



DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

CATHOLIC TIMES

A journal of Catholic life in Ohio



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**FOCOLARE MOVEMENT SERVES AS
WITNESS UNITING FAITHS, CULTURES**

The Editor's Notebook

That All Might Be One

By David Garick, Editor



The Mass readings during this Easter season tell us a great deal about life in the Church in its earliest days. They tell us something very important about what it means to be a Christian, a true follower of Christ.

Our modern world tells us that religion should be a private, personal matter, something between each of us and God. In some ways, I can kind of understand that. The glory of the resurrection and its evidence that God loves me so much that he forgives my sins and opens the door of eternal life and joy to me individually is overwhelming. I grasp at it and hold it tight. I might be tempted to keep it to myself. Like the character Gollum in J.R.R. Tolkien's classic tale *Lord of the Rings*, who found the Ring of Power, I could view it as "my precious" and try to keep it to myself, withdrawing from the world. But, like Gollum, I would be sealing my own doom, denying the real purpose behind the power I was holding: the power of love.

The power of Christ's victory over the cross for each one of us lies in the love he has for each of us, and that power is exercised in the expression of that love from each of us to others. The Acts of the Apostles tells us that the small band of disciples of Jesus did not withdraw into themselves with the glory of the resurrection, but created a community of believers founded on love. "They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their property and possessions and divide them among all according to each one's

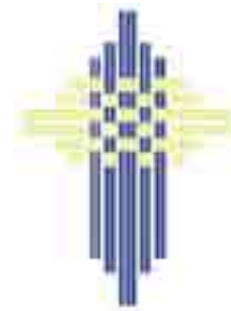
need. Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple area and to breaking bread in their homes. They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved."

That's not to say that we all need to live in communes. But it does tell us that the gift of Christ is not something for us to possess. It is something for us to share. That gift is love. And just as the two fish and five barley loaves were shared with the five thousand on the shores of Galilee until they ate their fill and had 12 baskets left over, the love that we receive from God does not diminish when we give it away. It grows to unimaginable amounts.

At the Last Supper, just before he was to begin his Passion, Jesus, in the presence of his apostles, prayed to the Father, "As you sent me into the world, so I sent them into the world. And I consecrate myself for them, so that they also may be consecrated in truth. I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me."

This is how we live as Christians. We accept the love of God through the resurrected Jesus, and we share that love with those around us in acts of faith, hope, and love in our homes, our parishes, our schools, and our community, and to all those in need, even to the ends of the earth. There is more than enough love to go around.

"Until He Comes Again, This Is Our Work"

By Michael Ames
Diocesan Office of
Development and
Planning

"With God's love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. ... For if we have received the love which restores meaning to our lives, how can we fail to share that love with others?" (*Evangelli Gaudium*, Pope Francis)

Next Saturday and Sunday, May 2 and 3, will be the start of the 2015 Bishop's Annual Appeal. The 2014 BAA was a great success. With a goal of \$6.1 million, the amount pledged was more than \$7.8 million. Because of the remarkable generosity of so many, the ministries and programs supported by the Church of Columbus will continue to serve those in need throughout the 23 counties of our diocese. Many parishes exceeded their goal in 2014, thereby receiving a refund of the additional amount, enabling them to fund various projects within their parish community. This year, the refunds to parishes total more than \$1.5 million.

The Bishop's Annual Appeal is the primary source of funding to help sustain and expand the diocese's ministries and programs. As good stewards of the many gifts and blessings bestowed upon us by our Creator, we are called to support His Church through prayer

and the sharing of our time, talent, and treasure. Your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal helps provide a Catholic education to our youth, whether in our Catholic schools or Parish Schools of Religion, as well as the education of our seminarians and candidates to the diaconate. Your gift also funds programs to enhance and support marriage and family life, respect-life issues, spiritual and pastoral programs, and those programs directed by the Office of Social Concerns.

Bishop Frederick Campbell asks that we join him in support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Each year, the good people of our diocese have answered the call to pray and give generously so that many may benefit. This year, the diocesan goal of the Bishop's Annual Appeal is \$6.2 million. God has looked graciously upon us. Let us return to him what we can in support of the many needs that are evident in our diocese. As this year's appeal theme reminds us, "Until He Comes Again, This Is Our Work."

Additional information about the 2015 Bishop's Annual Appeal is available from the Office of Development and Planning at (614) 241-2550, toll-free at (1-877) 241.2550, by emailing devmailbox@colsdio.org, or by logging on to www.colsdio.org.

Cardinal George, 78, dies after long fight with cancer

By Catholic News Service

Cardinal Francis E. George, the retired archbishop of Chicago who was the first native Chicagoan to head the archdiocese, died on April 17 at his residence after nearly 10 years battling cancer. He was 78.

His successor in Chicago, Archbishop Blase J. Cupich, called Cardinal George "a man of peace, tenacity, and courage" in a statement he read at a news conference held outside Holy Name Cathedral to announce the death.

Archbishop Cupich singled out Cardinal George for overcoming many obstacles to become a priest, and "not letting his physical limitations moderate his zeal for bringing the promise of Christ's love where it was needed most."

A childhood bout with polio had left the prelate with a weakened leg and a pronounced limp throughout his life.

Cardinal George was a philosophy professor and regional provincial, then



vicar general of his religious order, the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, before being named a bishop in 1990.

