



DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

CATHOLIC TIMES

A journal of Catholic life in Ohio



MARCH 1, 2015
THE SECOND WEEK OF LENT
VOLUME 64:21
WWW.CTONLINE.ORG



RITE OF ELECTION

The Editor's Notebook

Repent and be converted

By David Garick, Editor



Lent is a very exciting time for me. It may seem odd to describe a season of prayer, fasting, and penitence as "exciting." But it really is. That's because we see real evidence of the evangelization of the Gospel of Christ. Last Sunday, hundreds of converts were sent forth from parishes across the diocese to begin the final process of entering the Catholic Church. On Page 3 of this week's Catholic Times, you will read of the welcome message of encouragement given by Bishop Campbell to these men and women. Some will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. Others, already baptized in other Christian traditions, will affirm the Catholic faith. All will receive Christ and come into communion with the Church and with every one of us. That's exciting.

I'm a convert myself. I remember well the excitement I felt some 20 years ago when my wife and I were received into the Church. As Protestants, we knew Christ. But with our conversion, Christ became much more deeply fixed in our lives. The world took on a different meaning because we could better understand God's love for us and his plan for our lives. We became connected to something much larger than ourselves.

The whole idea of repentance and conversion is very countercultural. The world tells us to build lives for ourselves. We are told to look inside and do what is best for us, what makes us happy. The world urges us to decide for ourselves what is right and to demand that society allow us to do our own thing. In the world's view, each of us is our own god. But none of this brings happiness. This self-serving, rationalist, secularist theology only leads to lonely, unfulfilled, frustrated people constantly trying to acquire more things, test different lifestyles, and force other people to accept them on their own terms.

It is not just the unchurched or members of other denominations who face this misdirection. All of us inside the Church also are faced with the same pressures to shift our focus away from God and toward ourselves. It is the same temptation that led to sin in the Garden of Eden. We all want to taste of the forbidden fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, to have the power of God. And, like Adam and Eve, we all fall into sin.

Christ came to provide us with a way to remove that sin and to return to the days of Eden in communion with God. He died on the cross and rose again to lead us back to heaven. He gave us the Church to help us on that journey. In the Book of Acts, we hear the first pope of our Church, St. Peter, say to the people of Jerusalem, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is made to you and to your children and to all those far off, whomever the Lord our God will call. Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about 3,000 people were added that day.

Today, right here in the Diocese of Columbus, in the midst of another corrupt generation, hundreds of others are accepting that message and coming into the Church. Many more, within the Church, are using the healing power of prayer, fasting, and penitence this Lent to continue our own conversion. That's because conversion is not the end of the journey, but only the comfort of knowing that we are on the right road and that Christ is by our side, leading us home.



2015 Diocesan Respect Life Conference



Keynote Speaker: The Most Reverend Frederick F. Campbell Bishop of Columbus

Each of Us is a Masterpiece of God's Creation is this year's theme of the U.S. Catholic Bishops' Respect Life Program. Join us as Bishop Campbell talks about his perspectives on the Church's teaching and work to build a culture of life.

Featured Speakers: Fr. Bob Penhallurick, Pastor, St. Brendan Church, Hilliard Ethical Decisions for End of Life Issues

Beth Vanderkooi, Executive Director, Columbus Right to Life How the Parish Can be More Engaged in Prolife Work

J. Russell Crabtree, Author and President of Holy Cow! Consulting Developing a Pastoral Response to Suicide Prevention

Learn more about diocesan efforts to promote the dignity of human life through prayer, education, pastoral outreach, and advocacy.

Location: Immaculate Conception Church 414 E. North Broadway, Columbus, Ohio

Date & Time: Saturday, March 7, 2015 - Mass 9 a.m. | Conference 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Registration: Registration fee is \$20 which includes lunch. Checks can be made payable to the Office for Social Concerns. Please inform the office of any special needs accommodations. Registrations are due by March 3.



Office for Social Concerns Catholic Diocese of Columbus 197 East Gay Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215 614-241-2540 | socmailbox@coldioc.org http://socialconcerns.coldioc.org

Corrections:

The schedules for Eucharistic adoration at Columbus Holy Cross and Plain City St. Joseph churches listed in the Feb. 22 Catholic Times were incorrect.

At Holy Cross, the Eucharistic vigil which had begun after 7:30 p.m. Mass on the first Friday of each month and continued until 7:30 a.m. Saturday now ends with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 11:30 p.m. Friday.

At Plain City, the new times for adoration are 6 to 11 a.m. and 6 to 11 p.m. Monday through Friday, with the exception of Mondays and Fridays, when Mass is celebrated from 8 to approximately 8:30.

A story in the Feb. 15 Catholic Times incorrectly listed Father Ty Tomson as pastor of Dover St. Joseph Church. Father Tomson is parochial vicar of New Philadelphia St. Joseph Church and ministers to the Spanish-speaking community at Dover St. Joseph, where Father Jimmy Hatfield is pastor.



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Bishop Frederick F. Campbell, D.D., Ph.D. ~ President & Publisher David Garick ~ Editor (dgarick@coldioc.org) Tim Puet ~ Reporter (tpuet@coldioc.org) Alexandra Keves ~ Graphic Design Manager (akeves@coldioc.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@coldioc.org)

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



Front Page photo: Catechumen Jarrod Doss enrolls his name in the Book of the Elect during the diocesan Rite of Election on Sunday, Feb. 22 at Westerville St. Paul Church.

CT photo by Ken Snow



RITE OF ELECTION

By TIM PUET, Catholic Times Reporter

Bishop Frederick Campbell told more than 500 people who anticipate becoming Catholics that their desire to join the church stems from two basic human needs – hunger and love.

"The hunger I'm referring to is not a physical craving or thirst, but a deeper hunger, related to our desire to know who we are, why we are here, where we are going," Bishop Campbell said on Sunday, Feb. 21 at the annual diocesan Rite of Election ceremony in Westerville St. Paul Church.

"Every one of us has a hunger for meaning – to know and to be loved. Often that desire is filled with things that don't satisfy. We continue to ask 'Where is it? Where is that truth, that message

that allows us to fill that hunger?' "The love of God reaches down to meet our desire, which is fundamentally for him," the bishop continued. "God reaches down to meet us and call us forward. This reality is a reality we find intensified at this time of year. During Lent, we are called to change direction in our lives, to understand the fundamental aspects of existence, including some of the darkness."

The Rite of Election ceremony is part of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, the process by which adults who wish to become Catholics receive instruction in the church's teaching for several months, leading to their entering into full communion with the church at the Easter Vigil.

Rite of Election ceremonies, at which those people publicly declare their intention to join the church, take place each year on the First Sunday of Lent. For the past several years in the Diocese of Columbus, there have been two identical services at the same site to allow adequate room for the number of people taking part.

This year, a total of 543 people – 231 catechumens and 312 candidates, along with their chosen godparents or sponsors – participated in the rite. Catechumens

are people who never have been baptized. Candidates are those who have been baptized in another Christian denomination.

Catechumens indicated their desire to join the church by signing the Book of the Elect, giving them the title "members of the elect." Candidates participated in the Call to Continuing Conversion that was part of the ceremony and signed the book.

Bishop Campbell told the catechumens and candidates that their deciding to become Catholics was an answer to a stirring they have felt inside themselves. "You have come to a point where we ask you to make a pledge to continue this final stage of preparation to enter the Body of Christ," he said. "This is truth. This is life. This is the future.

"You are called to a different way of life, to a change prompted by the grace of God that will grant you authentic happiness and comfort and profound joy."

Celebration of the Rite of Election has two parts: a sending and a receiving. First, catechumens are sent by the parish. This is a public pronouncement that they are ready to enter a covenant relationship through participation in the sacramental life of the Church. This pronouncement is done through their presentation to the bishop. We are sent every Sunday to love

and serve the Lord. This is the first of many sendings they will receive throughout their faith journey.

Those who are sent can then be received. The bishop of a diocese attends the Rite of Election, accepts the parish community's judgment, receives the catechumens, and invites them to enter their names in the Book of the Elect. The announcement of the church's decision to call catechumens to the Sacraments of Initiation falls to him.

Those who already have been baptized are asked to present a record of their baptism to the bishop. Through their presentation of their prior experience of the first of the Sacraments of Initiation, they publicly embrace the Catholic Church and demonstrate their commitment to a process of growth in faith and solidarity with the Catholic community.

In addition to those taking part in the Rite of Election services, there are baptized Catholics in the diocese who are taking part in RCIA classes this year because they have not received the sacraments of Confirmation and the Holy Eucharist. They will take part in a service at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral at which they will receive those sacraments from Bishop Campbell.



Catholic Consumerism: Human Trafficking By Stephanie Rapp Catholic Relief Services Fair Trade Ambassador

Last week, we discussed how buying Fair Trade products is a tool we can use every day to help fight human trafficking.

Another way in which purchasing Fair Trade products helps fight human trafficking is by empowering individuals to work for themselves and sell their products at fair prices! Fair Trade practices provide farmers and artisans certain rights and opportunities to enable them to provide for themselves and their family, ultimately making them a less vulnerable population. Families are paid a fair wage, and, in turn, are able to provide basic needs for their families and educate their children.

They also utilize the "social premium" fund included in Fair Trade prices to invest in and improve their community. The fund leads to the building of schools and medical centers in communities that typically would go without such facilities. Therefore, not just individual farmers, but whole communities are benefiting from your purchase of Fair Trade products! The people of these communities are now less likely to be impoverished and less likely to become victims of exploitation and trafficking. All that because you chose to buy Fair Trade products!

PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

Tents

How tame are those wild beasts after a week of discipline and prayer? It is not easy, but like anything else that is so very desirable, it is worth the fight. Overcoming those things that plague us and keep us from holiness is a lifelong challenge. Some things are more difficult than others, and some just will not go away. We can continue to face the challenge with prayer and reconciliation, and we can also look for help if we need it. Those beasts surround us, they come and go in intensity, but they are always lurking. Thank God we have Lent each year. The reminders, the scripture, the liturgies, and the prayer, fasting, and almsgiving help to push us along the path to holiness and eternal life. God's grace is abundant, but our wills are weak. Ask those angels who ministered to Jesus to help with the right mindset and a strengthened will. The help is free and immediate.

In our Gospel this Sunday, Mark provides his account of the Transfiguration. Jesus takes Peter, James, and John with Him up a high mountain, presumably to pray. As He is transfigured along with Elijah and Moses, the three disciples seem to be blinded by the dazzling white of their clothes. In the moment that was so incredibly mesmerizing, Peter speaks up, as usual, offering to make three tents, one for Jesus, one for Moses, and one for Elijah. I'm not sure where the disciples would have stayed. But fortunately, the tents were not even an option, and God spoke of His love for His Son, and instructs us all to simply listen to Him. No tents needed, and no walls erected around the boundless love of Jesus Christ. This is a great lesson for all of us. We must visibly and actively live the Gospel and the love of Jesus Christ. Protecting ourselves from the evil of the world and seeking shelter to simply savor what is good, right, and comfortable is not nearly enough. Jesus went out in the midst of all the people each day, without fear of those who were against Him. We are challenged to do the same. Part of our good Lenten practice is to go to our room and pray to God in private. These are the times for those deserted places. As privately and humbly as possible, we pray, fast, and give alms throughout Lent. But on the positive side, we must also live the Gospel each day, and our goal is to shine brightly as the love of Christ, just like the Paschal candle at the Easter Vigil, welcoming our new members into the Body of Christ. If we need any courage, our second reading this week from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans gives us a wonderful statement: "If God is for us, who can be against us?" I am reminded that this is also the motto of the Pontifical College Josephinum, where so many future priests are in formation as seminarians. In Latin: "Si Deus pro nobis, quis contra nos?" The courage shown by these men is an inspiration for us all.

