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**CONFERENCE DRAWS 2,500
MEN TO VOINOVICH CENTER**

The Editor's Notebook

Where do we find answers?

By David Garick, Editor



"I want an answer, and I want it now!" That is the cry that goes up to heaven from so many of us poor humans. Life is not what we expected. We want things to be right and we cry out to God for answers. But we don't hear the answers we want. In most cases, we are not even asking the right questions.

St. Paul addresses that in the second reading at this Sunday's Mass. He talks about the consternation of the people of his day as they struggled with the grand illusions that still mystify man to this day, saying, "Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom." That is, some of us expect God, through spectacular miracles, to show divine intervention in the troubles that face us. At the same time, some of us look for wisdom; that is, a philosophy or belief system that would unravel the complexities of our world and allow us to live a life unfettered by common human trials.

These illusions often can be summarized by two appeals we make to God. First: "Why did this happen to me?" What we are doing is trying to bargain with God. In return for restoring what has been taken from us -- health, wealth, influence, love, or fulfillment -- we promise allegiance to the Almighty. We want a sign. More than that, we want God to step in with His supernatural power and make things right.

The second appeal to God is "Everything ought to make sense in this world of ours." This plays on the apparent contradiction of suffering, injustice, and misery on the one hand, and the providence of a loving God on the other hand. "Things ought to go well for those who are innocent and try to serve Him; there ought to be obvious justice; things

ought to make sense." This is our modern call for wisdom.

During the past two weeks, Columbus Catholics had a wonderful opportunity to hear from people who have dealt successfully with these difficult questions at the diocesan Catholic women's and men's conferences. We covered the women's conference in last week's *Catholic Times*. You can read about the men's conference this week, beginning on page 10.

The bottom line is that God's answer to the questions is the cross of Christ. The human cross of Jesus is all of God's power and wisdom; it is God's unique plan of salvation. His power does not change the world by magic. It does not make the world fair and just, because then we would not be free and human. Nor does He use force to make us be morally just and to follow his laws, because then we would be robots, not humans. Rather, He saves the world by the cross of Christ as the greatest possible human proof of His love. He saves us by compassion, forgiveness, and love, for that alone can save free human beings. By following Christ and His cross, we do not avoid suffering. But with Christ, we accept affliction and work through it, with the strength and courage that comes from hope in the salvation offered to us through Christ.

All the wisdom of Christianity is summarized by St. Paul in the words, "Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God." This cross will always be a deep mystery for us. But that cross is God's real answer in Jesus, and the only way for real human living and salvation.

Cardinal O'Malley, Archbishop Lori Urge Support for the Health Care Conscience Rights Act

Congress should reaffirm the principle that government "should not force anyone to stop offering or covering much-needed legitimate health care" because of a conscientious objection to abortion or other procedures, said Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley of Boston and Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore.

In a Feb. 13 letter to the House of Representatives, the bishops, who chair the committee on pro-life activities and the ad hoc committee for religious liberty of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, urged legislators to support and co-sponsor the Health Care Conscience Rights Act (HR 940).

"It is increasingly obvious that Congress needs to act to protect conscientious objection to the taking of innocent human life," wrote Cardinal O'Malley and Archbishop Lori. "Recently, California's Department of Managed Health Care began demanding that all health plans under its jurisdiction include elective abortions, including late-term abortions. This mandate has no exemption for religious or moral objections, and is being enforced against religious universities, schools, and even churches. Similar proposals have emerged in Washington and other states."



The bishops noted that the Abortion Non-Discrimination Act section of the bill would give firmer legal basis to the Weldon amendment, part of every Labor/Health and Human Services appropriations bill since 2004, which forbids governmental bodies receiving federal funds to discriminate against those who decline to take part in abortion or abortion coverage. They noted that President Obama has expressed support for the Weldon amendment.

In addition, the bishops said that HR 940 would incorporate respect for rights of conscience into the Affordable Care Act, allowing those who purchase, provide, and sponsor health coverage under the act to opt out of abortion or other specific items that violate their moral and religious convictions. Finally, the bill would recognize a private right of action for victims of discrimination under either provision, so they can go to court to defend their rights.

"We strongly urge you to support and co-sponsor the Health Care Conscience Rights Act," the bishops concluded.

Correction - The guide to Lenten activities in the Feb. 22 *Catholic Times* incorrectly listed Dover St. Joseph Church's lecture series "Adventures in Bible Study: Uncovering the Treasures of Sacred Scripture" as taking place following the 6 p.m. Mass on Thursdays through March 31. The correct dates are Tuesdays through March 31.

The film "Jerusalem," reviewed in the March 1 *Catholic Times*, is playing at the National Geographic Giant Screen Theater at COSI in Columbus.

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Bishop Frederick F. Campbell, D.D., Ph.D. ~ President & Publisher

David Garick ~ Editor (dgarick@colsdiaoc.org)

Tim Puet ~ Reporter (tput@colsdiaoc.org)

Alexandra Keves ~ Graphic Design Manager (akeves@colsdiaoc.org)

Mailing Address: 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215

Editorial/Advertising: (614) 224-5195 FAX (614) 241-2518

Subscriptions (614) 224-6530 FAX (614) 241-2573

(subscriptions@colsdiaoc.org)

TOP VATICAN OFFICIAL TO ACCEPT UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON ARCHBISHOP OSCAR ROMERO HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

A top Vatican official heading the group tasked with reforming the Vatican bureaucracy, who also heads one of the world's leading humanitarian organizations, will accept a human rights award from the University of Dayton.

The university will honor Cardinal Oscar Andres Rodríguez Maradiaga of Honduras with the Archbishop Oscar Romero Human Rights Award at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 10, in the Kennedy Union ballroom. The presentation is free and open to the public.

Cardinal Rodríguez Maradiaga is the president of Caritas International, a Vatican-based umbrella organization for 160 charity organizations working on six continents. In 2013, Pope Francis appointed him coordinator of the Council of Cardinals for the Study of the Organizational and Economic Problems of the Holy See. He also has served as the Vatican's spokesperson to



the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank on the issue of Third World debt.

"Thank you to the University of Dayton for this great honor," he said. "Oscar Romero is the one person who has inspired the work of Caritas the most. He was an inspiration to the poor throughout the world. His teachings are so rich that you can always find new insights that support our work on social justice."

The university created the Oscar Romero Human Rights Award in 2000 to honor the ministry and martyrdom of Romero, a Salvadoran archbishop who was slain 35 years ago while officiating Mass because of his vocal defense of the human rights of the poor and disenfranchised. The award is presented to an individual or organization that has earned distinction for promoting the dignity of all human beings and alleviating the suffering of the hu-

man community.

Pope Francis officially designated Romero a martyr earlier this month. Beatification of Romero, the last step before sainthood, is expected later this year.

"We are honoring Cardinal Rodríguez Maradiaga for his lifetime of human rights advocacy, and especially the way he continues to challenge leaders of prosperous nations to increase aid to poor countries," said Mark Ensallaco, director of human rights research in the University of Dayton Human Rights Center and creator of the award. "Both Pope Benedict and Pope Francis hold Caritas International's work in high regard for its ability to respond to the needs of the poor. Pope Francis has called it 'an essential part of the Church.'"

Al Staggs will perform "Romero: A Martyr's Homily" at 7 p.m. Monday, March 9, in Sears Recital Hall. Staggs presents one-person performances and lectures for churches, colleges, seminaries, and conferences throughout the world. His perfor-

mances and lectures are for spiritual formation, theological lectureships, theologian-in-residencies, chapels, retreats, theology and arts events, and peace and justice conferences.

Past recipients of the Archbishop Romero Award include: Juan Mendez, former director of America's Watch and president of the International Center for Transitional Justice and United Nations special representative on the prevention of genocide; Casa Alianza, which operates programs to help homeless and abandoned children in Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, and Nicaragua; Radhika Coomaraswamy, former United Nations special rapporteur on violence against women; Juan Guzman, the Chilean judge who prosecuted former Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet; Bernard Kouchner, co-founder of Doctors Without Borders; and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' migration and refugee services.

The University of Dayton is one of the country's top 10 Catholic universities and home to the nation's first undergraduate program in human rights.

During Lent, pope offers handy tips for preparing for confession

By CAROL GLATZ

Catholic News Service

As Catholics are encouraged to make going to confession a significant part of their lives during Lent, Pope Francis offered some quick tips to help people prepare for the sacrament of penance.

After a brief explanation of why people should go to confession -- "because we are all sinners" -- the pope listed 30 key questions to reflect on as part of making an examination of conscience and being able to "confess well."

The guide is part of a 28-page booklet in Italian released by the Vatican publishing house. Pope Francis had 50,000 free copies distributed to people attending his Angelus address on Feb. 22, the First Sunday of Lent.

Titled *Safeguard Your Heart*, the booklet is meant to help the faithful become "courageous" and prepared to battle against evil and choose the good.

The booklet contains quick introductions to Catholic basics: it has the text of the Creed, a list of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, the Ten Commandments, and the

Beatitudes. It explains the seven sacraments and includes Pope Francis' explanation of *lectio divina*, a prayerful way of reading Scripture to better hear "what the Lord wants to tell us in his word and to let us be transformed by his Spirit."

The booklet's title is based on a line from one of the pope's morning Mass homilies, in which he said Christians need to guard and protect their hearts "just as you protect your home -- with a lock."

"How often do bad thoughts, bad intentions, jealousy, envy enter?" he asked. "Who opened the door? How did those things get in?"

Catholics should go to confession, the pope said, because everyone needs forgiveness for their sins, for the ways "we think and act contrary to the Gospel."

"Whoever says he is without sin is a liar or is blind," he wrote.

Confession is meant to be a sincere moment of conversion, an occasion to demonstrate trust in God's willingness to forgive his children and to help them back on the path of following Jesus, Pope Francis wrote.

This Oct. 10, 2014, homily, which is excerpted in Pope Francis' booklet, said the best way to guard one's heart is with the daily practice of an "examination of conscience," in which one quietly reviews what bad things one has done and what good things one has failed to do for God, one's neighbor, and oneself.

