Eucharistic processions culminate on Corpus Christi

Ten days of Masses and Eucharistic processions leading to the feast of Corpus Christi on Sunday, June 11, which celebrates the Body and Blood of Christ, brought members of several parishes in the Diocese of Columbus together.

For 10 consecutive days, Bishop Earl Fernandes celebrated Mass at parishes throughout the diocese. The Masses were followed by Eucharistic processions, in which the bishop led a procession outside around the church with the Body of Christ displayed in the monstrance.

The processions coincide with a three-year National Eucharistic Revival taking place in the United States from 2022-25. The revival was initiated by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, and year one (2022-23) celebrated the “Year of Diocesan Revival.”

Year two (2023-24), the “Year of Parish Revival,” began on Corpus Christi Sunday this year. Bishop Fernandes said the upcoming year will focus on the centrality of the Mass and Christ’s presence in diocesan communities.

The novena kicked off on Friday, June 2, at Columbus St. Peter Church with a Mass in Spanish and English. More than 1,000 people from parishes across the diocese gathered to celebrate the Body and Blood of the Lord. Bishop Fernandes emphasized God’s great love for His people.

“He could have saved us without suffering and dying, but to prove His love for us, He chose to be rejected,” the bishop said in his homily. “What could have led God to do such a foolish, preposterous thing? St. Bernard of Clairvaux says, ‘It was love.’”

Bishop Fernandes said God gives Him-
Navy chaplain praises resiliency of people after Guam typhoon

Father Daniel Swartz, a Columbus diocesan priest serving as a military chaplain on Guam, said the chapel on the U.S. Navy base where he is stationed suffered major damage from a typhoon that struck the island in late May. But he also said the people of the Pacific island, which is a U.S. territory, have taken the blow in stride because they are used to major storms.

Father Swartz sent the following email message to the people of the diocese through The Catholic Times:

"Communications have been spotty after Typhoon Mawar hit. Every day there are improvements, though. The storm was incredibly destructive; it unfortunately slowed down before approaching the island, which allowed it to gain strength. The eye of the storm moved just north of the island, which meant that the wall of the eye, the most intense and dangerous part, passed directly over the island.

"I took shelter with some friends from the Coast Guard. The approaching winds struck the house, making the walls vibrate with an eerie frequency. It was clear how destructive the typhoon was going to be when we could hear trees being toppled and even some of the storm guards being torn from the house.

"When the rains started, they crescendoed to such intensity that water was shooting from underneath the sills. One particular door that led to the roof was buckling from the wind and water as if someone was throwing their weight into it, attempting to break inside. We sacrificed a collection of wine corks to hammer them into the sills to halt the flow of water; it was a similar idea as if we were doing damage control on a ship.

"The initial days following the storm were surreal. People lined the streets for miles hoping to be able to get into a gasoline station, some waiting for 13 hours or more. At one station, some waiting for 13 hours hoping to be able to get into a gasoline station, some waiting for 13 hours or more. Roadside vendors were set up so people could purchase snacks from their vehicles.

"Unfortunately, the chapel at Naval Base Guam, affectionately known by the Catholic community here as Mary Star of the Sea, sustained significant damage. The roof tiles were torn off in two different sections allowing large amounts of water into the structure and the sanctuary. The entire floor was flooded and the sanctuary was full of water. The metal roof tiles were torn off in two different sections allowing large amounts of water into the structure and the sanctuary. The entire floor was flooded and the sanctuary was full of water.

"There was also a pleasant irony that just as the Apostles were cooped up in a room until Pentecost, so were we as a community until the storms had passed.

"The jungle was completely stripped of leaves and vegetation; I have never seen the island so denuded. The typhoon stripped the island of leaves and vegetation; I have never seen the island so denuded.

"The Church in Guam is resilient as storms and typhoons are part of life here. Many of the faithful here are offering novenas in thanksgiving that there was no loss of life during the storm, which in itself is an incredible miracle.

"There are many still without power or drinkable water or even water at all. Various military units have been helping clear debris and rebuild infrastructure. Navy divers working with the Coast Guard worked around the clock to clear Apra Harbor so additional personnel and aid could be brought in by sea. The Navy Seabees have been true to their legacy as builders and engineers, helping to bring water systems and power grids back online.

"A detachment of Marines from Camp Pendleton and Miramar who are here on ship wasted no time in volunteering their help as well. Families with working washing machines have opened their homes for others to wash and dry clothes. It has been quite incredible to see the compassion brought forth from people."

Father Swartz said he hopes to return to Columbus on leave soon. The typhoon was not the first perilous situation in which he has been involved since becoming a Navy chaplain in 2019. He was the last priest out of Afghanistan when that nation fell to the Taliban in 2021.

Diocese announces four clergy assignments

The diocese has announced several clergy assignments after releasing extensive lists in February and March. The following moves will take effect in July unless otherwise noted:

Reverend Emmanuel Adu Addai, from Parochial Vicar, St. Michael Church, Worthington, and Chaplain for the Ghanaian community to Chaplain, Genesis Hospital, Zanesville, serving as a member of the Ethics Committee, and Chaplain, Bishop Rosecrans High School, Zanesville, effective July 11, 2023.

Reverend Lawrence Tabi, from service outside the diocese to Parochial Vicar, St. Andrew Church, Columbus; Administrator, St. Aloysius Church, Columbus; and Chaplain for the Ghanaian Catholic Community, effective July 1, 2023.

Confirming the appointment of the Superior Delegate of the Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallotines), Father Wojciech Stachura, SAC from Pastor, St. Christopher Church, Columbus; to Parochial Vicar, St. Michael Church, Worthington, effective July 11, 2023.

Confirming the appointment of the Prior Provincial of the Dominican Friars and Brothers, Reverend Matthew Donahue, OP, newly ordained to Parochial Vicar, St. Patrick Church, Columbus, effective June 1, 2023.
Dover St. Joseph celebrates 175 years

By Tim Puet
For The Catholic Times

Dover St. Joseph Church was founded in 1849 to serve as a spiritual home for Catholics coming to Ohio from elsewhere and is continuing in that role 175 years later.

The church in its earliest days served people working on the Ohio and Erie Canal and those who came from the eastern United States, Italy, Germany and Switzerland to find employment in the industries the waterway served in what originally was known as Canal Dover and other parts of Tuscarawas County.

Establishment of a large-scale poultry processing industry in the 1990s by Case Farms in Winesburg and Gerber’s Poultry in Kidron, both located near Dover, brought a new group of immigrants — former residents of Central American nations, particularly Guatemala — to the region including Tuscarawas, Stark, Holmes and Carroll counties.

Father William Arnold, pastor of the church from 1996 to 2009, began celebrating Masses for those immigrants after arriving in Dover.

“Father Arnold recognized that they came from a strongly Catholic nation area and needed the Church to show support for their presence and help them establish a sense of community,” said Janice Cosenza, a parishioner for more than 50 years and a co-chair of St. Joseph’s 175th anniversary committee.

“We had the most active outreach among the Tuscarawas County parishes to the area’s Hispanic residents and became their spiritual home.”

“Father Arnold also helped set up a clinic for the working uninsured, which was very important for the farm workers because most of them came under that category,” said Jeannine Kennedy, an anniversary co-chair who has been part of the parish for 72 years.

“The clinic started in the Parish Life Center across from the church, outgrew its space there and moved to an office building in Dover, where it continues to play an important community role.”

Father Arnold left Dover when he was assigned as pastor of Columbus Holy Spirit and St. Philip churches and will be retiring in December. The Hispanic presence at St. Joseph has continued to grow under his successors, Father Matthew Hoover, now at Columbus Immaculate Conception Church, and the current pastor, Father Jimmy Hatfield, who has spent almost all of his 13 years as a priest at St. Joseph.

Father Hatfield, 67, was parochial vicar there for 18 months after his ordination in 2010, has been pastor in Dover since 2013 and said he hopes to stay there until retirement.

Father Hatfield also serves as pastor of Holy Trinity Church at Zoar in northern Tuscarawas County, with Father Tomas Carvajal, CR, a member of the Theatine order of priests, stationed at Holy Trinity and serving as parochial vicar for both parishes with a focus on ministering to the Hispanic community by celebrating Masses in Spanish and overseeing catechesis and sacramental preparation in Spanish.

Father Hatfield said Father Carvajal’s Mass in Spanish on Sundays at 1:30 p.m. always has the largest attendance of St. Joseph’s four weekend Masses. The others are at 4 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday.

Brenda Stilgenbauer, pastoral associate, who has worked for the parish for 23 years, said about 40 percent of the 140 students of Tuscarawas Central Catholic (TCC) Elementary School, across the street from the church, are Hispanic. The school serves students in kindergarten through sixth grade from Dover, Zoar and New Philadelphia Sacred Heart churches.

Father Hatfield said his parish has about 830 registered families. “The number registered has remained stable throughout the years I’ve been here because Dover is a small town (population about 13,000) that’s never relied on big industry,” he said.

“Instead, we have employers who have been here for decades, including Union Hospital, Allied Machine, Lauren International (extruded rubber, security systems), Dover Chemical and Zimmer Surgical. Together they provide enough variety to make the area not dependent on any one thing.

“The poultry farms add to that. Many who came here to work on the farms have followed a traditional path for immigrants and become entrepreneurs, starting stores and food trucks which have added more to the area’s economy.”