Our practical challenge this week is to be crafty. Find some small pieces of cardboard and fold three pieces in half. Prop them up to look like three tents. Place them somewhere visible, so you will see them each day throughout Lent. In addition to Jesus, Moses, and Elijah, they can remind us of the importance of humble prayer, fasting, and giving alms. But remember, we should also imagine a flashlight or Coleman lantern in each tent. That light needs to shine brightly and to be shared. We cannot hide the love of Jesus Christ, especially during Lent. And for inspiration and motivation, remember that motto.

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



SPELLING BEE PARTICIPANTS

Students from 12 parochial schools in Franklin County are among 52 students who have qualified for participation in the regional spelling bee at Ohio University in Athens on Saturday, March 14.

The winner of the regional bee, which will include students from Franklin, Delaware, Licking, Madison, and Pickaway counties, will advance to the Scripps National Spelling Bee, which will take place from Sunday, May 24 to Friday, May 29 in National Harbor, Maryland.

Participants in the regional bee obtained a score of at least 32 on an online test. Participants from diocesan schools will include Ellen Vasilkov, Columbus Our Lady of Peace; Sarah Druhan, Columbus St. Agatha; Alex Leonard,

Columbus St. Andrew; Nathan Lancia, Columbus St. Cecilia; Jamie Macaulley, Columbus St. Matthias; Thomas Jeffrey, Columbus St. Timothy; Alex Goodlive, Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare; Reagan Friend, Gahanna St. Matthew; Warren D'Souza, Hilliard St. Brendan; Piper Ogden, Reynoldsburg St. Pius X; William Blubaugh, Westerville St. Paul; and Natalie Allton, Worthington St. Michael.

The Scripps National Spelling Bee is the nation's largest and longest-running educational program. Its purpose is to help students improve spelling, increase their vocabularies, learn concepts, and develop correct English usage. The Bee is administered on a not-for-profit basis by the Cincinnati-based E.W. Scripps Co.

Silent Retreat for Women

The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women is sponsoring a silent retreat for women from 5:30 p.m. Friday, April 24 to noon Sunday, April 26 at St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus.

The retreat will have a theme of "Marian Receptivity to God" and will be directed by Father Walter Oxley, STD, vice rector for formation and associate professor at the Pontifical College Josephinum's school of theology.

The offering for the retreat is \$100 and

is nonrefundable. A minimum deposit of \$50 is required. Preregistration is required, and the registration deadline is Tuesday, March 10.

For more information, go to the diocesan website, www.colsdioc.org, and click on the links to "Offices" and "Diocesan Council of Catholic Women."

More information is available at www.mmccormick.colsdioc.org, by calling (614) 228-8601, or by emailing kboesch@stmarychillicothe.com.

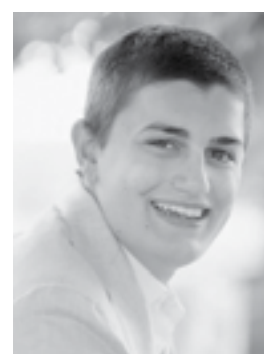
Bishop Ready Placement Exams

The placement examination for incoming freshmen at Columbus Bishop Ready High School will be given at the school, 707 Salisbury Road, from 8:45 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 7. The scholarship exam will be given on Saturdays, March 14 and 21, from 9 to 11

a.m. Incoming freshmen may take the scholarship exam on either date. Returning Ready students may take the scholarship exam on March 21 only. For more information, call the school at (614) 276-5263.

PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR CANDIDATE

Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School senior Jack Chatas is one of about 3,900 students nationwide who has been selected as a candidate for the United States Presidential Scholars Program. He is the only candidate from a Columbus diocesan high school and is one of 98 candidates from Ohio, 21 of whom



live in the area covered by the Diocese of Columbus. The Presidential Scholars program does not provide scholarships, but is a recognition program. As many as 141 students are chosen for the honor each year. Presidential Scholars receive an expense-paid trip to Washington in June and are awarded a medallion at a ceremony sponsored by the White House. During their visit to Washington, they also have access to important national and international figures, including government officials, educators, authors, musicians, and scientists.

Presidential Scholar candidates do not apply for the honor themselves, but are invited to do so based on their scores on the SAT or ACT college preparatory examinations, their nomination by a chief state school officer, the year of their high-school graduation, and their citizenship status. Most are selected on the basis of academic achievement, with approximately 20 chosen for the talent they have demonstrated in the visual

arts, the performing arts, or creative writing.

Among the materials a student must submit to apply for the program is a secondary-school report that must be completed by a school official. Candidates were notified of the honor in January and had until Feb. 26 to submit completed applications. About 560 applicants will be chosen as semifinalists for the program in mid-April, and the names of the honorees – a maximum of 121 Academic Scholars and 20 Arts Scholars – will be announced in May.

The Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964 by President Lyndon Johnson to honor distinguished graduating high-school seniors. It was expanded in 1979 to recognize students' performance in the arts. More than 6,000 students have been selected as Presidential Scholars.

Chatas, also a National Merit Scholarship semifinalist, is not certain of his college plans, but hopes to study economics and political science. He is co-captain in charge of logistics for the St. Charles robotics team and a member of the school's cross country team. He also is a volunteer at The Ohio State University James Cancer Hospital, serves as a tutor for freshmen at the school, and has done summer internships at the hospital's cancer laboratory and OSU's Center for Automotive Research.



CHRISTIAN MOTHERS OFFICERS INSTALLED

The Columbus Holy Family Church chapter of the Confraternity of Christian Mothers and Ladies Guild installed its officers for 2015 following a recent Sunday Mass.

Pictured are (from left): first row, Anita VanOrder, president; Louise Popich, vice president; Elaine Browning, treasurer; and Joanne Cormack, secretary; second row, Mary Thompson, immediate past president; and Father Stash Dailey, pastor of Holy Family, chapter director. Maura Renouf, immediate past vice president, was not available. The officers will serve for two years.

The organization is open to all women of the diocese and has existed at Holy Family since 1877, 27 years after its founding in Pittsburgh, where it is based. The new officers ask the prayers of all people in the diocese to the organization's patron, Our Lady of Sorrows, for a deeper spirituality and for support of Father Dailey's efforts.

Thompson and Renouf will continue to serve as custodians of the organization's home visitation program for its consecrated statue of Our Lady of Fatima. This statue is available for two-week visits to any home in the diocese.

The confraternity obtained the statue in 2012 and desires that more people understand Our Lady of Fatima's peace plan, which consists of praying the rosary daily, especially in family groups; daily sacrifice for the conversion of sinners; attending Mass on five consecutive first Saturdays; wearing the brown scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel; making visits to the Blessed Sacrament; and making an act of consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Anyone wishing to host the statue may contact Thompson at (614) 221-1890.

Photo courtesy Holy Family Christian Mothers

ST. CHARLES PREPARATORY SCHOOL PRESENTS...

FEBRUARY 26, 27, & 28 8PM

MARCH 1, 3PM

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an urban legend
BY LAURA SCHELLHART

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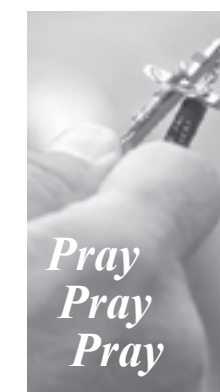
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Real presence in the Eucharist; Naked infant in creche



QUESTION & ANSWER
by: **FATHER KENNETH DOYLE**
Catholic News Service

Recent polls indicate that 70 percent of Catholics in the United States (and 66 percent in Ireland) do not believe in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, but rather a symbolic presence.

I happen to be one of them. I am Jesuit-educated, and I have written to my pastor with my question, but have been greeted with stone silence. If these polls are even halfway true, why is this elephant in the room never addressed or even mentioned in church? Are we all condemned to hell for this belief? (Duxbury, Massachusetts)

The beliefs of a Catholic Church are not determined by plebiscite. That is to say, what is fundamental in determining the core content of the Catholic faith is not how people feel, but what Jesus said. And for that, we go to the sixth chapter of John's Gospel.

Jesus has just multiplied the loaves and the fish to feed 5,000 people, and the crowds are in awe. The very next day, Jesus says something that turns out to be very controversial (John 6:35, 51): "I am the bread of life ... the living bread that came down from heaven ... and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." People are shocked and

ask "How can this man give us (his) flesh to eat?" (John 6:52).

Even his followers are horrified. Christ has every opportunity to pull back and explain. "Wait," he might have said, "I was only speaking figuratively."

Instead, he presses the point, watching as people start to drift away: "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him" (John 6:54-56).

Later, at the Last Supper, Jesus reaffirms this teaching in language that is virtually identical.

Polling data varies widely regarding this teaching. The *National Catholic Reporter*, for example, found in a 2011 survey that 63 percent of adult Catholics believe that "at the consecration during a Catholic Mass, the bread and wine really become the body and blood of Jesus Christ."

But as I said at the start, polling data is largely irrelevant, except to this extent (as your question suggests): If a fair number of Catholics do not subscribe to a long-held and central article of faith, the church should doubtless do more to proclaim and explain

that teaching.

My mom told me that asking dumb questions is what makes women smarter, so here it is. I live in a non-Catholic area, and every Christmas I am asked this question: Why is the baby Jesus always portrayed without any clothing at all? Is it to show us the importance of his poverty? (I doubt it, for his mother Mary and St. Joseph are covered from head to foot.) (Houma, Louisiana)

What the Gospel says in Luke 2:7 is that Mary "wrapped (Jesus) in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger." That is how the Christ child is shown in early Christian art, and it is quite likely accurate.

Jewish newborns at the time were swaddled in long strips of cloth to give them the sense of security they had experienced in the womb. Then, in the 14th century, St. Bridget of Sweden experienced a vision of the Nativity in which she saw the glorious infant Jesus lying naked on the earth, with light streaming from his body.

Following that, medieval and Renaissance art began to show the Nativity with the baby wearing little or no clothes. Today, modern paintings usually depict the infant either in swaddling clothes or almost naked, wrapped in a loincloth.

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

RIGHT TO LIFE ESSAY WINNERS

Monte Amnah, grand knight of Knights of Columbus Council 2299, presented certificates and awards to Logan St. John School students whose essays were

judged the best in a Right to Life essay contest sponsored by the council for Respect Life Month. Students pictured are (from left): Jake Mansfield, third place; Emily Blevins, second place; and Owen Angle, first place. Photo courtesy St. John School



Dominican Sisters of Peace Open House

The Dominican Sisters of Peace will host an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 8, at their Motherhouse, 2320 Airport Drive, Columbus, adjacent to Ohio Dominican University.

The Dominican Sisters of Peace have been part of the Diocese of Columbus since 1830 and of the city of Columbus since 1868. Today, they serve in the diocese and in 26 states, and have missionaries in Honduras, Peru, and Nigeria.

If you have wondered what the life of a sister was like, the open house is your chance to find out. The event will include tours of the Motherhouse, its chapel, and a typical sister's room, plus ministry exhibits, videos, prayer time, food, refreshments, and door prizes.