The questions include:

- ◆ Do I only turn to God when I'm in need?
- ◆ Do I attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation?
- ◆ Do I begin and end the day with prayer?
- ◆ Am I embarrassed to show that I am a Christian?
- ◆ Do I rebel against God's plan?
- ◆ Am I envious, hot-tempered, biased?
- ◆ Am I honest and fair with everyone, or do I fuel the "throwaway culture"?
- ◆ In my marital and family relations, do I uphold morality as taught in the Gospels?
- ◆ Do I honor and respect my parents?
- ◆ Have I refused newly conceived life? Have I snuffed out the gift of life? Have I helped do so?
- ◆ Do I respect the environment?
- ◆ Am I part worldly and part believer?
- ◆ Do I overdo it with eating, drinking, smoking, and amusements?
- ◆ Am I overly concerned about my physical well-being, my possessions?
- ◆ How do I use my time? Am I lazy?
- ◆ Do I want to be served?
- ◆ Do I dream of revenge, hold grudges?
- ◆ Am I meek, humble, and a builder of peace?



Front Page photo:

About 2,500 men attended the diocesan Catholic Men's Conference on Saturday, Feb. 28 in the Voinovich Center at the state fairgrounds.

CT photo by Ken Snow

PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

Solution



Were you crafty last week? It should not take too much time or talent to fold three small pieces of cardboard, but it was still a challenge for me. I was never very good at arts and crafts, and a simple task like this was no exception. I was tempted to go to Michael's Crafts with coupon in hand, but I bravely handled it myself. Now having these three tents in sight is a good reminder of the responsibilities of Lent and the focus on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. The light and love of Christ that shines beyond each tent is our goal for each day. We cannot wait for Easter to shine and to love. But the discipline, practices, and repentance of Lent gives us the grace and strength to increase the intensity of our light and love. After all, if God is for us, who can be against us?

As we challenge ourselves and struggle through Lent, I continue to be frustrated and enraged by the slaughter of Christians and others in the Middle East by the evil and insane terrorists of ISIS and the so-called "Islamic State." How is it that history repeats itself so often? When idiots and nuts throughout history realize that they can control masses of people, the solution to any opposition is always genocide of some sort. Look at the history of the Jewish people, from the Philistines to the Nazis, and now ISIS. The solution is to simply rid the world of them. Tribal warfare and civil war in Africa has accounted for many attempts to completely eliminate specific groups of people. Wipe them all out, and the problem is solved. Communist Russia, China, and Cambodia offer other examples. There are many more throughout history, but they all have the same equation: problem – death = solution. We know that Hitler, Himmler, and the Nazis called their quest to eliminate the Jews their "Final Solution." Is this what we face today as Christians? Certainly our brothers and sisters half a world away are being targeted. What can we do? How do we defend ourselves? How can we possibly turn the other cheek, or stretch out our arms on a cross? How often have we heard others say, or maybe we ourselves have said, that the solution to dealing with these fanatics is to annihilate them? For part of the answer, we have a choice of two Gospel passages from John this weekend. We are in Year B, but the readings from Year A are an option. We may hear the story of Jesus driving out the merchants and moneychangers from the Temple, even using a whip. It is with a similar passion and zeal that we must defend ourselves. We are called to fight and defeat evil in its place, even in unfortunate circumstances when that evil is embodied in other children of God. Or we may hear the story of Jesus and the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well. Jesus tells the woman that "true worshipers must worship God the Father in spirit and truth." This is absolutely necessary for us. It is easy to fight evil out of hatred. Doing so in spirit and truth is a very different challenge.

Our practical challenge this week is to fight back in whatever ways we are able. Pray, be vigilant, and make your voice heard by God in spirit and truth, and also by all the gods who think they have power and control. Make it clear around the world, in both word and action, that the love of Jesus Christ can never be defeated. Let our leaders know that we expect them to do the same by meeting evil head-on and driving out demons where they boldly expose themselves. But let us take great care to do so with love. As the Samaritan woman said, "He told me everything I have done." And the people of the town said, "We know that this is truly the savior of the world." He is the solution.

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

'A BIBLICAL LENT' MISSION IN CIRCLEVILLE

Father Thomas Buffer will be the speaker for a mission titled "A Biblical Lent" at 7 p.m. Monday to Wednesday, March 16 to 18, in Circleville St. Joseph Church, 134 W. Mound St.

Father Buffer has been a priest of the Diocese of Columbus since 1991. After completing his seminary studies in Rome, he served in parish work for seven years, completing a degree in Marian theology from the University of Dayton's International Marian Research Institute at the same time. He then returned to Rome for three years of doctoral study and received the degree of doctor of sacred theology.

He worked as professor and formator at the Pontifical College Josephinum for five years before returning to parish ministry at Columbus St. Stephen the Martyr Church in 2006. While there, he recruited religious sisters from Mexico to staff a convent and mission of evangelization in the largely Hispanic par-

ish. He has been pastor at Marion St. Mary Church since July 2012.

In addition to his parish duties, Father Buffer is active as a teacher, writer, and musician. He has taught at the International Marian Research Institute in Dayton and at the Liturgical Institute in Mundelein, Illinois. He has translated two books by Father Luigi Gambero for Ignatius Press, and several Latin hymns for *The Mundelein Psalter and Hymnal for the Hours*. His musical compositions have been published by CanticaNova Publications and online.

He also is serving on the theological commission investigating the cause for beatification and canonization of Father Thomas Frederick Price, co-founder of the Catholic Foreign Mission Society.



SPIRITUAL RENEWAL PROGRAM

London St. Patrick Church, 61 S. Union St., is offering a journey of spiritual renewal titled "Longing for the Holy: Spirituality for Everyday Life," from 7 to 8:30 p.m. each Wednesday through May 20, with the exception of May 6, when Confirmation will be taking place at the parish.

The program is based on *The Holy Longing*, a book written by Father Ronald Rolheiser, OMI, for those who want to enrich their sense of the presence

of God. Based on Father Rolheiser's gentle spiritual guidance and practical wisdom, "Longing for the Holy" is designed to help find the way to channel the deep longing at the core of our beings.

The parish also offers Eucharistic Adoration on the first Friday of every month from the end of the 9 a.m. Mass until Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at noon. For more information, call the parish office at (740) 852-0942.

DIOCESAN CHARISMATIC RETREAT

The diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal is sponsoring a retreat from Friday to Sunday, March 13 to 15, at St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus.

The theme will be "Unity Through Diversity" and the retreat director will be

Father Clifford Bishop of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

For more information, contact the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Center at (614) 914-8556 or log onto the center's website at www.crcolumbus.org to download a registration form.

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pvitartas@catholicforester.org

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Father Klima recovering from injuries

Father James Klima, pastor of Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, is undergoing therapy for a separated shoulder suffered in an incident in late January in which a car knocked him off balance and he fell in the parish parking lot.

The event occurred at about 9:15 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 25. Father Klima gave the following description of the incident to Pickerington police:

The car had been sliding around the church parking lot in the snow several times, with its tire marks making large circles known as "doughnuts," when he came outside, with the intent of getting the car to stop before anyone got hurt.

Once it stopped, he came to the car's driver's side window and saw the driver and his passenger were young people.

He told them to call their parents. The driver said he was 18. Father Klima was trotting alongside the car as it began moving, with his hands still on the window.

When the car sped up, it caught his right elbow against the window jamb as it continued to move, knocking him off balance and to the ground. The car then left the lot.

Father Klima can be heard identifying himself as a priest in a video taken by a camera installed in the car. The driver's father gave the video to police.

Father Klima was treated at the Diley Ridge Medical Center for his injury. Two days after he reported

the incident to police, officers found the car in the Pickerington North High School parking lot.

Police have filed charges against the two juveniles in the car, both Pickerington residents. The driver is charged with felony delinquency counts of vehicular assault and failure to stop after an accident and a misdemeanor count of assault.

The passenger is charged with a felony delinquency count of complicity in failure to stop after an accident and misdemeanor counts of obstructing official business and failure to report a crime, said Fairfield County assistant prosecutor Lisa Long.

Both entered a plea of denial, the equivalent to an adult plea of innocent, to the charges before Fairfield County Juvenile Court Judge Terre L. Vandervoort on Tuesday, Feb. 24, Long said.

The judge placed them on house arrest, meaning they are to be at home unless attending school. She also prohibited the two youths from using social media and having contact with each other or Father Klima. The driver surrendered his license.

Long said the next step in the case is a pretrial hearing, in hopes of reaching a resolution without taking the case to trial.

Father Klima wishes to express his thanks to all those who have expressed their concern to him and are praying for his full recovery. He declined additional comment on the incident.

ODU Students Named to Inaugural ASPIRE Program Class

Ohio Dominican University has named 40 first- and second-year students to its inaugural ASPIRE program class. ASPIRE is a two- to three-year program in which students commit to completing 80 hours of community service, an internship in their major or anticipated career field, and three major experiences in the categories of faith, leadership, and intercultural and global awareness.

Members of the 2015-16 class of ASPIRE students include: DeWayne Ackerman, Lockbourne; Alison Baker, Portsmouth; Seth Bowles, Cincinnati; Elizabeth Caprino, Dublin; Cassady Detrick, Ashville; Jalyn Devereaux, Canal Winchester; Halley Earl, Dyer, Indiana; Hannah Frank, Millersburg; Alliane Gingras, Marysville; Austin Goodridge, Lima; Alexis Haynes, Mechanicsburg; Clayton Hildebrand, Findlay; Jordyn Hughes, Orient; Abu Ihiezu, Columbus; Lehnniah Jackson, Columbus; Tori Leader, West Portsmouth; Margaret Lesheski, Hilliard; Megan Lesheski, Hilliard; Mariah Lynn, Frazeysburg; Alina Magalski, Powell; Elizabeth Maloof, Blacklick; Shylae Mayle, Canton; Madisyn Montgomery, Mount Vernon; EeTerrica Reeves, Columbus; Katelyn Sanford, Westerville;

Emily Schneider, East Sparta; Emily Schofield, Grove City; Baylee Stepien, Parma; Julia Taylor, Derby, Kansas; Whitley Wade, Steubenville; and Kasey Wilson, Columbus. Nine ASPIRE students have asked that their names not be publicized.

