the vicariates into 10 deaneries is actually a return to an earlier period in the diocese when there were 12 deaneries.

"The dean or vicar forane helps the bishop to animate the priests in a particular region of the diocese," Bishop Fernandes explained.

The needs in a particular vicariate or deanery often vary by region.

"If you're in a rural area, and you have

concerns regarding farming or loss of population, or you might not have a robust Catholic school system, you're much more invested in PSR (Parish School of Religion) and catechetical programs," Bishop Fernandes said.

"Sometimes within a deanery or a region you're looking for priests to be confessors and have penance services, so (the dean) can coordinate their activities. Or sometimes you've got hospitals, but who's going to cover the hospitals when you've got the parishes? But a coordinated and a collaborative effort among the priests can help us in the mission of evangelization."

A key element of a dean's role will be to advise the bishop about happenings in their regions.

"Also, the deans can get the priests together for moments of prayer and spirituality as well as to just lift their own morale," Bishop Fernandes said. "Sometimes you're in the trenches, and it's good to just be with others to strengthen you."

Ultimately, the deaneries or vicariates along with a diocesan Presbyteral Council will provide a structure that facilitates the mission of evangelization, which forms the backbone of the Real Presence Real Future initiative.

"The priests have a way of eliciting issues from other priests to bring to our attention," Bishop Fernandes said. "So, we can have, again, a relationship of listening and trying to take concrete actions that will help support the priests and help support the mission of evangelization."



Clergy assignments

The following clergy assignments in the diocese have been announced:

Confirming the appointment of the Provincial of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, **Reverend Antonio Baus, C.P.P.S.**, from Pastor, St. James the Less Church, Columbus, to service outside of the diocese, effective July 1, 2023.

Confirming the appointment of the Provincial of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, **Reverend Stephen Dos**

Santos, C.P.P.S., from service outside of the diocese to Pastor, St. James the Less Church, Columbus, effective July 1, 2023.

Confirming the appointment of the Provincial of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, **Reverend James Gaynor, C.P.P.S.**, from Senior Parochial Vicar of Saint James the Less Church, Columbus, to service outside of the diocese effective July 1, 2023.

Diocesan deaneries

VICARIATE NO. 1

Marion/Delaware/Union/Madison Deanery

Father David Schalk, Vicar Forane

Ada Our Lady of Lourdes, Delaware St. Mary, Kenton Immaculate Conception, Marion St. Mary, Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes, Cardington Sacred Hearts, Sunbury St. John Neumann, Powell St. Joan of Arc/Columbus St. Peter, Westerville St. Paul, Plain City St. Joseph

VICARIATE NO. 2

Tuscarawas/Holmes/Knox/Coshocton Deanery

Father Mark Hammond, Vicar Forane

Coshocton Sacred Heart, Dennison Immaculate Conception, Dover St. Joseph, Millersburg St. Peter, Glenmont Ss. Peter & Paul, Newcomerstown St. Francis de Sales, New Philadelphia Sacred Heart, Bolivar Holy Trinity, Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul, Danville St. Luke

VICARIATE NO. 3

Muskingum/Perry Deanery

Father Craig Eilerman, Vicar Forane

Corning St. Bernard, Crooksville Church of the Atonement, Dresden St. Ann, Mattingly Settlement St. Mary, Junction City St. Patrick, New Lexington St. Rose, Somerset Holy Trinity, Somerset St. Joseph, Zanesville St. Nicholas, Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas, Bremen St. Mary, Lancaster St. Bernadette, Lancaster St. Mark, Lancaster Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Logan St. John, Sugar Grove St. Joseph

VICARIATE NO. 4

South Deanery

Father Christopher Tuttle, Vicar Forane

Circleville St. Joseph, Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne, Chillicothe St. Mary, Chillicothe St. Peter, Jackson Holy Trinity, Portsmouth Holy Redeemer, Portsmouth St. Mary of the Annunciation, Waverly St. Mary, Wellston Ss. Peter & Paul, Pond Creek Holy Trinity, Wheelersburg St. Peter, Zaleski St. Sylvester

VICARIATE NO. 5

Licking Deanery

Father David Sizemore, Vicar Forane

Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Granville St. Edward the Confessor, Heath St. Leonard, Johnstown Church of the Ascension, Newark Blessed Sacrament, Newark St. Francis de Sales, New Albany

Church of the Resurrection

VICARIATE NO. 6

Center-South Columbus Deanery

Father Stephen Alcott, OP, Vicar Forane

St. Joseph Cathedral/Holy Cross, Ss. Augustine & Gabriel, St. Dominic, St. Patrick, Corpus Christi/St. Ladislav, St. Mary, Mother of God, Holy Rosary-St. John, St. Leo Oratory

VICARIATE NO. 7

Northwest Columbus Deanery

Father Robert Penhallurick, Vicar Forane

St. Agatha, St. Andrew, Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare, Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator, St. Christopher, St. Margaret of Cortona, Our Lady of Victory, St. Timothy

VICARIATE NO. 8

North High/Northland Deanery

Father Michael Lumpe, Vicar Forane

St. Francis of Assisi, Holy Name/Santa Cruz/St. Thomas More Newman Center, Immaculate Conception, St. John the Baptist/Sacred Heart/Korean Community, Worthington St. Michael, St. Elizabeth/St. Matthias/St. Anthony, St. James the Less, Our Lady of Peace

VICARIATE NO. 9

West Columbus Deanery

Father Thomas Buffer, Vicar Forane

Holy Family, St. Agnes, St. Aloysius, St. Cecilia, St. Mary Magdalene, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help, London St. Patrick, West Jefferson Ss. Simon & Jude, St. Stephen the Martyr

VICARIATE NO. 10

East Columbus Deanery

Father Ted Sill, Vicar Forane

Gahanna St. Matthew, St. Catharine, Christ the King/St. Thomas the Apostle, Holy Spirit/St. Phillip, Pickerington St. Elizabeth Ann Seton/Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Canal Winchester St. John XXIII/Groveport St. Mary, Reynoldsburg St. Pius X.

A Vicar Forane, according to the 1983 Code of Canon Law, is appointed by the bishop to assist him in overseeing a group of parishes in a deanery and to provide oversight and support to the pastors in carrying out their duties

PAY TRIBUTE TO A 2023 GRADUATE

Congratulate your 2023 graduate with a personalized listing in the June 4 issue of The Catholic Times. Details can be found at <https://dioceseofcolumbus.org/graduate-congratulation-ads>.

\$3 million renovation set for Newman Center

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

The Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center, located near the campus of Ohio State University, will undergo a complete interior renovation during summer 2023.

The project, which is estimated to cost \$3 million, is intended to upgrade the interior of the building and provide a more functional space for students. The redesigned space will enhance the capacity for collaboration, discipleship and community-building among students, said Sarah Lightle, communications associate at the Newman Center.

“The ultimate goal of remodeling is to help students on campus come to know Jesus,” said Jocelyn Trout, vice president of the Newman Center’s student board. “More specifically, we hope to create a student-centered environment ... by creating more space for Bible studies, small groups, as well as study spaces and the new coffee shop.”

The student organization at the Newman Center meets monthly, and teams meet weekly to discuss their vision for the facility, their concerns and how to best serve students.

“The Newman Center will be run by students for the students,” said Elyse Holdgreve, secretary of the student board. “Our responsibility as the exec board is to ensure that this is happening. We will constantly be hearing student feedback and doing our best to point Buckeye Catholic (ministry) in the direction that students want.”

One thing that students might want most from the Newman Center, she said, is a place that feels like home and a church that reflects their home parish.

“With so many changes in the life of a college student, the Catholic church on campus should feel like a second home to them,” said Pat McNulty, assistant director of the Newman Center. “Our hope is to create a more welcoming environment for our students by reorganizing the space to be more accommodating for them.”

“A revitalized sanctuary space that mirrors the churches across our diocese will help students to feel more at home while worshipping our Lord. Additionally, we are reimagining our social spaces and placing them at the forefront of our building so that students can spend time here and feel confident about inviting their friends to our church as well.”

The nave, the central part of the church building where the congregation worships during Mass, will have a seating capacity of almost 500 after the renovation is completed.

The sanctuary, the front of the church where the altar is located and the Mass is celebrated by the priest, is currently on the west side of the building. The

sanctuary will be shifted to the north side, adjacent to Norwich Avenue.

A landing that is currently filled with chairs and is part of the nave will be the new sanctuary. The sanctuary will be located next to the sacristy, the room where the priest prepares for the celebration of the Mass and sacred objects are stored.

“When most students enter the Newman Center, they do not feel as though they are entering into a church,” Trout said. “By implementing a more traditional sanctuary, the space can help orient the hearts and minds of students to the full reality of Who is present in the tabernacle and what takes place during Mass.”

The existing confessional, on the west wall, will be used as a sacristy for the altar servers to store the liturgical vesture, or clothing worn by altar servers, or other sacred objects. Two confessionals will be built next to the server sacristy.

The east side of the nave will be closed off, and a group event space will be created in its place. A wall will be constructed to divide the nave from the new event space.

“The new social event space will allow students to go straight from Mass to our student nights and will generally just be easier for students to find and use,” Holdgreve said. “Right now, our event space is upstairs, and many students do not know that it exists. I look forward to having more people stick around for events now that it is so accessible.”

Existing staff offices at the Newman Center, which are located along the south entrance of the building on Lane Avenue, will be moved upstairs to the second level of the building.

The first-floor offices will be removed, and office walls will be demolished. A fully furnished student lounge will be created in their place. This will make the area more conducive to student interaction, Lightle said.

Father Adam Streitenberger, executive director of the Newman Center, will work among students in an office space incorporated into the new student lounge.

A student lounge is currently upstairs on a landing that overlooks the sanctuary and nave. That room will be converted to a choir loft.

The existing chapel in the southeast corner of the Newman Center will be replaced with a coffee shop. The new coffee shop, directly across from the student lounge, will serve as a place for study and for students to encounter other Catholic young adults.

The chapel was at one time used for Eucharistic Adoration, but the small space could no longer accommodate the large number of students regularly coming to spend time with Jesus in the Eucharist.

“We have outgrown the chapel,” Lightle

said. “Eucharistic Adoration was moved to the main sanctuary.”

The Newman Center is home to Buckeye Catholic, a diocesan-led mission for the evangelization of young adults.

Buckeye Catholic has seen significant growth in student involvement during the past year. At this year’s Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Mass on April 8, 20 students entered the Catholic Church at the Newman Center.

“These renovations will set us up to grow the mission,” Father Streitenberger said. “We’ve had a very successful year with our numbers and students getting involved, and with these changes in the design of the building, it will help us to grow even more and give us more room for Bible studies and small groups, making the Newman Center more conducive for student activity.”

The Newman Center has partnered with Elford Inc. of Columbus to perform the building’s construction. The interior will be redesigned by Clark Architects Collaborative 3, and the space will be furnished by King Business Interiors.

Clark Architects Collaborative 3 has worked with Newman Centers at Catholic churches across the country to design their interior spaces. The redesign of the St. Thomas More Newman Center will be the company’s eighth Newman Center project in the United States, McNulty said.

Traditional forms and designs inform the work of Clark Architects Collaborative 3, according to its website. The number “3” in the company’s name “denotes that every design needs an owner, a creative team and faith. It is that working trinity and the Holy Trinity that form



Drawings courtesy St. Thomas More Newman Center

the core of our work,” the company said on its website.

“They have a great understanding of our mission and what our building needs to be to fulfill that mission,” McNulty said.

The redesigned Newman Center will also provide a place for Catholic missionary apostolate groups on Ohio State’s campus to build community with students.

The Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) and Saint Paul’s Outreach (SPO) are two Catholic missionary outreach programs that have chapters in Columbus and minister to college students and young adults on Ohio State’s campus.

The Newman Center offers prayer groups and Bible studies in collabora-

Through sacraments, Holy Spirit, our faith can grow stronger

“It is faith that gives us the ultimate certainty upon which we base our whole lives – a humble commonality of belief in company with the Church of every age under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.” – Pope Benedict XVI, *Jesus of Nazareth: Holy Week*

“When St. Peter confessed that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, Jesus declared to him that this revelation did not come ‘from flesh and blood,’ but from ‘my Father who is in heaven.’ Faith is a gift of God, a supernatural virtue infused by him. ‘Before this faith can be exercised, man must have the grace of God to move and assist him; he must have the interior helps of the Holy Spirit, who moves the heart and converts it to God, who opens the eyes of the mind and ‘makes it easy for all to accept and believe the truth.’” – *Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) 153*

In my two previous columns, we read how faith is required to discern Real Presence in the Eucharist and how the Apostles often manifested lack of faith and what faith is. We pick up how the Apostles went from “cowering/faithless” to “fearless/faithful.”