Anyone interested in attending is asked to RSVP to (614) 252-2137. Parking for the event will be available in Lot B at the site. For more information about the sisters, visit www.oppeace.org

Live-In Weekend at Josephinum

The Pontifical College Josephinum will host a live-in weekend from Thursday to Sunday, March 12 to 14, for high-school juniors and seniors who have an interest in exploring a vocation to the priesthood.

Men discerning a vocation often find encouragement and motivation by visiting a seminary campus. Twice during the academic year, the Josephinum hosts a live-in weekend for high school juniors and seniors and college students who are interested in learning more about the seminary.

Outreach event helps seniors who need help

Service Saturday, a twice-yearly event sponsored by Catholic Social Services, will take place on Saturday, May 16.

This is one of the key community outreach events conducted by CSS each year. Through this effort, volunteers help low-income Franklin County residents aged 60 and older remain independent by providing

them home maintenance assistance such as yard work, painting, cleaning, and minor home repairs.

If you know of such a low-income senior, contact Peggy Sirbaugh at (614) 857-1251 or psirbaugh@colscs.org by Monday, March 2. Please don't delay, because the number of seniors who can be served by this program is limited.



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MAKING SENSE
Out of Bioethics
Father Tad Pacholczyk

Bariatric surgery, which often involves banding of the stomach, is a widely used procedure for treating severe obesity. Another approach that relies on an implantable "stomach pacemaker" also appears poised to assist those struggling with significant weight gain.

Many people have already benefitted from these kinds of surgical interventions, enabling them to shed a great deal of weight, improve their health, and get a new lease on life.

At the same time, however, it's important for us to examine such interventions from an ethical point of view. It's not simply a matter of weight loss achieved by any means whatsoever, but a rational decision made after carefully weighing the risks, benefits, and alternatives.

Bjorn Hofmann, a medical ethicist who writes about the ethical issues surrounding obesity-correction techniques, notes, "Bariatric surgery is particularly interesting because it uses surgical methods to modify healthy organs, is not curative, but offers symptom relief for a condition that is considered to result from lack of self-control and is subject to significant prejudice."

The healthy organ that is modified is the stomach, which may be either banded or surgically modified with staples to create a small stomach pouch. This causes food to be retained in the small pouch for a longer period of time, creating a feeling of fullness, with the effect of reducing how much a person ingests at a single meal.

Like any surgical technique, bariatric surgery has risks associated with it. Mortality from the surgery itself is less than one percent, but postsurgical leakage into the abdomen or malfunction of the outlet from the stomach pouch can require further surgeries. Nearly 20 percent of patients experience chronic gastrointestinal symptoms. Wound infections, clot formation, vitamin deficiencies, cardiorespiratory failure, and other complications such as gallstones and osteoporosis can also occasionally arise.

A new device, sometimes described as a "pacemaker for the stomach," was recently approved by regulators at the Food and Drug Administration. This rechargeable and implantable device blocks electrical nerve signals between the stomach and the brain and helps diminish the feeling of being hungry. The cost for the small machine, along with its surgical implantation, is expected to run between \$30,000 and \$40,000, making it competitive with various forms of bariatric surgery.

Because the stomach pacemaker does not modify the stomach or the intestines as organs, but instead reduces appetite by blocking electrical signals in the abdominal vagus nerve, some of the surgery-related complications associated with modifying or stapling the stomach are eliminated. Other surgical complications related to the insertion of the device into the abdomen have sometimes

been observed, however, as well as adverse events associated with its use, such as pain, nausea, and vomiting.

Bariatric surgery, it should be noted, is not universally successful in terms of the underlying goal of losing weight, and some patients ultimately regain the weight they lose, either through enlargement of the stomach pouch, a return to compulsive eating patterns, or both. Results have been similarly mixed for patients receiving the stomach pacemaker: some lose and keep off significant amounts of weight, others show only negligible improvements when they are unable to adhere to the needed lifelong changes in eating habits.

Some ethical questions that need to be considered with regard to surgically based approaches are: Should an expensive, invasive, and potentially risky surgery be routinely used for an anomaly that might be addressed by modifications in diet and eating habits? What criteria should be met before such surgery is seriously considered?

It is also of ethical importance that physicians and surgeons not be unduly influenced by device manufacturers to utilize their various stomach banding apparatuses or their pacemaker devices.

In 1991, the National Institutes of Health developed a consensus statement on "Gastrointestinal Surgery for Severe Obesity" that offers guidance for clinical decision-making. The statement notes that, beyond having a serious weight problem, patients seeking therapy for the first time for their obesity should "generally be encouraged to try nonsurgical treatment approaches including dietary counseling, exercise, behavior modification and support."

These broad guidelines are intended to spark discussion on the part of patients and their medical team: How much support has an individual really received before looking into weight reduction surgery or stomach pacemaker insertion? Some patients may have tried diligently for years to lose weight, while others may have made only cursory, poorly supported efforts. The need for support is also likely to continue following bariatric surgery or after the implantation of a stomach pacemaker.

In sum, there are notable differences between such surgical interventions and traditional weight loss techniques involving exercise and diet. With the surgical techniques, due diligence will be required before and after such interventions, particularly in light of the ongoing discussions about the cost-effectiveness, safety, risks, and outcomes of interventional surgery for the overweight patient.

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AWARDS

Nearly 600 people attended the 17th Annual Clergy Appreciation Night dinner sponsored by the Greater Columbus Chapter of the Knights of Columbus at the Villa Milano restaurant in Columbus.

All Columbus diocesan clergy, consecrated religious, and seminarians were guests of the chapter.

During the dinner, students from nine diocesan high schools were presented with this year's \$1,000 Knights of Columbus Scholarship Program awards. The scholarships are provided for Catholic high school tuition assistance. Statewide, the Knights presented 42 of the scholarships to outstanding Ohio Catholic high school students. Since the program's inception, more than \$580,000 in scholarship aid has been given to Ohio Catholic high school students.

Scholarship recipients are (from left): first row, Brenna Kilbarger, Columbus Bishop Hartley; Kathleen Colvin, Columbus Bishop Ready; Catherine Nguyen, New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic; Allison McCrady, Lancaster Fisher Catholic; and Claire Voegele, Columbus Bishop Waterson; second row, Dennis Shonebarger, Knights scholarship chairman; Mary Safowah, Columbus St. Francis DeSales; Kenton Colvin, Columbus St. Charles; Father William Kraynak, state K of C chaplain; Travis Kunkler, Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans; and Derek Bielecki, Newark Catholic.



“The Nonviolent Jesus: His Way of Nonviolent Love”

St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic and Holy Resurrection Melkite Catholic churches of Columbus are hosting a conference titled “The Nonviolent Jesus: His Way of Nonviolent Love” on Friday and Saturday, April 17 and 18, at St. John Chrysostom, 5858 Cleveland Ave.

The conference will explore the teachings of Jesus and how we can live them in our daily lives. These are the original traditions of the Church and are known by most through the stories of the early saints, the lives of the apostles, and the Gospels.

The presenter will be Father Emmanuel Charles McCarthy, a priest of the Byzantine-Melkite Rite of the Catholic Church. Formerly a lawyer and university educator, he is the founder and original director of The Program for the Study and Practice of Nonviolent Conflict Resolution at the University of Notre Dame.

He is also a co-founder, along with

Dorothy Day and others, of Pax Christi USA. He was the keynote speaker at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee, for the 25th anniversary memorial of the assassination of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

He has spoken throughout the world on the relationship of faith and violence, and has written three books and many articles on the subject of violence and religion. His life's work on behalf of peace within people and among people has been acclaimed internationally.

The conference will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. April 17 and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. April 18. Father McCarthy also will be the main celebrant at a Mass in the church at 9:30 p.m. Sunday, April 19.

People of all faiths are invited to the event. There is no cost for attending, but free-will donations are welcome. For more information, contact Sam Dean at (614) 286-0921 or samuel-dean9@yahoo.com.

www.colstdioc.org

100th Day Celebration at St. Anthony

Columbus St. Anthony School kindergarten and first-grade students celebrated their 100th day of the academic year in February. The students made 100-day crowns, fruit loop necklaces, and mosaic pictures, counted 100 gumballs in a gumball machine, made books with 100 words, and had their picture taken in an aging booth, allowing them to see themselves as they may look when they are 100 years old. Pictured with the items they made are (from left) Ben Rose, Elizabeth Oduro, Jacob Boyd, and Chana Jerome.



Photo courtesy St. Anthony School

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



Praying through Gritted Teeth

It was one of those days. I had two already that week, Lent was looming large in front of me, and my head was throbbing.

Physically, I was exhausted. Mentally, I was wiped out. Spiritually, I was dry and nearly despairing.

What was most frustrating to me was that there was no good reason for any of this. Oh, sure, there were the usual set of worries and limitations, the same old stresses that every work-from-home wife and mom faces. But I couldn't help but feel like I was failing. Like I was falling short. Like I was not worth the effort.

“God, why me? Don't you have better people to entrust this Big Important Project to? Can't Katrina do it more efficiently, Katelyn do it more effectively, Katherine do it just plain better? Why in the WORLD did you settle for me?”

Looking back, I still feel that sense of shame as things started to collapse around me, that sense of needing a lifeline, that sense of growing anger and frustration. The project I was facing was one that I knew was going to make a difference for a lot of people -- one that would bless both those who received it and those



who were involved with it.

And yet, I couldn't get over the fact that it was Just. Too. Much.

There are all too many instances of my prayer coming out through gritted teeth. My approach to God's plan in my life and to the little cross he asks me to bear each day is to rebel, to question, to argue. Rather than embracing it, I duck from it.

I grit my teeth and let the anger and frustration wash over the certainty that God knows what's best, clouding the truth with my own whims and desires. I rail and complain, hide and run away. Maybe I'll keep plodding forward, but my inner attitude is the kind of thing I would not stand from my own children.

And then, when things work out, I'm shocked.

My spiritual director has reminded me, many times, that God can take it when I'm angry and frustrated. He has all but told me to “let him have it,” citing the Psalms as perfect examples of just how to do it.

I've found, over the years, that however—and whenever—I turn to God, whether through gritted teeth or with a joyful heart, he is there. Just as I am there for my own children, whether they are being little beacons of good behavior or examples of what not to do, whether they are stomping around or dancing through the house.

No matter how small the hurdle I face (and they are embarrassingly small, I'm afraid), God is just waiting for me to ask. His help may not be what I have in mind, just as his will may not be what I have planned. In the end, though, despite my gritted teeth and bad attitude, it always leads me closer to that divine goal of sainthood and life with him.

Reinhard writes online at SnoringScholar.com and is the author of Catholic Family Fun: A Guide for the Adventurous, Overwhelmed, Creative, or Clueless.

BRANDON SHULL National Merit Scholarship Finalist

Brandon Shull, a senior at Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School, has been selected as a finalist in the 2015 National Merit Scholarship Program.

He is one of 15,000 finalists across the United States and will be considered for one of 8,000 National Merit Scholarships in the spring.

To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, students must fulfill several requirements to advance to the finalist level of competition.

Academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment, and honors and awards received are all considered on the Merit Scholarship award application.

Shull plays the violin, mandolin, and piano and is a member of the Newark-Granville Youth Symphony Orchestra.