"ASPIRE gives our students an opportunity to get the most out of the college experience while also learning important leadership, interpersonal and professional skills," said Sharon Reed, assistant vice president for student development and dean of student life. "ASPIRE also allows students to live out ODU's mission as they serve others throughout Columbus and the central Ohio region."

Students in the program are mentored by a team of ODU faculty and staff including Dr. Manuel Martinez, associate professor of Spanish; Sandy Rowley, women's volleyball coach and senior women's athletic administrator; Dr. Martin Brick, assistant professor of English; Michael Lewis, director of counseling services; Sister Margie Davis, OP, campus minister; Scott Miles, sports information director; Natalie Kompa, assistant professor of public relations; and Amy Spencer, director of the academic resource center.

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Can a felon enter holy orders? Chewing the host



QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. I am currently incarcerated in federal prison. My question may seem strange, but I am wondering whether it would ever be possible for an ex-convict, a felon, to be accepted into holy orders.

When I was a child, I was never baptized or brought up in any particular religion, but I had a strong sense of the closeness of God. Later, as I got older, I fell away from the Lord and began to lead a sinful life, which resulted in my imprisonment. While in prison, I began going to Catholic Mass, and shortly I will be baptized by our Catholic prison chaplain.

I read the Catholic paper regularly and find it helpful and uplifting. Here in prison, it's easy to lose hope, to feel lonely and forgotten, but with the Lord, I get stronger every day. I reflect on God's word, feel his strength, and know that he is with me.

Through Jesus, I can wake each day with a sense of lightness and freedom -- even though I am surrounded by bars, concrete, fences, and chains -- and I thank God for this. It gives me joy to share my faith with fellow prisoners, some of whom feel unlovable. I hope you can tell me whether anything would prevent me from becoming a priest or deacon once I am released from prison. And meanwhile, please pray for me. (South Carolina)

A. First, let me say how grateful I am to you for telling the story of this remarkable re-awakening to God's presence in your life. I find your words inspiring. I'm sure others will say the same.

As for your becoming a priest or a deacon, it would not be unprecedented for someone to move from prison cell to pulpit. I have read, for example, of Father Donald Calloway.

As a young man, he led a life of delinquency and drug use and was jailed multiple times. Now he is a priest of the Congregation of Marians of the Immaculate Conception, a much-sought speaker who tells of his conversion through the mercy of God.

Realistically, though, I think it depends a lot on the nature of the crime for which you are serving time.

In the interest of transparency, that background would have to be shared with the people whom you were to serve. If your crime were one of

violence, people might feel uncomfortable accepting you as a minister of the Gospel, and your work would be compromised. If, on the other hand, it were something such as drug use from which you had clearly repented and recovered, the way might be open.

What I think you should do is talk with your prison chaplain, whom you already know and trust. Get his take on the matter, and, perhaps, ask him to put you in touch with the vocation director of a diocese or religious order.

Even if a future in religious ministry is not in the cards, know that there are many ways to serve the Lord. Far more people do this as members of the laity, ministering to those they live and work with by showing their kindness and sharing their faith. Meanwhile, please be assured that you have my prayers, and I ask for yours.

Q. I attended Catholic schools for 12 years and remember most of my catechism lessons. There is one thing, though, that bothers me. After receiving Communion, I often notice people returning to their pews while visibly chewing the host. I always thought -- in fact, I think I was taught this -- that you should either let the host dissolve in your mouth as a sign of reverence or swallow it quickly. Please explain. (Suring, Wisconsin)

A. I have no doubt that, as a child, you were taught not to chew the host -- because I was taught that, too. This was seen as a sign of greater reverence for the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. But there is not -- and never was -- a rule that says this.

In fact, Scripture scholars point out that in Christ's eucharistic discourse in the sixth chapter of John's Gospel, the Greek word used for "eat" actually does mean "chew."

So it depends to some extent on the circumstances. When I am celebrating Mass, I consume a large host and find it necessary to chew it. When I am on vacation, though, and attending Mass, I revert to the habit of my boyhood and let the host start to dissolve in my mouth before swallowing it.

Today, hosts meant for the congregation vary in size and consistency. Thicker whole-wheat hosts are more often chewed. The only real rule is that whatever is done be done with respect for the sacredness of the event. (If one chooses to chew the host, it should of course be done with the mouth closed and noiselessly.)

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

Record Society Meeting

Bill Messerly, executive director of St. Gabriel Radio in Columbus, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, will be the speaker at the Catholic Record Society's winter quarterly meeting at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 8, in the parish hall of Columbus Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road.

He will discuss the station's history from its beginnings in Marysville, when it began broadcasting in August 2005 as WUCO in Marysville at 1270 AM, the first Catholic radio signal to reach central Ohio. It moved three years later to the 1580 AM frequency of WVKO in Columbus, with a signal reaching all of the area during daylight hours.

In December 2011, it switched again to the stronger frequency of 820 AM, a spot formerly held by WOSU-AM, which

switched to an FM frequency. The move allowed the station, renamed WVSG (Voice of St. Gabriel), to reach most of Ohio during the daytime and continue to cover central Ohio after sunset.

Messerly is a member of Westerville St. Paul Church. His responsibilities at the radio station include general management, business development, and public relations. He is board president for the Relationships Under Construction abstinence education program and founded three business before entering radio management.

A short business meeting, at which the society will elect officers for the next two years, will follow Messerly's talk. For more information, contact society chairman Mike Finnay fcoolavin@aol.com or (614) 268-4166.

Theology on Tap

The next Columbus Theology on Tap meeting will feature Father Nicholas Droll, parochial vicar at Columbus St. Andrew Church, speaking on "My Prayer Life Needs Spring Cleaning."

The meeting will be from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, March 12, at El Vaquero restaurant, 3230 Olentangy River Road, Columbus.

Theology on Tap is an invitation for young adults to learn more about their faith and to share in their Catho-

lic community, based on a spirit of hospitality which creates a space for people in their 20s and 30s to explore how faith in Christ can speak to their circumstances.

For more information, join Columbus Theology on Tap's Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/ColumbusTheologyonTap, send an email message to cbustheologyontap@gmail.com, or call Holly Monnier at (614) 390-8653.

St. Joseph Academy Mass

Alumnae of Columbus St. Joseph Academy will gather at Columbus St. Agnes Church, 2364 W. Mound St., for a Mass at 11 a.m. to honor the school's pa-

tron saint, with a box lunch with raffle to follow.

For reservations, contact Ce Ce Dooley Matyac at (614) 853-1492 or cdmatyac13@att.net.

Centering Prayer

The Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus, will host a workshop on centering prayer from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 21. The fee of \$10 per person includes materials and lunch.

The workshop will be led by Adele Sheffieck, a trained presenter for Contemplative Outreach, Ltd. Centering prayer is a simple, contemplative way of being with God. The workshop will explain how this method of silent prayer involves a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship. The workshop is limited to 20 people.

For more information, call the center at (614) 512-3731, go the center's website, www.ccccenterofpeace.org, or send an email to corpuschristicenterofpeace@gmail.com.

Holy Hours

Eucharistic Holy Hours will take place from 7 to 8 p.m. on the last three Thursdays of March, the 12th, 19th, and 26th, at Columbus Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St.

They will follow the "Holy Hour of Reparation" prayer format, concluding with Benediction, and followed by a social period with refreshments.

They will be prayers for the intention of deepened holiness and an increase in the virtue of fortitude for all priests. The Holy Hours will be on Thursdays because that is the night Jesus instituted the priesthood.

For more information, contact Father Joseph Klee at (614) 372-5249.



Answering God's Call

SPENDING HER LIFE WORKING WITH THE ELDERLY



Sister Eileen Fitzsimmons

by Tim Puet

The first time she entered a nursing home, Eileen Fitzsimmons never wanted to return. But something happened to her after that initial experience. Today, she is Sister Eileen Fitzsimmons, OCarm, a member of the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm, and she is in her sixth decade of serving senior citizens.

Sister Eileen, 73, has been nurse manager at the Villas at St. Therese in Columbus since 2010. She grew up in the 1940s and '50s in the New York City borough of The Bronx, a short subway ride from Yankee Stadium, on a dead-end street where about 50 children lived. "My father and I would go to a few games each year, and it felt like the Yankees and the Brooklyn Dodgers were the only two teams in baseball because they were always playing each other in the World Series," she said.

She attended St. Brendan School in The Bronx. One day in eighth grade, she went to St. Patrick's Home, a Catholic nursing home in the borough, with a classmate to visit her friend's grandfather. "I was reluctant to go, but I did it for my friend's sake," she recalled. "We got to the front door and I said 'I'll wait outside,' but the sister there -- I still remember her name, Sister Daniel -- invited us in.

"So I went inside. When we left, Sister Daniel said, 'You'll have to come back now and volunteer. OK?' And I thought, 'There's no way I'm ever coming back to a place like this.'

"A few days later, my mother talked to me and said 'I saw Sister Daniel and she was asking where you were. She told me you were going to volunteer at the nursing home.' So I went back and stayed an hour, and all I saw was old people in wheelchairs and walkers."

"Mom thought it was a good idea for me to volunteer, so I went back a second time. This time, the wheelchairs and walkers were there, but somehow, I saw something else. I saw people with beautiful faces," she said. "I realized there was something beyond what I had seen the first time. After that, I began to think about spending my life working with the elderly as part of a religious community.

"In high school, I was part of a group of about 10 girls who volunteered at the home, which was run by the Carmelites. We helped set women's hair, shaved the men, and did all sorts of little things that didn't seem to be much, but meant a great deal to the residents. Something kept drawing me back to the Carmelites because they were so welcoming, always laughing and joyful."

Sister Eileen entered the Carmelite congregation in 1958, professing her first vows in 1961 and her final vows five years later. Her first assignment was at a nursing home in Boston. Until 2000, she served in Carmelite-run homes, mostly on the East Coast. From 1971-77, she was at Our Lady's Manor, a Carmelite facility in Ireland, where both her parents came from (Her father was born in Brooklyn, but raised in Ireland).

"Ireland was a wonderful experience," she said. "I got to meet all my relatives there and everybody spoke English, but it was like a totally different language; for instance, when the doctors there said they were 'going into surgery,' they meant what in the U.S. would be office hours. A 'theater' didn't mean the movies, but the operating room.