“Dover and nearby communities have
Immaculate Heart unites us to God through Mary

Pope St. John Paul II said, “From Mary we learn to love Christ, her Son and the Son of God. Learn from her to be always faithful, to trust that God’s Word to you will be fulfilled, and that nothing is impossible with God.”

On the day of our baptism, the invocation of the saints resounds for us. It is a time when we are gifted with this company of “older” brothers and sisters – the saints – who passed by our same way, who know our toils and live forever in God’s embrace.

A question we might ask is: “Can I be a saint in everyday life?” Sure! That doesn’t mean we spend all day praying in a cave. It means that we must be faithful all day whenever and wherever we pray, go to work, look after the children – whatever.

I believe the key is doing everything with our hearts open to God, so that our day is open to God. We can be saints because the Lord helps us. God gives us the grace to believe and to live so profoundly in Him that we become images of Christ for this world.

Saturday, June 17 is the Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Historically, devotion to the Heart of Mary grew in parallel, but at a lesser intensity, than that of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The Sacred Heart of Jesus emphasizes His divine heart as being full of love for all humankind – whether accepted or rejected. The devotion to Mary’s heart focuses on the love that her heart has for Jesus, for God.

The love of her heart is meant to be a model for the way we should love God. Honoring Mary’s Immaculate Heart is really just another way of honoring Mary as the person who was chosen to be the mother of God, recognizing her extraordinary holiness and the immense love she bestowed on Jesus as His mother, the person who was called to share in His redemptive sufferings. The aim of the devotion is to unite us to God through Mary’s heart.

Mary must have been a very remarkable young woman. Let’s face it. Becoming the mother of the King of Kings, Lord of Lords, Prince of Peace, Bread of Life, Son of God was an unexpected situation – not to God, but to Mary, and certainly to Joseph.

But she made her decision immediately with “I will do according to Your word.” She then closed her curtains, her windows, her door and her house, not to lock herself in considering herself as a kind of living tabernacle with that treasure in her womb and meditating day and night about her privileged position. No, she closed her house to do something else: She went to visit her cousin Elizabeth.

What had happened to her was not going to be a private matter. She wanted to share this joy. It’s the same for us: God’s activity in our lives is meant to be shared in community.

We need to take a moment to reflect on the impact of God’s choice of Mary. Given the times, God overturned several biases. Mary was youthful in a world and time that revered age. She was a woman in a society dominated by men. She was poor at a time when wealth was all-important.

Her “yes” was the beginning of all and everything that would happen to her during the rest of her life. Just like our yeses become the beginning of all and everything that happens during the rest of our lives.

God sent Jesus to free us from the slavery of sin, to transform unjust structures in this world and to create his kingdom with people who choose to believe and hope. When Mary said “yes,” she not only opened herself to receive Jesus in her womb; she also opened herself to that vision of justice and peace in the world – just as we should be open to that vision.

She shows us how to say yes from our own poverty of faith to face the world with the Good News that the Light will always overcome the darkness. We should never be afraid of loving the Blessed Virgin too much, as we can never love her more than Jesus did.

FAITH IN ACTION | Erin Cordle

Erin Cordle is associate director of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns.

Being known and still loved

One of my favorite things to share is authenticity. Being real is key to who I strive to be. I love the freedom that comes from living life this way.

To allow oneself to be fully known is a risk, but one I am striving each day to live. I find this especially important in cultivating deep relationships with my children.

I am in the stage of having half of my children become adults and the other half still in school including four teenagers at home. God help me. I realize that my vulnerability is key to growing my relationship with them.

I am finding that all my children, but especially my young adult children, need to know that I faced challenges in my youth, things I did well and times when I failed, picked myself up, tried again, fell, began again and hit repeat on that cycle many times before I allowed God to guide my path.

This side of me, my highs and lows and some of those stories, show a side of me I’d rather not revisit. I think those stories, however, are real and necessary, as my children, too, will have highs and lows in life they must navigate. Neither the mountaintop experiences nor the valleys determine their worth, but how they walk through them matters.

My young adult children often look at me as if I came out of my mother’s womb with a rosary in my hand. Nothing could be further from the truth, and yet Momma Mary has always been my guide. It’s just taken me a bit to see that.

We often discount the in-between time when we are allowing ourselves to grow, when the Spirit is moving within us. We want to show the new and improved version to everyone, the “I was one way, but I am now another” version of ourselves. But that in-between period matters, and it must be shared with our kids, young and old. They need to know we struggled, hear our struggles, see our struggles because they, too, will struggle!

It is humbling to have learned this the hard way and to be just now revisiting those stories so that I can show my young adult children that we, too, faced challenges and yet here we stand in awe of how God has worked in our lives.

Having practiced this with older kids, it is much easier for me to sit on the stairs in a timeout with a younger one and say, “Yes, Momma struggles with her temper, too. I remember when...” It softens the reality of our humanity. It lowers the bar in the eyes of our children enough that conversation can flow. It brings challenging moments to a, “You, too?” moment, and God is made manifest in these moments.

Oh! How I feel His arms around us in these moments. Hearts are opened. Walls are down, and it is here that we must meet each other. This is the secret to not only building relationships with our adult children but also in evangelizing to them.

If you have children who are being lured by the temptations of what the world offers, sharing con-
Eucharistic procession a chance to walk with Jesus

Dear Father: I see that Bishop Earl Fernandes seems to be encouraging Eucharistic processions. I thought that all that Eucharistic worship was done away with by Vatican II. Is this some kind of throwback in our diocese? Shouldn’t we be going forward with new things in the Church? ~S.T.

Dear S.T.: You are correct that Bishop Fernandes, and with him many other bishops of our country, is encouraging attention on Eucharistic worship. In fact, he has been carrying the Eucharistic monstrance (which contains the consecrated Host) in processions himself.

He has wanted to lead our diocese closer to Jesus through the nine days leading up to Corpus Christi, the annual feast of the Body and Blood of Christ.

In fact, the U.S. bishops are encouraging a renewed focus on the centrality of the Eucharist through a three-year National Eucharistic Revival. It began in 2022 as a movement within the Catholic Church, led by our bishops, to “renew the Church by enkindling a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist.” (U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Secretariat for Evangelization and Catechesis)

Eucharistic processions serve several purposes. First and foremost, they help us to give glory to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, Who is present in the Eucharist carried at the head of the procession. It’s like a divine parade for everyone, especially Catholics.

The Eucharistic procession allows us to bring our Lord through our streets and near our homes and businesses. As we praise and adore our Lord with hymns and prayers, He blesses us and our dwelling places.

To address your concern that Eucharistic processions, and Eucharistic Adoration in our churches and Adoration chapels, is a throwback to pre-conciliar days, the Second Vatican Council itself insisted on the centrality of the Eucharist.

This is especially obvious in the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, which urges that we not be silent and passive spectators but real worshippers of God. We are active at Mass when we lift up our souls to God, offering Him worship not just with our voices but also with minds and hearts aflame with the Holy Spirit and with knees bent in adoration.

Carrying the Blessed Sacrament in procession is another obviously “active” way we participate in the worship of Christ. When we process with the Blessed Sacrament, we are participating in a sacramental walk with Jesus.

Sometimes we wish we could have walked with Christ in the Holy Land 2,000 years ago. But we can walk and speak with Him now because He is present in the Eucharist.

When we adore Christ present in the Eucharist, we are simultaneously opening ourselves to the healing work He desires to accomplish in us. I can only imagine what healing occurs in the lives of those who are touched by Christ during Eucharistic processions, even those who observe us from a distance.

Replacing negative thoughts with positive ones is uplifting.

Since I started strength coaching, I have emphasized that our thoughts impact how we lift weights.

Are we distracted? Then we risk getting hurt. Are we thinking that we can’t do something? Then we can’t do it. Are we practicing negative self-talk, such as “I can’t do this,” “I don’t want to do this” or “I’m not good at this”? It definitely impacts our performance. What goes on in our minds affects how our bodies react.

It’s the same in our spiritual life. Really, life in general. It’s good spiritual practice to pay attention to our thoughts about ourselves, about others, about situations and about God as we seek to grow in holiness and be more like Jesus to others.

From 2 Corinthians 10:4-5: “We destroy arguments and every proud obstacle to the knowledge of God and take every thought captive to obey Christ.”

It is good and holy to take our thoughts captive and to lift up our concerns to Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the angels and the saints, with faith, hope and love rather than allowing negative self-talk to dominate our minds.

This is easier said than done. First, we have to pay attention to our thoughts. When we interact with someone, are we looking for God in them and thinking about the good in them? When we make a mistake, or someone expresses disappointment in us, do we take it personally and get defensive or do we forgive ourselves and seek to learn from it?

Do we think of Jesus as our loving friend and companion and ask Him to help us in our difficulties, or do we complain that He’s not doing enough or not doing anything at all? Do we give in to fear and worry rather than asking, seeking, knocking and trusting that God hears and answers our prayers according to His will?

Most of the time, those thoughts that bring us down are sneaky — not overt — but when we pay attention to them, actively thinking those thoughts captive and replacing them with loving, caring and forgiving thoughts, our relationships and our lives begin to change.

HOLY AND HEALTHY | Lori Crock

Lori Crock is a SoulCore Rosary prayer and exercise leader and a St. Brendan parishioner. Lori is online at holyandhealthyincatholic.com. She shares her passion for faith and fitness.

ULTIMATELY, my goal of parenting is to witness the love and mercy of Jesus to my children. I have learned that the best way to do this is by showing them the broken, wounded, healed and redeemed version of myself and sharing that cycle over and over again. There is something so very wonderful about being known and still loved.