We place ourselves after the resurrection. We read in Acts 1:3-5, 8, “To them he (Jesus) presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, you heard from me, for John bap-

AQUINAS CORNER | Richard Arnold

Richard Arnold, a parishioner at Chillicothe St. Mary, holds an MA in Catechetics and Evangelization from Franciscan University of Steubenville and is a husband and a father to two children.



tized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit. ... But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses ... to the end of the earth.”

We find the Holy Spirit “in the background,” so to speak, for much of sacred Scripture up until Pentecost (John 7:39). Here are some sample “pre-Pentecost” passages that point to the power of the Holy Spirit regarding faith:

In Luke 1:41-45, we read how Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, received Mary exclaiming the “mother of my Lord” came to her. In Luke 2:21-38, we read how Simeon was “inspired by the Spirit” to go before his death to see Jesus. Both of these individuals responded in faith to God.

We are all familiar with the story of Pentecost, but we often forget what happened after the reception of the Holy Spirit. We read in Acts 2:14, “But Peter, standing with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, ‘Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words.’”

Peter, who recently denied Jesus three times after saying he would lay down his life for Him, this same guy

(along with the others), is now using the gift of the Holy Spirit to exclaim his faith in Christ Jesus, to strangers.

Peter’s exhortation was so convincing that “they were cut to the heart,” and they asked Peter and the rest of the Apostles what they should do. (Acts 2:37) Peter said, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ (distinguishing it from the baptism of John the Baptist) for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” About 3,000 souls were baptized.

“The Spirit prepares men and goes out to them with his grace, in order to draw them to Christ. The Spirit manifests the risen Lord to them, recalls his word to them and opens their minds to the understanding of his Death and Resurrection. He makes present the mystery of Christ, supremely in the Eucharist, in order to reconcile them, to bring them into communion with God, that they may ‘bear much fruit.’” (CCC 737)

“If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!” (Luke 11:13)

“Through the Church’s sacraments, Christ communicates his Holy and sanctifying Spirit to the members of his Body.” (CCC 739)

You and I have the same Holy Spirit Who the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Apostles have, via baptism and strengthened in confirmation. To have faith, you must be living through the sacraments.

It’s time for a Eucharistic revival in our hearts

I have a son who is graduating high school this year, and the walk down memory lane that we do at each of these milestones has me revisiting our faith journey along that path.

This child’s journey has taken us on an unexpected trip to many hospitals and surgeries, down into many valleys and to the top of many beautiful mountains. As I walked through the years of so many memories, I noticed a thread that wove itself through it all.

Faith was an anchor. As I pondered that realization in gratitude, I wondered how my faith has stayed constant in the face of such tumult.

Over the past year or so I have started making sourdough bread for my family. To make the bread, you keep a “starter” consisting of fermented flour and water in your fridge and feed it every day to keep it fresh. It doesn’t take long, and often it grows so much you have to share it with others.

I love this metaphor for growing our faith. A solid faith life consists first of a strong relationship with the Lord. When we think of the best relationships in our lives, they are the ones that we invest in. In fact, we long to be with that person because we so enjoy their company. But that comes only from taking the time to feed the relationship.

Over my bread making journey, I have had “starters” that thrive under my daily attention and ones that wither when I grow complacent. And so, it has been with my faith journey.

The bishops of our country have called for a Eucharistic Revival within the Catholic Church, and I’m pondering if

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.



that revival doesn’t start first in our homes. The Oxford dictionary defines revival as “an instance of something becoming popular, active, or important again.”

Looking through the parenting memories there is a longing to return to those early days of instruction and introduction to Who Jesus is, a constant companion, someone Who loves us so dearly. He is a protector, a generous giver. We teach our children to not only see but also to have watchful hearts for Him working in their lives.

Sadly, that zeal and gratitude can grow dim over time. In the midst of running the race of jobs, school, activities and all the relationships that weave into those commitments, Jesus, our constant source of strength, Who is always there, can become taken for granted.

I think this is where revival is needed in my own heart and home, and I’m wondering if it might be the same for yours. If revival is indeed an instance of something becoming important again, then perhaps this call to action from our bishops is well timed.

A love for the Eucharist can surely come straight from time in His presence, during Mass and at Adoration. I think, however, it first must stem from relationship, and

that relationship comes from recognizing His constant presence in our lives.

When I have become distant in a friendship that brought me such joy, I must have enough humility to own up to my human nature and speak truth into the goodness of that relationship. I ask for mercy and understanding, and we begin again.

God hasn’t ever left us. He loves us when we sweep the front doorway of our hearts clean for Him to be welcomed, and He stands at the door in times when we grow complacent and let dust gather. He is ever constant and patient. We are the ones who grow distracted.

As parents, we are always modeling to our children whether they be young or old. I love the word “starter” for my bread recipe because it references a beginning. Revival necessitates a beginning again.

So let us open our hearts again to the Lord, unpack those sacraments that are anchors to our faith that we might have replaced with other decorations throughout our homes. Let’s rededicate ourselves to praying a family rosary together. Let’s actively pray for our family members and be active in asking them to pray for us.

The humility of a parent asking their child to pray for them invites discussion and relationship. May these efforts stir in our hearts and homes a revival for the love of the Eucharist so that when we approach Him in the holy sacrifice of the Mass, a new reverence for the wonder of His friendship may dwell within our hearts.

NEWMAN, continued from Page 4

tion with FOCUS. The redesigned space will give programs and organizations, such as FOCUS and SPO, a place to meet and invite students to join a small group or attend an event.

Providing students with an invitation to get involved in their faith will draw them closer to Jesus Christ, Lightle said, which is one of Buckeye Catholic’s main missions at the Newman Center.

“We hope to make a place where students feel comfortable, seen, heard and supported,” Holdgreve said. “College is a crucial time in the faith life of Catholics. It is during this time that people are rapidly falling away. I hope that a student-centered space makes people feel more comfortable here at Buckeye Catholic and that it becomes easier to find a community and home here.

“This remodel will also help bring unity amongst the greater Catholic community at (Ohio State). Right now, FOCUS and SPO spend a lot of time at their respective homes (off campus) and spaces (on campus), but having spaces for students here (at) the Newman Center to hang out will allow us to be more unified.

“I am also very excited to be able to

invite my non-Catholic friends to come hang out here with me and experience true community. I mean, who doesn’t love a good coffee shop?”

The new sanctuary will be completed before students return to campus in August. Most of the other renovations will be finished in autumn, McNulty said. The project is estimated to be completed by early November 2023.

4 seminarians ordained as deacons: high task of humble service

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

Four diocesan seminarians came one step closer to the priesthood on Friday, May 5, when they were ordained as deacons by Bishop Earl Fernandes at Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church.

The Mass was a special one. It was the first time the bishop celebrated the sacrament of holy orders since being ordained and installed as the 13th bishop of the Diocese of Columbus on May 31, 2022.

The bishop was assisted in the celebration of the Mass by Msgr. Stephan Moloney, vicar general; Father Steven Beseau, rector and president of the Pontifical College Josephinum; Father William Hahn, director of vocations; and Father Jonathan Wilson, pastor of St. Paul the Apostle Church.

Tyler Carter, Jason Fox, Michael Haemmerle and David Johnstone presented themselves before Bishop Fernandes at the altar during the election of the candidates.

The ordinands – the men being ordained – have a final year of theological studies to complete at the seminary before being ordained as priests. They will serve as transitional deacons and then be ordained as priests at this time next year, given that each man continues to discern a call to the priesthood.

In his homily, Bishop Fernandes reflected on the election of the candidates, a ritual dating to the time of the Apostles, where men are presented as deacons.

“This ancient ritual reflects the practice going back to apostolic times when the Apostles searched for ‘men of good repute, filled with wisdom and the Holy Spirit’ to serve as deacons,” he said. “It was on those seven original men that the Apostles laid hands. Now, as these men journey toward the priesthood, they must have the confidence of the people.”

“And, the Church that walks together, Pope Francis says, they have both – candidate and people – embarked on the same journey toward heaven. They are on the same ship, share the same risk and the same security. The people themselves must feel that their highest interest – their salvation – is in hands they can trust. The deacon and the priest must have the respect of the people.”

The bishop reflected on the second reading of the Mass from St. Paul’s first letter to St. Timothy, in which Paul writes that deacons must be dignified, not addicted to drink, not greedy, but hold fast to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. (1 Timothy 3:8-10, 12-13) Men must first be tested, and if nothing is found against them, then they may serve as deacons, St. Paul wrote.

Bishop Fernandes said Carter, Fox, Haemmerle and Johnstone have been tested by their seminary formators, the people of God and the Diocese of Columbus.

Father Hahn testified on behalf of the



The deacon candidates lay prostrate on the floor after the litany of supplication.
CT photos by Ken Snow



Bishop Earl Fernandes hands David Johnstone the Book of the Gospels.

people of God that the candidates had been found worthy to be ordained to the Order of the Diaconate. Father Hahn affirmed they are worthy of the people’s trust, the bishop said, and one day, the people will entrust themselves to these four men. They have passed the test.

In his homily, the bishop outlined the responsibilities of a deacon.

“As ministers of the altar, they will proclaim the Gospel, prepare the sacrifice (of the Mass) and distribute the Body and Blood of the Lord,” he said. “Through the ministry at the altar, they will also be preparing to be the ones, who in union with Christ the High Priest, will one day offer the sacrifice.”

“As ministers of the Word, they will exhort believers and unbelievers alike and instruct them in holy doctrine, presiding over public prayer, including the Liturgy of the Hours. They will administer baptism, assist at marriages, bring Viaticum (the Eucharist) to the dying and conduct funerals.”

Bishop Fernandes spoke of the duties of the diaconate as a call to service. Paraphrasing St. Bernard of Clairvaux, the bishop said the greatness of the ministry

lies in serving for the sake of Jesus.

“These four men will carry out the ministry of charity in the name of the bishop,” he said. “In all these duties, with the power of the Holy Spirit, in such a way that you, the people of God, recognize them as disciples of Him who did not come to be served, but to serve.”

“Yes, this is an exalted ministry, in as much as the ministry is a ministry of service. When we carry out the ministry of the Word, it is not ourselves whom we proclaim, but Jesus Christ and Him crucified, Who rose from the dead, the Word of Life. In the ministry of the altar, we do not draw attention to ourselves, but to Him who lies upon the altar.”

Speaking directly to the ordinands, Bishop Fernandes told the men that the diaconate is a service that goes beyond justice into charity. He recalled Jesus’ example of service at the Last Supper, when Christ served even those who could be recognized as unworthy.

“Jesus gave His disciples an example of this humble service to which you men will be called when, at the Last Supper, He, who was Master and Teacher,



Bishop Earl Fernandes lays hands on Jason Fox.



Bishop Earl Fernandes lays hands on Michael Haemmerle.

washed the feet of the 12 (Apostles), even the feet of Judas who He knew would betray Him,” the bishop said. “In this, He endowed the service of the apostolate for all time with a divine nobility.”

“Through the power of the Holy Spirit and laying on of hands, you will be made servants, not only of God, but of your brothers and sisters. Today, as you enter the clerical state, God is beginning something new in each of you. But at the end of your days on this earth, we hope that Christ says to you, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Master.’”

Bishop Fernandes reflected on the irony of the high rank of deacon being a call to humble service – a high call to lowliness and laying down a life in service to Christ.

“In the old rite of ordination, the bishop specifically addressed candidates saying, ‘Consider well to what high rank in the Church you are ascending; for the deacon must serve,’” Bishop Fernandes said. “It is a high rank, a high task to be of lowly and humble service.”

“If you want to ascend, then the only

See ORDINATION, Page 7

ORDINATION, continued from Page 6

way is to make yourself lowly. And if you want to climb, then I suggest the only thing you climb is the wood of the cross.”

Following the bishop’s homily, there was the promise of the elect. The four men professed a promise of celibacy. Unlike permanent deacons, who may be married before being ordained, transitional deacons make a perpetual vow of celibacy. The men also promised obedience to the bishop and his successors.

After the litany of supplication, when the congregation invoked the intercession of the saints as the four candidates lay prostrate on the church floor before the altar, there was the laying on of hands and prayer of ordination.

The bishop laid his hands on the head of each candidate, while he and the other priests invoked the Holy Spirit to come down upon the ordinands, giving them a sacred character and setting them apart for their ministry.

In this part of the rite of ordination, the men were ordained to service in Holy Orders. Bishop Fernandes completed the act of ordination with a prayer, asking God to dedicate the deacons to the service of the altar and the Word.

The act of ordination was followed by the investiture with stole and dalmatic, a ritual in which the ordinands are vested, or dressed, in the dalmatic (the outer liturgical vestment of the deacon) and the stole, which the deacon wears over his left shoulder while officiating. The stole and dalmatic are signs of the ministry and office of the deacon in the Church.