"And the pace of life was much slower. The first time I had my car filled with gas ('petrol' there), I wondered 'What's taking them so long?' Six years later, I was thinking 'Why are they rushing me?' They know how to live over there in a way where you can relax, but still get the work done."

From 2000-2010, Sister Eileen was based at her order's Motherhouse in Germantown, New York, between the Hudson River and the Catskill Mountains about 100 miles north of New York City. For the first five years of that period, she served as postulant director for the order, which currently operates 17 senior care facilities in the United States, as well as Our Lady's Manor. This required her to be in the field for six months at a time with sisters in training, then spend a month at the Motherhouse.

From 2005-2010, she served as prioress and administrator at the Motherhouse. "When I was postulant director, though I was stationed at the Motherhouse, I was in and out and had plenty of opportunities to work with patients," she said. "I've enjoyed every ministry I had, but during the five years I was at the Motherhouse full-time, I missed having contact with people in the residences the order runs. I didn't ask to be moved, but I prayed that I'd get back to a residence some day. Those prayers were answered in 2010 when I was sent to Columbus."

At the Villas and at Mother Angeline McCrory Manor, located next to each other on the city's far east side, Sister Eileen and seven other Carmelites continue a tradition of service to the Diocese of Columbus that dates to 1948, when the Carmelites opened the former St. Raphael's and St. Rita's homes for the aged. The Villas, which has areas for independent and assisted living, was opened in 2000. McCrory Manor, which provides more intensive care, was opened in 2005 to replace St. Raphael's and St. Rita's.

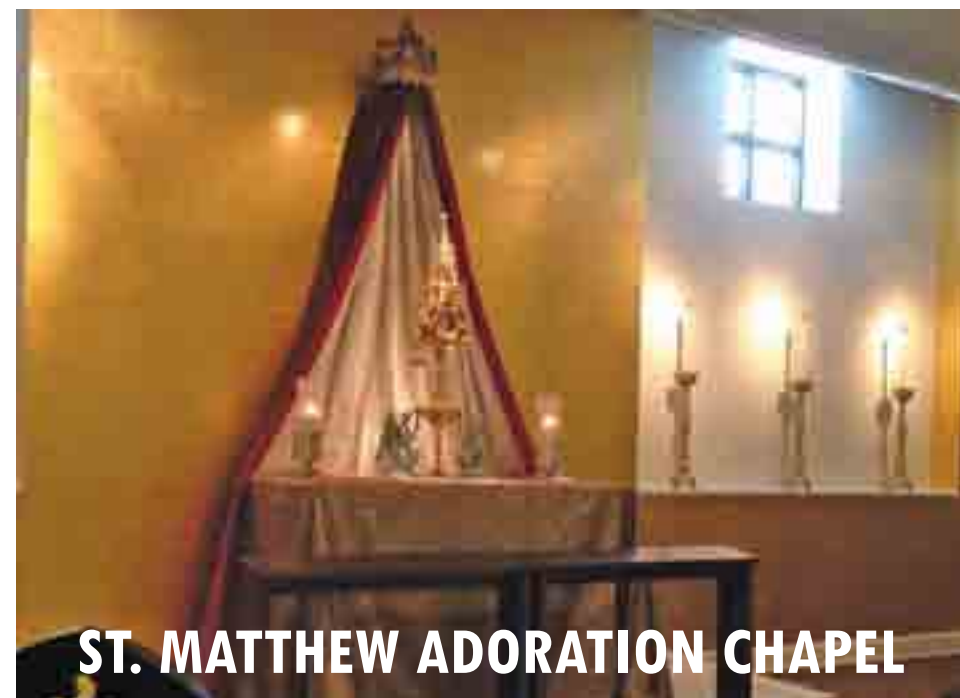
Her job as nurse manager of the Villas involves regularly assessing the needs of the facility's residents and supervising aides. "It's very gratifying work and something I hope to be doing for a long time," she said. "One thing I've enjoyed about living in Columbus is that people are extremely friendly here. You walk into stores and people stop and talk to you. That's a different atmosphere than you have in New York City. And I've never seen anything like the intense interest in college football here, especially the Ohio State-Michigan rivalry, although the old Yankees-Dodgers rivalry was similar."

The Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm were founded in 1929 by Mother Angeline McCrory, who lived to see the order grow substantially by the time of her death on her 91st birthday in 1984. Sister Eileen knew Mother Angeline and described her as being "very approachable, down-to-earth, with a great sense of humor, and very interested in all the sisters.

"My father died during my time in Ireland," Sister Eileen said. "I came home for a while, and when I said I felt ready to go back, Mother Angeline told me, 'Your mother needs you now more than you're needed in Ireland.' So I stayed here for two more weeks and realized Mother Angeline was right."

Sister Eileen said she never wants to retire. "My father didn't think I'd last two weeks as a sister because I'm not a morning person, but here I am more than 50 years later, looking forward to whatever is to come," she said. "I have a challenging job, but it's a good challenge. The residents give me more than I could ever give them.

"I always cried when I left an assignment, but two or three months later, I loved the next place I was. I've come to appreciate the advice of a former novice director who said to always live in the present. That being said, I still find it hard to get up in the morning. The day would be greater if it started later."



ST. MATTHEW ADORATION CHAPEL

Gahanna St. Matthew Church, 807 Havens Corners Road, began offering perpetual Eucharistic adoration on Ash Wednesday.

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed in a chapel in the church's basement continuously, except during the Sacred Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.

The chapel will be open to the general public from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. The church is locked at other times, and anyone who wishes to take part in adoration at those times is asked to call adoration coordinator Bryan Gebhart at (614) 226-9617. Gebhart also has a number of spots open for people who wish to visit the chapel during a specific hour on a regular basis.

A blessing Mass for the chapel took place the day before Ash Wednesday, with Bishop Frederick Campbell and five priests concelebrating, the parish choir singing Gregorian chant to highlight the antiquity of the practice of adoration, and 275 to 300 people in attendance.

The chapel houses 22 individual large seats with kneelers, plus two kneelers in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Stained oak front doors open to a white marble walkway leading up to the altar. The front wall is 24-karat gold gilded and features six polished brass candlesticks on marble ledges. An antiqued gold crown rests above the altar, with a regal red liturgical and Agnus Dei white fabric flowing from the crown to envelop the edges of the altar, symbolizing the blood and water that flowed from Christ's wounded side.

The altar is made from stained red oak, featuring a purple heart cross made as a one-of-a-kind item by a St. Matthew parishioner. The altar is covered with a red-and-gold altar cloth that came from the family of the parish's pastor, Father Theodore Sill. The polished bronze monstrance sits aloft a stand that has two silver angels in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament above. Spotlights accent the Blessed Sacrament to direct the attention to the object and the purpose of perpetual adoration.

All You Can Eat! Friday 5:30 - 7:30 pm
LENTEN FAMILY
FISH FRY EVERYONE WELCOME!
 Knights of Columbus Council 10765
 St. Joan of Arc Church **Feb. 20 - March 27**
 10700 Liberty Road, Powell **www.bestfishfry.com**

Law of Motion Poster



Hilliard St. Brendan School eighth-grade students selected a children's picture book to locate five examples of Newton's laws of motion. They created a poster of the five examples, which included a drawing of the example, the law being demonstrated, and the reason why the example demonstrates the law. The eighth-graders read the book to first-grade students and explained their posters to them on a first-grade level. Pictured are (from left) eighth-graders Antonio Auddino and Max Balyeat, and first-graders Sia Hobart, Gabriella Murray, and Allie Callipare.

Photo courtesy St. Brendan School

Rylie Wahl Competes for National Medal

Columbus Bishop Ready High School senior Rylie Wahl was awarded a gold key and a silver key for artwork she submitted at the central Ohio regional level of the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, a presentation of The Alliance for Young Artists & Writers.

The gold key was for her film and animation submission "Don't Embalm Me. I'm Not Dead," and the silver key was for her digital work "My 'Little' Sis-



ter."

More than 1,400 individual submissions and 72 portfolio submissions were received for the regional program from students in grades seven through 12. From this group, 37 pieces were acknowledged at the regional gold key level and 62 pieces received silver key awards. Gold key recipients are being considered for national recognition.

Photo courtesy Bishop Ready High School

OCRS RICE BOWL FOR LENT FOR LIFE



Howard Thurman and Readyng the Spirit

"Have you read any of Howard Thurman?," my friend wanted to know. A student at Andover Newton Seminary, she was curious about my familiarity with this African American theologian, preacher, professor, and mystic. I'd never heard of him. "Really, Mary, you should read Thurman."

Years later, as a participant in a spiritual guidance program, I'm finally discovering not only the writings of Howard Thurman, but also his profound influence on the nonviolent civil rights movement in the United States.

A Baptist minister raised by his grandmother, a former slave, in segregated Daytona, Florida, Thurman's first pastorate was in Ohio, at Mount Zion Baptist Church in Oberlin. Later, he moved on to become a professor at Morehouse and Spelman colleges. He was dean of chapel at Howard University, but left in 1944 when he and Dr. Alfred G. Fisk, a Presbyterian minister and professor, founded The Church for Fellowship of All Peoples, the first interracial and culturally inclusive church in the United States. (This church remains active today in San Francisco and has as one of its central "commitments" the need for growth in understanding all people to be children of God. True then. True now.)

In 1953, he became dean of Marsh Chapel at Boston University, the first African American to hold that position in a predominantly white university. There he met the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., who earned his PhD at BU. Thurman was King's spiritual adviser and mentor, sharing the message of nonviolence he had received from Gandhi on a visit to meet the Indian leader in 1936.

Over his lifetime, Thurman wrote 21 books and hundreds of sermons. One of his books, *Jesus and the Disinherited*, interpreted the gospels in light of nonviolence and Jesus' stand for those who had been deprived of their God-given rights. The book was foundational to the civil rights movement led by King, who is said to have carried this book with him during the Montgomery bus boycott and to have read from it on evenings before a march.

During his lifetime, Thurman disappointed some people who wanted him to be more political, their "Moses," but instead saw him focus on prayer and the need for personal transformation and spiritual growth. This was necessary for social change, he said.

Just beginning to read Thurman, I'm not an expert on his thought or teachings, but this emphasis on prayer and spiritual discipline drew me to think about him as we immerse ourselves in Lenten observances.