He is a member of the First United Methodist Church music program in Lancaster, is in his school's National Honor Society, is a member of the Fisher cross country team, and is captain of the nationally recognized Fisher Catholic quiz team.

Photo courtesy Fisher Catholic HS

LIGHT SOUNDS

By Stephen G. Straw

Today over two thousand years ago
 We still see Jesus bleeding on the cross,
 Pinned tight by spikes. For some, it is a show
 Of failure, madness, folly, pointless loss.
 Soon He falls silent, slack; turns livid, dim;
 Hangs sapless on the tree and yields to night:
 Death's trophy, visage sightless, sickly, grim.
 Out goes this speaking sun, our brave new light.
 Lightning then strikes, creation comes unmoored,
 High heaven heeds His stark, dejected cry.
 Morning blares out the final victory scored
 Over both tomb and gloom: Dawn did not die!
 Light sounds rejoicing, booms, then, now, tomorrow:
 Christ crashes down night's curtain, claps out sorrow!

Stephen Straw is a parishioner at Columbus St. Andrew Church.



By **TIM PUET**, *Catholic Times* Reporter

RECORD SNOWFALL DOESN'T DETER WOMEN'S CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

Despite a seven-inch snowfall that set a record for the day, about 1,500 women gathered at the Voinovich Center on the state fairgrounds to be inspired by speakers at the eighth annual Columbus Catholic Women's Conference on Saturday, Feb. 21. More than 2,000 had registered to attend.

Bishop Frederick Campbell began his homily at the conference's opening Mass by praising the women for their perseverance in overcoming hazardous road conditions so they could get to the event. "You are certainly a hardy group," he said. "Today reminds me of Minnesota (where Bishop Campbell served as an auxiliary bishop) at the beginning of May. You have begun your Lenten penitence in such grand style. I congratulate you."

The bishop then suggested that those in attendance focus on three things as part of their Lenten observance: doing works of justice; being free of malicious speech and false accusation, "especially in a society where there is a growing manipulation of language"; and looking at the way in which Sunday is observed, making sure that it is what the prophet Isaiah described in the day's first Scripture reading as "a delight, a holy day made honorable."

Just before the final blessing of the Mass, Bishop Campbell departed for a moment from the liturgy to tell the women that their continuing Christian witness in the ordinary circumstances of life, in the midst of a culture which in many ways is hostile to religion, has an impact that can

leave a lasting impression more powerful than one might imagine.

The conference featured talks by Dr. Edward Sri, a theologian, author, and speaker who appears regularly on EWTN Catholic radio and television; Emily Wilson, whose ministry of talks and music offers encouragement to young women in their search for identity; and Colleen Carroll Campbell, a former speechwriter for President George W. Bush, secular newspaper columnist, and EWTN news anchor, who writes on both spiritual and cultural matters.

Sri's talk, titled "Walking with Mary: A Biblical Journey from Nazareth to the Cross" and based on his recent book of the same name, looked at key passages of the Bible concerning Mary and offered insights into her faith and devotion that women can apply to their daily lives.

"You braved the bad weather and stepped into the unknown to come here today and share fellowship, and that in its own way was quite heroic," Sri said. "Mary also was constantly stepping into the unknown, and that can be kind of scary. ... When you think of Mary, think of how you felt as mothers when you saw your children take their first steps," he continued, using his own observations of his daughter, Josephine, in such a moment as an example.

"All great saints were called to take multiple steps into the unknown all their lives, and so was Mary. We put her up on a pedestal, but we forget her humanness,"

he said.

Sri's book notes nine key moments in Mary's life in which God invited her to "take another step" and she willingly did so, knowing what it would cost: the angel Gabriel's greeting to her; her acceptance of God's plan that she become the mother of Jesus; her visit to her cousin Elizabeth; the birth of Jesus; his presentation at the Temple, with the prediction of the prophet Simeon that "a sword will pierce your heart"; her three-day search for Jesus when he stayed behind at the Temple at age 12; the wedding feast at Cana; standing by the cross at Jesus' crucifixion; and her crowning as queen of heaven after being taken there body and soul, following the tradition of biblical times in which the queen of a kingdom was the king's mother, not his wife.

"The Gospel of Luke said Mary was 'greatly troubled' when Gabriel greeted her, but she wasn't controlled by her fears and approached God with an open heart," Sri said. "She responded in a spirit of joyful sacrifice and continued to do so," even after Simeon gave her full knowledge of where this would lead, and after Jesus' question "What is this to you and to me?" at Cana gave her a chance to keep Jesus to herself rather than have him enter into public ministry.

Sri said Mary's response to God was mirrored in many ways by the response of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who was serving in India as a member of the Sisters of Loreto in 1946 when, on a

train ride, she felt a "call within a call" to found a new missionary order to serve the poorest of the poor. "Has your generosity grown cold?" God asked her at the time. Sri said Mother Teresa responded as Mary did, with a willingness to step into the unknown, no matter where it would lead. "I want to love Jesus as he's never been loved before," Mother Teresa said.

"When difficulties come up, ponder them in your heart, as Mary did," Sri said. "Ask Mary's help, ask Jesus what he would have you do. ... When you face the sword or go to the cross, whatever your own version may be, don't be afraid of following Jesus there."

Wilson began her talk by saying her trip to Columbus was a memorable one because, as a California native, she had never been in below-zero temperatures before and had rarely seen snow. She followed that by showing slides of the people and things in which she sees God — cathedrals, sunset, sunrise, her family, her fiancé, babies, affirmations from others, and, finally, priests and seminarians — then talking about things she believes keep women from seeing God and their own self-worth.

Those negative factors include a spirit of comparison, feelings of sin and regret, and an attitude of hopelessness.

"Comparison focuses on what we don't have, rather than what we are, and affects everything we do," she said. "We start thinking 'I'm not good enough capable enough, or beautiful enough,' and it

blinds us to God saying 'Look at who you are and what you have. You are more than enough, just the way I made you. Look at the woman I created you to be.'"

She spoke of the sinful woman who wiped Jesus' feet with her tears and said, "Sometimes, we can feel like that sinful woman because we have so many regrets. This woman felt that way, but she stopped at nothing to get to Jesus, and we must be like her. Others saw her as a sinner. Jesus saw her sinful past, her humble present, and her glorious future, and covered her with mercy."

Wilson also talked of the New Testament woman who had been hemorrhaging for

12 years, reached out to touch Jesus' cloak, and was cured. "She was willing to step out of her comfort zone," she said. "The story shows God has a timeline for everything, although it can be frustrating for us. God's never in a hurry. The woman never lost hope. She halted the Lord of glory with her need" and was rewarded.

Campbell, who spent part of her childhood in Columbus and graduated from St. Timothy School, based her talk on her book "My Sisters, the Saints," in which she examines the lives of St. Teresa of Avila, St. Therese of Lisieux, Mother Teresa, St. Teresa Benedicta (Edith Stein), St. Faustina Kowalska, and the Virgin

Mary, and how their examples can help women today.

She said all six in various ways followed five key precepts: "Bloom where you are planted; follow God's lead; embrace the cross; cultivate joy; and prioritize prayer."

Like Sri's opening talk, her closing talk used Mother Teresa as a prime example of following God's prompting no matter where it might lead. Campbell noted that Mother Teresa did so despite a 50-year "dark night of the soul" which she kept hidden from the public while being hailed as a "living saint," and which only became known to the public with the publication of her memoirs in 2007, 10 years after she died.

"The turning point in her acceptance of this came when Jesuit Father Josef Neuner became her spiritual director," Campbell said. "He showed her that she was being allowed to suffer on behalf of others and helped her accept this as a part of the spiritual side of the work she and her order were doing to physically help others. She would be the first to say that the fruit of her impact blossomed not in spite of her suffering, but because of it."

Campbell said that although suffering and acceptance of one's cross is an inevitable part of life, so is joy, which Jesuit philosopher Father Pierre Teilhard de Chardin described as "an infallible sign of the presence of God." She told her audience, "Don't slip into self-righteousness. Saints take God seriously, but not themselves." She said Sts. Francis and Clare

of Assisi were examples of this quality in the way they combined simple living with an eagerness to embrace all of creation.

"God wants to do something with each of us," Campbell said. "He can if we let him, with the help of the saints, who are our family. They long to lead us through dark places and see the light of Christ. They want us to find the joy they have found, but it's up to each of us to decide to accept their offer of friendship. The question is not whether we have what it takes to be saints, but whether we truly want to be saints."

In addition to the three main talks, Father William Hahn, pastor of Chillicothe St. Peter and Waverly St. Mary churches, gave a brief reflection on the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and Father David Sizemore, pastor of Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, conducted a Eucharistic Holy Hour which included contemporary music led by Wilson.

More than 30 priests were available for Reconciliation, and about 70 Catholic organizations were represented at booths featuring their ministries.

Next year's Catholic Women's Conference will again be at the Voinovich Center on Saturday, Feb. 20, 2016, with talks by nationally known speakers Jennifer Fulwiler, Father Nathan Cromly, and Sonja Corbitt.

Photos/clockwise: Dr. Edward Sri; an overhead view of the crowd at the Voinovich Center; Benediction with Father David Sizemore; Colleen Carroll Campbell; conference participants visit booths between talks. CT photos by Ken Snow



THE SEVEN CHURCH TOUR PILGRIMAGE!

By Father Joshua Wagner
Pastor, Columbus St. Dominic and Holy Rosary-St. John Churches

There is something moving about a pilgrimage ... literally! A pilgrimage is an opportunity to make a journey – not a physical journey where you get to see new places and experience new things, but a spiritual journey where you get to have an encounter with God in a new and unique way. A pilgrimage experience is where we get to leave behind our normal environment to find ourselves both physically and spiritually in a new place. It is interesting how God can tell us new and exciting things when we make a spiritual pilgrimage. I know that I have made several in my life, and they have all taught me something and deepened my relationship with God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, as well as my relationship with the Blessed Mother and the saints.

The idea of a pilgrimage often carries with it the necessity to travel long distances to foreign lands – maybe the Holy Land or Rome, even Mexico City, where Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared 500 years ago. But what if you could have that same experience right here and right now!

Another event happened around 500 years ago in the Eternal City of Rome when a future saint named Father Philip Neri created a pilgrimage in his own town – the Seven Church Walk. St. Philip would round up young people just before *Carnivale*, the Italian version of Mardi Gras, and walk them around the city to keep them away from temptation and lead them closer to God. Plus, it is hard to sin when you are all tucked out from walking all day!

Two years ago, I brought this same pilgrimage experience to Columbus with its own Seven Church Tour. In that first year, we took a spiritual pilgrimage in our own diocese and visited the seven oldest Catholic churches in the city of Columbus. The tour sold out in less than a month and more than 450 people attended! People got to take a spiritual pilgrimage without having to leave for some foreign country or pay thousands of dollars.

This year, we are continuing that pilgrimage tradition with two pilgrimages in the Diocese of Columbus: “The John Paul II Seven Church Tour” and the “Roots of Catholicism Seven Church Tour.”

John Paul II Seven Church Tour

Last year, something wonderful happened: Pope John Paul II was canonized a saint! Some people in the Diocese of Columbus were able to make a pilgrimage to Rome to venerate this fantastic saint, while here in Columbus, we dedicated a Seven Church Tour pilgrimage to honor Pope St. John Paul II. This Seven Church Tour picked up where the first Seven Church Tour left off, and we visited the “second generation” of Catholic churches in and around Columbus. These churches, many of which find their

origins in the older churches, contained a very unique history and very different architecture from the original seven churches built in Columbus. Many were built anywhere from the 1890s to the 1960s.