“The dalmatic should remind you of new life and renewal and should be a reminder of the love which the Lord Jesus has for each of you,” Bishop Fernandes said. “He has clothed you with the garments of salvation. He has covered you with a robe of righteousness or justice.

“Still, as disciples and ministers, you are called to go beyond justice to true charity. At the Last Supper, Jesus gave us both the sacrament of charity and an example of charity.”

Bishop Fernandes placed the Book of the Gospels in the hands of the deacons, symbolizing the deacon’s commitment to proclaim God’s Word. The bishop extended a greeting of peace to each newly ordained deacon. The practice, known as the fraternal kiss of peace, is a sign that the deacon is a co-worker of the bishop in the ministry of the Church.

The other diocesan deacons in attendance lined up and gave the same fraternal sign of peace to each of the four newly ordained deacons.

Deacon Carter, 26, is from Columbus St. Patrick Church. He is a graduate of Columbus Bishop Watterson High School and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy from the Josephinum. He attended Mater Dei Academy in Whitehall for grade school and was active in stage crew, the Prayer Club and the St. Joseph of Arimathea Pallbearer



Tyler Carter is invested with the Stole and Dalmatic by Deacon Chris Campbell (left) and Deacon Cameron Degani of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, New Mexico. *CT photo by Ken Snow*

Society at Bishop Watterson.

While in seminary, Carter has served in summer assignments at Newark St. Francis de Sales, Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul and Danville St. Luke churches. He completed his pastoral year at Gahanna St. Matthew the Apostle Church.

His uncle, Father Tim Hayes, is a priest in the Columbus diocese who is currently serving as pastor of Chillicothe St. Mary, Chillicothe St. Peter and Waverly St. Mary churches.

Deacon Fox, 49, from Powell St. Joan of Arc Church, is a native of Toledo and graduated from Sylvania Southview High School. He moved to central Ohio in 2017 to be near his two sisters who live in the area. Fox is completing his theological studies at Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, Massachusetts, where he is studying alongside men who received a calling to the priesthood at an older age.

Fox lived in Detroit for 10 years. During his time there, he earned an associate degree in law enforcement from Oakland Community College in Auburn Hills, Michigan and studied criminal justice at Ferris State University. He also spent time in Boston tall ship sailing with the Liberty Fleet of Tall Ships.

Upon moving to Columbus, Fox spent a year taking courses in philosophy and theology at Ohio Dominican University before entering seminary at the Josephinum in 2019.

He has served in summer assignments at Scioto Catholic – Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains, Portsmouth St. Mary of the Annunciation, Portsmouth Holy Redeemer and West Portsmouth Holy Trinity – and St. Paul the Apostle churches. He completed his pastoral year at Columbus Christ the King Church.

Deacon Haemmerle, 28, from St. Patrick and Pickerington St. Elizabeth Ann Seton churches, grew up in Carroll, Ohio. He earned a degree in mechanical engineering from Ohio State University and

was homeschooled through high school.

Haemmerle was active in St. Patrick’s youth group, and during his time in college, he was involved with Saint Paul’s Outreach (SPO), a missionary organization that serves young adults on college campuses. Haemmerle lived in SPO’s household in Columbus while studying at Ohio State.

He has served in summer assignments at Columbus St. Andrew, Columbus Holy Family and Chillicothe St. Peter churches. He served his pastoral year at Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator Church.

Deacon Johnstone, 37, is from Marys-

ville Our Lady of Lourdes Church. He was born in Coon Rapids, Minnesota and grew up in Marysville, raised in a Christian denomination. He graduated from Marysville High School and Ohio Wesleyan University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in history.

After graduating college, he moved to northeast China and taught English at a private Chinese university for five years. He returned to the United States in 2012 and spent one year as a substitute teacher in Marysville.

Afterward, he moved to Seattle for three years to be near his then-fiancee and worked for the Salvation Army as a disaster care manager. He took RCIA classes to become Catholic while living in Seattle, but he returned to central Ohio after the wedding engagement was broken off.

He entered the Catholic Church in 2017 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church and began studies at the Josephinum that same year.

He has served in summer assignments at St. Paul the Apostle, St. Vincent de Paul, St. Luke, St. Peter in Chains, St. Mary of the Annunciation, Holy Trinity and Holy Redeemer churches, as well as the former New Boston St. Monica Church (that has since closed), and most recently served at the Basilica of Regina Pacis in Brooklyn, New York.

He spent his pastoral year at Chillicothe St. Mary, St. Peter and Waverly St. Mary churches.



Join BISHOP FERNANDES for the EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL PROCESSIONS

- JUNE 2**
St. Peter, Worthington
7 pm Mass, followed by procession at 8 and party at 9
This is a bilingual event
- JUNE 3**
St. Margaret of Cortona
4 pm Mass, followed by procession
- JUNE 4**
The Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption
11:15 am Mass, followed by procession
- JUNE 5**
St. Matthew, Gahanna
6 pm Mass, followed by procession
- JUNE 6**
Holy Redeemer Church and conclude at St. Mary’s Church, Portsmouth
Noon Mass, followed by procession and 2 pm Luncheon to follow
- JUNE 7**
St. Thomas Aquinas, Zanesville
7 pm Mass, followed by procession
- JUNE 8**
St. Leo Oratory
6 pm Mass, followed by procession
- JUNE 9**
St. Vincent de Paul
5:30 pm Mass, followed by procession
- JUNE 10**
St. Paul, Westerville
8:30 am Mass, followed by procession
- JUNE 11**
Sts. Simon and Jude
3 pm Mass, followed by procession
- JUNE 11**
St. Joseph Cathedral
10:30 am Mass, followed by procession

Suicidal fears and authentic accompaniment

When we realize that someone we love may be suicidal, it can be complicated to figure out how best to respond. The threat of suicide from a friend or family member obviously needs to be taken seriously, and we need to respond with loving support and accompaniment. Providing such help, however, will not necessarily be synonymous with granting every request or affirming every assertion they make.

Suppose that a friend shares that he has just lost his entire personal fortune in the most recent stock market crash. He tells you that he is going to commit suicide unless his investment accounts somehow get shored up to the same levels they were prior to the crash. Even though you wish to show compassion to him in his difficult situation, and would want to do everything you could to deflect his suicidal thinking, it wouldn't be appropriate to go along with his demands by replenishing all his accounts with your own funds.

That your friend is threatening suicide reveals that on some level, he has adopted a false understanding of himself, where he perceives himself as valuable only when he possesses substantial sums of money. To support him authentically would mean assisting him to break free of this illusion, so he can grasp the liberating truth that his personal identity and self-worth do not depend on his financial assets.

Clinical psychotherapist Lisa Marchiano shares another example: "If I work with someone who's really suicidal because his wife left him, I don't call his wife up and say, 'Hey, you've got to come back.' ... We don't treat suicide by giving people exactly what they want."

Instead, a good psychotherapist helps a suicidal husband navigate his new situation by offering support and encouragement, and by assisting him to understand who he really is, despite the absence of his wife.

MAKING SENSE OUT OF BIOETHICS | Father Tad Pacholczyk

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, PhD, earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did postdoctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Massachusetts, and serves as director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncbcenter.org.



His suicidal thinking indicates he has not fully grasped the fact that his own identity and existence still remain objectively good, dignified and worthwhile even if his wife may have painfully walked away from their marriage.

Similarly, imagine a girl wants liposuction, despite the fact that she is thinner than a pencil from years of battling an eating disorder. She is very unhappy, and even suicidal, on account of her delusion that she is massively overweight. We could not encourage or consent to liposuction for her as an "affirmation strategy," but would need to support her in addressing the mental and personal issues that underlie her morbid fear of gaining weight and the disturbed perception of her own body.

Dr. Paul McHugh, formerly Psychiatrist in Chief of the Johns Hopkins Hospital Psychiatry Department, offers a parallel analysis for the situation of gender dysphoria. He notes that the belief by a male that he is a female trapped inside a male body is similar to "the feelings of a patient with anorexia nervosa that she is obese despite her emaciated, cachectic [wasting away] state. We don't do liposuction on anorexics. So why amputate the genitals of patients? ... We psychiatrists, I thought, would do better to concentrate on trying to fix

their minds and not their genitalia."

Gender dysphoria is a particularly sensitive area that needs to be addressed with charity and truth-centered compassion. Those who struggle with gender dysphoria have significantly elevated rates of suicide compared with the general population. Regrettably, some physicians who prescribe puberty blockers or cross-sex hormones, or who perform transgender surgeries on young people, will use this higher rate of suicide to pressure parents to support so-called "gender-affirming" interventions for their children. The implication is that parents should do whatever their children ask for, to stave off a possible suicide.

In the case of a boy who declares he is actually a girl, if a parent expresses any hesitation about proceeding with surgeries to remove healthy sexual organs, some physicians have been known to ask, "What do you want? A dead son or a live daughter?" Such a query offers a false dichotomy, suggesting only two possibilities, while leaving out the third and most important option, namely a "live son" who is led away from his suicidality and false notions about his gender through professional supports, including appropriate psychotherapy, and through strong, loving familial and personal accompaniment.

When loved ones manifest an elevated likelihood of committing suicide, it makes no sense to adopt a posture of automatically yielding to every request they make, or is it reasonable to affirm untrue assertions they may be focused on or even obsessed with. Rather, we need to care for them in a more truthful way — accompanying, supporting, and helping them to address underlying personal and psychiatric issues — so they can begin to find real healing and experience a new wholeness and integration in their lives.

Ike's insight simple but relevant in today's world

Three days before Christmas 1952 and a month before his inauguration as the 34th president of the United States, Dwight D. Eisenhower addressed the Freedoms Foundation at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York. There, the president-elect declared that "our form of government [makes] no sense unless it is founded on a deeply felt religious faith, and I don't care what it is." Ike, no theologian, was subsequently mocked for his seeming indifference to the nuances of religious belief and their impact on public life; his comment confirmed to his cultured despisers their stereotypical (and quite false) view of him as a smiling dunce. In fact, Eisenhower was speaking an important truth, however inelegant his formulation.

Authentic religious faith reminds us that this world is not all there is — that the world as we perceive it is englobed in a larger, transcendent reality that gives meaning to the here and now. Authentic religious faith reminds us that human beings are matter and spirit and that, without the latter, our material selves are just an accidental conjunction of cosmic biochemical forces. Authentic religious faith reminds us that our obligations extend beyond "me."

What does any of this have to do, though, with "our form of government"? A great deal, I suggest.

As even a cursory historical survey confirms, self-governance is not the norm in human affairs. One or another form of authoritarianism is. Nor is there anything given about a democracy's success or longevity after it's been constitutionally established.

The prime cautionary tale here is Germany's Weimar Republic, set up after the collapse of the German Empire — the "Second Reich" — after Germany's defeat in World War I and the German kaiser's exile to

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

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



Holland. The constitution of the Weimar Republic (so called because the national capital was moved from Prussian Berlin to the Thuringian city of Weimar) was designed by some of the finest minds of the time, including the great sociologist Max Weber. The designers got the mechanisms of democracy right: separation of powers, regular elections, an independent judiciary, etc. But when the Great Depression brought unbearable pressures to bear on that nascent democracy (including an inflation so severe that people bought bread with banknotes carried in wheelbarrows), the Weimar Republic crumbled. Then Adolf Hitler's "Third Reich" came to power in an election that wrote the obituary for interwar Germany's brief experiment in democratic self-governance — and much else.

The crucial lesson to be drawn from that debacle is that "democracy" is not a matter of institutions and procedures alone. It takes a critical mass of citizens, living certain virtues and the convictions that undergird them, to make a democracy work so that the result is individual human flourishing and social solidarity. Respect for the dignity of every human person; openness to the possibility that others may be right about a contested policy; a firm commitment to the rule of law rather than the rule of brute force; the acceptance of electoral defeat or incremental legislative success

— these democratic necessities don't just happen. They're the byproducts of prior convictions and moral commitments that, for Americans, have typically been born from what Dwight D. Eisenhower called "a deeply felt religious faith" — or its analogues in the nation's public philosophy.

If I may be permitted a brief lurch into philosophy's technical vocabulary: Our politics today suffer from a want of metaphysics. And from that deficit has come a dangerously distorted anthropology. Which means: If a culture denies what classic western metaphysics (and biblical religion) taught for millennia — that there are immutable truths built into the world and into us — then false and even bizarre notions of what a human being is inevitably follow. So do equally false and bizarre ideas of what makes for human flourishing and social solidarity. Public life then becomes not an ongoing, rational conversation about how we should live together but a power struggle in which those false and bizarre ideas of who we are and how we flourish try to impose themselves on society. And the pushback against such imposition gets ugly.