GRACE IN THE MOMENT
 Mary van Balen

He described religious experience as "the awareness of meeting God" that happens through all life, through nature, and through the arts. Thurman says spiritual disciplines are necessary for this to occur, since they "ready" our hearts, minds, emotions, and spirits to be open to God.

Describing the function of spiritual disciplines as "readying" us for an encounter with God resonates with me. We need to be ready to receive, no matter the gift.

"What else do we do to ready ourselves for something?," I pondered. Spring cleaning has many benefits, I've heard, one of which is clearing film from windows, allowing light to pour through with more intensity. Students of nature study markings of

birds, attributes of plants, and seashell shapes and colors to increase their awareness of the variety that fills our world.

Have you ever studied pros and cons of cars before finally purchasing one? When you finish your research, you recognize makes and models that you never noticed before.

Not having much background in classical music, pre-concert lectures on the pieces to be performed enrich my experience. A special theater presentation of an exhibit of Rembrandt's later works deepened my appreciation not only of his work, but also of the quiet beauty of the faces of people who fill my life.

This is how I imagine readyng our spirits with disciplines of prayer and attentiveness encourages "religious experiences," awareness of encounters with God. The process doesn't invite God in. Rather, it helps us recognize where God already is.

I'm not sure this is what Thurman meant, but for now, I'm grateful for his phrase "readyng our spirits," and how it has deepened my Lenten prayer.

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SHADOWING LIGHT

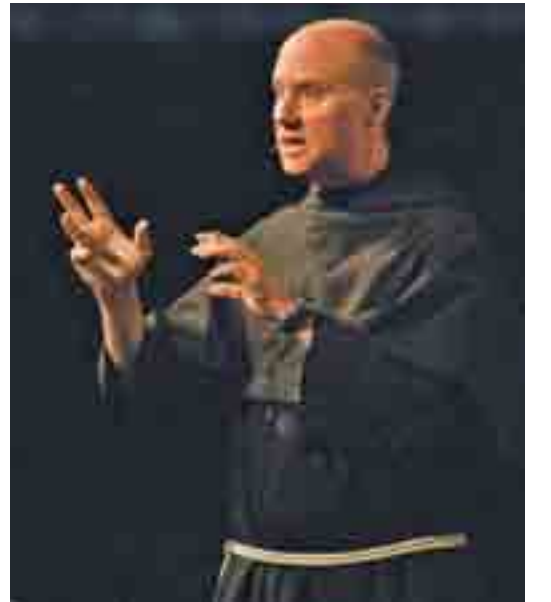
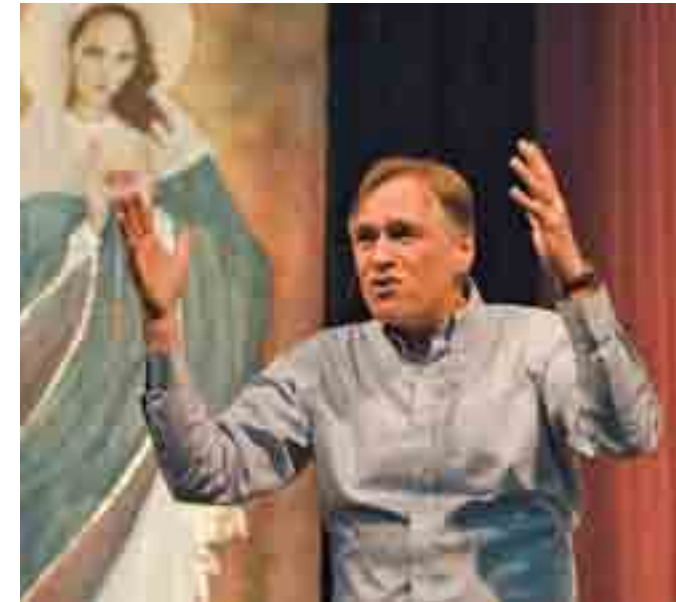
By Stephen G. Straw

**"God's fond presence pursues me everywhere
 And makes my every act and wish a prayer."
 Mary MacKillop penned like words almost in verse
 Her cadence comes close and the rhyme is hers
 Writing to sisters craving daily leaven,
 Describing what has always been earth's heaven:
 Living in prayer by being just aware
 Of shadowing, like something in the air
 Imbuing (light of touch) interior being,
 Embellishing the world of sound and seeing
 And easing pain, vouchsafing genuine peace
 Despite the sorrows, shocks that never cease.
 We wait till Christ, now dim in faith's half-light,
 Shatters the mirror, flashing, granting sight.**



St. Mary MacKillop, the first saint from Australia, canonized on Oct. 17, 2010

Stephen Straw is a parishioner at Columbus St. Andrew Church



From left: Bishop Frederick Campbell celebrates Mass at the 18th annual Columbus Catholic Men's Conference on Saturday, Feb. 27 at the Voinovich Center on the state fairgrounds; conference speakers Chris Spielman, Ralph Martin, Peter Herbeck, and Father Dave Pivonka, TOR. The conference attracted a full house of 2,500 men from throughout the Diocese of Columbus. CT photos by Ken Snow

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, Catholic Times

Chris Spielman's story of his journey from football star to cancer warrior and enthusiastic Christian witness brought tears and cheers from 2,500 men at the 18th annual diocesan Catholic Men's Conference on Saturday, Feb. 28.

The crowd set a record for the event, filling all the chairs on the main floor and much of the bleachers in the balcony at the Voinovich Center on the state fairgrounds. The men were inspired by talks from Peter Herbeck and Ralph Martin

of Ann Arbor, Michigan-based Renewal Ministries and Father Dave Pivonka, TOR, director of Franciscan Pathways in Steubenville, but paid especially close attention to Spielman's personal testimony of success, tragedy, and renewal.

"When I was a child, football was my god," Spielman said. "All I wanted to do from age four on was play football. I was the son of a high-school coach. One time when my grandmother was visiting, I greeted her with a blindside hit that

bruised her hip and took her to the emergency room. Afterward, she said 'That was a good hit, Chris.'

"When I was 12, my mom took me to one of my dad's practices at Canton Timken High School. I wanted to take part, he let me get hit, and I loved the contact."

He went on to a career that led him to stardom at Massillon Washington High School and The Ohio State University, where he won the 1987 Lombardi Award as the nation's outstanding lineman, fol-

lowed by 10 years in the NFL with the Detroit Lions and the Buffalo Bills, where he was selected as an All-Pro linebacker three times, and by induction into the College Football Hall of Fame.

Along the way, a cheerleader named Stefanie from an opposing high school caught his eye. "I decided to meet her by going after a loose ball when I was in her vicinity. I figured I'd knock her down (in pursuit of the ball), because that would give me an excuse to help her up," he said.

The strategy evidently worked, for they married in 1989 and had two children by 1997. In that year, Spielman suffered a herniated disk which ultimately ended his playing career. He said that while trying to recuperate, he began receiving a recurring message – "What is your purpose?" He thought his purpose was to come back as a player, but soon learned differently.

Stefanie suffered a miscarriage in June 1998. One month later, she learned that at age 30, she had breast cancer, beginning an 11-year struggle during which the cancer appeared to have been beaten four times, but always returned. During that period, the couple had two more children and founded the Stefanie Spielman Fund for Breast Cancer Research and the Stefanie Spielman Patient Assistance Fund, which to date have raised more than \$15.4 million for cancer-fighting efforts at OSU's James Cancer Hospital. Stefanie's fight against cancer ended with her death on Nov. 19, 2009.

On learning of his wife's diagnosis,

Spielman gave up his football career to be at his wife's side, though he did try a comeback in 1999 with the Cleveland Browns that ended when he suffered another injury.

When he told Stefanie of his decision, "she cried harder than she did when she learned I had cancer," Spielman said. "You can't let cancer take your dream away," she said. But I told her that on June 24, 1989 (their wedding day), I said in front of God that I'd love you in sickness and in health, and I meant it. Thank God that through football, he blessed me with the finances that I was able to make that choice."

During Stefanie's long battle with cancer, "I learned a lot of things," Spielman said. "The biggest is that what you give will grow, and what you keep, you will lose." He had many conversations with God, which he acknowledged sometimes turned into one-sided shouting matches. "I still had the audacity, the ego to start cutting deals with God," he said. But the cancer kept coming back.

After the couple had their third child and the disease returned, Spielman said, "I drove to the back parking lot of the La Chatelaine restaurant, crawled in the back of the car, and got into a fetal position. I was broken. I raised my fist to heaven in anger and asked 'What are you doing?' Then a verse from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians came to me: 'My grace is sufficient. My power is made perfect in your weakness.' God said, 'You have

to surrender your worry, your fear, your control, your power to me, because if you do and you become weak, you'll be the strongest man in the world.'"

Spielman said that by the time Stefanie had her last bout with cancer, he realized it was a privilege to be able to serve her in the manner of Jesus washing the Apostles' feet. He said that a week before she died, she told him, "No matter what, Chris, everything is going to be OK."

Soon after her death, he found a scrap of paper he had written in 1996, on which he had written a personal pledge saying, among other things, "What am I? I am a football player with the Buffalo Bills. ... My team's glory is my glory." He carries that paper with him today, but has changed the words, with versions now saying "I am a husband and father" and "I am a child of God."

Today, Spielman is known nationwide for his work as a football analyst with ESPN and for his continuing fight against breast cancer. Spielman, who was raised Catholic, has come home to the Catholic Church and recently married again. He and his second wife, Carrie, attend Columbus St. Andrew and Powell St. Joan of Arc churches with their blended family.

Spielman's oldest son, Noah, received a football scholarship to the University of Toledo, where he was a lineman last year as a freshman, and it appeared he might be following in his father's footsteps. But he recently told his father that he felt called to go to Wheaton College in Illinois, best-

known as the school from which Billy Graham graduated, to prepare for a career in Christian ministry of some sort.

"He told me 'I'm not you.'" Spielman said. "Football isn't everything to me. I've been to Honduras digging wells (four times as part of a Christian service project) and it's really opened my eyes."