That tour sold out in two weeks last year and many people were not able to attend, so I am offering it one last time this year. The churches on this Seven Church Tour, all in Columbus, include St. Mary Magdalene, St. Aloysius, St. Catharine of Siena, Immaculate Conception, St. Leo, St. Francis of Assisi, and the newly renovated St. Dominic on the east side of Columbus (which happens to be one of the parishes I serve as pastor). This tour will run on Saturday, March 14 and Saturday, April 11.

The Roots of Catholicism Tour

Last summer, I had an opportunity to go to Somerset and speak with the teachers at Holy Trinity School. As I sat early in the morning beside St. Joseph Church, waiting for the teachers to arrive, I marveled at how beautiful the church was, as well as the rolling hills of Perry County. It was like being in heaven! I knew I had to bring people to experience it as well.

The “Roots of Catholicism” Seven Church Tour is a pilgrimage not only into a beautiful part of Ohio – Perry County – but also a pilgrimage back in time! Perry County, namely Somerset, is where the first Catholics in Ohio settled and began to build homes and eventually a church.

The state’s oldest Catholic church stands tall and proud on a hill in Somerset. St. Joseph Church was begun by the Dittoe family and the bishop of Cincinnati in 1803.

As I did research, I found out that Perry County had several other churches that were almost as old, and I knew that the new Seven Church Tour would be there! The new pilgrimage will take us back in time to visit the six churches of Perry County, with a stop along the way at one of my favorite churches in the diocese, Zanesville St. Nicholas.

The “Roots of Catholicism” Seven Church Tour includes St. Nicholas, New Lexington St. Rose of Lima, Corning St. Bernard, Junction City St. Patrick, the Church of the Atonement in Crooksville, Somerset Holy Trinity, and the oldest Catholic church in Ohio, Somerset St. Joseph.

The tour dates are consecutive Saturdays, March 21 and 28.

All the Seven Church Tour pilgrimages will leave from two suburban parishes (this year, Westerville St. Paul and Hilliard St. Brendan) where pilgrims can safely park their cars all day. All tours will include lunch, buses, and tour guide (Father Wagner, of course!), and will conclude with a Saturday evening Mass which will fulfill your Sunday obligation.

For more information and to reserve seats, go to sevenchurchtour.com.



St. Mary Magdalene



Immaculate Conception



St. Aloysius



St. Catharine



St. Dominic



St. Francis of Assisi



St. Leo



Atonement



Holy Trinity



St. Bernard



St. Joseph



St. Nicholas



St. Patrick



St. Rose

CULTIVATING YOUNG CATHOLICS

By Mike Hall

Director, Diocesan Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Catholics in their 20s and 30s – where are they?

At the National Conference for Catholic Youth Ministry in December, I attended a workshop on welcoming and engaging young people in the community, which was led by Ela Milewska of Cultivation Ministries, a nationally known resource for forming and equipping youth ministers to be effective leaders in the church. Milewska also worked for the National Alliance on Adolescent Catechesis for several years.

In her workshop, she talked about the obvious direction that young adults are taking today in regards to religious affiliation and involvement. According to a study she cited from the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life, one-third of 18- to 29-year-olds are unaffiliated with any religion. If you get deeper into the religious practices of the two-thirds who are still affiliated, you find that fewer than 15 percent of Catholic young adults attend Mass weekly.

We are clearly seeing a significant de-

cline in religious affiliation and practice for young adults in our nation. If we ask the question “Where are they?”, the answer is obvious: They are not in our pews! This leads to the next question: “Why?”

Milewska cited more research from Pew, which is corroborated by other researchers including the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, the National Study on Youth and Religion, and Gallup. A number of factors have led to young adults deciding not to affiliate with a religion, but the leading factor cited in Pew research is that most young adults merely “drift away” from the church.

They become less and less engaged, they get busy with everyday life, and the church becomes less significant for them. Many of them have issues with church teaching, but growing indifference seems to be the biggest problem. So how do we reverse this trend?

There are no simple solutions, but Milewska talked about parishes which keep many of their young adults affiliated and what they do. Here is what the research says and what Cultivation Min-

istries suggests to parish leaders:

First, build relationships with young people, starting earlier than young adulthood. Young people need to find a web of relationships that reach out to them and keep reaching out to welcome, invite, and support young people and adults at all stages of life. Peer groups are an important component of ministry, but more important is the building of intergenerational relationships that occurs in parish life.

Young adults who come into a new parish should be warmly welcomed and immediately introduced to others in the parish community. Relationships build long-lasting community. It would be hard to drift away from a place where you would genuinely be missed.

Second, engage young adults in the life of the parish. Most young people want to make a difference by offering their gifts in a meaningful way to the greater good of the community. Ownership and engagement in the mission of the parish leads to a greater sense of belonging and a stronger attachment to the community. Service to the church and to those in need in the larger community helps engage young people and give them a stronger sense of meaning in their lives.

Third, young people need to truly encounter Christ in the parish through the sacraments, through the love the discover in the community, through Christian relationships, through engagement in parish life, and through opportunities for spiritual growth and understanding their faith.

Concerning the last point, young adults

can benefit greatly from opportunities to strengthen their faith through retreats, small parish group participation, Theology on Tap or other young-adult groups, and most of the adult programs offered for parishioners.

To help parishes provide significant spiritual programs for young adults, the Diocesan Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry is offering two very powerful and enriching young-adult initiatives.

On Saturday and Sunday, March 28 and 29, the office is sponsoring “What Next? Finding Answers with Faith,” a retreat for people in their 20s and 30s, at the Procter Retreat Center in London. This retreat will explore the transitions that define our past, present, and future. Participants will take time away to reflect with others and on their own, to listen to the experiences of a young adult team, and to share the Eucharist. This retreat will end with strong encouragement for young adults to enter into their parish life and become more invested and engaged.

In the summer of 2016, the youth and young adult ministry office will lead a group of young adults to Krakow, Poland, to celebrate World Youth Day with Pope Francis. This is a truly international and universal event that has proven to have a significant impact on the faith lives of the young people who participate. Signing up with the diocesan office is required this spring.

To learn more about the retreat or the Youth Day pilgrimage, go to the office’s link at www.cdeducation.org.

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Bishop Ready Has Four New Eagle Scouts



New Eagle Scouts (from left) Andrew Rowe, Connor Lancia, Stephen Landy, and Mark Gnatowski, seniors at Columbus Bishop Ready High School, are pictured with Matthew Brickner, Ready dean of students. As their Eagle Scout projects, Rowe refurbished the concession stand at the Columbus St. Mary Magdalene Church baseball field; Lancia rebuilt a fishing dock at a 4-H camp in Jackson; Landy worked with Run the Race, an organization that serves underprivileged young people in the Hilltop area, improving the aesthetics and functionality of the organization’s outdoor space; and Gnatowski replaced the landscaping at the entrance of the Hilliard East municipal pool.

Second Sunday of Lent (Cycle B)

Two events whose meaning is confusing



Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

Genesis 22:1-2,9a,10-13,15-18
Romans 8:31b-34
Mark 9:2-10

As happens so often in the *Lectionary*, the first reading has been chopped up so much that readers lose the full impact of this passage, which is terribly difficult to interpret.

Abraham cutting up the wood to be used for the fire (the holocaust) and making Isaac carry it up the mountain on his own back is omitted. Moreover, partway up the mountain, Isaac asks his father where to find the lamb to be sacrificed.

This represents Isaac's dawning awareness that something very strange is happening, thereby alerting the reader to the impending horror of the unfolding story. Of course, the reader knows what is coming from the beginning.

For sheer terror, little beats Isaac's moment of discovery: "Father?" "Yes, my son," answers Abraham. "Here are the flint and the wood, but where is the sheep for the sacrifice?" And Abraham says, "God will see to it, my son." See to it, indeed! Abraham has every intention of slaughtering his son, right up until the angel stays his hand.

As a test of faith, this story teeters on the edge of (in) sanity – Abraham's. There is no good reason why a father would kill his son, based on hearing a voice, even if one claimed the voice was God's. Commentators have struggled to find meaning down through the ages. The prophet Micah condemned child sacrifice: "Shall I give my firstborn for my crime, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" (Micah 6:7).

Some have suggested this story was a correction against child sacrifice, which was not unknown in Israel and was certainly practiced by Israel's enemies.

Ultimately, this story rejects altogether the idea of a father sacrificing his son. Oddly enough, in Christianity, we hallow the sacrifice of Christ Jesus, the divine Son, as an act of obedience to the Father's will.

The Transfiguration is even more confusing than the "sacrifice of Isaac" in terms of meaning. It is a private experience that the disciples Peter, James, and John shared with Jesus, in which they saw Moses and Elijah conversing with Jesus. Leaving aside the dream-like otherness of Jesus once his clothes dazzle, we are still left to wonder how they could know that Moses and Elijah were there.

It is a scene which makes more sense as a post-resurrection account of an appearance of Jesus together with the Old Testament figures representing *Prophecy* and *the Law*. Yet there is no such appearance scene of Jesus in company with Moses and Elijah anywhere in the post-resurrection period, which argues against it.

Mark 9:1 is missing from Sunday's Gospel selection, but should be seen as setting up the rest of the story: "... Amen I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come in power." The Transfiguration confirms a vision of the kingdom of God coming in power.

Mark 9:9-10 is just as important to the Transfiguration: "As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant."

Even after sharing this surreal vision and hearing a heavenly voice granting authority to the "beloved Son," Peter, James, and John still do not understand what it is that will justify their faith in Jesus as Messiah and Son of God – namely, the resurrection.

Nevertheless, a vision seen by others will always remain a puzzle to those who did not see it. We rely on Mark to have relayed something important, but we may not understand what he expected us to get from it.

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

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
Daniel 9:4b-10
Psalm 79: 9,11,13
Luke 6:36-38

TUESDAY
Isaiah 1:10,16-20
Psalm 50:8-9,16bc-17,21,23
Matthew 23:1-12

WEDNESDAY
Jeremiah 18:18-20
Psalm 31:5-6,14-16
Matthew 20:17-28

THURSDAY
Jeremiah 17:5-10
Psalm 1:1-4,6
Luke 16:19-31

FRIDAY
Genesis 37:3-4,12-13a,17b-28a
Psalm 105:16-21
Matthew 21:33-43,45-46

SATURDAY
Micah 7:14-15,18-20
Psalm 103:1-4,9-12
Luke 15:1-3,11-32

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF MARCH 1, 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 II, Seasonal Proper of the Liturgy of the Hours

World Christianity by the numbers

The annual "Status of Global Christianity" survey published by the International Bulletin of Missionary Research is a cornucopia of numbers: some are encouraging; others are discouraging; many of them are important for grasping the nature of this particular moment in Christian history.

This year's survey works from a baseline of 1900 AD, and makes projections out to 2050. Within that century and a half, there's some good news about the global human condition that ought to be kept in mind when remembering the bad news of the 20th century and the early 21st. For example: in 1900, 27.6 percent of adults in a world population of 1.6 billion were literate. In 2015, 81 percent of the adults in a global population of 7.3 billion are literate, and the projection is that, by 2050, 88 percent of the adults in a world of 9.5 billion people will be literate—a remarkable accomplishment.