If all that has a familiar ring to it, it's because it describes the situation in which the western world too often finds itself today. That is why it is serious bad news if religious communities embrace the distortions of the human condition taught by gender theory, critical racial theory, and other ideologies of power that deny the truths built into the world and into us. As C.S. Lewis observed, our spiritual natures demand nourishment. Denied healthy food, they will ingest poison, to the detriment of both authentic religion and democratic public life.

Family Day strengthened bonds with outside support system

By Michele Williams

An extraordinary event happened recently at the Ohio Reformatory for Women (ORW) – my housing unit's first Family Day, and what a blessed day it was!

We raised money for the day's expenses through our Pawsabilities program. The program allows ORW staff members to bring in their dogs for daycare, grooming, long-term boarding and obedience training. Inmates take care of the dogs and are trained to be groomers and handlers, which makes them employable upon release. It's a winning combination.

What makes Family Day so different and special is that it is not held in the visiting hall, it is inside the prison itself. It also runs from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., which is more than twice as long as a regular visit.

We had the entire yard, gym and Religious and Recovery (R&R) Building and created a carnival atmosphere with handmade decorations. For all intents and purposes, the rest of the prison is shut down, and movement is limited to keep everyone safe.

It takes a massive amount of planning, paperwork and permission-seeking from the unit staff members to pull off such an event, and because it was our first, a lot was riding on its success.

I'd wanted to invite my parents and my brother and his family, but we were limited to two adults and only our own children. I don't have any children, so I decided on my brother and sister-in-law, Wayne and Gretchen. My parents graciously agreed with my decision. When attendance topped 250 people, I saw the wisdom of the restrictions.

We gathered initially in the gym, where we'd set up tables for the families. It was considered base camp, and we had breakfast and lunch there. When Wayne and Gretchen came in, I rushed to meet them with a

giant hug and led them to our table; I was ready to get our day started!

Despite the many babies, children, tweens, teens and adults in the same space, it was easy to carry on conversations. At first, everyone seemed to be in their own family bubble, eating a breakfast of doughnuts, juice and fruit cups. The bubbles broke when it was announced that the games were ready, and the yard was open.

The first place I wanted us to go was simply outside in the sunshine because God blessed us with a perfectly sunny, 75-degree day. We found a picnic table and parked there as I described what the surrounding buildings were. Then we started wandering through the yard as I continued my tour guide descriptions – from the 1,000-inmate mega-dorm to the chow hall, mental health building, administration building, other dorms, and way back in the farthest corner was my housing unit.

Wayne said that the prison was like a little island, and he was right, except that instead of being surrounded by water, there is a razor-wire-topped electrified fence. That sobering fact aside, they got a true perspective of the logistics and understood that when I said I walk a quarter mile to the chow hall, it really is a quarter mile!

All morning, we could smell the tantalizing aroma of charcoal burning, and it was the most wonderful scent on earth. It added to the carnival vibe, and we knew our lunch was being grilled. I hadn't had a charcoal-grilled hamburger or hot dog in what seemed like 100 years (and they were worth the wait). The grill master was our first-shift officer who volunteered to come in that day just to cook for us and our families.

There were little children everywhere, running around or sitting with their mothers. Plenty of older kids, too, throwing footballs and frisbees, playing

cornhole or walking around the track like we were. My fellow inmates were doing all of the above with their families: playing, walking, sitting, talking – happily being pulled in many different directions!

The R&R building was Game and Snack Central. Ring tosses, bean bag throws with various targets, mini-Plinko, face painting, snow cones, popcorn and cotton candy made it feel like an old-style parish picnic instead of a prison picnic. I made plastic keychains for my niece and nephew, and we picked out picture frame kits to assemble for our keepsake photo.

Spending the day with Wayne and Gretchen was the best day of my entire year. We walked, talked, played games and laughed for hours, thanking the Good Lord over and over for the opportunity to be together.

Throughout the day, we played a family trivia Q&A game (invented by a creative cousin of ours in Florida). Its purpose was to spark memories and conversations. As such, the conversations we had ranged from lighthearted to serious and really strengthened our relationship. The gratitude I have for being able to spend so much quality family time is still overwhelming.

As an inmate, the importance of family cannot be overstated. They have been my support system for almost three decades, encouraging and loving me unconditionally. My family ranks second only to God in my life, and they both are the true constants I depend on.

I am the first to say how blessed I am despite my circumstances. God was clearly here with us on Family Day. And He is still here with me – long after the day ended, everyone went home, and prison became prison again.

Michele Williams is an inmate at the Ohio Reformatory for Women.

Making more room for God

This is the time of year that I do spring cleaning and it feels good to clean out and give away items that we are no longer using. It's interesting how I feel like the clutter encumbers me in my temporal life, but also in my spiritual life.

Having stuff and maintaining stuff is a responsibility and a time commitment. The more I can simplify and streamline, the more time I have to give to God and others. I guess I would say that I'm striving to live a low maintenance life on the material front so that I have more time for soul-filling activities, such as praying and reading, spending time with family and friends, being involved in parish life, going to daily Mass, being out in nature and participating in various ministries.

So making more room for God, more room to grow, more room to invite others into my life is a priority in this season of my life. So that same cleaning out is a good practice that also applies to our hearts and minds. This is a time for me to prayerfully consider what past hurts am I holding on to that need to be healed? What does my family need from me this summer? What relationships need nurturing? What spiritual practices do I feel called to, but have not yet made a priority? Do I need to allow for more silence and time to pray and read, to be with God in nature?

St. Augustine said, "Let us leave a little room for reflection in our lives, room too for silence. Let us look within ourselves and see whether there is some de-

HOLY AND HEALTHY | Lori Crock

Lori Crock is a SoulCore Rosary prayer and exercise leader and a St. Brendan parishioner. Lori is online at holyanandhealthycatholic.com, where she shares her passion for faith and fitness.



lightful hidden place inside where we can be free of noise and argument. Let us hear the Word of God in stillness and perhaps we will then come to understand it."

I'm inspired to spend more time in that "delightful hidden place inside" with the easy breeziness of summer.

Scripture is a beautiful guidepost on this journey of making more room for God and being filled with Him in new ways. From Romans 15:13, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the holy Spirit."

Also, this is a powerful reminder from 1 Corinthians 3:16, "Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?" Am I asking the indwelling God

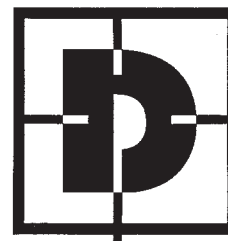
what He wants from me and am I asking for His help to do it?

I'm concluding my first year as a student in the Encounter School of Ministry online school and we have a student in our class who is 81 years old. She is still growing in her relationship with God and I'm so inspired by her desire to learn, to go deep, to share and to make even more room for God in her life.

St. John Paul II said, "What really matters in life is that we are loved by Christ and we love Him in return."

Lord, help me to really make it that simple — to depend on your love and to love you back, simply and fully, Amen.

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66th May Crowning held at Our Lady of Bethlehem



Kindergarten students Anthony Truong (left) and Matthias Duffey carry the banners during the procession.

Photos courtesy Our Lady of Bethlehem



Kindergartner Charlotte Decker reads the prayers of the faithful with help from teacher Jenna Yanko as the Mass celebrant, Father Kyle Tennant, listens.

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

Columbus Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Childcare celebrated its 66th May Crowning Mass on Tuesday, May 9, in the school's backyard.

The school's May Crowning tradition was started by the Sisters of the Poor Child Jesus. The sisters founded Our Lady of Bethlehem Convent in Columbus in 1956 and opened Our Lady of Bethlehem School as a kindergarten the following year.

The school has since expanded to offer a Catholic Infant and Toddler Program, Totally Terrific Twos, Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten.

The Sisters of the Poor Child Jesus first celebrated the May Crowning Mass in 1957, the year the school was founded. Our Lady of Bethlehem has celebrated a May Crowning Mass every year since.

"We know that our boys and girls come to know Jesus through Our Mother Mary," Lori Dulin, principal of Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Childcare, said in her opening remarks.

The May Crowning Mass was celebrated by Father Kyle Tennant, parochial vicar at Columbus St. Cecilia Church and chaplain at Columbus Bishop Ready High School.

The Mass was celebrated in memory of Elizabeth Irish Greve, a tireless volunteer whose children attended the school; Dorothy A. Laferty, a great grandmother of a current student and the grandmother of the school's office manager; and Cathy Lee Porosky, the mother of a longtime Our Lady of Bethlehem employee.

Children in the school's Totally Terrific Twos through Kindergarten programs participated in the May Crowning.

The Mass began with a student-led procession. Banners used in the procession were the originals made by the Sisters of the Poor Child Jesus. Each child placed a flower on the Marian altar in front of the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The children sang the hymn "On This Day, O Beautiful Mother."

The first reading, responsorial psalm and Gospel acclamation for the Mass were read by children in the kindergarten class. The children also read the prayers of the faithful and brought up the gifts of bread and wine during the offertory.

For the Gospel reading, Father Tennant read the story of the Annunciation from the Gospel of St. Luke. The reading recounted the angel Gabriel appearing to the Blessed Mother and announcing that she was to be the Mother of God. (Luke 1:26-38)

Father Tennant spoke directly to the children in his homily. He began by asking the children how they prepare to run

a race. He asked if they start running a race by lying on the ground or sitting in a chair, to which the children shouted, "No!"

Father Tennant affirmed that they were correct. To run a race, they needed to be standing up or bending over and ready to go, he said.

In the same way, he told the children that the Blessed Mother's "heart is so open to God, and she loves Him so much, that she is ready to say 'yes.' Just like you have to be ready to run a race, when Mary is visited by the angel and God asks this great thing of her, (to be the mother of God,) she is ready to say 'yes.'"

Father Tennant told the children that Mary is also ready to help them. He recalled the Gospel story of the wedding feast at Cana, when the wine ran out and Jesus performed his first miracle of turning water into wine while Mary was present.

Father Tennant said, "Mary is the one who notices. Mary is the one who looks around, and she sees all the people around her, and she loves them so much that she sees exactly what it is that they need. And, she is ready to help the people that she sees, who need her help."

That is the reason Mary is the mother of the Church and "our mother – because she is ready to say 'yes' to God, and she is ready to say 'yes' to us," he said.

Father Tennant encouraged the children to bring their needs to the Blessed Mother, who sees their needs and is always ready to help them.

"Whatever we need, whatever we need to ask her for, whatever help we need, or our friends need or our family needs, we can bring them to Mary, and she's ready to help us."

He said that Mary also shows her children how to respond to God and how to be ready to say "yes" to God and others as she does.

Father Tennant recalled the first reading of the Mass from the Acts of the Apostles, when many of Jesus' disciples were gathered together with Mary in the upper room after Jesus' death. He told the children that they, too, can be ready to say "yes" to God and others by staying united like the disciples did.

"We are gathered together as the Church – as the Body of Jesus – with Mary, His mother," Father Tennant said. "We stay ready to say 'yes' to God and to help others by staying together as a church, ... as one family, one school, one Church."

"Then, we are ready to do whatever God is asking us to do, so that everybody can know that God loves them. And, so does Mary."

After the homily and prayers of the faithful, the kindergarten class walked to the front of the congregation and sur-

See MAY CROWNING, Page 20

THE ACTS
of the Apostles

Celebrate Pentecost Mass with Bishop Fernandez

Columbus Catholic Renewal
Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Sunday May 28th,
Rosary 5:00 Pm
Praise & Worship 5:30 Pm
Mass 6:00 Pm
Music Directed by Dr. Steve Kebo
Food and Fellowship to Follow

Contact Patrick
614-886-8266

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 impacted 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.