"There was so much joy in his voice when he told me this," Spielman said. "He gave me a message that God gave me to present to you: 'I want to be that body that tells everybody about the Somebody that can save anybody.' After he told me that, as a father, I could only say to God,

'Thank you, Father.'

"I challenge you to take your own story outside of here, to expose everything you believe in, and not to impose anything," he concluded. "You've been given your own tools to work with, your own testimonies. This is your time. What greater message can you present somebody than the good news of the Gospel? If you can think of one, let me know."

Herbeck, co-host of the EWTN program *Crossing the Goal*, which features sports-themed messages of faith, and with Mar-

See CONFERENCE, Page 12



CONFERENCE, continued from Page 11



tin of *The Choices We Face*, also on EWTN, spoke about "How the Spirit Reveals Jesus Christ in Our Life," basing his talk on the last words of Jesus to the Apostles, as recorded in the Gospel of Luke: "You shall be clothed with power from on high."

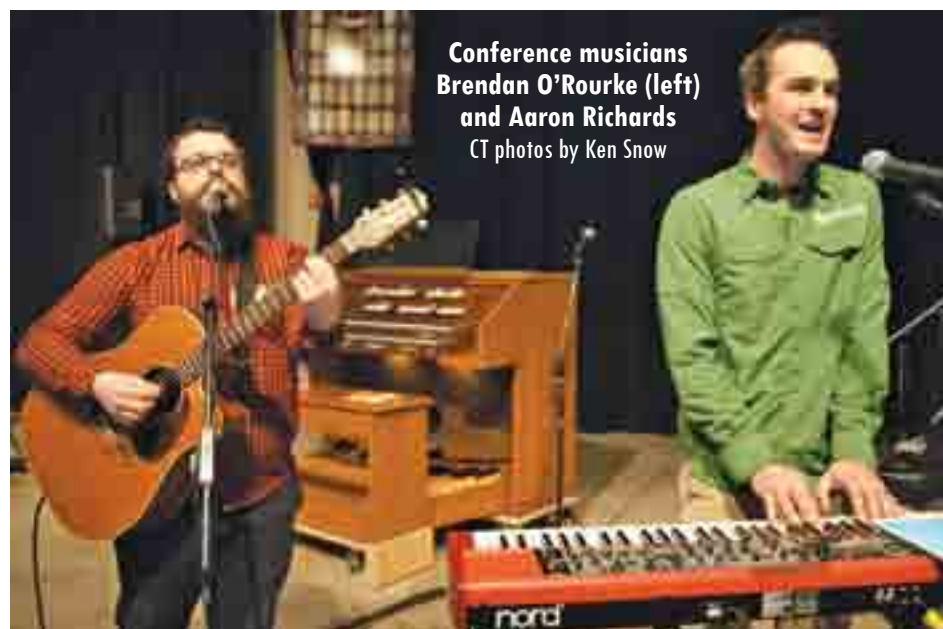
"Pope St. John Paul II talked about this power coming from the Holy Spirit and described it as the power to change and to move," Herbeck said. "Vatican II described it as the power to live the universal call to holiness and to mission, which are the Great Commandment ('Love God, and love your neighbor as yourself') and the Great Commission ('Go and teach all nations'). The Holy Spirit empowers us to grow as sons of God and to go and make more sons of God."

Herbeck quoted from the Vatican II document *Lumen Gentium*, which says Jesus "has communicated his royal power to all his disciples" for two reasons. "The first is that they might conquer the reign of sin in themselves," he said. "The second is so we can lead our brethren to the King, for whom to serve is to reign."

He said the opportunity to lead others to Jesus comes in unexpected places and in unexpected ways. Herbeck's own conversion experience came in 1978 in Notre Dame Stadium, during a Mass at which Martin and others spoke to 35,000 people to conclude a conference. "A total stranger turned to me and said 'The faith and love you seek is going to be granted to you today because Jesus Christ died for you and wants you to know him,'" Herbeck said.

"At that moment, I felt the Holy Spirit coming to me and helping me understand and see who Jesus is. I came home and told my mother about this, and she said she'd been praying for it all my life."

Herbeck said that not long ago, he had



Conference musicians
Brendan O'Rourke (left)
and Aaron Richards
CT photos by Ken Snow

the opportunity to lead a man to Jesus in a similar way, at a most unlikely place – the Grizzly Peak Brewing Co. bar in Ann Arbor. The man was a corporate lawyer who said he felt a tremendous fear of failure and letting people down. As the conversation continued, it developed that he had felt this way since his mother died during a period when he had been resting while caring for her.

"I felt a flood of love for this guy," Herbeck said. "I told him, 'I think Jesus can help with that burden. He's here right now.' The man said he hadn't practiced the faith in years and was at this particular place at this time only because he knew no one there would know him. I told him this wasn't a coincidence, advised him to pray the rosary every day and go to Mass, and the Lord would show him where to go."

Herbeck said all of us have moments such as this in which we are given an opportunity to increase the faith of others and to strengthen our own faith, as ordinary men "clothed with power." He urged all in the audience to make the decision to put Jesus at the center of their lives.

Martin, whose *The Choices We Face* celebrates its 30th anniversary this year and is the longest-running Catholic program currently on national television, talked about the universal call to holiness spoken of in *Lumen Gentium*.

"Saying 'Yes' to the call to holiness is saying 'Yes' to whom God created us to be, to our deepest identities. It's a liberating moment," he said. "Just say 'Yes' to the grace of God, to the word of God inspired by the Holy Spirit. Little by

little, God wants to transform us. In the words of St. Teresa of Avila, 'Holiness brings our will into union with God's will. God hates what frustrates his plan to bring holiness to all his creatures.'"

Martin addressed three roadblocks to holiness – the thoughts that "I'm just a lay person," "I'm called, but not today," and "I'm not a saint."

"Precisely through the difficulties of lay life, God is giving us a means to draw into deeper union with himself and to allow us to place all our hope and trust in him," Martin said. "A Christian can't lose, because for those who love God, everything ultimately works for good."

"It's so easy for us to think there's going to be a better time for us to follow Jesus," he continued. "The problem with postponing a response to the call to holiness is we don't know how much longer we have to live. Why postpone your own happiness?"

Concerning one's lack of saintliness, Martin said St. Therese of Lisieux felt the same way, and wrote in her diary that she had decided she was going to aim for purgatory. "The problem is, nowhere in the Bible does Jesus say 'Aim for purgatory,'" he said.

"We don't always hit the targets we aim at. To aim for purgatory and miss is a problem. It's hell to miss purgatory. So aim for heaven. No matter how attracted you are to the things of the world, you were created by God to live with him."

Father Pivonka, speaking about the universal call to the mission and the Holy Spirit's role as God's principal

agent of evangelization, noted that the ancient Celts symbolized the Holy Spirit as a wild goose, and said he thought that was much more appropriate than the standard depiction of the Spirit as a dove.

"Geese are wild beasts, and the Holy Spirit is a raging fire," he said. "St. Francis of Assisi said 'Do not tame the Holy Spirit.' Who wants to have a wild goose hanging above their altar? I do."

He said everyone is called to be an evangelist, had the audience repeat the words, "I am an evangelist," and followed that by asking the men to pledge themselves during the coming week to tell someone over the age of 10 of their personal experience of God's love, of their own brokenness and need to be saved, of how Jesus had rescued them, and how this has made their lives different.

He followed that with a preparation talk for reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, noting that when he hiked the 500-mile Camino de Santiago in Spain, he noted a difference in how men and women hikers washed their clothes.

"Me and other men washed them for 90 seconds. We just didn't want to stink," he said. "Women washed theirs for several minutes. They wanted to be clean."

"It's the same way when we go to confession. We do it because we stink from sin and we want to be clean. The first reason is good, but it's all about us. The second is because we want to transform ourselves and change our priorities."

More than 50 priests were on hand to administer Reconciliation. The conference closed with Mass, with Bishop Frederick Campbell as principal celebrant.

The men also heard brief talks by Father Dan Dury, pastor of Columbus St. Catharine Church, on this year's World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia, and by Fred Schafer of Hilliard St. Brendan Church on the That Man Is You! men's spirituality program.

Next year's men's conference will be at the same site on Saturday, Feb. 27. Speakers will include Father Larry Richards of Erie, Pennsylvania, a past Columbus conference speaker known for his writings on masculine spirituality, and Justin Fatica, one of Father Richards' former "bad boy" students in Erie, who is now a lay evangelist.

Precious Blood Sisters' Open House

The Sisters of the Precious Blood will host an open house at Salem Heights, 4960 Salem Ave., Dayton, from 2-4:30 p.m. Sunday, March 8.

Guided tours by sisters will include the chapel, community areas, historical displays, and apartments. After the tours, visitors will enjoy refreshments in the dining room. This is the first general public open house at Salem Heights since 2009.

Dating to 1930, Salem Heights was built by the Sisters of the Precious Blood and operated as the Maria-Joseph Home for the Aged until the late 1970s. It has been the sisters' central house since 1979. A repurposing project completed in 2013 created 51 apartments from about 90 bedrooms in the building's five wings. Areas of the house were also

updated.

The open house celebrates the Year of Consecrated Life and is being held on the Sunday of National Catholic Sisters Week.

Pope Francis has called for the Year of Consecrated Life to run worldwide from Nov. 30, 2014 to Feb. 2, 2016. The purpose of the year is to recognize members of religious communities while giving laity a deeper understanding of religious life. Other objectives include an expression of gratitude to religious and a highlighting of the joy in religious life. Religious communities and dioceses around the world are planning individual events to occur during the year.

There are approximately 50,000 Catholic sisters and 16,500 religious-order priests and brothers in the United States today.

DOMINICAN SISTERS OF PEACE HISTORY

The Dominican Sisters of Peace have been serving the Diocese of Columbus and Somerset Holy Trinity School for 185 years. Sister Mary Joretta Mayer, OP, who lives in the Holy Trinity convent, gave a special presentation on the order's history to students at the school.

The first Dominican sisters arrived in Somerset on Feb.

5, 1830, and the deed for the land on which Holy Trinity School sits was signed 11 days later. The first school was opened as a boarding school in 1831 and was destroyed by fire in 1866. Two years later, many of the Dominican Sisters who had been based in Somerset moved to Columbus, and became known as the Dominicans of St. Mary of the Springs.