Of the 7.3 billion human beings on Planet Earth today, 89 percent are religious believers, while 1.8 percent are professed atheists and another nine percent are agnostics: which suggests that Chief Poobah of the New Atheists Richard Dawkins and his friends are not exactly winning the day, although their "market share" is up from 1900.

There were 267 million Catholics in the world in 1900; today, the world Church counts 1.2 billion members, with a projected growth to 1.6 billion by the middle of the century. Yet in the last quarter of the 20th century, Catholicism was displaced by Islam as the world's largest religious community, as the global Muslim population grew from 571 million in 1970 to today's 1.7 billion.

Three Bags Full children's spring consignment event

The 12th annual Three Bags Full children's spring consignment event will take place at several central Ohio locations this spring. The sale benefits Catholic and pro-life charities such as the Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs, the Pregnancy Decision Health Centers, the Joseph's Coat clothing ministry, the Bishop Griffin Center, and Birthright.

Sale dates, times, and sites are:

Thursday, March 5, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, March 6, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m., and Saturday, March 7, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (dollar dash 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.), Community Wesleyan Church, 161 Myrtle Ave., Newark.

Thursday, March 12, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, March 13, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m., and Saturday, March 14, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (dollar dash 6 to 7 p.m.), Franklin County Fairgrounds, 4100 Columbia St., Hilliard.

Thursday, March 19, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, March 20, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m., and Saturday, March 21, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (dollar dash 6 to 7 p.m.), Highpoint Nazarene Church, 795 Pollock Road, Delaware.



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE
George Weigel

The most extraordinary Christian growth over the past century has come in Africa, home to 8.7 million Christians in 1900, 542 million today, and perhaps 1.2 billion by 2050, when there will be as many African Christians as Latin American and European Christians combined. Twenty-first-century Christianity is also a far more urban reality than a century ago. In 1900, 29 percent of the world's Christian population lived in cities; it's 65 percent today, although that's projected to decline to 59 percent by 2050. But perhaps the most astonishing numbers in the survey involve Pentecostal and Charismatic Christians. There were 981,000 of these souls in 1900, there are 643.7 million today, and there are projected to be more than one billion Charismatics and Pentecostals in 2050. In raw numbers, then, Charismatic and Pentecostal Christianity is the fastest-growing phenomenon in world religious history.

These three phenomena—African growth, urbanization, and the rise of Pentecostalism—also help account, I suspect, for the greater fragmentation of the Christian world. What might be called entrepreneurial Christianity—founding your own church—is very much a part of all three, and that helps explain why

the number of Christian denominations grew from 1,600 in 1900 to 45,000 today, with projections of 70,000 in 2050.

For all the admirable growth noted in the survey, Christianity seems stuck in something of a rut, if the measure is Christians as a percentage of world-population. Christians were 34.5 percent of global population in 1900, 33.3 percent in 1970, 32.4 percent in 2000, and 33.4 percent today, with projections to 33.7 percent in 2025 and 36 percent in 2050.

Figuring out how much of this is due to the decline of European Christianity as a percentage of world Christianity would require number-crunching beyond my capabilities. But it's worth noting that, in a century of dramatic, aggregate Christian growth, European Christianity had the lowest annualized growth rate (0.16 percent), and the European share of world Christian population has shrunk from 66 percent in 1900 to 23 percent today—thus raising more questions about the warrant by which European Christian leaders, Catholic and Protestant, pass judgment on the pastoral practice of fellow Christians around the world.

One more disturbing number: according to the survey's projections, only 14 percent of non-Christians today know a Christian—a number that speaks to both the isolation of religious groups from each other and the failures of evangelization. So there's a lot of work to do in fulfilling the Great Commission, especially with those who have no contact with the faith.

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

the bar code. Families price their own items, determining the selling price of each. Bar codes are scanned at checkout, so families can log into their online account to see a listing of what sold each day.

Families earn 65 percent of the selling price. If they volunteer, they can earn as much as 80 percent. The entire sale is run by families volunteering to help, from set-up to tear-down.

In addition, families participating in the event have a chance to shop early, before the public shopping hours. On conclusion of the sale, consignors may pick up their unsold items, or they are donated to local nonprofit organizations. More than 8,000 items are donated each season. Families receive PayPal payment for their sales within 14 days of the event's end.

All items must be clean, neat, and of good quality. Items are all inspected, and anything stained, damaged, worn-out, or out of style is not accepted. Families interested in selling their items must preregister online at www.threebagsfull.info. There are deadlines to register before each event, as listed on the website.

For more information, go to the website or call Joyce Black at (614) 561-5300.

Knights of Columbus All Fridays in Lent 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
St. Michael Church
5750 N. High St., Worthington
LENTEN FISH FRY
Fish Dinner: Regular-\$8.00, Small-\$6.00
Macaroni-Cheese Dinner - \$6.00
Meal: Fish (or Mac/Cheese), Fries, Roll, Cole Slaw (or Apple Sauce), and Beverage
Optional: Clam Chowder, Dessert - \$1.00 each

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CONTACT COF AGENT
Paul Vitartas, FIC (614) 314-7463
pvitartas@catholicforester.org

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Home Office: PO Box 3012, Naperville, IL 60566-7012
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Visit us online at
www.ctonline.org

Pray for our dead

BATES, Lois F., 80, Feb. 19
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

BISHEL, Josephine “Joddie” A., 95, Feb. 19
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

BOX, Gregoria H., 37, Feb. 13
St. Joseph Church, Dover

BUECHNER, David P., 29, Feb. 12
St. Paul Church, Westerville

CARTER, Elvira M., 88, Feb. 16
Ss. Simon and Jude Church, West Jefferson

CARTER, Martha S., 72, Feb. 19
Holy Name Church, Columbus

CAVALLARO, Elizabeth, 99, of Dublin, Feb. 15
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Basilica,
Youngstown

CHARLTON, Thomas J., 83, Feb. 16
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

CHEESEMAN, Yvonne E., 84, Feb. 13
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

CLEARY, Patrick J. V., 21, Feb. 14
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

DANDURAN, Sandra, 72, Feb. 20
St. Cecilia Church, Columbus

DeVOE, Joseph E. “Smythe,” 86, Jan. 18
St. Vincent de Paul Church, Mount Vernon

DOBBINS, Leonard W., 74, Feb. 11
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove
City

ENDRIZZI, Julie, 58, Feb. 15
St. Mary Church, Columbus

FOUST, Julie, 60, Feb. 18
St. Patrick Church, Columbus

GRANT, Rose A., 80, Feb. 16
Holy Family Church, Columbus

HALL, Steven V., 44, Feb. 17
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

HAMMOND, Karen S., 55, Feb. 17
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

HOSIER, Clementine E., 96, Feb. 15
St. Peter Church, Columbus

JONES, James P., 64, formerly of Columbus, Feb. 18
St. Louis Church, Gallipolis

KARNAL, Vincent E., 8, Feb. 18
St. Peter Church, Columbus

KISH, Joseph, 98, Feb. 17
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

LANCIA, Robert, 78, Feb. 13
St. Stephen Church, Columbus

LANUZZA, Ruth A., 75, Jan. 26
St. Vincent de Paul Church, Mount Vernon

MARQUE, Paula, 77, Feb. 12
St. Bernadette Church, Lancaster

MEHOLICK, Beverly A., 80, Feb. 14
Church of the Ascension, Johnstown

MORGHEN, Leonardo, 10, Feb. 17
Christ the King Church, Columbus

NEWMAN, Gloria J., 87, Feb. 15
St. Michael Church, Worthington

PALMO, Duane C., 72, Feb. 13
Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus

PENKHUS, Margaret A. “Peggy,” 73, Jan. 15
St. Vincent de Paul Church, Mount Vernon

PERRY, Daniel E., 61, Feb. 11
St. Vincent de Paul Church, Mount Vernon

RIESER, Martha E., 89, of Columbus, Feb. 12
Church of the Ascension, Kettering

RUNDAG, George J. Jr., 80, Feb. 17
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

STAWIARSKI, Ginny, 67, Feb. 13
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

TOLLES, Harry E. Jr., 84, formerly of Plain City, Feb. 20
St. Teresa Church, Titusville, Fla.

URBAN, Rita M., 74, Feb. 17
St. Peter Church, Columbus

WAGNER, Alberta, 92, Feb. 19
St. Patrick Church, Columbus

WANAMAKER, Elizabeth A., 86, Feb. 16
Ss. Augustine & Gabriel Church, Columbus

YOAKAM, Robert E., 53, Feb. 18
St. Mary Church, Delaware

CLASSIFIED

LENTEN FISH FRY’S - COME JOIN US
ST. ANDREW CHURCH
Nugent Hall (below the church)
1899 McCoy Rd. Upper Arlington
February 20, 27 March 6, 13, 20, 27
4:30 - 7:00 P.M.
baked cod or **deep fried perch**
sides, dessert & beverage included
also cheese pizza & mac ‘n cheese
Adult \$10, Child (10 and under) \$5
Carryout \$9 / \$4 (no dessert or beverage)

ST. BRENDAN’S FISH FRY
in the school @ 4475 Dublin Rd, Hilliard
FRIDAYS DURING LENT
2/21 - 3/27, 4:30 - 7:30 pm
Adults / \$9.00- Children / \$3.75
Carry-out available

ST. TIMOTHY’S PARISH
1088 Thomas Lane, Columbus, 43220
ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER
SUNDAY, MARCH 1- NOON - 7 PM
Adults \$9; Seniors \$7; Child 12 and under \$5
All you can eat pasta
Homemade meatballs
CARRYOUT AVAILABLE

Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church
1559 Roxbury Road, Marble Cliff (Parish Life Center)
FISH FRY DINNERS
Fridays, 2/20 - 3/27, 4:30 - 7 pm
Fresh Ocean Perch, Potatoes or Rice Salad or Slaw,
Beverages, Dessert - Pizza for kids
\$9 Adults, \$5 Kids - Carryouts available

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St. Christopher Church
LENTEN PASTA DINNER
1420 Grandview Avenue / Trinity School Cafeteria
Fridays — February 20 thru March 27
5PM to 8PM
\$ 7.00 for adults / \$ 4.00 for kids / \$ 25.00 per Family
Pasta Sauce Provided by local area restaurants
February 27th— Emelio’s Catering
March 6th — Bravo Cucina Italiana
March 13th — TAT Ristorante

St. Margaret of Cortona Church
1600 N. Hague Ave, Columbus
17TH ANNUAL
“BEST FISH FRY DINNER IN TOWN!”
Fridays during Lent, Feb. 20 - Mar. 27
4:30 - 7:30 PM
Fried Ocean Perch or Baked Cod, with French Fries,
Baked Potato, Baked Steak Fries, Cole Slaw, Apple-
sauce, Roll & Butter, and homemade Desserts.
Free seconds & coffee!
Adults - \$9.50; Seniors - \$9.00;
Children (10 & under) - \$4.50
Pop, Beer, & Carryouts available. Info: 279-1690

LENTEN FISH FRY
Fridays 5-8 pm, February 20-March 27
St. Michael Church
5750 N. High St., Worthington
FISH DINNER: Reg/\$8; Small/\$6
MACARONI-CHEESE DINNER: \$6
CLAM CHOWDER, DESSERTS: \$1
Dine In, Drive Thru & Carryout