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS - DIOCESAN ORGANIZATIONS

COMBINED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

COMBINED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

	Year Ended 6/30/2022	Year Ended 6/30/2021
REVENUES:		
Bishop's annual appeal, net	\$ 6,112,617	\$ 10,918,798
Investment income, net	2,580,968	2,153,868
Realized/unrealized (loss) gain on investments	(15,818,866)	8,134,762
Change in fmv of beneficial interests in perpetual trusts	(5,329,396)	10,391,017
Operating revenue, net	6,549,772	7,105,477
Diocesan assessment	4,335,872	4,690,542
Gain on sale of land under sale contract	1,055,874	-
Gain on sale of property and equipment	1,017,884	-
Other	44,552	87,032
Contributions & other additions	1,307,803	898,791
Total Revenues, Gifts, & Grants	1,857,080	44,380,287
EXPENSES:		
Program expenses	20,844,486	19,268,018
Management and general	3,056,103	2,672,434
Fundraising	838,810	898,219
Total Expenses	24,739,399	22,838,671
Change in net assets prior to pension-related changes other than net periodic pension cost	(22,882,319)	21,541,616
Pension-related changes other than net periodic pension cost	10,115,455	41,540,347
Changes In Net Assets	(12,766,864)	63,081,963
NET ASSETS		
Beginning of year	101,439,914	38,357,951
End of year	\$ 88,673,050	\$ 101,439,914

	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

COMBINED STATEMENTS OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

	Year Ended 6/30/2022					Year Ended 6/30/2021			
	Programs	Mgmt & General	Fundraising	Total		Programs	Mgmt & General	Fundraising	Total
Compensation and benefits	\$ 8,361,182	\$ 838,962	\$ 204,680	\$ 9,404,824	Compensation and benefits	\$ 8,114,079	\$ 869,993	\$ 728,775	\$ 9,712,847
Direct expenses	6,703,878	342,473	502,116	7,548,467	Direct expenses	6,292,474	160,425	12,135	6,465,034
Interest	1,816,917	-	-	1,816,917	Interest	1,551,031	-	-	1,551,031
Cost of goods sold	1,331,779	-	-	1,331,779	Cost of goods sold	1,003,571	-	-	1,003,571
Other	441,666	532,377	-	974,043	Other	161,432	236,200	-	397,632
Professional services	776,485	-	-	776,485	Professional services	756,927	-	-	756,927
Occupancy	501,014	162,637	-	663,651	Occupancy	485,740	156,890	-	642,630
Pension Service Cost	-	521,140	-	521,140	Pension Service Cost	-	529,774	-	529,774
Depreciation	143,862	329,510	-	473,372	Depreciation	117,269	370,035	-	487,304
Office expenses	300,300	6,904	129,694	436,898	Office expenses	311,987	6,445	152,188	470,620
Information technology	6,166	294,826	-	300,992	Information technology	5,213	276,008	-	281,221
Contract services	274,786	22,281	-	297,067	Contract services	235,633	65,338	-	300,971
Travel	80,254	2,507	865	83,626	Travel	66,959	1,295	3,677	71,931
Publicity	69,781	-	1,279	71,060	Publicity	144,105	-	911	145,016
Seminars and meetings	36,416	2,486	176	39,078	Seminars and meetings	21,598	31	533	22,162
Total Expenses	\$ 20,844,486	\$ 3,056,103	\$ 838,810	\$ 24,739,399	Total Expenses	\$ 19,268,018	\$ 2,672,434	\$ 898,219	\$ 22,838,671

PARISHES COMBINED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

	Year Ended 6/30/2022	Year Ended 6/30/2021
RECEIPTS:		
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	\$ 11,047,729	\$ 14,104,438



**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.

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Mother Angelica Museum
www.MotherAngelicaMuseum.com

'Running the race': Couple leads Bible study, evangelization groups

By Hannah Heil

Catholic Times Reporter

"Be who you are meant to be, and you will set the world on fire."

The words of St. Catherine of Siena lit a spark in the heart of Maria Bremerkamp.

Am I setting the world on fire? she wondered.

Bremerkamp and her future husband, Adam, served as missionaries for the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) from 2013-15. They married afterward and decided to use the skills they acquired to set the world on fire for Christ.

FOCUS is a national Catholic outreach that aims to share the Gospel with college and university students and then send them out to fulfill the Great Commission to make disciples of all nations. (Matthew 28:19)

The Bremerkamps and their four young children reside in Mount Vernon and are parishioners at Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul Church.

In January at SEEK23, the FOCUS conference in St. Louis, the couple was presented the national FOCUS Alumni Saint Francis Xavier Honor. The award recognizes former FOCUS students and missionaries from across the United States who live committed to Jesus Christ as missionary disciples beyond campus.

The Bremerkamps said they felt called to continue evangelizing and began two years ago at their parish by forming a men's and a women's small-group Bible study.

They invited a few middle-aged parishioners to join. Then, they formed a small group with mothers or fathers at the parish who have younger children.

The Bremerkamps also evangelize to college students on campuses that do not have FOCUS missionaries and invite students into small-group Bible studies.

"The Gospel message, no matter where you're at in your faith, how much you know, it always speaks to us," Adam said. "It always impacts and convicts us."

The Bremerkamps' small groups consist of between five and 10 people. Over time, each group goes deeper and transitions into what Adam described as a "discipleship group," which teaches members how to pray, study Scripture and share their faith.

After meeting for several weeks, the Bible study concludes with an invitation for members to continue into discipleship and answer "the high call to go on mission," Adam said.

Unlike a "six- or seven-week program, discipleship is a lifelong thing," he said. "You're running the race until you're in heaven."

"We invite them to go deeper and look into their circle of influence to see who God might be calling them to reach out to and evangelize to," Maria said.

The Bremerkamps have seen members go on to form their own small groups with neighbors, co-workers and college professors.

Twelve discipleship groups and 11 Bible studies have formed. There are 86 people in such groups as a result of the Bremerkamps' efforts.

They use the "Little Way of Evangelization," which was developed by FOCUS founder Curtis Martin.

"Anybody can make a few friends, invest in them deeply, teach them and then help them to go do the same," Adam said of Martin's vision. "It's very much so a borrowed phrase from St. Therese, the Little Flower. ... We don't have to do these things that seem incredible or seem great. No, we just do the little things with great love."

FOCUS uses the phrase "teach teachers to teach," Adam said, which is drawn from 2 Timothy 2:2. The verse recounts St. Paul sharing the faith with St. Timothy, who shares the faith with others, and so forth.

"Not any one of us can teach the whole world, but if we can teach our disciples to make disciples, ... (there is) this concept of spiritual multiplication," he said. "Ultimately, the end goal is to reach the whole world."

The couple seeks to "deeply invest" in a few people, rather than "get as many converts as they can."

"The (evangelization) model is kind of based off the idea that Jesus Himself had a small group," Adam said. "He invested so much of His time, relatively speaking, during the three years of His ministry – He spent the majority of His time with 12 guys."

"And of those 12, He spent even more time with just three: Peter, James and John. In the same way, we try to model what we do after Him."

Small groups provide an opportunity to encounter Christ, authentic friendship and spiritual multiplication.

The Bible study is "Kerygma focused," Maria said, which means participants encounter or re-encounter Jesus in the Gospel and discover "what it means to have a relationship with Him." The study concludes with an invitation to accept the Gospel of Jesus Christ and share it with others.

The couple uses free resources available on focusequip.org and the 'FOCUS Equip' app to lead small-group Bible studies and discipleship groups.

"A lot of Catholics finally understand we need to evangelize," Adam said. "But how? How do we actually do this? And that's the beautiful thing that I think FOCUS has to offer – a very practical and repeatable and accessible way to do it."

The FOCUS Equip website has two tabs, "Bible Studies" and "Discipleship," Adam said. The 'Bible Studies' tab has 10 prepared, multiweek Bible studies, and the 'Discipleship' tab has approximately 25 topics covering prayer, the sacraments and sharing the Gospel or leading a Bible study.

Small-group activities include reading Scripture and praying together, forming friendships with people who are seeking to grow in virtue and building up others in faith to be sent out to do the same.

"They're very relaxed and welcoming," Maria said of small-group Bible studies. "We usually start out just with some tea, 'How was your week?' and an icebreaker to build that friendship. Then, we start delving into Scripture and the topic."

"What makes this so repeatable is that it's so easy to prep and do. It's not this daunting thing. It's all there for you. I really pray with it and discern what discipleship material we should go through that week because there's several to choose from. I just print it off, we read it and talk about it."

She said the materials are "not just for college students" and "anybody" can lead a Bible study.

"It's very applicable, which I think is also needed in our faith right now. Here are very practical things you can do to equip yourselves to share your faith, so you can give an account of why you have the joy that you have, your relationship with Christ."

"If there's somebody you know that needs to hear the Gospel, ... you have the words to share it with them."

The couple seeks out new faces and couples who have young children at

See COUPLE, Page 17



Adam and Maria Bremerkamp of Mount Vernon receive the national Fellowship of Catholic University Students Alumni Saint Francis Xavier award at the SEEK23 conference in January from founder and CEO Curtis Martin (right). Photo courtesy FOCUS

Congratulations from the people of
Immaculate Conception, Columbus!

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

1973 May 26 2023

FR. CHARLES COTTON

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL
SINCE 1923
Celebrating 100 YEARS

Ascension Year A

We must persist as His disciples

Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9
Ephesians 1:17-23
Matthew 28:16-20

The Great Commission is the heart of the message of the Ascension. Jesus proclaims, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

This is the action entrusted to all who believe in the Gospel.

Jesus at the closing of His earthly journey tells us that He, in the fulness of His Human Nature, possesses all authority. As St. Matthew declares, He has a plan for His disciples to continue the mission He started.

To baptize, in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, is to initiate into the very Life of Christ the Word, the commandment He has left us.

To teach all nations is to be open to encounter all that is human and to show by teaching and example all that we have learned as disciples.

The promise of His Presence, "I am with you always" to the end of the age, is offered as an encouragement to persevere. We have been given all we need in our human nature, and the Lord Himself is with us to assist us to accomplish His purpose.

All through Easter we have been hearing the Word proclaimed from the Acts of the Apostles. Luke tells us under his address to "Theophilus," meaning "lover of God," that in his Gospel, that is his "first account," he has told us the events of Jesus' life. Now, he points out how the Lord's Spirit is at work in the disciples of Jesus.

Pentecost Year A

Spirit's power to unite can serve us well today

Acts 2:1-11
Psalm 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34
1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13
John 20:19-23

Many parishes have recently celebrated with Bishop Earl Fernandes the personal experience of the coming of the Holy Spirit through the sacrament of confirmation. When we celebrate Pentecost as the Church, we are calling to mind in sacred Scripture all the events that show us of the Church's knowing of the Spirit and the power of the Spirit to bring us to unity in the Church and with all human beings who are open to receiving the action of grace.

The readings of Pentecost make known to us the first experience of unity among devout believers from among the nations who are present for the Jewish feast 50 days after Passover. They discover to their surprise a common hearing of the message proclaimed by the disciples of Jesus from Galilee, who have been gathered in the Upper Room with Mary.

"We are Parthians, Medes, and

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.



The invitation of this Ascension week-end is "to wait for 'the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak; for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'"

Waiting after Easter is no longer about awaiting the accomplishment of salvation. It is about allowing the transformation that happens when we choose to live in the fullness of life that is offered to us.

At times we tend to keep our eyes fixed on heaven without reference to the responsibility left to us on earth. The angels remind the disciples to focus on Jerusalem and then to be ready to respond to the coming of the Spirit by carrying the message to the ends of the earth.

"They said, 'Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven.'"

The account also reminds us that sometimes we still have doubts and that we focus on an earthly idea for the kingdom. The risen Lord Jesus has revealed to us that our mission includes heaven, but that it also establishes a new kind of kingdom.

The Letter to the Ephesians offers us a beautiful prayer that can be part of our waiting for Pentecost. We are now in the time of the First Novena, which began on the Friday after the traditional day for the Ascension, 40 days after Easter.

Here is the prayer: "Brothers and sis-

Elamites, inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene, as well as travelers from Rome, both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs, yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God."

The mighty acts of God make known God's power to work among ordinary people whose hearts are open. That day brings unity to the Church, "divided" by many tongues, and it is still offered today.

We live in a world that is more complex, both in numbers of languages and especially in misunderstandings of the diverse generations and cultures. All willing to listen and to speak "in the Spirit" will receive the power to share the truth and to have that truth received.

Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians speaks to the diversity of active gifts in the hearts and lives of believers, and to the utter unity of every gift given to accomplish together with all other gifts what the Spirit intends for the Church.

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

5/22-5/27	THURSDAY	5/29-6/3	THURSDAY
MONDAY	Acts 22:30:23-6-11 Psalm 16:1-2a,5,7-11 John 17:20-26	MONDAY	Sirach 42:15-25 Psalm 33:2-9 Mark 10:46-52
Acts 19:1-8 Psalm 68:2-7 John 16:29-33	FRIDAY	Genesis 3:9-15,20 or Acts 1:12-14 Psalm 87:1-3,5-7 John 19:25-34	FRIDAY
TUESDAY	Acts 25:13b-21 Psalm 103:1-2,11-12,19-20b John 21:15-19	TUESDAY	Sirach 44:1,9-13 Psalm 149:1b-6a,9b Mark 11:11-26
Acts 20:17-27 Psalm 68:10-11,20-21 John 17:11-11a	SATURDAY	WEDNESDAY	SATURDAY
WEDNESDAY	Acts 28:16-20,30-31 Psalm 11:4-5,7 John 21:20-25	Zephaniah 3:14-18a or Romans 12:9-16 Isaiah 12:2-3,4bcd,5-6 Luke 1:39-56	Sirach 51:12cd-20 Psalm 19:8-11 Mark 11:27-33
Acts 20:28-38 Psalm 68:29-30,33-36b John 17:11b-19			

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION

Mass Schedule: Weeks of May 21 and May 28, 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 PROPSERS FOR WEEKS III AND IV OF THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS

ters: May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him.