In John 16:33, Jesus said, “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

Our lives will have trouble, suffering, turmoil and heartache due to the original sin of Adam and Eve that is in each of us. Jesus came to free us from sin and death with His abundant love; may we embrace this beautiful thought above all others.
The Summer Reading List 2023 edition

Few of the following qualify as “beach reading;” they all qualify as good reading.

In graduate school, I was informed that there was no such thing as “biblical theology,” only textual analysis. Bishop Robert Barron demonstrates what nonsense that was, and is, in The Great Story of Israel: Election, Freedom, Holiness, a book that nourishes both mind and soul.

In The Virtues, John Garvey, former president of the Catholic University of America, shares the wisdom by which he reminded CUA students that genuine “higher education” means “deeper formation” as well as “more information;” the perfect gift to anyone entering college.


Don’t let a formidable title — La Duchesse: The Life of Marie de Vigneron, Cardinal Richelieu’s Forgotten Heiress Who Shaped the Fate of France — deter you from this impressive second book by Bronwen McShea, a brilliant young historian who knows how to tell a story.

Lance Morrow, for decades one of the country’s most felicitous essayists, looks back affectionately on his early days as an ink-stained wretch — and draws some appropriately sharp contrasts to today’s knights of the keyboard — in a splendid memoir, The Noise of Type-writers: Remembering Journalism.

been known for as long as I can recall as places with good Italian restaurants and food stores,” Kennedy said. “Now they have the same reputation as locations for Hispanic eating places and markets. The food stores,” Kennedy said. “Now they have the same reputation as locations for Hispanic eating places and markets. The

The parish also sponsors Bible study programs during Advent and Lent, usually has a parish mission as part of its Lenten observance and hosts an annual ecumenical Advent lessons and carols program featuring the church’s three choirs and choirs from several other denominations.

Father Hatfield currently is leading 24 parishioners on a special spiritual journey — a trip to the Holy Land that began Wednesday, June 7 and continues through Thursday, June 15.

This year marks the 10th anniversary for a weekly soup kitchen sponsored by the parish at its Family Life Center. The 15,000-square-foot structure has two stories and includes eight meeting rooms. Scouts and parish youth groups meet there regularly. It also is the site for civic events including the Dover Rotary Club’s annual Christmas party.

The center was dedicated in 2007, and the church building was dedicated in 1965, replacing a structure built in 1898 when the parish was staffed by Capuchin Franciscan friars, who served the parish from 1886 until Father Arnold’s arrival 110 years later.

“The center is the site for many funeral luncheons and sometimes wedding receptions,” Kennedy said. “We have become an important tool of our evangelization efforts. I’ve heard several stories of people — some inactive Catholics, others from other faiths — who have said they were transformed by what they have seen at Masses here and the empathetic people showed after those Masses. How we treat people has been an effective form of evangelization.

“This is evangelization by example, and it’s the most effective way of having an impact on people’s lives,” Father Hatfield said. “When others see people here living their faith, whether through funeral luncheons or weddings, it instills hope for the future.”

Two parishes in the diocese — St. Francis de Sales Church and St. Joseph’s Church — will celebrate another significant milestone in the months ahead. St. Francis de Sales Church will close.

A few months before his centenary, Henry Kissinger sketched lessons for the 21st century from six of the history-makers of the 20th in Leadership: Six Studies in World Strategy, a book in which penetrating insight is leavened with tart wit (“The capacity for gratitude not being among de Gaulle’s most highly developed traits. ...”). The chapter on Konrad Adenauer “strategy of humility” is especially pertinent to today’s overheated politics.

Longtime Newsweek correspondent Andrew Nagorski continues the explorations into a dark period of history that he began with such page-turners as Hitler: American Eyewitnesses to the Nazi Rise to Power and The Nazi Hunters with Saving Freud: The Rescue of Jews by the Polish Catholic Clergy: The Testimony of Survivors and Rescuers, available at https://bit.ly/3T2wRAH.

The Roman Mass: from Early Christian Origins to Tridentine Reform, by Uwe Michael Lang of the London Oratory, will be primarily of interest to scholars.

DOVER, continued from Page 3
**Blind lector, 16, reads Scripture in braille**

**By Hannah Heil**

**Catholic Times Reporter**

MaKenzie Love, 16, is like many teenagers – she enjoys reading, singing in the choir and playing percussion in her high school band. She also serves as a lector, or reader, at Mass. “I like to read and try to interpret and analyze what the Word (of God) is trying to say and hear the homily about it,” she said, “but I also like to get up and speak to the congregation.”

Love is, however, unlike many lectors.

Love was born blind and receives “The Propers of the Sunday Masses” publication in the mail each month from the Xavier Society for the Blind, a nonprofit organization in New York City that publishes and provides free braille materials for adults who are religious and religious, such as priests, to use at Mass.

Braille is a writing system with combinations of dots that is used by people who are visually impaired. Braille can be read on embossed paper or on a refreshable braille display, a device that displays braille characters that connects to a computer or smartphone.

Love uses the braille Mass Propers to read the Sunday Scripture readings at Mass. The Propers include a braille edition of the first and second reading, responses in the liturgy, and a Gospel reading for each Sunday, as well as braille Mass prayers and responses recited by the congregation, similar to a missalette, which has the prayers and responses of the Mass.

Love attends Columbus St. Mary Church in the German Village neighborhood, how she entered a lector at the 4 p.m. Mass on Saturdays about once a month.

“It’s been really a very nice experience,” she said. “It makes me process the Scriptures in a different way than I’m used to, and I feel like I have gotten to share the Word with others by reading.”

Love resides with her family in the village of Commercial Point in Pickaway County and will be a junior at Teays Valley High School. She has a braille teacher at her school and she uses braille for her high school classes.

She was baptized Catholic as an infant, she said, and used the braille Parish School of Religion books published by the Xavier Society for her religious education classes. She received the sacrament of confirmation at Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

Love said she attends weekend Mass in German Village with her grandmother, who lives in Grove City. Her grandparents live next door to parishioners from St. Mary and began attending Mass there, too.

She began serving as a lector in April 2022 after expressing an interest to Deacon Roger Minner at St. Mary.

“I was just honestly curious how they went up and read because I had never had it explained to me,” she said. “So, I asked the deacon how you could read, if it had to be from the book, and he said, ‘Would you be interested in maybe trying to lector one time using the Propers of the Sunday Mass that you receive?’ Because I told him that I received that.

“I said that I would be willing to try it, and the rest is history.”

Minner said, “We have, given, two dozen or so lectors here, and she is one of the best. She projects not only the Word, but just this sense of confidence to be able to do that. I think she’s a great model for our community – nothing should hold people back.”

Minner said Love has inspired him personally.

“Whenever she does the proclamation of the Scripture, I just have a great deal of admiration, and I often think to myself, ‘There’s things that I should do,’” he said. When she is not serving as a lector, Love said she enjoys using braille to participate as part of the congregation.

“I just like to follow along with what’s going on in the Mass, because obviously, I am not able to read the missalettes that are presented, and Xavier was kind enough to do this, where they can provide services and accommodations for those of us who are visually impaired,” she said.

The Xavier Society also publishes braille prayer books, biographies of Catholic saints and contemporary books on spirituality, including titles by Henri Nouwen and Dynamic Catholic founder Matthew Kelly, as well as audio services for the blind.

The organization publishes Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults books for those studying to become Catholic, workbooks and a braille edition of the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Love said that she uses braille materials provided by the Xavier Society to actively practice her Catholic faith.

“They have a braille Bible,” she said. “It’s 45 volumes, so it took up like three of my shelves.”

Braille takes up more space on a page than typed words in print, so books published in Braille typically consist of more pages and are bigger in size than most books.

The Xavier Society for the Blind, founded in 1900, provides braille and audio services to the blind. Currently, the society provides Catholic materials to 2,500 patrons, or people who are signed up to receive their services, across the United States.

“The spectrum of materials that we provide really assists people in learning about and developing and practicing their faith,” said Malachy Fallon, society executive director.

“Whether they’re young children learning for the first time or adults trying to enhance their faith and learn more, or adults who are considering converting to Catholicism, we can provide those materials for them at whatever stage they’re in in their faith journey.”

There are 750 patrons who receive braille Sunday Mass Propers on a monthly basis, Fallon said. Each monthly edition of the Propers includes four weeks of Sunday Masses.

The visually impaired can begin receiving braille or audio services from the Xavier Society for the Blind by registering as a patron on its website, www.xaviersocietyforthelibrary.org, or contacting the organization by phone.

Love said she is grateful for the materials provided by the Xavier Society that enable her to serve as a lector.

“Without the Xavier Society, and what the Lord has done through them, I probably would not be able to do what I can, and same with braille in general, I think being able to read and write has helped me grow as a person and in my faith,” she said.

This month, Love’s proficiency as a braille reader will extend beyond St. Mary Church as she heads to Los Angeles for the Braille Challenge Finals held June 23-25.

Love is one of 50 finalists from the U.S., Canada and the United Kingdom who will advance to the final round of the Braille Challenge, hosted by the Braille Institute.

The institute is a nonprofit organization based in Los Angeles that provides free services to people of all ages with vision loss.

In February 2023, Love competed at the regional preliminary event of the Braille Challenge in Ohio. The regional event is open to any blind or visually impaired student in first through 12th grade who can read and write braille. More than 50 regional events take place throughout the U.S., Canada and the United Kingdom.