In Somerset, rooms for a school were rented in various buildings until 1885, when a new school was finished. In 1900, the Rosary Press bought the building from the sisters, who moved across



the street to the rectory, with the priests moving to the second floor of the school.

In 1904, a three-year high school was added to the program. It became a four-year school in 1927 and continued to 1968, when the last class graduated from Holy Trinity High School and the current Holy Trinity School was completed. The Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs merged with six other Dominican congregations to become the Dominican Sisters of Peace on Easter Sunday 2009.

Photo courtesy Holy Trinity School

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CATHOLIC RADIO**

Third Sunday of Lent (Cycle B)

'Words' or 'commandments,' we must heed them



Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

Exodus 20:1-17
1 Corinthians 1:22-25
John 2:13-25

In the Exodus reading, the Lord spoke "all these words (or statements)." Only the *Lectioary* calls them "commandments," here based on the use of that term in Exodus 34:28 and Deuteronomy 4:13 and 10:4.

The *New Revised Standard* text, the *New American Bible* and the *Jewish Study Bible* all translate the expression here as "these words." The Greek and Latin translations of the Hebrew also translate it literally here as "these words."

The *Jewish Study Bible* observes that "these words are addressed directly to the people. No punishments are stated; obedience is motivated not by fear of punishment but by God's absolute authority and the people's desire to live in accordance with His will."

This makes it more like covenant language than the legalistic instructions which broaden the law with the curses and punishments prescribed for those who violate the instructions.

Jews number the commandments differently than Christians. They count five commandments dealing with our relationship with God and five dealing with our relationship with the neighbor. In the five dealing with God, each item has the phrase "the Lord your God."

In Hebrew, "your God" is a second person singular, so that each individual must observe these commandments. We cannot expect the piety of another to make up for our own lack of it. Each one is called to hear "these words."

Jews list commandments in this way: 1. No other gods beside me, the Lord your God; 2. Do not carve images of the Lord your God (I, the Lord, am

Calling all men to carry the cross

"Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another" Proverbs 27:17

Calling all men, young and older. On Holy Saturday, April 4, from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., the Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church men's ministry will sponsor a unique praying of the Stations of the Cross.

The challenge will be to assist each other in carrying a 10- by six-foot cross made of four-by-four cedar over an eight-mile round-trip course along the bike

a "jealous" (or perhaps to be preferred is "impassioned") God); 3. Do not swear by the name of the Lord (which is "take the name of the Lord your God in vain"); the *New Jerome Biblical Commentary* notes of this verse 7 that it "seems to be against the false use of an oath in legal proceedings rather than a general lack of reverence for the name;" in any case, even the mention of the divine name "Yahweh" is forbidden to Jews; 4. For Jews, the Sabbath Day rest was the fourth commandment.

5. The fifth commandment regarding the honor due the parents is considered an extension of the honor that we owe to God. The *Mishnah* (a Jewish collection of the oral teachings about the Law) says, "Three are partners in man's creation: God, a father, and a mother". This explains why in Jewish tradition, the first five commandments are on the same stone tablet -- because they all involve in some way our relationship with God.

Commandments 6 thru 10 all have to do with our relations with our neighbor and require little commentary. They are the obvious behavior we would expect from civilized people. These latter five commandments (or six for us) are put on the second stone tablet. "You shall not kill" should be understood as murder, not the killing that happens in war.

The Gospel from John places Jesus' encounter with the moneychangers at the beginning of his ministry, rather than as a climax to his ministry in Galilee, as the synoptic Gospels do. The description of the encounter is the most complete of all the Gospels. Matthew, Mark, and Luke devote only two verses each to this story, whereas John has eight verses.

Unique to John are the mention of the whip; the sheep and the oxen; the quote from Psalm 69:9 ("Zeal for your house consumes me"); and the dialogue with the Jews about what he was doing, including the mention of raising this temple in three days (referring to his body). This was the first of three Passovers which Jesus would celebrate in Jerusalem.

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

trails and sidewalks of Reynoldsburg.

The trek will start and finish at John F. Kennedy Park, 7238 E. Main St., by the gazebo (to the right of the police station).

Persons who feel up to this challenge are invited to join in for a morning filled with prayer, hymns, and fellowship.

If you have any questions, contact John Zacovic at (614) 322-9473 or jzacovic@insight.rr.com.

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
2 Kings 5:1-15b
Psalm 42:2-3;43:3-4
Luke 4:24-30

TUESDAY
Daniel 3:25:34-43
Psalm 25:4-5b,6,7bc,8-9
Matthew 18:21-35

WEDNESDAY
Deuteronomy 4:1,5-9
Psalm 147:12-13,15-16,19-20
Matthew 5:17-19

THURSDAY
Jeremiah 7:23-28
Psalm 95:1-2,6-9
Luke 11:14-23

FRIDAY
Hosea 14:2-10
Psalm 81:6c-11b,14,17
Mark 12:28-34

SATURDAY
Hosea 6:1-6
Psalm 51:3-4,18-21b
Luke 18:9-14

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF MARCH 8, 2015

SUNDAY MASS

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

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

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Time Warner Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or WOW Channel 378) (Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).

DAILY MASS

8 a.m., Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Birmingham, Ala. (Encores at noon, 7 p.m. and midnight). See EWTN above; and on I-Lifetv (Channel 113 in Ada, Logan, Millersburg, Murray City and Washington C.H.; Channel 125 in Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown and New Philadelphia; and Channel 207 in Zanesville); 8 p.m., St. Gabriel Radio (820 AM), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.COM.

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

Invite Someone to Church and See What Happens

Sometimes the simple things do wonders for helping one's faith life. Didn't Jesus show us this countless times?

A few years ago, I received a call from Tom Peterson, founder of Catholics Come Home. He had read my book and wanted to tell me about what his group does. You may have seen him on the *Today* show and *Fox and Friends*, among other programs, as he described the Catholics Come Home campaign.

The campaign is invited into a diocese by the bishop or archbishop. From there, it reaches out in a well-organized advertising program, encouraging the faithful to return.

Peterson told me that in Phoenix, 92,000 Catholics came back to the faith and registered in a parish where they became active members. All they needed was a simple invitation.

Peterson said that all too often, we think people leave the faith because of some complex theological reason, when in fact it is something much simpler -- a move, a change in work schedules, and so forth. All too often, the person or family feels embarrassed and doesn't know what to do.

Throughout the nation, including in our own diocese, there are programs to help people return home to the Church. These programs include Catholic men's



THE TIDE IS TURNING
TOWARD CATHOLICISM
David Hartline

and women's conferences, "That Man is You!", and the Alpha program. These programs can't succeed unless we extend an invitation to possible participants. They work best when you know someone, but there is nothing stopping you from being courageous and inviting someone you don't know.

I can't help but think of the conservative writer-commentator Bob Novak. Some years ago, Novak was at a political dinner when people at the table at which he was seated proceeded to engage in small talk. A young woman was chatting with Novak's wife, and the two found they both were practicing Catholics who were quite active in a Washington parish. Novak told the young woman that he was raised in a secular household, where the faith of his Christian/Jewish parents was rarely discussed and not practiced.

The woman told Novak that tomorrow wasn't promised to him. Some people at the table were aghast at

such a public display of faith. However, Novak later said the hairs on the back of his neck stood up. He couldn't sleep that night, and shocked his wife by accompanying her to Mass the following Sunday morning. He scheduled a meeting with the parish priest, and soon entered into the parish RCIA program.

Shortly after his entry into the Church, Novak was involved in a minor traffic accident. The officers felt something wasn't right, and Novak was taken to a local hospital, where he learned that he had a brain tumor and had a short time to live. He and his family were forever grateful to that young woman for summoning up the courage to say what she did.

It was a lesson for us all. Many of us feel compelled, for their benefit or ours, to extend an invitation to a friend or neighbor for an activity we are not sure they will enjoy. Why is it that we won't do it for the most important thing -- our faith and eternal destiny?

What better time than Lent to think of a few people who you feel might need an invitation back to the Church? God could be using us to help that person achieve great things. Even if the person says "No," or comes back and doesn't set the world on fire, you will have done your part, and that's all you can do.

Hartline is the author of "The Catholic Tide Continues to Turn" and a former teacher and administrator for the diocese.

Homeless man of deep faith given funeral, burial in Vatican City

By CAROL GLATZ/Catholic News Service

A homeless man who faithfully attended Mass at a church inside Vatican City for decades was buried in a Vatican cemetery after it was discovered he had died and was left unidentified in a hospital morgue.

Willy Herteleer was well-known by the Swiss Guards keeping watch at St. Anne's Gate, by local business owners, and by a number of clergy who brought him food, took him to lunch, or treated him to his morning cappuccino, according to news reports.

"He attended 7 o'clock Mass every day for more than 25 years," Father Bruno Silvestrini, pastor of the Vatican's Church of St. Anne, told Vatican Radio.

Though Herteleer lived on the streets, with all of his belongings packed in a folding grocery cart, "he was a rich person of great faith," the priest said.

"He was very, very open and had made many friends," Father Silvestrini said. "He spoke a lot with young people, he spoke to them of the Lord, he spoke about the pope, he would invite them to the celebration of the Eucharist," which Herteleer always said was "his medicine."

Msgr. Americo Ciani, a canon at St. Peter's Basilica, was another friend of Herteleer. He told Vatican Radio that the elderly man -- thought to be about 80 -- would lean against a lamppost along the road that led tourists and city residents to and from St. Peter's Square and talk to them about their faith.

Those who looked after Herteleer became worried

when he seemed to have vanished in mid-December, reported the Italian daily *Il Messaggero* on Feb. 25.

It turned out Herteleer had collapsed one cold December night and was brought to a nearby hospital after passers-by saw he needed help and called an ambulance. He died at the hospital on Dec. 12, but his body had remained unidentified and unclaimed at the hospital morgue until friends tracked him down, the newspaper reported.

Msgr. Ciani led the funeral Mass, together with the canons of St. Peter's Basilica, in the chapel of the Vatican's Teutonic cemetery on Jan. 9.

Permission was granted to have Herteleer, who was Flemish and Catholic, buried in the small Germanic cemetery where Swiss, German, and Flemish nobility and church benefactors had been laid to rest. The cemetery was founded 1,200 years ago for German pilgrims who died in Rome.