"May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call, what are the riches of glory in his inheritance among the holy ones, and what is the surpassing greatness of his power for us who believe, in accord with the exercise of his great might, which

he worked in Christ, raising him from the dead and seating him at his right hand in the heavens, far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion, and every name that is named not only in this age but also in the one to come.

"And he put all things beneath his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of the one who fills all things in every way."

Let us pray together: "Come, Holy Spirit."

and the risen Lord are the same. He commissions them, after the reaffirmation of the fullness of peace. And He begins to pour out His Spirit on them for the forgiveness of sins, the essence of much of the sacramental life.

The Liturgy of Pentecost brings many beautiful prayers. The Sequence offers two verses that seem fitting for what is happening among us in the world, and particularly in parish life.

Let us pray these verses for our parishes, consortia and parish "clusters," or families. May our hearts find healing of wounds, renewal, new freedom and a change of heart, mind and will as the Spirit prompts us:

"Heal our wounds, our strength renew. On our dryness pour thy dew.

Wash the stains of guilt away.

"Bend the stubborn heart and will.

Melt the frozen, warm the chill.

Guide the steps that go astray."

We conclude our Pentecost Novena with a full-throated cry for the Spirit: Come, Holy Spirit!

CATHOLIC WORD SEARCH

ASCENSION

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| ACTS | HEAVEN | PROMISE |
| BLESSED | LIFTED UP | RIGHT HAND |
| CHRIST | LUKE | RISEN |
| CLOUD | MARK | THURSDAY |
| FORTY | OLIVET | WITNESS |

Patriotic program to end Music at St. Mary season

The final event in the 2022-23 Music at St. Mary Concert Series will provide a fitting tribute to God, country and the U.S. armed forces during the Memorial Day weekend.

The acclaimed Lancaster Chorale will perform “In Memorial – American Concert Works with Elegies, Spirituals and a Patriotic Sing-Along” at 4 p.m. Sunday, May 28 at St. Mary, Mother of God Church, 684 S. Third St., in the German Village area of Columbus.

Conducted by Stephen Caracciolo and accompanied by organist Joshua Brodbeck, the choir will remember the brave heroes who defended the country in past conflicts and honor the men and women who currently defend freedom while memorializing the sacrifice of those who lost their lives in battle.

The program features American music that includes folk songs, hymns, spirituals, concert works and poetic readings. Some of the patriotic songs will feature sing-alongs with the audience.

Lancaster Chorale is a professional chamber choir

that performs throughout Ohio and has appeared with the Pro Musica Chamber Orchestra and the Lancaster Festival Orchestra. Its repertoire ranges from Renaissance and Baroque motets to sacred, opera, spirituals and works by living composers.

Caracciolo is a nationally recognized composer and conductor whose works have been widely performed throughout the United States. He has served on the faculties at Denison University, Ohio University, Roberts Wesleyan University and the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

The Music at St. Mary Concert Series is wrapping up its second season under the guidance of founder and artistic director Mark Voris. Some of the top vocal and instrumental artists in central Ohio have performed classical and seasonal works at the historic venue.

For tickets, \$30, visit www.musicatstmary.com/lancasterchorale-in-memorial. Military veterans can purchase half-price tickets at the door.

For more information, visit www.musicatstmary.com or www.lancasterchorale.com.

COUPLE, continued from Page 15

Mass. They introduce themselves, plan to attend the same Mass each Sunday, and their children play on the playground together afterward.

The Bremerkamps also invite families to their house for birthday parties and other events.

“People forget that people want to have friends,” Adam said. “If you walk up to somebody with a smile, and you say, ‘Hi,’ chances are they are going to smile and say, ‘Hi,’ back. It can be a little nerve-wracking, but at the same time, it’s easier than you think it would be.”

The Bremerkamps invite new parish families to join their small groups.

“The ground is so fertile right now,” Maria said. “People are so hungry for this, that just giving that invitation, most people are saying, ‘Yes.’”

The couple said that, to lead a Bible study, it is important that the leader is also being led. Small-group leaders need a support system “when things get hard” and for accountability.

“For everyone that we are mentoring, who is leading a small group, we require them to stay in our discipleship group, for that reason, so that way they’re being fed, and the same with anyone who is being discipled by them and leading a small group,” Maria said.

The Bremerkamps said they feel a “tug” on their hearts to train men and women how to lead Bible studies and discipleship groups, so more people are equipped to lead others to Christ.

“We have been discerning if God wants us to make our services available to other parishes,” Adam said. “(Parishes) can hire us for some small monthly amount, and we can come train some leaders of that parish to lead groups like this. We’re really in the beginning phases of this, but it is an option.

“If there are parishes that hear about this and say, ‘Hey, I want to do this,’ that is something Maria and I

are discerning. And if the doors start opening, I think we would be willing to start walking through those doors, ... and make it more of our full-time job, helping to train other parishes how to do this.”

The Bremerkamps said they are willing to meet in-person at a “halfway point” between Mount Vernon and Columbus to train a “core team” of between “two and eight men and two and eight women,” who will be trained in how to disciple others and lead small groups at their own parishes.

“Literally anyone can do this,” Maria said. “If there’s a stirring in your heart to do it, then it’s probably the Holy Spirit, and God doesn’t call the equipped, He equips the called.”

“(Don’t) be so hung up on, ‘Oh, I don’t know enough,’ or ‘I’m not good enough to do this,’ getting stuck in those lies, but instead, hold onto Christ and trust Him. Love people, because people just really need to be loved.”

Maria said if parents want their children to evangelize one day, parents need to be a model and show their children how.

“We have heard a lot, ‘Oh, you have little kids, you don’t have to do all that,’” she said of leading groups. “It’s actually like, ‘No, I have little kids, so I have to do all this. They need to see it. They need to know that this is important.’”

Maria said the “biggest lie” is for a family to say, “We don’t have time for this,” when, in reality, giving time to lead groups “has the potential to transform families and light it up.”

Evangelizing has made their family “come more fully alive,” she said.

To learn more or be trained by the Bremerkamps to lead a small parish group, contact Adam at (314) 775-9004 or Adam.Bremerkamp@gmail.com.

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.

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Two St. Charles juniors score perfect 36 on ACT

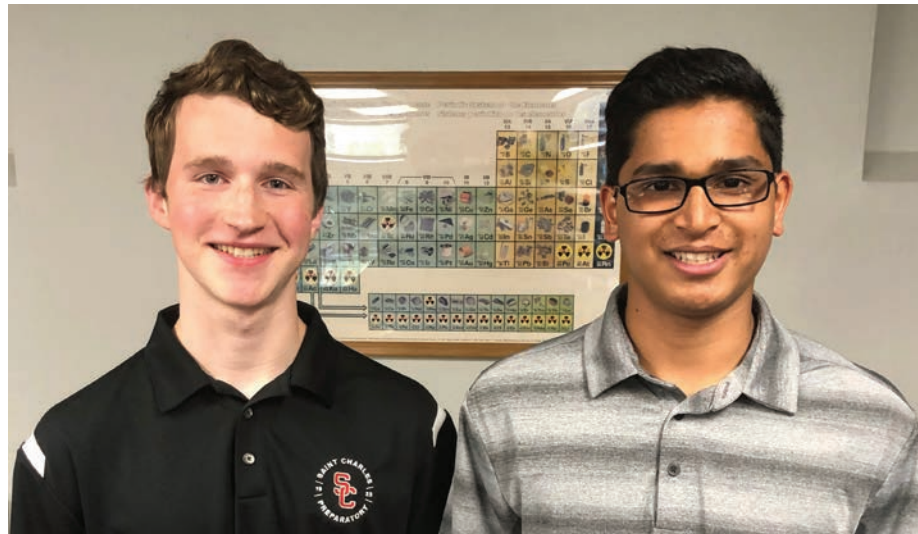
It is quite extraordinary for a student to earn the top score of 36 on the ACT. Out of a class of 123 students, this year two Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School juniors, William Malerich and Malcolm D'Souza, earned this special distinction.

Malerich, the son of Will and Patricia Malerich of Powell, scored a 35 on the test when he took it as a freshman and sophomore, just missing out on a 36 in 10th grade by one question. He scored a 36 in every section when he took it this time around.

For D'Souza, son of Melroy and Wilma D'Souza of Hilliard, this was the first time he took the ACT. He had taken only a couple of online practice tests previously.

Nationally, only a quarter of one percent of students who take the test earned what is considered a top score. Colleges use ACT scores as evidence of student readiness for the academic rigors that lie ahead. The ACT consists of tests in English, mathematics, reading and science. Each test is scored on a scale of 1-36, and a student's composite score is the average of the four test scores.

Malerich would like to study aerospace engineering or medicine in college. "I have just started to create a list of colleges that I would like to apply," he said. "Although I am not sure of anything



St. Charles Preparatory School juniors William Malerich (left) and Malcolm D'Souza Photo courtesy St. Charles Preparatory School

quite yet, MIT and the schools that offer special scholarships to National Merit Finalists do pique my interest."

D'Souza wants to pursue medicine as a field of study, majoring in biomedical engineering and business, with a possible minor in Latin. "I have begun the process of researching and visiting colleges to compile and finalize my list," he said. "Ms. (Kristen) Dickerson (a St. Charles college counselor) has been very

helpful in making this process smooth and easy to understand."

D'Souza said the most influential factor in his ACT success was "from the cumulative effort I have put into my academic work from the beginning. I am indebted to my parents, my teachers and all the other individuals who have influenced me along the way."

Malerich felt that taking previous ACT tests that were released online served as his most effective preparation. "There is no substitute for practicing with actual ACT questions under timed conditions. I also attended one of Dr. Sampath's Prep Accelerator ACT boot camps my freshman year, and I think that his overview of the math section and the review sheet that he provided were especially help-

ful."

The two have been very active outside the classroom.

Malerich is a three-year varsity swimmer as well as a member of the school's water polo and robotics teams. He played trombone in the jazz and concert bands every year and earned the National Latin Exam's summa cum laude award for both Latin I and Latin II.

D'Souza has run cross country every year and is the team's captain. He is a three-time varsity member and current captain of the quiz team, which has won two regional tournaments and placed fifth at the state tournament. He is a group team captain on the engineering team, qualifying for the TEAMS+S (Tests of Engineering Aptitude, Mathematics and Science) National Team Competition in June.

He has been elected secretary and vice president of Student Council, is a member of the St. Charles Student Advisory Board and is president of the Borromeo Chapter of the National Honor Society. He has played guitar in the jazz and concert bands and been a member of a Bridge Building team all three years.

He is the co-founder and president of the St. Vincent de Paul Chapter at St. Charles, received the school's Principal's Service Award in 2022 and earned summa cum laude on the National Latin Examination for two years, with a perfect score his sophomore year.

"We are very proud of these two young men for their tremendous accomplishment," said St. Charles principal James Lower. "It is a tribute to these students, their parents and our SC faculty to a continued commitment of learning."

St. Charles investment team repeats as state champs

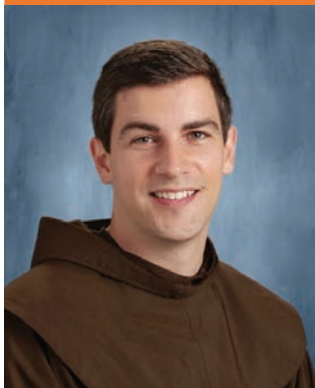


For the second year in a row, Capital Investment Club members from Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School (from left) Alex Fabro, Bo Bainbridge and Andy Ferris finished as the top high school team in Ohio in "The Stock Market Game" sponsored by the Securities Industry and Financial Market Association. The yearlong competition challenges teams throughout Ohio to invest \$100,000 of play money in publicly traded securities and measures team performances against the S&P 500. The three juniors were invited to the University of Cincinnati's Economic Center to present their results to a panel of investment specialists earlier this month.

Photo courtesy St. Charles Preparatory School

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PARISH FESTIVALS

begin in June

One sign that summer is near comes with publication of the annual parish festivals listing.

Beginning in June, a parish festival or celebration will take place in the diocese on a multitude of weekends through Labor Day and into the fall.

The festival season kicks off on Sunday, June 4 at Johnstown Church of the Ascension with a Mass at 11 a.m., followed by live music, raffles and activities for young and old.

The last festival on the list is the Columbus Our Lady of Peace Church fall festival and chili cook-off on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 13-14.

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the parish festival at Dover St. Joseph Church in Tuscarawas County, scheduled for Friday and Saturday, July 14-15. Other long-running festivals include those at Columbus St. Timothy, Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona, Columbus Immaculate Conception, Portsmouth St. Mary of the Annunciation and Worthington St. Michael churches.