FISH FRY - KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
St. Joan of Arc - Powell
FRIDAYS February 20 — March 27
5:30 — 7:30 PM
All you can eat meal includes Baked & Fried Fish,
French Fries Mac & Cheese, Green Beans,
Cole Slaw, Rolls, Soft Drinks Adults: \$9, Seniors: \$8,
Children: \$4, Carry-out: \$9
CASH OR CHECK ONLY

FEBRUARY

THROUGH MARCH 29, SUNDAY
40 Days for Life
7 a.m. to 7 p.m., sidewalk in front of Founder’s Women’s
Health Care Center, 1243 E. Broad St., Columbus. 40
Days for Life campaign of daily vigils at clinic. Individu-
als may sign up for one- or two-hour shifts. Churches,
schools, and other organizations may select one day
in which their representatives will cover all shifts.
614-445-8508

26, THURSDAY
Stations of the Cross at St. Leo
3 p.m., St. Leo Church, 221 Hanford St., Columbus. Sta-
tions of the Cross in church building which continues to
be open for special events. **614-444-8353**
Soup and Salad at Ss. Simon and Jude
Following 6 p.m. Mass, Ss. Simon and Jude Church, 9350
High Free Pike, West Jefferson. Soup and salad supper.
614-879-8562

‘Christ in the City’ Holy Hour at Columbus St. Patrick
7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus.
“Christ in the City” Holy Hour, an evening of Eucharistic
adoration including Taize prayer, compline, and confes-
sions, followed by fellowship with refreshments, for
people aged 21-35, sponsored by parish Frassati Society
of young adults. **614-224-9522**
‘Catholicism’ Series at St. John XXIII
7 to 9 p.m., St. John XXIII Church, 5170 Winchester
Southern Road N.W., Canal Winchester. Father Robert
Barron’s “Catholicism” video series. Part 7: “Word
Made Flesh, True Bread of Heaven: The Mystery of the
Liturgy and the Eucharist.” followed by discussion.
614-920-1563

All fund-raising events (festivals, ba-
zaars, spaghetti dinners, fish fries,
bake sales, pizza/sub sales, candy
sales, etc.) will be placed in the
“Fund-Raising Guide.” An entry into
the Guide will be \$18.50 for the first
six lines, and \$2.65 for each addi-
tional line. For more information,
call David Garick
at 614-224-5195.

‘Happenings’ submissions
Notices for items of Catholic interest
must be received at least 12 days be-
fore expected publication date. We will
print them as space permits.
Items not received before this deadline
may not be published.
Listings cannot be taken by phone.
Mail to: The Catholic Times
Happenings,
197 East Gay St., Columbus, OH 43215
Fax to: 614-241-2518
E-mail as text to tpuet@colodioc.org

H A P P E N I N G S

26-MARCH 1, THURSDAY-SUNDAY
St. Charles Presents ‘The K of D’
8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, St. Charles Pre-
paratory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. School’s
drama department presents “The K of D,” an urban legend
by Laura Schellhardt. **614-252-6714**

27, FRIDAY
Worship Service for Peace at St. John Neumann
7:30 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route
37, Sunbury. Community praise and worship for peace ser-
vice, including Eucharistic Adoration, led by Father David
Sizemore and Deacon Carl Calcara, with music by Station
14 praise band. **740-965-1358**

27-MARCH 1, FRIDAY-SUNDAY
Needlecrafters Retreat at Corpus Christi
Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Colum-
bus. “Yarncraft as an Opportunity of Prayer,” a weekend
retreat for knitters, crocheters, and other needlecrafters,
led by Sister Valerie Shaul, OP. Cost \$125, including over-
night accommodations and four meals, or \$60 for com-
muters, including two meals. **614-512-3731**

28, SATURDAY
Columbus Catholic Men’s Conference
8 a.m. to 2:45 p.m., Voinovich Building, State Fairgrounds,
Columbus. 18th annual Columbus Catholic Men’s Confer-
ence, with talks by Peter Herbeck, Father Dave Pivonka,
TOR, Ralph Martin, and Chris Spielman. Details at www.
columbuscatholicmen.com.
Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City
9 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave., Plain City.
Saturday Life and Mercy Mass, followed by rosary and
confession.

MARCH

1, SUNDAY
St. Christopher Adult Religious Education
10 to 11:15 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440
Grandview Ave., Columbus. “St. Kateri Tekakwitha and
the Kateri Circle,” with Mr. and Mrs. Carl Lefevre of the
monthly Kateri Prayer Circle at Lancaster St. Mark Church
and Mathew Sherman, an advocate of St. Kateri’s.
Exposition at Church of the Resurrection
Our Lady of the Resurrection Chapel, Church of the Res-
urrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany.
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, beginning with pro-
cession into chapel following 11 a.m. Mass and continuing
to 5 p.m. **614-933-9318**

Lenten Reflection Series at St. Cecilia
1:30 to 3:30 p.m., St. Cecilia Church, 434 Norton Road,
Columbus. Second program in six-week Lenten reflection
series based on the book “Bridges Out of Poverty,” spon-
sored by parish St. Vincent de Paul Society. **614-878-5353**
Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King
5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston
Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly
parish prayer group meets for praise, worship, ministry,
and teaching. **614-886-8266**
Bishop’s Bible Study at Cathedral
Following 5:15 p.m. Mass, Undercroft, St. Joseph Cath-
edral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bible study with Bishop
Frederick Campbell for people aged 22-40. **614-224-1295**

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

1-3, SUNDAY-TUESDAY
Parish Mission at Corpus Christi
4 to 5:30 p.m. Sunday, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Monday-Tuesday,
Corpus Christi Church, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus.
Parish mission on “The Joy of the Gospel” with Father
Rod Damico, parish parochial vicar. Topics: “The Joy of
Knowing Christ,” Sunday; “The Joy of Sharing Life With
Christ,” Monday; “The Joy of Renewing the Earth,” Tues-
day. **614-443-2828**
Parish Mission at Seton
7 p.m., St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, 600 Hill Road N., Pick-
erington. Parish mission on “Finding God in All Things”
with Father Leo Patalinghug, host of EWTN’s “Savoring
Our Faith” program. Topics: “Finding God Through the
Communion of Saints,” Sunday; “Finding God through His
Blessed Mother,” Monday; “Finding God at the Lord’s Ta-
ble,” Tuesday, followed by penance service. **614-833-0482**

2, MONDAY
Marian Movement for Priests Cenacle
7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus.
Holy Hour for priestly and consecrated vocations.
614-235-7435
Knox-Licking Consortium Speaker Series on the Family
7 to 8:30 p.m., St. Vincent de Paul Church, 303 E. High St.,
Mount Vernon. Talk on “Human Love in God’s Plan” with
Dr. Perry Cahall, associate professor of historical theol-
ogy and academic dean of the school of theology at the
Pontifical College Josephinum. Second of eight talks on
the family sponsored by the Knox-Licking Consortium of
Catholic Parishes. **740-392-4711**

2-3, MONDAY-TUESDAY
Parish Mission at Ss. Simon and Jude
7 to 9 p.m., Ss. Simon and Jude Church, 9350 High Free
Pike, West Jefferson. Parish mission with Father John Ra-
phael Hadnagy, OFM Conv, of the Shrine of Our Lady of
Consolation in Carey, who has been involved in healing
ministry for more than 20 years. Theme: “Faith, Prayer,
and Healing,” with healing Mass at 6 p.m. Tuesday.
614-879-8562

2-4, MONDAY-WEDNESDAY
Parish Mission at St. Agatha
7 p.m., St. Agatha Church, 1860 Northam Road, Columbus.
Parish mission with Father Tom Hagan, founder of Hands
together Haitian relief organization. **614-488-6149**

3, TUESDAY
‘Catholicism’ Series at St. John XXIII
1 to 3 p.m., St. John XXIII Church, 5170 Winchester Southern
Road N.W., Canal Winchester. Father Robert Barron’s “Ca-
tholicism” video series. Part 8: “A Vast Company of Wit-
nesses: The Communion of Saints,” followed by discussion.
614-920-1563
Adoration, Mass, Bible Study at Dover St. Joseph
5 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 613 N. Tuscarawas Ave., Dover.
Eucharistic Adoration until 6 p.m., followed by Mass at 6
and talk on “Adventures in Bible Study: Uncovering the
Treasures of Sacred Scripture” by Father Jimmy Hatfield
at 7. **330-364-6661**

Lenten Soup Supper at St. Edward
6 p.m., St. Edward Church, 785 Newark-Granville Road,
Granville. Lenten soup supper with parish music director
Paul Radkowski. Topic: “Praying With Music.”
740-587-3254

Lenten Soup Supper at Plain City St. Joseph
6:30 p.m., Activity center, St. Joseph Church, 670 W. Main
St., Plain City. Weekly Lenten soup supper with talk on
prayer and work. **614-873-8850**
Catholic War Veterans Monthly Meeting
7 p.m., Red Room, St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road,
Columbus. Catholic War Veterans Post 1936 meeting.
For those who served three months, were honorably dis-
charged or are on active duty. **614-221-7601**
Abortion Recovery Network Group
7 p.m., Pregnancy Decision Health Center, 665 E. Dublin-
Granville Road, Columbus. Abortion recovery network
group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from
abortion or who has been through a recovery program.
and wants to stay connected. **614-444-4411**
Prayer Group Meeting at St. Mark
7:30 p.m., St. Raymond Room, St. Mark Center, 324
Gay St., Lancaster. Light of Life Prayer group meeting.
740-654-6928

4, WEDNESDAY
Introduction to Centering Prayer at Newman Center
Noon and 7:30 p.m., St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64
W. Lane Ave., Columbus. Introduction to centering prayer
with Father Vinny McKiernan, CSP. **614-221-4674**
Devotions and Soup Supper at St. Agatha
6 p.m., St. Agatha Church, 1860 Northam Road, Colum-
bus. Devotions and Lenten soup supper. Proceeds ben-
efit Hands Together ministry in Haiti. **614-488-6149**
Lenten Soup Supper at Chillicothe St. Mary
6:30 p.m., St. Mary Church, 61 S. Paint St., Chilli-
cothe. Weekly Lenten soup supper with vis-
iting speaker Devin Cousins talking about
developing a more effective and productive prayer life.
740-772-2061

5, THURSDAY
Stations of the Cross at St. Leo
3 p.m., St. Leo Church, 221 Hanford St., Columbus. Sta-
tions of the Cross in church building which continues to
be open for special events. **614-444-8353**
Holy Hour at Holy Family
6 to 7 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Colum-
bus. Holy Hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament,
followed by meeting of parish Holy Name and Junior
Holy Name societies, with refreshments. **614-221-4323**
‘Tapped’ Film at Corpus Christi
6:30 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart
Ave., Columbus. “Tapped,” a film examination of the big
business of bottled water. **614-512-3731**
Back in His Arms Again Meeting
7 p.m., Panera restaurant, 782 N. State St., Westerville.
Monthly meeting of Back in His Arms Again support
group for mothers who have experienced the loss of a
child. **614-906-3115; 614-800-8888**

‘Catholicism’ Series at St. John XXIII
7 to 9 p.m., St. John XXIII Church, 5170 Winchester Southern
Road N.W., Canal Winchester. Father Robert Barron’s “Ca-
tholicism” video series. Part 8: “A Vast Company of Wit-
nesses: The Communion of Saints,” followed by discussion.
614-920-1563

Beatrice M. Sauer

Funeral Mass for Beatrice M. Sauer,
105, who died Monday, Feb. 9 at
Mother Angeline McCrory Manor in
Columbus, was held Thursday, Feb. 12
at Columbus St. Mary Church. Burial
was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.
She was born April 23, 1909 to
John and Anna Scheibeck and was a
1927 graduate of Columbus St. Mary
High School and a lifelong member
of the parish.