In his homily, Msgr. Ciani said he thanked God for letting them get to know Herteleer, "a man who appeared to be alone, but who never felt alone because God's grace was present in him."

Msgr. Ciani said giving Herteleer his final resting place in the Vatican cemetery was "in perfect harmony with Pope Francis' incisive messages in which he always talks about the excluded, those who do not count in our society ... but instead are held dear by, not just the pope, but by the Lord Jesus, who always loved and preferred the poorest."

MARIAN EXHIBIT

Past Into Present: Gilded Treasures

The University of Dayton's Marian Library is featuring an exhibit that uses precious gold leaf to explore the rich tradition of art featuring Mary, the mother of Jesus.

"Past into Present: Gilded Treasures," will be on display until Friday, April 24 in the Marian Library Gallery at the Roesch Library. The free exhibit is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and Saturday and Sunday by appointment, by calling (937) 229-4214.

Twenty pieces by Christian artist Sandra Bowden are featured in the exhibit. Using 22-karat gold leaf, Bowden interprets historical religious works as delicate line drawings, illuminated by gilding.

Bowden's gilded drawings celebrate the life of Mary, interpreting artwork ranging from Michelangelo's *Pieta* to Fra Angelico's *Annunciation*, along with a number of crosses.

"Her collection reflects an interpretation of Re-

naissance art, helping one to appreciate the past by bringing it to the future," said Father Johann Roten, SM, director of research and special projects at the Marian Library. "The genetic code of each art piece resurrects it to the present, hence the title, 'Past into Present: Gilded Treasures.'"

Bowden, who is a painter and printmaker, has exhibited her work in more than 100 one-person shows. Her art is in many collections including those of the Vatican Museum of Contemporary Religious Art, the Museum of Biblical Art, and the Haifa Museum.



For more on her, visit <http://www.sandrabowden.com>.

The University of Dayton's Marian Library/International Marian Research Institute is a globally recognized center for the study of Mary, the mother of Jesus, and holds the world's largest collection of printed materials and artifacts devoted to her. It includes more than 100,000 books and pamphlets in more than 50 languages, and a collection of more than 3,000 Nativity sets and Marian art from around the world.

Visit the library at <http://campus.udayton.edu/mary>.



THEATER PRODUCTION

Thoroughly Modern Millie

Step back into the roaring '20s as Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School performs the classic musical *Thoroughly Modern Millie* on Fridays and Saturdays, March 20, 21, 27, and 28 at 7 p.m. in the school's little theater, 4212 Karl Road.

Set in New York City in 1922, Millie Dillmount, played by Meghan Springer, heads on an adventure to the Big Apple to marry for money, not love -- a thoroughly modern aim in 1922, when women were just entering the workforce.

Millie soon begins to take delight in the flapper lifestyle, but runs into trouble when she checks into a hotel owned by Mrs. Meers, portrayed by

Gillian O'Daniel, the leader of a crime ring in China. Chaos ensues when Millie meets Jimmy Smith (Daniel Kelly), Miss Dorothy (Sophie Stiltner), and a host of other moderns in this lighthearted adventure back in time.

Reserved seating is \$10.

Tickets are on sale in the school's performing arts room or in the cafeteria during lunch periods (10:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.).

Pictured: Sophie Stiltner (left) as Miss Dorothy and Meghan Springer as Millie in the Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School production of "Thoroughly Modern Millie." (Photo courtesy DeSales HS)

NEWS IN PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



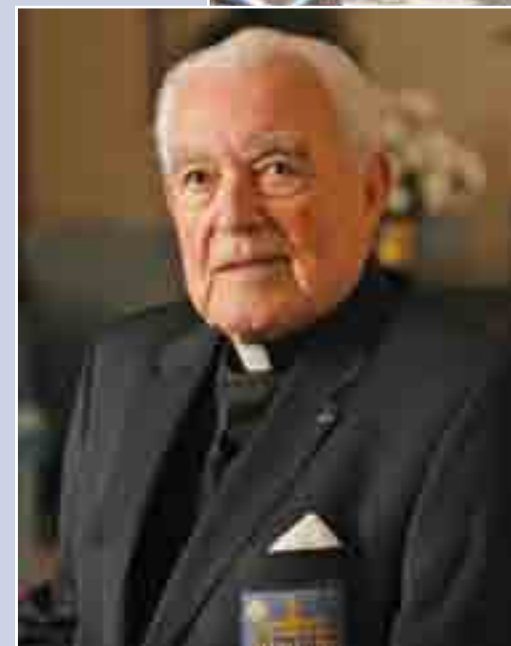
Pope Francis attends a spiritual retreat in Ariccia, Italy, on Feb. 22 with members of the Roman Curia. CNS photo/L'Osservatore Romano via Reuters



Brother Paul O'Donnell, a Franciscan Brother of Peace and a nationally regarded pro-life advocate and speaker, died on Feb. 20 at his community's residence in St. Paul, Minnesota. He was 55. He is pictured in an undated photo. CNS photo/courtesy Franciscan Brothers of Peace



A displaced Syrian girl finds temporary shelter at a school in Damascus, Syria, on Feb. 23. A prominent Syrian Christian political leader has called for U.S.-led coalition forces to use airstrikes to aid fellow Syrian Christian and Kurdish fighters battling Islamic State militants in northwest Syria following reports of flagrant abductions and church burnings. CNS photo/Youssef Badawi, EPA



Holy Cross Father Theodore Hesburgh, former president of the University of Notre Dame, died on Feb. 26 at age 97 in the Holy Cross House adjacent to the university in South Bend, Indiana. He is pictured in a 2006 photo. CNS photo/Matt Cashore, courtesy University of Notre Dame

SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS

Scholarship grants from the Carol A. Flanagan Footsteps Foundation recently were presented to six Franklin County parochial schools during a breakfast at Columbus St. Agatha School. The foundation was created to help parents know there is help when unexpected financial difficulties occur. The foundation was created in 2002 in memory of Flanagan, who was a teacher at Hilliard St. Brendan School for 20 years and principal at Columbus St. Mary Magdalene School for four years. She deeply valued Catholic education and felt it should be accessible to all students. School representatives and foundation board members pictured are (from left): George Mossholder, principal, Columbus St. Timothy School; Laura Miller, principal, Columbus All Saints Academy; Joan Mastell, principal, Columbus St. Agatha School; Karen Kaiser and Matthew Weger, board members; Rocco Fumi, principal, Columbus St. Mary Magdalene School; Sharon Gillivan, assistant principal, Westerville St. Paul School; Rich Flanagan, Lucia McQuaide, and Thomas Reichelderfer, board members; and Ryan Schieweterman, principal, Columbus Our Lady of Peace School.

Photo courtesy St. Agatha School



Diocese of Columbus Director of Information Technology

The Catholic Diocese of Columbus is looking for an IT Director to provide overall responsibility for the diocesan offices' IT development and operations. The position includes overall administrative, organization, and development recommendation-making responsibilities in establishing its future direction.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, management over diocesan computer, networking, information, and web-based systems; on-going maintenance over systems to determine solutions; supervision, training and coordination of the work of technology staff; research and evaluation of existing and potential system needs along with new technology or upgrades and provide strategic recommendations regarding future development of technology; office budget; authorization and implementation of purchases and repairs of computer systems, as well as other costs to maintain compatibility, effectiveness, and cost maintenance; development of policies and procedures regarding technology usage; and provide consultation to other diocesan offices regarding technology needs and training.

The ideal candidate should have a minimum of five to seven years of prior IT management experience. A degree in a related field such as computer science, information technology, or information system management is required. Additional related skills include excellent verbal and written communication skills; ability to listen and assess diverse needs; proven ability to plan technology projects, including resource needs; ability to prioritize issues and make necessary recommendations with the capacity to work collectively or independently; ability to translate technical material into useful information for non-technical personnel; ability to work with and supervise a variety of technical staff; ability to work well with management and staff; extensive knowledge and experience of data collection, maintenance, and presentation of personnel, demographic and statistical data; and a clear understanding of, and appreciation for, the philosophy, mission and objectives of the Catholic Church and the Diocese of Columbus.

Passing a background screening and completion of the VIRTUS "Protecting God's Children" course are mandatory. Salary is commensurate with education and experience. All benefits are according to Diocesan policy.

Send cover letter, resume, and references by Friday, March 13, 2015 to

Dominic Prunte, Director of Human Resources at
dprunte@colsdio.org

St. Vincent de Paul Society to hold orientation in Mount Vernon

The Knox County conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, located at Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul Church, will host an orientation seminar for new and continuing members of the society in the cafeteria of St. Vincent de Paul School, 206 Chestnut St., from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 21.

The orientation seminar will be conducted by members of the society's diocesan formation team, led by Maureen Meck.

Other team members participating will be Chuck Meck, Kevin Murphy, and Warren Wright.

The morning session will include an examination of the history, organization, rules, and operation of the society.

The afternoon session will focus on training new members on the nature of poverty and on proper procedures for conducting home visits.

The home visit is the central technique used by the society of St. Vincent de Paul for the distribution of funds to the needy.

The funds are allocated to qualified families and individuals on the basis of need after home visits by chapter members, known officially as Vincenians, and approval by a chapter committee assigned to determine how the funds will be spent.

The orientation session is open to all members and prospective members

of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul within the Diocese of Columbus.

Anyone with an interest in the society is also welcome to attend.

An attendance fee of \$20 is required to cover a continental breakfast and lunch and for materials provided by the diocesan office.

Although the registration fee can be paid at the door, registration is required by noon, Tuesday, March 17.

Registration is available by calling Pat Summers at the Society of St. Vincent de Paul diocesan office, (614) 221-3554.

Course materials provided at the session include copies the Ozanam Rule, a manual, an orientation workbook, and a certificate of attendance.

The mission of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, a Catholic lay organization, is to lead women and men to join together to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to the needy and suffering in the tradition of its founder, Venerable Frederick Ozanam, and its patron, St. Vincent de Paul.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul chapter in Mount Vernon is part of the Diocese of Columbus council of the society, which is in turn a part of the national council, based in St. Louis. The national council is affiliated with the international council in Paris.