“The Braille Challenge is the only academic competition of its kind throughout North America and the United Kingdom,” Love said. “We compete in five categories: reading comprehension, speed and accuracy, proofreading, spelling for the younger divisions, and charts and graphs.

“They separate us into five categories by age group. This year, I’m in the varsity level, which is 10th through 12th grade. The top 10 highest scoring participants in each age group get to go to Los Angeles for the final round.”

There are five contest age groups: apprentice (grades 1-2), freshman (grades 3-4), sophomore (grades 5-6), junior varsity (grades 7-9) and varsity (grades 10-12).

“I won (the preliminary event) here in Ohio, but I was also among the top 10 that scored in the varsity age division and is now receiving the opportunity to go to Los Angeles,” Love said.

Love said it is important for people who are blind to learn braille. Using audio services is an alternative to braille, she said, but learning how to read and write braille is literacy for the visually impaired.

“It’s so important to be able to read braille and to grow in your faith just as a person, but being able to read and write, I think it’s so important for every visually impaired person to be able to learn braille and use it in whatever ways you can,” she said.

And by learning braille, Love is thankful for those who helped her exercise her knowledge and talents.

“Thank you to the Church for letting me lector and just giving me that opportunity, and thank you to the Xavier Society for the Blind, also, for helping me grow my faith by sending me the materials that I regularly use in my life.”
New physician practices faith through medicine

By Tim Puet
For The Catholic Times

A recent Ohio State University (OSU) medical school graduate flew to Honduras three days after his hooding ceremony to take part in a medical mission. Dr. Russell “Rusty” Bonneville III has returned home to Columbus for a brief break and will soon begin a six-year physician scientist training program at the University of Michigan Medical Center in Ann Arbor.

Physician scientists both care for patients and seek new knowledge about health, disease or delivery of patient care through research.

Bonneville was among 14 OSU medical students, four attending physicians and two pharmacists who formed what’s called a brigade for the university’s Partnership for Ongoing Developmental, Educational and Medical Outreach Solutions (PODEMOS) program, which provides essential primary care services to marginalized communities in Honduras and an educational experience to its student participants.

PODEMOS has sent brigades to Honduras twice a year since 2008, providing long-term outreach and clinical care rather than being a one-time effort.

“We set up temporary clinics in schoolhouses in a rural area and provided care for both chronic (long-term) and acute (immediate) complaints,” Bonneville said.

“The range of ailments was wide—anything people would come to a family doctor for. We had to do our best with what we had, but we knew that for many of our patients, it was the first time they had seen a doctor in years or since the last brigade visit.”

Bonneville said the brigade treated about 500 people in total and was open for six or seven hours per day “or until the last patient was seen. We never turned anyone away.”

“I wanted to take part in PODEMOS after graduation because it was a way to help people in a setting I’d never have been involved in otherwise,” he said. “I grew up in a strong Catholic family which taught me the value of service to others, and this was one way of living out that belief.

“It also will make me a more well-rounded physician because of what it’s shown me about how medicine is practiced in a different area of the world and how to work with limited resources.”

The M.D. degree Bonneville received in May is in addition to a Ph.D. degree he earned from OSU in 2021. “This means I can be called a doctor, but I do not have a type of practice yet,” he said. “That’s why I’m working toward being a physician scientist, to be able to both see patients and lead a research team.”

His next six years will include a two-year residency in internal medicine, a three-year fellowship and a year of research.

“It’s a long haul,” said Bonneville, 32. “It’s easy to look at my next goal as being far away, but in the meantime, you do good work along the way that makes the effort worthwhile. I got great satisfaction from one of my areas of research as a graduate student involving a genetic pattern known as MSI (microsatellite instability) in cancer patients.

“MSI had been well described as something often found in cases of colon and uterine cancer, but as part of a laboratory team I helped my laboratory define MSI in a patient whose cancer came from an unknown cause. This made me wonder about the possibility of MSI existing in other forms of cancer.

“I studied more than 11,000 cases of cancer in a national database and found other unexpected occurrences of MSI in 39 different types of cancer. Finding MSI in so many unexpected cancer types is significant because this will allow some people to be candidates for different types of treatments they never would have been considered for otherwise.

“It’s a small breakthrough that will have an impact on many people’s lives—one of many small steps toward the larger goal of controlling cancer.”

Bonneville also has personal reasons for working on cancer research. His father, Russell Bonneville II, died of cancer in 2017, a deceased grandmother also had cancer, and an uncle has been diagnosed with cancer.

Bonneville attended Columbus St. Mary Magdalene School and Bishop Ready High School before pursuing his undergraduate, graduate and medical degrees at OSU.

“I am grateful for my Catholic education and the support and guidance of my teachers, which provided me with a strong intellectual and faith foundation,” Bonneville said.

Another major influence in his life has been Dr. Sameek Roychowdhury, the principal investigator during Bonneville’s Ph.D. work, whom he considers both a mentor and a colleague. “He truly went above and beyond the norm in working with me,” Bonneville said.

His mother, Sandy Bonneville, has been involved with the annual community Thanksgiving dinner at St. Aloysius Church in the Hilltop neighborhood of Columbus for more than 25 years. Bonneville began working with his parents at the dinner as a child and has continued ever since.

Several physicians including Roychowdhury have volunteered at the dinner. “Dr. Roychowdhury always has been enthusiastic about this—and he’s a vegetarian!” Bonneville said.

Bonneville’s family also has been part of many other outreach efforts at St. Aloysius and St. Mary Magdalene churches, particularly the Take It to the Streets ministry, which distributes hot meals and essentials directly to the unsheltered at least twice a week on the Hilltop.

“Taking meals to the streets has been a privilege and a blessing for me,” Bonneville said. “I’m truly grateful for the love and support of my parents through my journey. Being raised in the Catholic faith has allowed me to care for others along the way and to put my faith into action.”
Janice Saggio, the first-grade teacher at Columbus St. Matthias School, laughed as she recalled memorable moments from her 49 years of teaching.

“I had a little boy one day,” she said. “He wouldn’t sit still, so I grabbed his chair and took him somewhere else to sit, and he looks at me and says, ‘Thank you for the ride, Mrs. Saggio.’”

“And then I had a little girl whose shoes were always untied, and I said, ‘Maria, I can’t keep tying your shoes; my back hurts.’ And she goes, ‘Why don’t you take some Tylenol?”

“They always had a solution.”

Saggio’s years of teaching were filled with moments like these, which could be described as challenging and humorous. After nearly half a century in education, Saggio retired at the end of the 2022-23 school year.

Of her 49 years teaching, Saggio taught at St. Matthias School for 48 years. She spent her first year teaching at a public elementary school in her hometown of Dennison, Ohio. After she and her husband were married, they moved to Columbus. Saggio was hired at St. Matthias and remained there for the rest of her career.

“I’m so blessed,” she said. “Teaching in Catholic school is more than just teaching; it is a service to God. My faith has grown because of it. It’s wonderful being part of prayers every day and liturgy and service projects.”

Saggio taught grade levels from kindergarten to eighth grade. While the majority of her years were spent teaching first grade and third grade, she also taught sixth, seventh and eighth grade social studies and history as well as kindergarten.

“It’s my home,” she said of St. Matthias School. “The minute you walk into this building, you feel welcomed. Like any home, the school building has changed during Saggio’s tenure. When she began teaching at St. Matthias in the 1970s, Saggio said, there was no gymnasium, and the church building was a meeting hall. During the past 48 years, Saggio witnessed the construction of the school gym and what is now St. Matthias Church.

She has also seen generations of church pastors and principals lead the parish. There have been five pastors at St. Matthias Church and four principals during her 48 years teaching at the school.

She described the principals as “all very nurturing and respectful.” They let her and her students’ children know “God meant me to do this.”

“I always like to hear what the parent says, even if it’s a negative thing,” she said. “I always say, ‘You’re right, I could have done that better. Let’s do it this way.’ I always ask them how it could be different, if it’s not working, and they’re very helpful.”

Saggio said consistency, patience and flexibility are key to a successful classroom.

“Being a good teacher, you have to be consistent every day and have good structure and then you have your rules, especially,” she said. “That’s what I’ve learned through the years – you make those rules at the beginning, and you practice them, and you follow through so (the students) know.

“Patience – have lots of patience – and be flexible. If you’re not flexible, you go crazy because nothing is ever the way you plan it. That’s for sure.”

Above all, Saggio said, teachers are called to love the children in their classroom.

She has seen her work bear much fruit. An example, Saggio said, is “loving the children and having them love you back; seeing them successful, even the ones who struggle.

“You have to love them – you have to really love them – even the ones that kind of test you every day, you find things that you love about them.”

Saggio said she will miss the love she receives from the children and sharing “fun” moments in class.

“I hope they remember the fun things we did because we’ve done lots of cool things. I have a puppet we take out, and we sing, and we have a little snack; we sing birthdays, ... the cool science experiments we’ve done and the love, the hugs – that’s what I’ll miss the most.”

She said she will also miss her students’ bright and cheery faces.

“I’ll miss their love and their smiles. I have one little girl – every morning she comes in just cheering all over the place, and I just love that smile.”

Saggio said she knew it was time to retire because her husband has been retired for a while. She said she “owed him some time” to spend together. Saggio said she also “just felt” that it was the right time.

“Time is short, and it just seemed like a good time,” she said of her decision to retire. “I just felt it. I don’t know why, but it just happened. I’ve been talking about it for a while, so maybe I decided I better own up to it.”