She was preceded in death by her par-
ents; husband, Edward; son, Stephen;
daughter, Nancie; brother, Alex; and
sisters, Marie, Anna Mae, Mildred, and
Bernice. Survivors include sons, Jim
(Jeanne), John (Doreen Uhas-Sauer),
Thomas (Kathy), and Timothy (Sha-
ron); daughters, Yvonne Grote and
Kristen (Pat) Cashman; 28 grandchild-
ren; 39 great-grandchildren; and eight
great-great-grandchildren.

Send obituaries to: tpuet@colodioc.org



CONCERT

Renaissance Music in Lent

Thomas Tallis' 40-voice motet, *Spem in Alium*, stands as a towering achievement in Renaissance choral polyphony and will be presented at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 8. The cathedral's vaulted ceilings will echo with the sounds of more than 80 singers divided into eight choirs, each of which will have sopranos, altos, tenors, baritones, and basses. The choirs will be positioned around the interior of the cathedral

in such a way that Tallis' masterpiece will come at the audience from many different directions and in various combinations.

The eight choirs will include members of the Cathedral Choir, former members of the Cathedral Choir and other Columbus singers, graduate students and recent graduate singers from the University of Notre Dame, singers from the Lancaster Chorale, and members of the Cincinnati Christ Church Cathedral Choir.

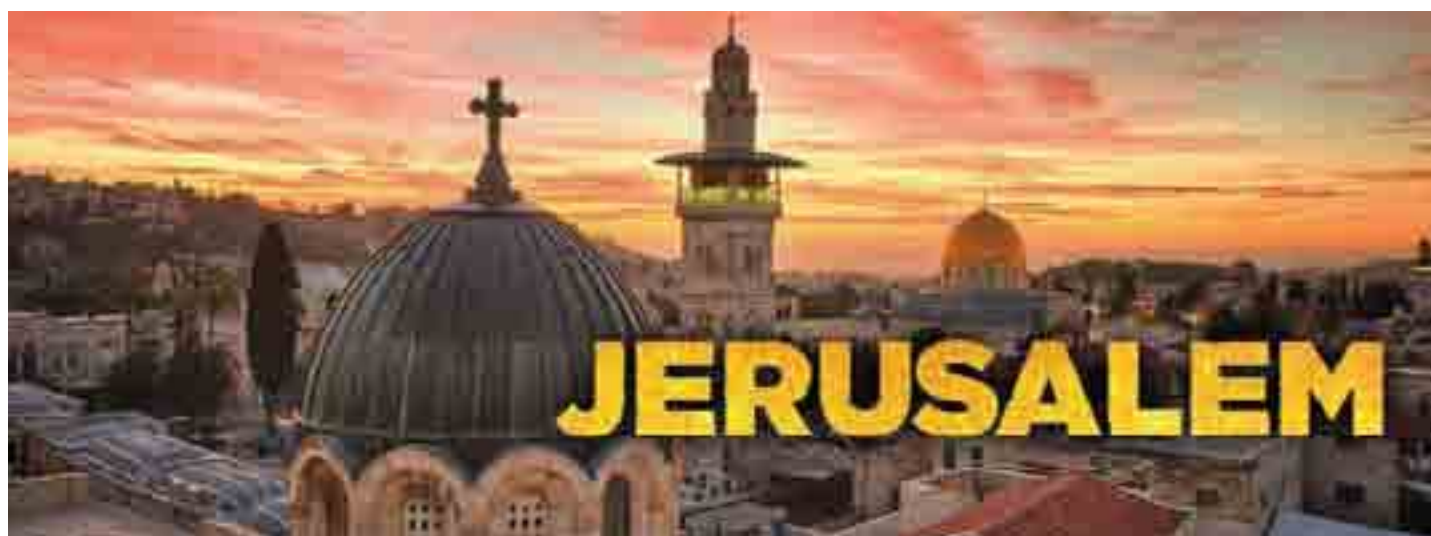
The music comes from the latter half of the 16th century, but there is some mystery about whether it was written to honor Queen Elizabeth I or her predecessor, the Catholic Queen Mary. In any event, the text is based on the *Historia Judith*, a condensed version of the Book of Judith, adapted to be sung at Matins in the month of September in the Roman Catholic rite. The passage is the prayer spoken by Judith as she sets out on a heroic mission.



FILM REVIEW

JERUSALEM

I rejoiced when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." And now our feet are standing within your gates, Jerusalem. Jerusalem, built as a city, walled round about. ... For the peace of Jerusalem pray: "May those who love you prosper! May peace be within your ramparts, prosperity within your towers." For the sake of my brothers and friends I say, "Peace be with you." For the sake of the house of the LORD, our God, I pray for your good. Psalm 122



Jerusalem is a city sacred to more than half the people on earth. Seen as the closest place to God on this planet, Jerusalem is a place steeped in desire for heavenly peace, yet it has been the focus of conflict for thousands of years.

Over 5,000 years, this "City of Peace" has been conquered more than 40 times. Today, this holy city is deeply divided by people who worship the same God, but have vastly different paths for that worship.

Now, an amazing new film takes audiences into this complex and beautiful city in a spectacular way through a 3D giant screen adventure produced by National Geographic Films and currently showing at the Columbus Center of Science and Industry (COSI) IMAX theater.

The film, which took five years to produce, is directed by Daniel Ferguson and narrated by Benedict Cumberbatch. But the real star is the city of Jerusalem itself. This film is not a travelogue, although Jerusalem is certainly a popular tourist destination. It is not a history, although the film does place the

evolution of Jerusalem in perspective. It is not a film that promotes any specific religion, although it explores the religious roots that lie at the soul of this holy city. The spectacular visuals that spring from the giant screen provide a breathtaking opportunity to soar above and to immerse oneself into the deeply textured life of Jerusalem.

Our guides on this journey are three young women who call Jerusalem home: one Muslim, one Jewish, and one Christian. They all live within an area of less than a square mile. Their lives are remarkably similar. Yet their lives never intersect. Their three com-

munities, both ancient and modern, exist in the same space, but seemingly in different dimensions.

The story of Jerusalem is a story for all mankind: a quest for peace, love, and a connection to God in a world where man's fallen nature creates conflict and division. Jerusalem symbolizes for us the promise that God has always offered to man: hope.

The film *Jerusalem* runs at COSI until May 31, with 3D showings at noon and 4 p.m. and a 2D showing at 2 p.m.

Ticket prices range from \$4 to \$8. Learn more at <http://www.cosi.org/exhibits/theater>.

NEWS IN PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



People gather on Feb. 20 in Independence Square in Kiev, Ukraine, to commemorate those killed in protests in that nation in 2014. CNS photo/Valentyn Ogirenko, Reuters



Iraqi Christian children play with concrete blocks on Jan. 21 in a new camp set up for the displaced on the outskirts of Ainkawa, Iraq. CNS photo/Dale Gavlak



Men work on leveling ground to build a new home in Cnaan, a community on the outskirts of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on Feb. 17. Cnaan, which has an estimated 250,000 inhabitants, emerged soon after the 2010 earthquake, when the government said people could relocate there. CNS photo/Bob Roller

Fisher Catholic Wins First Fairfield County Battle of the Fans

Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School recently demonstrated that it's not the size of the school that matters, it's the size of the spirit. When the Lancaster Eagle-Gazette announced a contest to see which local school had the most team spirit, the Fisher Catholic Irish accepted the challenge. Representatives from the newspaper attended home boys basketball games of the various schools to judge the student sections on organization, creativity, and sportsmanship.

Fisher Catholic made it into the semifinals against Bloom-Carroll and Liberty Union.

Student section leaders coordinated with the cheerleaders, staff, and school principal Maureen Beck to plan an "Irish Army" theme for a game against Grove City Christian. Students, teachers, and parents dressed in camouflage, American flags were waved, and the gym was decorated with camouflage and mosquito netting. The section leaders even coordinated with parents to have a smoke machine and a National Guard tunnel set up as the team entered the court.

Judges from the Eagle-Gazette praised the Fisher Catholic students for their halftime skits, which included a drill sergeant inspecting "recruits" for the Irish Army. The Irish mascot had a sword fight with the Grove City Christian Eagle, which ended with a friendly handshake.

Fisher was declared the contest winner by representatives from the Eagle-Gazette, who presented the Fisher Catholic students with a trophy which will be displayed until next year, and the opportunity to once again claim the title of "Best Fans in the Land."

Photo by Leo Thimmes



Catholic Moms Online Conference Gains Popularity Over the Web

Catholic mothers have a chance to take part in a free online conference that will take place from Friday to Monday, March 6 to 9, at www.CatholicConference4Moms.com. Unlike other conferences which may require mothers to drive long distances, give up some cash, and arrange the logistics of a busy family, this one promises the ultimate in convenience. Not only is it free, but it is available on computers, tablets, and mobile devices.

Unlike other online seminars in which the presentation is running live and you have to tune in at a certain time, these video presentations have been prepared far in advance. Conference organizer Tami Kiser

says, "For most of us busy moms, it's very hard to predict when we are going to have a chunk of time during the day to listen to a presentation. This online conference is different. For any given day of the conference, moms can pull up any of the presentations available that day at any time. They can even listen to part of the talk now and finish it later. With all of the presentations lasting about 20 minutes, this makes it very convenient."

More than 25 speakers will take part in the conference, and the presentations will range from "Managing Stress" to "Talking to Your Children about Sex" to "Family Meals." The speakers are experts in their fields and passionate about their topics, but come across as though they are speaking to each participant individually in their living rooms or kitchen tables.

Uniting so many mothers together from across the nation was an exciting prospect that helped presenter Stephanie Wood Weinert decide to be a part of this project. "I love anything that can unite Catholic moms, especially moms from such diverse backgrounds and ages," she said. "We can all see that we have the same struggles, the same hopes, and the same desires." More than 60 affiliates who have agreed to help support this conference. Most are Catholic "mom bloggers," with an audience of Catholic mothers who use the Internet for support, inspiration, and education.

The bloggers make a conference like this possible. Because of their powerful role in ministering to Catholic mothers, Kiser hopes to help them. "After the conference is over, it will be available for sale. Not only will the affiliates be able to offer the conference at a discount price, but they will also make a profit on each conference that they sell. This money can go back into their ministries," she said.

Packaged versions of the conference can be used in a group setting to help mothers develop meaningful friendships and support one another. During their presentations, many of the speakers will refer to the importance of developing these kinds of relationships with other mothers. Susie Lloyd, award-winning author and speaker, will do an entire presentation about Catholic friendship titled "Café Confidante --Why Women Need Girlfriends." Blogging and Facebook may be helpful ways that mothers connect, but nothing can replace a live, meaningful relationship.

The conference will be bundled into a convenient package, including some bonuses including e-books, podcasts, downloads, coupons, and discussion questions, so that it can be used in mothers' support groups.

The conference is free and will be online for those who have registered through the website www.CatholicConference4Moms.com. It will be available for purchase afterward at the website or at an affiliate Catholic mom's blog or website.

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