Delaware St. Mary Church resumes its festival this year on the weekend of June 16-17. Among the parishes forgoing annual festivals in 2023 are Columbus St. Christopher and Powell St. Joan of Arc churches.

Additionally, Circleville St. Joseph Church will operate a slushy booth at the annual Circle Pumpkin Show from Wednesday, Oct. 18 through Saturday, Oct. 21.

Attending a festival is a great way to show support for churches, schools and groups in their efforts to raise funds for their worthy endeavors.

Keep the festival list as a reference throughout the spring, summer and fall. It's a good idea to check with the parish for any changes in schedules or postponements because of inclement weather.

The following is a list of parish festivals reported to The Catholic Times as of May 9.

JUNE

JUNE 4
Church of the Ascension
555 S. Main St., Johnstown
11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Sunday

JUNE 8-10
St. Catharine of Siena
500 S. Gould Rd., Columbus
5-11 p.m. Thursday-Saturday

JUNE 16-17
St. Mary Church
82 E. William St., Delaware
5-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday

JUNE 16-17
St. John Neumann
9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury
6-11 p.m. Friday, 5-11 p.m. Saturday

JULY

JULY 14-15
St. Timothy
1088 Thomas Lane, Columbus
6 p.m.-midnight Friday and Saturday

JULY 14-15
St. Joseph
613 N. Tuscarawas Ave., Dover
5-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday

JULY 14-15
St. Matthew the Apostle
807 Havens Corners Rd., Gahanna
6-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday

JULY 15
St. Luke
307 S. Market St., Danville
5-10 p.m. Saturday

JULY 21-22
Immaculate Conception
100 Sherman St., Dennison
6-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday

JULY 28-29
Immaculate Conception
414 E. North Broadway, Columbus
6p.m.-11p.m. Friday, 6-11 p.m. Saturday

JULY 28-29
St. Margaret of Cortona
1600 N. Hague Ave., Columbus
6 p.m.-midnight Friday, 5 p.m.-midnight Saturday

AUGUST

AUG. 4-5
St. Stephen the Martyr
4131 Clime Rd., Columbus
6 p.m.-midnight Friday, 5 p.m.-midnight Saturday

AUG. 4-5
Our Lady of Victory
1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus
6-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday

AUG. 4-5

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
3730 Broadway, Grove City
5-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday

AUG. 10-12
Holy Spirit
4383 E. Broad St., Columbus
6-11 p.m. Thursday, 6 p.m.-midnight Friday, 5 p.m.-midnight Saturday

AUG. 11-12
St. Brendan
4475 Dublin Rd., Hilliard
6-11:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday (family fun hours 3-6 p.m. Saturday)

AUG. 11-12
St. Cecilia
434 Norton Rd., Columbus
5 p.m.-midnight Friday, 4 p.m.-midnight Saturday

AUG. 11-13
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
600 Hill Road N., Pickerington
5p.m.-11p.m. Friday, 2p.m.-11p.m. Saturday, noon-4p.m. Sunday

AUG. 13
Immaculate Conception
215 E. North St., Kenton
Noon-7p.m. Sunday

AUG. 18-19
St. Andrew
1899 McCoy Road, Columbus
5p.m.-midnight Friday and Saturday

AUG. 19-20
St. Elizabeth
6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus
5p.m.-11p.m. Saturday, noon-5p.m. Sunday

AUG. 26
Blessed Sacrament
Newark Maennerchor, 195 Orchard St.
5-11 p.m. Saturday

SEPTEMBER

SEPT. 1-3
St. Michael
5750 N. High St., Worthington
7-11 p.m. Friday, 5-11 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

SEPT. 16-17
St. Mary of the Annunciation
524 6th St., Portsmouth
8 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday (tentative)

SEPT. 23
St. John Neumann
9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury
5-9 p.m. Saturday (Oktoberfest)

OCTOBER

OCT. 6-8
St. John the Baptist
Hamlet and Lincoln Sts., Columbus
Italian Festival
5-11 p.m. Friday, noon-11 p.m. Saturday, noon-7 p.m. Sunday

OCT. 13-14
Our Lady of Peace
20 E. Dominion Blvd. Columbus
6-11 p.m. Friday, 5:30-11 p.m. Saturday



A view from above the Delaware St. Mary parish festival Photo courtesy St. Mary Church

PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

AYOTTE, Patricia L. (Guyott), 94, May 6
St. Matthias Church, Columbus

BRINGARDNER, Dr. Albert M., 95, formerly of Columbus, March 30
St. Mary Church, Painesville

BRYAN, William "Jerry," 78, April 26
St. Joseph Church, Dover

CARLSON, Helen, 93, April 9
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

DOLOR, Maximina "Nina" (Sandoval), 93, April 22
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

FINISSI, Joseph Rocco, newborn, April 19
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

FINLEY, Sandra Kay, 84, April 16
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

GERLACH, Thomas, 88, April 29
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

GRIFFITH, Michael, 83, May 9
St. Joseph Church, Circleville

GUALTIERI, Susan D. "Susie," 66, May 5
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

GUIDA, James P., 82, May 7
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

HEINMILLER,Carolynn P. (Boggs), 90, May 1
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

HILL, Michael F., 73, May 4
Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus

KRYSTEK, Jeanette T. "Jane," 87, May 2
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

LYNN, Mackenzie Ray "Kenzie," 25, April 16
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

McCONNELL, William M., 73, May 7
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

O'CONNOR, Nancy A., 84, May 5
St. Elizabeth Church, Columbus

PAPROCKI, Shirley (Butler), 87, April 24
St. Anthony Church, Columbus

PAVONI, Rosemary J., 88, May 4
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

PENSO, Joanne (Bonisolli), 91, May 8
St. Joseph Church, Dover

PODERYS, Janet, 87, April 29
St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury

SANDERELL, Bernard H., 85, May 7
St. Mark Church, Lancaster

SHAWKEY, Marilyn V. (Biegun), 75, April 11
St. Thomas Church, Columbus

SHOTT, Helen N., 98, April 24
St. Ladislav Church, Columbus

SNIDER, James R., 96, May 8
Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Marysville

SNIDER, William, 92, May 2
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark
SORG, Janet, 84, April 21
St. Bernadette Church, Lancaster

STARK, James W., 90, April 30
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

STEVENSON, Maria A. (Anaya), 96, April 24
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

TAGUE, Emma J. (Whipple), 96, April 23
St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury

THOMAN, Sue D. (Ryan), 94, May 6
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

VELIO, Jim, 53, May 6
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

VINKOVICH, Ivan, 92, April 28
St. Joseph Church, Dover

WESTENBERGER, Jean E. (Demorest), 76, April 29
Holy Family Church, Columbus

Margaret L. "Marlou" Brown

Funeral Mass for Margaret L. "Marlou" Brown, 87, who died Sunday, May 7, was celebrated Thursday, May 11 at Columbus Immaculate Conception Church. Burial was at Resurrection Cemetery, Lewis Center.

She was born on February 28, 1936 in Columbus to Clarence and Margaret (Seaburger) Theado and attended Columbus Holy Rosary High School.

For many years, she was a secretary

at Columbus Immaculate Conception School and Columbus Bishop Watterson High School.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Frank, and a son, Thomas. Survivors include sons, Kenneth (Amy) and Richard; daughters, Carol (Kevin) Alexander and Sharon (Steve) Christensen; 19 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Raymond R. "Sonny" Thomas Jr.

Funeral Mass for Raymond R. "Sonny" Thomas Jr., 92, who died Friday, May 5, was celebrated Monday, May 15, at Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church. Burial was at Holy Trinity Cemetery, Somerset.

He was born in Junction City on April 27, 1931 to Russell and Bertha (Williams) Thomas, was a graduate of Junction City Jackson High School and Ohio State University and served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War.

He was employed for 35 years by Columbia Gas of Ohio, retiring as assistant treasurer.

He served the Diocese of Columbus as a member of the board of trustees of

St. Stephen's Community House, the Diocesan School Board and the Diocesan Finance Council, many campaign committees and the Columbus Father Wehrle school board and boosters club. At his parish, he was an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, usher, member of the finance council, the parish council and the men's council and a basketball coach.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Terry; son, Patrick and siblings, Bill, Pat and Lynn. Survivors include his sons, Peter, Paul, Martin and Matthew; daughter, Mary Leathley; brother, Max; 22 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

MAY CROWNING, continued from Page 10

rounded the statue of the Blessed Mother. They sang the hymn "Immaculate Mary," while the rest of the students remained seated and joined in singing the hymn.

During the third verse of the song, kindergarten student Mary Roland, this year's May queen, placed a crown of flowers on the statue of the Blessed Mother. Kindergarten student Austin Harrington served as the crown bearer.

The students sang the hymn "Hail, Holy Queen" during the offertory and the hymn "Here I Am, Lord" during communion.

After communion, the student body stood up for the recitation of "The Angelus." A few kindergarten students led the prayer, while the other students

responded with the "Hail Mary" three times in the prayer.

After the final blessing and dismissal by Father Tennant, the student banner bearers led the procession back to the school building. The students sang the song "New Hope, New Hope" as they walked out.

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LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS

Shepherd's Corner announces summer events

The Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick, an outreach of the Dominican Sisters of Peace, is sponsoring several events this summer. The sisters invite others to join them in experiencing the joys and responsibilities of caring for land, life and spirit, inspiring others to become shepherds of creation in their own corners of the world.

Registration is required for all programs. To register, call (614) 866-4302 or visit www.shepherdscorner.org/calendar.

Labyrinth walks are scheduled monthly from June through August. Dates and topics are: Wednesday, June 21, "First Day of Summer or Midsummer?"; Wednesday, July 26, "First Fruits"; and Tuesday, Aug. 1, "High Summer." Each program runs from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and has a suggested donation of \$5.

The 17th annual Farm Fresh 5-Kilometer Fun Run/Walk will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, June 10. A program titled "Mary Not Quite Contrary" about cultivating culinary and medicinal tea herbs and led by Mary Rodney of Seeds Well Sown, will take place from 10 a.m. to noon Friday, July 14.

Sister Anne Lythgoe, OP, will lead a program titled "A Morning Reflection on the Hidden Life of Trees" from 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 19. There will be a \$5 charge for this event.

The sisters' annual Shepherds Fest will be from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23 and will give those in attendance a chance to walk the trails of one of eastern Franklin County's few farms in an area surrounded by suburban housing and to meet and feed the farm's sheep and other animals.

Shepherd's Corner is open to the public on most Fridays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Exceptions are noted on the farm's website, www.shepherdscorner.org. Rather than asking for a donation of \$2 per visitor on public days as they have in the past, the sisters request that visitors bring shelf-stable food that will be donated to the food pantries receiving produce from the farm. The site also is open on demand to small groups.

Vocations camp will take place in July

The annual Quo Vadis vocations discernment camp sponsored by the diocesan Office of Vocations is scheduled for Sunday to Wednesday, July 23 to 26 at the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus.

The camp, for young men entering grades nine through 12, is led by priests and seminarians of the Diocese of Columbus and is a camp/retreat experience that provides participants with the opportunity to explore the Lord's call in their lives. It offers a mix of prayer, talks,

discussions, sports, fun and fraternity.

The cost is \$50, and scholarships are available. The registration deadline is Friday, July 14.

To register or for more information, go to <https://www.vocationscolumbus.org/quovadis> or contact Zack Goodchild at columbusquovadis@gmail.com.

St. Catharine to host Senior Citizens Day

The annual diocesan Senior Citizens Day program will take place Tuesday, June 27 at Columbus St. Catharine Church, 500 S. Gould Road.

Bishop Earl Fernandes will celebrate Mass at 10:30 a.m., followed by a luncheon and opportunity for fellowship.

Registration is \$20. To register, send a check payable to the Office for Social Concerns, to Catholic Diocese of Columbus, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus, OH 43215. For online registration, visit <https://dioceseofcolumbus.org/social-concerns-online-payments>.

For more information, call (614) 241-2540 or email socmailbox@columbus-catholic.org. Registrations are requested by Tuesday, June 20.

Museum presents exhibit of Marian ethnic expressions

An exhibit displaying images of the Virgin Mary that reflect her closeness to people of various ethnic expressions is on display through May at the Museum of Catholic Art and History, 257 E. Broad St., Columbus.

The exhibit, titled "Hyperdulia: The Ethnic Expression and Veneration of the Blessed Mother," is sponsored by the Ethnic Ministries Board of the diocesan Office for Ethic Ministries.

The museum is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call (614) 618-4030 to confirm hours of operation for the exhibit. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for students and children ages 4-18, \$5 for seniors age 65 and over, and \$30 for a family of four or more.