Reflecting on teaching children for nearly half a century, and the joys and challenges that came with it, Saggio said she knows “God meant me to do this.”

“It’s a rewarding profession. You have the ability to touch so many lives over the years; it’s been indescribable. There are days you ask yourself why you do it, and then you return the next day filled with heartwarming smiles and enthusiastic minds.”
Bishop Earl Fernandes and clergy members kneel in adoration at the Lancaster Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption on June 4 after Mass. Photos courtesy Basilica of St. Mary

A Eucharistic procession leaves the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption on the third day of the diocese’s 10 days of Masses and processions as part of the National Eucharistic Revival.

PROCESSIONS, continued from Page 1

self in the Eucharist and withholds nothing from His people. “St. Bernardine of Siena says that people remember more vividly signs of love shown to them,” the bishop said. “For example, when they die, they usually leave their friends a token of affection, a ring, for example, some family heirloom or a painting. “Well, what did Jesus leave us at Calvary? He left us everything. He left nothing for Himself and gave us everything. He gives us everything once more in the Holy Eucharist, Whom we receive at this Mass, Who we adore upon this altar, Who we will carry in procession. The Eucharist is the sacrament of His love.”

The bishop led members of the congregation outside around the church building after Mass. The procession stopped at two stations, in the parking lot and in front of the church, for a Gospel reading, and Bishop Fernandes offered a brief reflection.

Afterward, there was a Spanish fiesta, or party, in the backyard of St. Peter with food, games and live music for those in attendance.

Christiana Lopez, a parishioner at Powell St. Joan of Arc Church, attended the Eucharistic procession at St. Peter. She said the Solemnity of Corpus Christi is a special day for her.

“The feast of Corpus Christi, we celebrate in my country, Nicaragua, and it was the day that I was born,” she said. “My name is Christiana because of Corpus Christi.”

Manny Reyes, a parishioner at Columbus St. Stephen the Martyr Church, also came to St. Peter for the Mass and procession with the bishop.

“It was the best experience I ever had,” Reyes said of the Eucharistic procession. “It was my first time doing it here. I’ve been to another church (for a Eucharistic procession), but it was way different.”

The Mass and procession were also enjoyed by Kimberly Martinez, a senior at Bowling Green State University, and her family, who are parishioners at St. Peter. Martinez said she most enjoyed “seeing how big our community is.”

“I didn’t realize how many people are here that love God and take the time to know Him and celebrate tonight.”

The novena of Masses and Eucharistic processions continued on Saturday, June 3, at Columbus St. Margaret Cortona Church with 250-300 in attendance and on Sunday, June 4, at Lancaster Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption.

About 400 people attended Mass celebrated by the bishop at the basilica and joined him in an outdoor Eucharistic procession around the block. Relics of St. Padre Pio were also on display at St. Mary from Sunday, June 4, to Wednesday, June 7, as part of a tour sponsored by the Saint Pio Foundation.

After Mass, several people came forward to kneel in prayer before the relics, which were held in reliquaries on a table by the sanctuary. The relics included a crust of St. Padre Pio’s wounds, a piece of his mantle, gauze with his bloodstains, a piece of his handkerchief and a lock of the saint’s hair.

The novena continued on Monday, June 5, at Gahanna St. Matthew Church. Approximately 200 people joined the bishop in a Eucharistic procession around the church parking lot, past the school building and into the surrounding neighborhood. The procession was followed by fellowship on the playground.

On Tuesday, June 6, Bishop Fernandes celebrated a noon Mass at Portsmouth Holy Redeemer Church that was followed by a Eucharistic procession in the streets around the parish.

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A Eucharistic procession at Gahanna St. Matthew Church makes its way through a neighborhood near the parish. Photo courtesy St. Matthew Church

On June 5, a Eucharistic procession at Gahanna St. Matthew Church makes its way through a neighborhood near the parish. Photo courtesy St. Matthew Church

Bishop Fernandes carries the Blessed Sacrament during a Eucharistic procession at Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church on June 7. Photo courtesy St. Thomas Aquinas Church

Bishop Earl Fernandes and clergy members kneel in adoration at the Lancaster Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption on June 4 after Mass. Photos courtesy Basilica of St. Mary

On June 5, a Eucharistic procession at Gahanna St. Matthew Church makes its way through a neighborhood near the parish. Photo courtesy St. Matthew Church

After a noon Mass on June 6 at Portsmouth Holy Redeemer Church, the faithful join a Eucharistic procession down a city street. Photo courtesy Scioto Catholic
A Eucharistic procession makes an outdoor stop in Mount Vernon for adoration after leaving St. Vincent de Paul Church on June 9.  

Photo courtesy Abigail Pitones

Columbus St. Peter Church held the first of 10 days of Eucharistic processions throughout the diocese leading to Corpus Christi Sunday. The procession took place on Friday evening, June 2.  

Photo courtesy Abigail Pitones

With rose petals lining the street and altar servers and priests walking ahead of the Blessed Sacrament, a Eucharistic procession from Columbus St. Leo the Great Oratory on June 8 travels through the Merion Village area before returning to the church.  

Photo courtesy Tom Berryhill

Columbus St. Peter Church held the first of 10 days of Eucharistic processions throughout the diocese leading to Corpus Christi Sunday. The procession took place on Friday evening, June 2.  

Photo courtesy Abigail Pitones

The St. Joseph Cathedral choir and the faithful participate in a Eucharistic procession after Mass on Corpus Christi Sunday.  

Photo courtesy Abigail Pitones

Bishop Earl Fernandes celebrates Mass on June 3 at Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church with Father Jeff Rimelspach (right), the parish pastor. Assisting is Deacon Tom Rowlands (second from left).  

Photo courtesy Larry Pishitelli

Bishop Earl Fernandes leaves Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral with the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance for a procession around the cathedral after the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, June 11, the Solemnity of Corpus Christi.  

Photo courtesy Abigail Pitones

Bishop Earl Fernandes incenses the Blessed Sacrament outdoors at West Jefferson Ss. Simon & Jude Church on Sunday, June 11, to end the 10 days of Eucharistic processions in the diocese.  

Photo courtesy Abigail Pitones

Bishop Earl Fernandes leaves Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral with the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance for a procession around the cathedral after the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, June 11, the Solemnity of Corpus Christi.  

Photo courtesy Larry Pishitelli
More schools accept special needs scholarship

By Hannah Heil

Catholic Times Reporter

Three more high schools in the Diocese of Columbus announced that they will accept the Jon Peterson Special Needs (JPSN) Scholarship beginning in the 2023-24 academic year. Columbus Bishop Hartley and Bishop Ready high schools and Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School will be among the schools in the diocese accepting the JPSN Scholarship for eligible students.

The JPSN Scholarship is an educational choice program that gives parents of children with disabilities the choice to send their child to special education programs other than the one operated by their school district of residence, according to the Ohio Department of Education.

"The choice is closing the gap for educational services for younger kids, but they still need them as they grow, maybe not as significantly, but we can help them – from kindergarten through 12th grade – provide that continuum of services," said Theresa Vivona, associate director for advancement in the diocese (Office of Catholic Schools.

"And so, that’s what’s exciting about having three more high schools signing up for this – then we truly will be covering our students from K through 12."

The money provided by the state of Ohio helps to cover the cost of services received by the child. In individually designed Education Program (IEP), the yearly amount ranges from $7,976 to $27,000. The child must be enrolled in the scholarship program for the entire school year to receive the full scholarship amount, according to the Ohio Department of Education.

An IEP is a document written by the public school district that outlines a specialized education program for a child with a disability. The document includes the special needs services that will be provided and annual goals for the child to accomplish. A child must first be evaluated by the Ohio Department of Education to determine if they are eligible to receive special education services in school.

If a district determines that a child is eligible for special education services, the district works with the child’s parent and general education teachers to write the IEP. The parent must meet yearly with their child’s general education teachers and a district representative for an Annual IEP Review to assess the child’s progress, and, if needed, revise the document.

For qualifying for the JPSN Scholarship, children with disabilities can choose to receive the services outlined in their IEP at a special education program other than the one operated by their public school district of residence, according to the Ohio Department of Education. For the 2022-23 academic year, 50% of Catholic schools in the Diocese of Columbus accepted the JPSN Scholarship. Funding from the state of Ohio enables the school to provide services to students with special needs. Beginning in August, 18 diocesan elementary schools and nine high schools will accept the JPSN Scholarship and provide services.

"Our (Catholic) schools aren’t required to provide special needs services, but this is an option for us to help bridge that gap to serve more of our students and help reach as many students who want a Catholic education as possible," said Alison Metzger, director for assessment and evaluation affairs in the Diocese of Columbus.

"Twenty-six of our schools this past year provided services to students with special needs, and there’s several different categories."

Categories for special needs range from a speech or language impairment to autism and cognitive impairment, mental and emotional impairment, and vision impairment. The amount of scholarship dollars awarded is determined by the category of the disability.

For category 1 (speech or language impairment), the money can only be used to pay for special services included in the IEP. For categories 2 and 3 (special needs), the money can be used for tuition in addition to the cost of services.

"Services include intervention specialists, ... occupational therapy, physical therapy, sometimes vision, speech," Metzger said. "Those are all different opportunities dependent on the child's (disability). If the child can go (addresses services) all will vary based on what (the school) can accommodate and what will reach the (greatest number of students)."

Children from kindergarten to age 22 (if graduation requirements have not been met) can apply for the scholarship. Children with disabilities who are eligible for special education services and have an IEP and not for tuition. For other categories, the money can only be used for services to students with disabilities. For children with disabilities who are eligible for special education services and have an IEP, the parent can submit a renewal application for the next school year.

During the 2018-19 school year, the JPSN Scholarship offered services to more than 400 students. There are approximately 600 students in the diocese who receive the scholarship.

Of diocesan schools, Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare, Gahanna St. Matthew, Hilliard St. Brendan and Reynoldsburg St. Pius X have the greatest number of students using JPSN services, Burkeholder said.

Outside of Franklin County, Zanesville Bishop Fenwick and Bishop Rosecrans High School and Portsmouth Notre Dame Elementary and High School have the greatest number of JPSN students.

"The fact that Catholic schools now have this funding to offer the support, the teachers and the principals and the parents to allow these students to thrive as Peter did, it’s an answered prayer."

Lombardi’s three older sons attended St. Andrew before Peter, and she said it was “a blessing that Peter was able to go through Catholic schools just like his brothers from preschool to eighth grade and at St. Andrew’s."

"This scholarship has allowed so many more students to be served with their special needs based on the parents who have a desire to send their students to Catholic school because, otherwise, they would have to be put in the public school system, which isn’t always what’s best for the students.

"Catholic schools are smaller. The values from a public-school perspective are unsurpassed as far as when you raise your children Catholic with the Christian values and living out the Gospel, you want them to be surrounded by families and children who also have that vision for the school."

Peter participated in school activities and had the same experience at St. Andrew as his peers. Lombardi said Peter received his First Holy Communion, the sacrament of confirmation and went on field trips with his classmates, which was made possible by the support of his aide and largely funded by the JPSN Scholarship.

"It really is a testament to our schools not just teaching about the Gospel, but actually taking action to live out the Gospel by their deeds and their actions,” Lombardi said. “It is a great example of what our Catholic faith is all about."

The scholarship is closing the gap between public and private schools, she said, and students on the scholarship can, together, create an intervention department in their Catholic school with the state funding.

“IT really has to do with the leadership...
in school,” Lombardi said. “They need to have the vision and be able to develop an intervention program by accepting the JPSN Scholarship. The school has one full-time intervention specialist and will hire an additional intervention specialist for the 2023-24 academic year.

“To be able to add another full-time intervention specialist will expand our portfolio of things that we’re able to offer our families and our students,” Ready principal Matt Brickner said.

The school also has a reading tutor, a math tutor and a student mentor. Brickner said by adding an intervention specialist, students will receive more one-on-one attention.

Ready will have a dedicated space for intervention. Students on the JPSN Scholarship will meet daily with their assigned intervention specialist there.

“Because we have the growth and development of the program is going to really help the school and help the students and the families find success in the classroom,” he said.

Brickner said serving the needs of students and their families is at the core of what Ready does. Offering the JPSN Scholarship will allow Ready to continue meeting those needs.

“I think it’s always important to be looking at how you can help serve your families and meet their needs, whether it’s academically or socially or spiritually,” he said. “We want to do our best to meet the students where they’re at and help move them along.

“And so, I think being able to (accept the scholarship) offers an opportunity for families … to be able to have the Catholic education and get the services and support that their student needs in the classroom.

“The school is offering not just academic support, but also social and emotional and spiritual support to the students that are here.”

Bishop Hartley is also looking forward to accepting the JPSN Scholarship. The high school will have three intervention specialists beginning in August.

“With the scholarship funding, we are actually able to double our (number) of staff that we have for students who have a disability,” said Cara Rezabek, director of educational services at Hartley. “So, we will increase the number of intervention specialists, which will allow us to provide so much more for each student.

“It allows us to provide more minutes for students to work on their intervention IEP goals, and it allows us to provide co-teaching instruction inside the classroom when the students need it, small-group sessions (and) specially designed instruction outside of the classroom, if they need some information re-taught.

“It allows for more specially designed testing rooms for each kid. So, it’s expanding a lot of different services that we can provide.”

Hartley created the Notre Dame program, which offers tutoring services to students. Services provided by the school with state funding from the JPSN Scholarship will fall under the Notre Dame program.

Students on the scholarship will attend a daily study hall with an intervention specialist, Rezabek said. This time will include IEP goal work, and testing accommodations will also be provided in a special testing center.

Students receiving services can expect to see their intervention specialist in a “general-ed setting,” which means intervention specialists will be present in students’ general-education classes. More course options will be available to special needs students, Rezabek said, because an intervention specialist will be in the classroom and can offer increased support.

Fewer course options were available to students previously because there was not an intervention specialist in the classroom to support students, Rezabek said. This will change with the introduction of the JPSN Scholarship, which she said she expects will benefit all Hartley students.

“I think having a special ed program in any school makes that school a better, more holistic building,” she said. “I have watched that happen with our Notre Dame program and how having the students go into the classroom, how that changes the dynamic of the teaching and makes it, overall, better.

“I think by expanding all these different services, we’re setting all kids in our building up for better success. They’re able to interact with a diverse population of learners and learn how to interact in small-group settings and projects.

“By expanding, I think it makes our teachers better because they are learning new skills, and we’ll be able to provide more professional development for them from all these intervention specialists that will be coming into the building.”

Eventually, Rezabek said, Hartley would like to provide outside services for students who are struggling socially with autism. The school also hopes to provide “executive functioning and social emotional services.” Executive functioning services help children with completing and staying focused on tasks, time management and organizational skills.

For now, Hartley looks forward to expanding its services to students with IEPs.

“I don’t think a kid should have to choose between receiving special ed services or Catholic school,” Rezabek said. “I think it’s very important that they should have both.

“And so, I’m very proud that Hartley is choosing to continue to do that – to open more and more doors to more and more students who want to attend a Catholic school.”
God wants to make us holy

SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

“...you who test the just, who probe mind will not triumph. In their failure they are a mighty champion.”

The Gospel highlights two points. First, it reveals to us the heart of Jesus. His heart is moved with pity when He sees the people who come to Him. “Jesus’ heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd.”

Second, Jesus speaks of the call to gather in the harvest, the reality of a vocation to follow Jesus Himself as shepherds for the flock. Then He begins to establish His community with the call of the Twelve.

When Jesus appoints the Twelve, He gives them “authority over unclean spirits to drive them out and to cure every disease and every illness.” He summons them and names them. Then He sends them out with precise instructions for their first foray into the ministry assigned to them.

The Church continues to live in the heart of Jesus and addresses the needs of our present times, exercising the authority and establishing the “plan of action” to be implemented. Our experience of this may seem more complex, but, in principle, it is the same as what was first entrusted to the Twelve.

June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This serves as a reminder that all we do and are as the Church—the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church—must flow from a living relationship with Jesus and His manner of loving. We must see all that happens through the compassion of the heart that sees us all as “troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd.”

Our God is loving, merciful and compassionate. He knows our plight. He sees our troubles and our sense of abandonment. His response is love to us through Jesus Christ and to invite us to respond by extending that love.

As we enter into pastoral plans, we must keep this in mind. All of our planning must keep the people we serve in mind. May we open our hearts to the love that flows through the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and may all that we do be done in response to that love.

Let us “make this proclamation: ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’”

Honest, trusting prayer can transform us

and heart, let me witness the vengeance you take on them, for to you I have entrusted my cause.”

Such prayer is honest and bold. It is the truth of the person who is praying given to God as an act of praise and worship. Of course, God does not usually answer such prayers in the way we want. God’s response is to receive what we offer and to transform us into the person He calls us to be. Jeremiah’s suffering and His honesty in prayer can be a model for us.

As Jesus sends forth the Twelve, He continues to instruct them as to how they are to proclaim the kingdom. He addresses their fears by reminding them of their relationship to God and to eternity. The work of proclaiming the Gospel is not easy. It inevitably includes rejection, persecution and creating enemies among those who set their sights only on this world.

We belong to God. He loves us body, mind and spirit, and He alone can open for us the way to eternity. Jesus promises that those who proclaim Him to the world will receive their reward because of His relationship with the Father: “Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father.”

We face fear, dashed hopes, sorrows and stolen joys as we live our earthly lives. We experience rejection and persecution and battles with enemies who are unwilling to hear the truth we are sent to proclaim. When we allow ourselves to wallow in this earthly anguish, we can miss the promises that God has made to us through Jesus Christ and His Spirit.

Honest prayer can free us from such attachments and open our eyes and hearts to see what God is giving to us. We belong to God. It is His will that we share His Life.

Sin is part of human history since the fall of Adam and Eve. Human beings are held back from our true destiny by its reign over us. God has restored us to a relationship with Himself, freeing us from the power of sin. “How much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many.”

Prayer allows us to be who we are. By entering into prayer with honesty and bold trust in God, we are made ready to respond to the gift that is offered. Our fears are quieted by trust. We are transformed by standing as we are before God. So, let us pray with confidence: “Lord, in your great love, answer me.”

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION

Mass Schedule: Weeks of June 18 and June 25, 2023

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m., Our Lady of the Angels Monastery (www.iccols.org). Check your parish website or www.columbuscatholic.org.

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: Martyrs Settlement St. Mary (www.stannsmary.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.ucols.org). Check your parish website for additional information.

WE PRAY THE SEASONAL PROGRESS FOR WEEKS III AND IV OF THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY MASS


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 WWHO-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 370.