Father Streitenberger to speak to luncheon club

Father Adam Streitenberger, diocesan vicar for evangelization and executive director at the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center, will speak about activities at the center and how it is serving the Ohio State University community that surrounds it at the next meeting of the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club.

The club will meet on Friday, June 2 in Patrick Hall of Columbus St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., following the church's 11:45 a.m. Mass. Able Printing will sponsor the meeting.

Free parking will be available in the Columbus State Community College

Grant Avenue parking lot (25-S), across the street from the church. No reservations are necessary. A \$12 donation for the lunch and meeting is suggested.

The club will take its annual summer break in July and August. Its next meeting will be on Friday, Sept. 1 and will feature a presentation by attorney Don Brey and Dr. Michael Parker about the proposed constitutional amendment to expand abortion access in Ohio.

Turban Project in search of new location for its work

The Turban Project is looking for a new home.

The program, which was started 11 years ago by women of Knights of Columbus Council 10820 in Dresden, has grown more than 750 percent in the past three years. It has donated about 200,000 items of handmade headwear blessed by a priest to people who have lost their hair because of a medical condition, usually from cancer treatment.

It now has volunteers in every state and 13 other nations. For many years, it met in the former Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center in Newark. It has outgrown its current space in the Newark Commerce Center and needs an area of 2,000 to 2,500 square feet in the Newark area that would be available two or three days a week. Most of the ministry's volunteers are senior citizens, so the area needs to be elderly friendly.

The ministry runs 100 percent on donations and 100 percent on volunteers. It has no regular income. All Turban Project items are free for the recipient. Besides the gift of time, donations of gift cards to Joann Fabrics or Hobby Lobby, novelty fabric and monetary donations are appreciated. It is a federal 501(c)(3) organization, so donations are tax-deductible.

For more information, contact Kathy Braidich at (740) 504-6133, email turbanproject@outlook.com, visit www.turbanproject.com or mail The Turban Project at 7871 Ridge Road, Frazeyburg, OH 43822.

Rosecrans biographer to speak to record society

Donald Schlegel, the biographer of Bishop Sylvester Rosecrans, the first bishop of Columbus, will speak at the quarterly meeting of the Catholic Record Society on Sunday, June 4 at The Catholic Foundation, 257 E. Broad St., Columbus.

The gathering will begin at 11:30 a.m. in the foundation's second floor conference room, with lunch at noon and the talk at 1 p.m.

The bishop's brother, Union Army Gen. William Rosecrans, is known for his role in Civil War battles in Tennes-

see. Schlegel, the author of the 2018 book *Devotion to Truth: The Life of Rt. Rev. Sylvester H. Rosecrans, D.D.*, will speak about battles the general's brother fought on the religious front – a "tight-rope walk" during the Civil War, a contest of wills with Cincinnati Archbishop John Purcell regarding a convent in Newark, and personnel issues with the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs.

There will be a short business meeting after the luncheon. The talk and the meeting are free, but those wishing to attend the luncheon are asked to send a check for \$28 per person, made payable to the Diocese of Columbus, to Catholic Record Society, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus, OH 43215 by Friday, May 26.

Parking will be available in front of the foundation building and at parking meters on Broad Street, which are free on Sundays. Overflow parking will be available behind St. Joseph Cathedral.

For more information and reservations, contact Mike Finn at (614) 268-4166 or FCoolavin@aol.com.

At its last meeting, the society elected officers including Mark Gideon, chairman; Ed Quickert, vice chairman; Pat Hardesty, treasurer; and Schlegel, secretary. Finn, who had been chairman for the past 12 years, was voted to become a life member of the society in recognition of his efforts.

Pentecost Vigil Mass planned at Columbus St. Patrick

Columbus St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., will be the site of a special Mass at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 27. This Mass will be the extended Vigil Mass for the Feast of Pentecost, with a longer Liturgy of the Word.

The church's regular Saturday Vigil Mass will be celebrated at 5 p.m. on that date.

Retirement party planned for Father Coleman

Father James Coleman is retiring on Tuesday, July 11 after 15 years as pastor of Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, eight years previously as its associate pastor and 53 years in the priesthood.

Parishioners will honor him with a retirement party on Thursday, June 15 at 5:30 p.m. in the parish's Don Ross Hall and will present him with a new car.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the gift may send a check to the church at 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus, OH 43232. Checks should be made out to Father James Coleman (not to the parish), with "car" noted on the memo line. The closing date for contributions is Sunday, June 11.

To RSVP to attend the party, call the parish office at (614) 861-1242 by Saturday, June 3.

96 altar servers receive Serra Club awards

The Serra Club of Downtown Columbus honored 96 eighth-graders at the 60th annual Altar Server Awards on Sunday, May 7 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.

Each of the honorees from parishes throughout the diocese received the Serra Altar Server Medal and a certificate from Bishop Earl Fernandes.

The bishop thanked the young people for their service at the altar and stressed the importance of their role in the Church and at Mass through assisting the priest. He also reflected on how their service could lead to religious vocations.

Inviting each of them to patiently listen for God's call, Bishop Fernandes said, "You are doing small tasks now, but God might call you to greatness by being a priest or a religious or a monk."

"There is this idea of growing in faith,



Serra Altar Server Awards recipients stand with Bishop Earl Fernandes on the altar at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on Sunday, May 7. *CT photos by Ken Snow*

growing in the Lord's service and discovering our vocation to holiness. If we grow each day in holiness, faithfully doing little things in the Lord's service, then one day we will also reign with the Lord.

"For to serve is to reign, and what greater honor could there be than to be called a saint."

St. Michael eighth-graders confirmed



Eighth-graders from Worthington St. Michael Church and School received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday, April 28 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral. Concelebrating the Mass were (front row from left) Father Jonathan Wilson, pastor at Westerville St. Paul Church; Bishop Earl Fernandes; Father Anthony Dinovo, pastor at St. Michael; and Father Emmanuel Addai, parochial vicar at St. Michael. *Photo courtesy Carle Schwab/St. Michael School*



St. Pius X Girl Scouts help break ground for STEM center

Members of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Girl Scout Troop 6358 joined local officials and leaders of the Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council in a groundbreaking ceremony marking the beginning of construction on a STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) leadership center and maker space at the Scouts' Camp Ken-Jockety in western Franklin County. Scouts pictured are (from left) Kayden England, Faith Hall, Hilary Staten (leader), Crysalyne Sinicropi, Lauren Gourley, Tori McDowell, Corinne Wilson, Elizabeth Tetrault, Megan Silve, Olivia Staten, Ana Difrancesca, Maggie Mertz and Heather Wilson (leader). Construction is expected to take place during the next 12 months. The center will have community space, science and technology labs and the maker space will allow girls to learn trade skills such as welding, mechanics and carpentry. Both are parts of the council's Dream Big project, which also includes a new greenhouse for gardening programs including hydroponics; renovations to the camp's environmental learning center to include the addition of a teaching kitchen for farm-to-table programming; and outdoor learning spaces. *Photo courtesy Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council*



John Doll of Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church receives his Altar Server Award from Bishop Earl Fernandes.

The students and their families gathered for a reception in the cathedral undercroft after the ceremony, which was supported financially with a grant from The Catholic Foundation.

The Serrans, who are part of a worldwide organization that promotes and supports religious vocations, believe that

altar serving can lead to a calling from God to become a priest, brother or sister.

"Altar servers, you are servants of Jesus Christ," Pope St. John Paul II said. "Do not hold your candlestick only inside the church but take the light of the Gospel to all who live in darkness."

First Communicants crown Mary at Plain City parish



Plain City St. Joseph Church honored the Blessed Virgin Mary with a May crowning on Monday, May 8 to celebrate the end of the year for the Parish School of Religion. Second-graders, who are pictured received their First Communion the previous day, processed into the church and two of the students were selected to crown Mary. After the crowning, there was a rosary service with the children leading the prayers for fellow students, parents and parishioners in attendance. The evening concluded with ice cream cups for the students and a party with cake for the second-graders, who also received their First Communion certificates and a gift from the church. *Photo courtesy St. Joseph Church*

Run the Race gym expansion continues despite vandalism

By Tim Puet

For The Catholic Times

Plans to complete an expansion of the gym at the Run the Race Club in Columbus' Hilltop neighborhood by the end of the summer are continuing despite several incidents of vandalism.

The most recent occurrence took place on April 25 when the job site trailer was set afire. Construction workers saw the trailer burning when they arrived in the morning and put out the blaze before it caused major damage.

"That was the fourth time the site has been broken into since work began" on July 28 of last year, said construction manager Bryan Hamilton. "We've had computers, TV sets, tools and all sorts of other things taken. We set up wooden barriers, but those were ineffective, so we'll be using stronger material."

Hamilton said the fire would set completion of the project back by about a week but anticipated that work would be finished before fall.

"Over the years, there have been a few thefts from the club building, and it's always shocking and disappointing," said Run the Race founder Rachel Muha. "It's just a heartbreaking thing for the inner-city kids we serve."

"This one was especially hard-hitting because the people in our neighborhood know what we do and the effect it has on the Hilltop and its children. Yet people come in the middle of the night, back up a truck and steal things from the construction site, and now try to burn the whole thing down," she said.

"This just strengthens my resolve to continue to teach children that there's a better way of life and to work that much harder to show them that education is so important and that God always loves them. The fire saddens me but doesn't make me despair."

Muha started the Run the Race organization in 2005 as part of The Brian Muha Foundation, founded in 2000 in memory of her son Brian, one of two young Franciscan University of Steubenville students shot to death in a wooded area in Pennsylvania after being taken at gunpoint from their home on May 31, 1999.

The Run the Race Club began in 2005 in the basement of Columbus Holy Family Church. Constant growth resulted in several relocations before it found a permanent home in a former elementary school at

880 S. Wayne Ave. It opened in 2012 after a year of renovations.

Its mission is to give love and hope to children through relationships with dedicated volunteers, mentors and tutors who offer opportunities and activities that allow them to grow academically, physically, spiritually and emotionally.

It offers a full meal every day, plus snacks, tutoring, homework help, sports, music, art, tumbling, games, contests, parties, holiday celebrations, a library and a salon. It also provides take-home meals and makes clothing and furniture available to families.

Muha said it serves different groups of children during the school year. "We have about 20 to 25 that come in during the school day for tutoring or other reasons," she said. "Our after-school activities usually bring in more than 60, and we'll have 100 or more for special occasions."

Much of the after-school activity is centered around the gym. Hamilton said the 4,200-square-foot gym expansion will give the building a high school regulation-size basketball court and allow other amenities to be included.

During the spring, summer and fall, Run the Race also gives children a chance to visit its 8-acre farm in Galloway, which has a farmhouse, several barns, fruit trees, a vegetable garden, a treehouse, a zip line, climbing ropes and ample room for playing and roaming.

Muha said Hamilton's company renovated the farmhouse last summer, and several pieces of play equipment have been added to help children enjoy outdoor space they can't find at home.

The Run the Race Club has an endowment managed by the Catholic Foundation to which contributions may be made at any time. To donate or for more information, go to <https://catholic-foundation.org/about/partnerships/nonprofit-partnerships/run-race-club>.

Bishop blesses new Birthright location



Bishop Earl Fernandes blesses the new Birthright office in Columbus at 3445 Great Western Blvd. and some of its volunteers on Wednesday, May 3. Birthright provides free services to expectant mothers in need of a smile, someone to listen, pregnancy tests, maternity clothes, baby items, information and referrals for other needs such as medical, housing and social assistance. The Birthright office is open from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and on Saturdays by appointment. Because Birthright is totally funded by grants and donations, financial contributions are always welcome in person or online at www.birthright.com/columbusohmain. A number of parishes in the diocese also provide support with donations of baby items. Birthright, a nondenominational organization founded in Toronto in 1968 to assist women facing unplanned pregnancies, was brought to Columbus in 1972 and has had several locations over the past 50 years. Most recently, the office was on West Mount Street before the recent move.

Photos courtesy Abigail Pitones



FR. WILLIAM HRITSKO'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS PRIESTHOOD ORDINATION

Sunday May 28th
Celebratory Mass 2:00pm

Picnic Style Reception
following the Mass

St. Leonard Catholic Church
57 Dorsey Mill Rd East
Heath, Ohio 43056

Please RSVP to either parish office:

St. Leonard 740-522-5270

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
740-928-3266



The advertisement features a collage of images showing hands working on stone monuments, a finished monument, and a dog. The text reads: "Beautifully Handcrafted Memorials From Our Family to Yours". At the bottom, it says "MODLICH Monument Company" with the phone number "614-276-1439" and the website "modlich-monument.com".

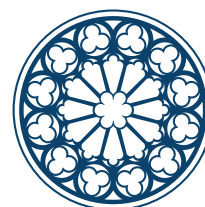
Christy Steffy, Development Officer at The Catholic Foundation

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