SUN 7/31

1) 6:19-24
2) Matthew 7:6-15
3) 6/19-6/24

MONDAY

2 Corinthians 6:1-10
Psalm 98:1-4
Matthew 5:38-42

TUESDAY

2 Corinthians 8:1-9
Psalm 146:1-5a
Matthew 5:43-48

WEDNESDAY

2 Corinthians 9:6-11
Psalm 112:1-4
Matthew 6:14-16

THURSDAY

2 Corinthians 11:1-11
Psalm 111:1-4,7-8
Matthew 6:7-15

FRIDAY

2 Corinthians 11:18,21-30
Psalm 34:2-7
Matthew 6:19-23

SATURDAY

Isaiah 49:1-6
Psalm 139:16-3:19-15
Luke 15:1-7,98,80

SUNDAY MASS

6/26-7/1

MONDAY

Genesis 12:1-5
Psalm 33:12-13,18-20,22
Matthew 7:1-5

TUESDAY

Genesis 13:2-5,18
Psalm 15:2-4,8-5
Matthew 7:6-14

WEDNESDAY

Genesis 15:12-17,18
Psalm 105:14-6,9
Matthew 7:15-20

THURSDAY

Acts 12:1-11
Psalm 34:2-9
Matthew 16:13-19

FRIDAY

Genesis 17:1,9-10,15-22
Psalm 128:1-5
Matthew 8:1-4

SATURDAY

Genesis 18:1-5
Luke 146:50,53-55 (Ps)
Matthew 8:5-17

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

God wants to make us holy

Exodus 19:2-6a
Psalm 100:1-2, 3, 5
Romans 5:6-11
Matthew 9:36—10:8

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Honest, trusting prayer can transform us

Jeremiah 20:10—13
Psalm 69:8—10, 14, 17, 33—35
Romans 5:12—15
Matthew 10:23—33

God is pleased with our prayer no matter what kind of prayer that might be. In our First Reading, we hear Jeremiah praying out of his fear and paranoia, speaking to God from his heart. He relies on God and expresses his trust in His presence: “But the Lord is with me, like a mighty champion.”

The prophet pours out his emotions, expressing what he hopes will happen to his enemies, making even his desire for revenge a part of his prayer.

“My persecutors will stumble, they will not triumph. In their failure they will be put to utter shame, to lasting, unforgettable confusion. O Lord of hosts, you who test the just, who probe mind and heart, let me witness the vengeance you take on them, for to you I have entrusted my cause.”

Such prayer is honest and bold. It is the truth of the person who is praying given to God as an act of praise and worship. Of course, God does not usually answer such prayers in the way we want. God’s response is to receive what we offer and to transform us into the person He calls us to be. Jeremiah’s suffering and His honesty in prayer can be a model for us.

As Jesus sends forth the Twelve, He continues to instruct them as to how they are to proclaim the kingdom. He addresses their fears by reminding them of their relationship to God and to eternity. The work of proclaiming the Gospel is not easy. It inevitably includes rejection, persecution and creating enemies among those who set their sights only on this world.

We belong to God. He loves us body, mind and spirit, and He alone can open for us the way to eternity. Jesus promises that those who proclaim Him to the world will receive their reward because of His relationship with the Father: “Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father.”

We face fear, dashed hopes, sorrows and stolen joys as we live our earthly lives. We experience rejection and persecution and battles with enemies who are unwilling to hear the truth we are sent to proclaim. When we allow ourselves to wallow in this earthly anguish, we can miss the promises that God has made to us through Jesus Christ and His Spirit.

Honest prayer can free us from such attachments and open our eyes and hearts to see what God is giving to us. We belong to God. It is His will that we share His Life.

Sin is part of human history since the fall of Adam and Eve. Human beings are held back from our true destiny by its reign over us. God has restored us to a relationship with Himself, freeing us from the power of sin. “How much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many.”

Prayer allows us to be who we are. By entering into prayer with honesty and bold trust in God, we are made ready to respond to the gift that is offered. Our fears are quieted by trust. We are transformed by standing as we are before God. So, let us pray with confidence: “Lord, in your great love, answer me.”
LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS

Catholic native priest offers day of reflection

Father Bill Faiella, CSC, will lead a day of reflection for baby boomers and all who appreciate 1950s and '60s music on Saturday, July 29 at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road.

The day of reflection, which is open to anyone, incorporates music and fun with exploring simple ways to communicate with God. Musician Tony Monaco and vocalist Teresa Monaco perform.

CATHOLIC WORD SEARCH

In-person confirmation of registration begins at 1:30 p.m. The program begins at 2 p.m. and concludes with a Saturday Vigil Mass at 5 p.m.

Suggested donation is $1 to $30 depending on one's ability to pay. Interested individuals are encouraged to register before July 21 at ihmaz.org, or checks can be sent by July 15 to Congregation of Holy Cross, c/o Father Faiella, CSC, 7126 N. 7th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85021.

Father Faiella is a Columbus native and a graduate of DeSales and Ohio State University. He was ordained a Congregation of Holy Cross priest at the University of Notre Dame in 1979 and has degrees in education, theology and pastoral counseling and a doctorate in psychology.

The priest works with St. Andre Inner Healing Ministry based in the Diocese of Phoenix, Arizona, which offers Masses for inner healing, pastoral counseling, spiritual direction and days of reflection to all people, but particularly to those with low or no income and those struggling with various afflictions.

Proceeds will go to the St. Andre Hospital's birthing center in Kenya that provides prenatal and postnatal care to women living in poverty.

Quo Vadis vocations camp set for late July at Josephinum

The Diocese of Columbus will offer its annual Quo Vadis vocation discernment camp on July 23-26 at the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., for young men entering grades nine-12 in the fall.

The cost is $50. Scholarships are available. Registration deadline is July 14.

For more information visit https://www.vocations-columbus.org/quovadis or contact Zack Goodchild at columbusquovadis@gmail.com.

Singers needed for Mass at Irish Music Festival

Singers are needed for a choir that will be part of a Vigil Mass on Saturday, July 8 at the Shamrock Club of Columbus' Irish Music Festival.

The choir will sing at the 4:30 p.m. Mass and then for 30 minutes afterward. Several rehearsals will be held in advance.

For more information, call or text Molly Newberry at (614) 203-6621 or email her at mollynewberry@ameritech.net.

The Shamrock Club is located at 60 W. Castle Road, just west of South High Street in south Columbus.
### PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Name</th>
<th>Date of Death</th>
<th>Church</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARNOLD, Lawrence J.</td>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>St. Peter Church, Millersburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BISHOP, Gaylene M.</td>
<td>June 2</td>
<td>St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAPPUZZELLO, Paul</td>
<td>May 29</td>
<td>St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin</td>
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<tr>
<td>DeCOLA, Mary E. (Colicchia)</td>
<td>June 3</td>
<td>Resurrection Cemetery Chapel, Lewis Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>EGLE, Robert J.</td>
<td>June 5</td>
<td>St. Andrew Church, Columbus</td>
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<tr>
<td>GAMMELL, Denise J. (Miller)</td>
<td>May 30</td>
<td>St. Leo the Great Oratory, Columbus</td>
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<td>GONZALEZ, Frank</td>
<td>May 27</td>
<td>St. Margaret of Cortona Church, Columbus</td>
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<td>HARTLINE, Hilde I.</td>
<td>April 18</td>
<td>St. Mary Church, Marion</td>
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<td>HOUZE, JoAnn (Macerelli)</td>
<td>June 5</td>
<td>St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington</td>
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<td>MARKINO, James</td>
<td>June 4</td>
<td>St. Joseph Church, Dover</td>
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<td>McCUNE-PEACOCK, Martha Jane</td>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>St. John Church, Logan</td>
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<td>MILLER, Maryann</td>
<td>May 20</td>
<td>St. Peter Church, Millersburg</td>
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<td>STEINBAUER, Rosemary L.</td>
<td>May 28</td>
<td>Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus</td>
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<td>STEVENS, Kenneth E.</td>
<td>May 30</td>
<td>St. Agatha Church, Columbus</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUMEO, Francis C.</td>
<td>June 5</td>
<td>St. Elizabeth Church, Columbus</td>
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### Words of Wisdom

**SOLUTION**

COMR DEEEM BOYYE L NWHP EEYP EWE L

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### Girl Scout creates patch honoring St. Agnes

Rayna Rodenkirchen, a recent graduate of Columbus Bishop Hartley High School, has created a patch honoring St. Agnes, the patron saint of Girl Scouting, which Girl Scouts nationwide can earn. For her efforts, she received the Gold Award, the highest honor a Girl Scout can achieve, on Sunday, June 11 at a ceremony sponsored by the Girl Scouts of Ohio’s Heartland council.

It took two years for Rodenkirchen, a member of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church who will enter the University of Findlay this fall, to complete the patch project, with members of the diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting (CCOS) assisting her in workshops introducing the program.

Girl Scouts in the Diocese of Columbus were able to earn the patch in 2021-22 and the national CCOS approved its use for all Girl Scouts in the United States in 2022-23.

To earn the patch, Girl Scouts complete several activities in which they learn about St. Agnes, who was martyred in the year 304 at age 13, share her story with others and perform acts of community service.

The proposal for Rodenkirchen’s project, titled “An Inspiring Woman of History,” focused on women’s equality. She noted that the national CCOS had created patch programs honoring several saints, but women were not equally represented in the programs.

Girls in grades nine through 12 dedicate a minimum of 80 hours to complete the steps to earn the Gold Award. They demonstrate extraordinary leadership through sustainable and measurable projects.

Rodenkirchen is among 17 girls in the Girl Scouts of Ohio’s Heartland 30-county region who earned the Gold Award in 2023. The honor is awarded fewer than 6 percent of Girl Scouts annually.

Approximately one million Girl Scouts have earned the Gold Award or its equivalent since 1916.

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### Eric R. Larrabee

Eric R. Larrabee, 39, a former employee of the purchasing department for the diocese, died Saturday, June 3.
Peter’s Pence Collection funds pope’s charitable efforts

By Sister Zephrina Mary, F.I.H

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, along with other bishops’ conferences throughout the world, has designated one collection a year – the Peter’s Pence Collection – to provide Pope Francis with the financial means to help those suffering as a result of war, natural disasters and disease.

In 2022, the Diocese of Columbus contributed $57,757.92 to this special collection. On behalf of Bishop Earl Fernandes, thank you for your generosity. In the diocese, the collection will be taken on the weekend of June 24-25. This collection allows parishioners to actively demonstrate unity with the pope, display our personal support for his mission as vicar of Christ and help our needy.

The faithful’s offerings to the Holy Father will fund Church needs, humanitarian initiatives and social promotion projects, as well as support the Holy See. The pope, being pastor of the whole Church, is attentive to the material needs of poor dioceses, religious institutes and of the faithful in grave difficulties.

According to Canon Law, “The Roman Pontiff and the college of bishops have the supreme direction and coordination of endeavors and actions which belong to missionary work and missionary cooperation.” (Can. 782 §1).

By participating in the Peter’s Pence Collection, the diocese helps fund not only all the activities of the dicasteries of the Roman Curia that assist the pope in his ministry but also solidarity projects to aid those most in need, including his immediate neighbors in Rome.

We are bound to each other through Christ, who is the Savior of every human being and Creator of the universe. God awaits the good deeds of His children toward those whom we encounter every day.

We are accountable for our souls and others before God, Who commanded us to be brothers and sisters to one another in every need. We are obliged to help others as we can, either physically or spiritually. Through our generous help, we can be hope for hopeless.

The Holy Father’s works of mercy and outreach to people on the margins are often depicted in stories of his travels, but he also shows Christ’s love to the people of Rome. In October 2021, 25 volunteer doctors from the Apostolic Almoner’s Mater Misericordiae outpatient clinic offered care and consultation to anyone in need and unable to receive assistance through the National Health Service.

In just one day, the doctors conducted examinations, prescribed medications and offered medical advice to about 200 patients who otherwise could not afford treatment, including older people and children.

The general criterion that inspires the Peter’s Pence Collection is derived from the primitive Church: “The primary source of support for the Apostolic See should be in offerings freely given by Catholics throughout the whole world, and by other persons of good will. This is in harmony with a tradition dating back to the Gospel (cf. Luke 10:7) and the teaching of the Apostles (cf. 1 Corinthians 9:11-14).” (Letter of Pope John Paul II to the Cardinal Secretary of State, Nov. 20, 1982)

Let us be aware of the need and not miss the opportunity of the Peter’s Pence Collection to comfort the needy, sorrowful, desperate and suffering. Thus, one day, we all can meet together in heaven before the throne of God.

It is a sign of our communion with the Holy Father, and it is also an opportunity for us to help those in need as we are mandated to do by Christ. When used for charitable outreach, funds from this collection help those most in need. Take this opportunity to join with Pope Francis and be a sign of mercy. Please be generous!

Sister Zephrina Mary, F.I.H, is director of the Diocesan Missions Office.

Bishop encourages faithful to offer support

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has designated one weekend a year as the Holy Father’s Collection, commonly called “Peter’s Pence.” This annual collection, in support of the Holy Father’s charitable work, is held in parishes around the world. This year in the Diocese of Columbus the Peter’s Pence Collection is on the weekend of June 24 and 25.

The proceeds from this collection fund the Pope’s emergency assistance relief programs throughout the world. The programs help suffering victims of war, oppression and natural disasters. The collection, which helps more than one billion Catholics around the world, is an expression of Christ’s love for the poor.

Through works of charity, the Church provides a powerful witness of love and in the protection of the weak, the defenseless, and the voiceless, comforting those who suffer and helping the impoverished to flourish.

Join our brothers and sisters in faith from around the globe in helping the Pope carry out his ministry to the universal Church as we attempt to assist those who live at the spiritual and existential peripheries of our world.

As the Solemnity of the Apostles Peter and Paul approaches, join me in praying for the Holy Father and for those in need throughout the world.

Grateful to you for your continuing generosity and support and assuring you of my prayers, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus

St. Pius X group assists mother in need

The Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church Respect Life Ministry, in cooperation with the Mommies Matter organization, honored expectant mother Tanija Douglas with a baby shower recently. Her baby girl is due this month. About 25 women attended the event and shared her excitement as she received many lovely gifts, including a portable bassinet and play space, baby gym/activity mat, baby carrier, diapers and diaper bag, diaper Genie, bottles and pacifiers, clothes, baby books and stuffed animals. With Tanija was her 3-year-old son, Xai’Mere, who received his own toy for his birthday. The group prays at Planned Parenthood for an end to abortion and visits patients at an assisted living facility as well as sends cards of encouragement and holiday cards to homebound parishioners. The ministry also supports life-affirming organizations such as Mommies Matter.

St. Pius X honors departing pastor

Father David J. Young, pastor of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church, was honored on Thursday, June 1 after the final school Mass of the year by having the St. Pius School playground named after him. Several upgrades have occurred to the playground during his five years as pastor. He will be leaving Reynoldsburg next month to become pastor of Zanesville St. Nicholas and St. Thomas Aquinas churches. A reception after the parish’s 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday, June 25 will serve as a farewell and a celebration of the 19th anniversary of his ordination as a priest. Father Young previously was pastor of Ada Our Lady of Lourdes and Kenton Immaculate Conception churches from 2006 to 2018.
St. Michael pre-K students participate in egg hatching project

Worthington St. Michael's pre-kindergarten program ended the school year with an egg hatching project that included chicks and ducklings.

Lead teacher Peggy Jamieson attended ChickQuest training and received five eggs, an incubator, egg turner and supplies to support teachers with the project. In the classroom, the 33 pre-K students learned about the life cycle of a chicken, watched the chicks develop in the eggs through a candling process and learned about how chicks grow.

One of the chicks named Ella was trapped inside a little blue egg for 36 hours but was saved when Sister Teresa Paul, OP, one of the teachers at St. Michael School, came in and spent 45 minutes helping extract the fledgling chick from the egg shell.

Laura Wells, pre-K director and lead teacher, purchased nine additional chicks and three ducklings to expand the hatching project and allow students to compare different kinds of poultry.

Throughout May, students in each pre-K classroom studied chicks in all parts of their curriculum.

The children were introduced to a Scripture verse from Psalm 91:4 that says, “He will cover you with his feathers. He will shelter you with his wings.” They learned about a duck’s webbed feet, the oil that helps them stay afloat in the water and other information during daily duck swimming lessons.

Older students at St. Michael School also visited chicks during their Atrium religion classes.

St. Michael pre-K plans to participate in the hatching project again during the 2023-24 school year.

33 St. Michael pre-K students graduate

Worthington St. Michael’s pre-kindergarten program graduated 33 students on May 20 with more than 200 people in attendance.

Students sang songs from the school year, received their graduation certificate and enjoyed a potluck with cookies on the playground.

Christ Child Society announces new members


St. Matthew Festival

Games, Food Trucks, & Bingo until 9pm
Live Entertainment, Beer Garden, & Monte Carlo until 11pm

*With a renewed focus on safety & community, we will be taking a break from rides this year.
Columbus St. Francis DeSales captured its first Division II state high school boys volleyball championship in Andy Feltz's final game as coach.


Feltz has coached the DeSales boys volleyball team for 15 years and the girls for four. Earlier this year, he announced that he was stepping away from coaching at the end of the season.

Six of the seven DeSales seniors and Feltz gained their volleyball experience coming up through the Diocesan Recreation Association program.

This was the first year that the Ohio High School Athletic Association sanctioned boys volleyball as a school sport, but boys volleyball has been part of the Diocesan Recreation Association program at parishes since at least 1990.

Under Feltz, DeSales had finished as the runner-up in 2015 in the non-OHSAA-sanctioned Ohio High School Boys Volleyball Association state tournament but had never won a title until Sunday.

In the championship match, DeSales (20-4) dropped the first set before rallying to win the next three against St. Vincent-St. Mary, which had lost to DeSales in a regular-season match on April 1.

The Stallions were led by setter Cameron Hoying with 40 assists, outside hitter Evan Althouse with 25 kills and eight digs, outside hitter Camren White with 11 kills and six digs, and middle blocker Zane Patterson with seven kills.

Members of the DeSales boys volleyball team pose with their Division II state championship trophy on Sunday, May 28 at Wittenberg University in Springfield.

Photo courtesy John Hulkenberg

Junior Kenyetietta Quinn of Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School finishes the final leg of the Stallions’ winning girls’ 400-meter relay during the Division I state track and field championships on June 3 at Ohio State University’s Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium. The Stallions’ championship relay team, which also included juniors Isabella Swallow and Katherine Dortmund and sophomore McKenzie Amonor, was the lone DeSales entrant in the state meet.

Photo courtesy John Hulkenberg

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