He was named bishop of Yakima, Washington, in 1990, then was appointed archbishop of Portland, Oregon, in April 1996. Less than a year later, St. John Paul II named him to fill the position in Chicago, which was left vacant by the death of

Cardinal Joseph Bernardin in November 1996.

By retiring in 2014, Cardinal George accomplished what he often joked was his aspiration, to be the first cardinal-archbishop of Chicago to step down from the job rather than dying in office, as his predecessors had. In the last few months, the archdiocese had issued a series of press releases about changes in Cardinal George's health status as it declined.

At an event on Jan. 30 where he re-

ceived an award from the Knights of Columbus, Cardinal George spoke frankly about living with terminal illness, saying that his doctors had exhausted the options for treating his disease and that he was receiving palliative care.

"They've run out of tricks in the bag, if you like," he said. "Basically, I'm in the hands of God, as we all are in some fashion."

Archbishop Cupich in his statement also noted that when the U.S. church "struggled with the grave sin of clerical sexual abuse, (Cardinal George) stood strong among his fellow bishops and insisted that zero tolerance was the only course consistent with our beliefs."

He observed that Cardinal George had offered his counsel and support to three popes, serving the worldwide church. In Chicago, Archbishop Cupich noted, the cardinal "visited every corner of the archdiocese, talking with the faithful and bringing kindness to every interaction."

Cardinal George was president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops from 2007 to 2010. Besides his term as president of the USCCB, Cardinal

George served on its committees on divine worship; evangelization and catechesis; doctrine; Latin America; missions; religious life and ministry; Hispanic affairs; science and values; and African-American Catholics, and was the USCCB representative to the International Committee on English in the Liturgy from 1997 to 2006.

Among other activities, Cardinal George served as chancellor for the Catholic Church Extension Society and the University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, Illinois; as a member of the board of trustees of The Catholic University of America, the Papal Foundation, the National Catholic Bioethics Center, the National Catholic Office for Persons with Disabilities; and as grand prior of the North Central Lieutenancy of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

In addition to English, he spoke French, Italian, Spanish, and German.

Cardinal George is survived by one sister, Margaret Cain of Grand Rapids, Michigan, as well as nieces and nephews.

Catholic Youth Summer Camp to build Ohio's first Catholic high-adventure camp

Dr. Vincent Pompili, board chair for Catholic Youth Summer Camp (CYSC), announces that CYSC has acquired 471 acres in Centerburg on which to build a permanent home.

This gift was made possible by the generosity and visionary leadership of David and Michele Bianconi, who are known in Columbus for their civic and philanthropic work and for their dedication and love for the Catholic faith.

"For Michele and me, giving to Catholic Youth Summer Camp was an easy decision," David Bianconi said. "A gift to CYSC is an investment in our future Church and in the future leaders for the Catholic community."

"Michele and I have seen firsthand the fruits of CYSC. This ministry celebrates the joy of Catholicism and keeps our young people grounded in their faith by having a love for Christ and being his followers."

"CYSC has been searching for the right property for several years. When we saw this property, we knew it was the perfect home. Michele and I are very excited to support this project. We feel it will be the cornerstone for many future Catholic high-adventure camps."

Catholic Youth Summer Camp was founded in 2001 to provide Catholic faith-awakening and faith-formation camps for middle-school and high-school students.

What started as one week of 60 campers has grown into a full summer of eight sessions, with more than 1,100 campers and over 100 volunteer counselors. This camp is unlike any other Catholic camp in the

nation because of its unique high-adventure ministry philosophy.

CYSC uses high-adventure activities such as jet skiing and paintball that help to create an environment in which, through dynamic catechesis, young people encounter Jesus Christ and discover how to live a "high-adventure faith" that is deep, contagious, and joy-filled.

Since its inception, CYSC has impacted young people throughout Ohio and the nation. One parent wrote, "All three of my kids have fallen in love with their Catholic faith at CYSC ... they are evangelizing others and helping to strengthen our family." Another parent said, "My daughter's enthusiasm for the Catholic faith after returning home from CYSC has reignited the Spirit in us as a family."

This extraordinary donation of land in Centerburg will allow Catholic Youth Summer Camp to increase its camper capacity and continue to play an integral role in empowering a new generation of Catholics throughout Ohio.

The new camp is located in the geographical heart of Ohio on a 471-acre plot of rolling woods and fields, complete with a 30-acre freshwater lake. It will allow Catholic families from across Ohio and beyond to experience the only high-adventure Catholic campsite in the United States.

Pompili said, "This incredible gift not only is going to bless thousands of young people and their families



through the increased ministry opportunities of CYSC, but the camp and conference center that will be built on this land also will become a blessing to the parishes and lay ministries of the entire diocese and neighboring dioceses. This campsite will have a dramatic impact on the New Evangelization efforts in Ohio."

Catholic Youth Summer Camp plans on beginning construction of the camp facilities this summer, with a grand opening scheduled for the summer of 2016. In addition to hosting the summer camp, the new facility will operate year-round, offering parishes, ministries, and schools a place for hosting events.

To find out more about Catholic Youth Summer Camp or to register for camp, go to www.cysc.com or email Dan DeMatte, CYSC director of evangelization, at Dan@cysc.com.



Front Page photo:

A photo from the October 2014 housewarming of the new Columbus Focolare house. Amgad Moawd is shown with his children (from left) Maria, Rita, and Clara. Monica Stanley is holding Maria.

Photo courtesy Ohio Focolare

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PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

Transmission

How well spent were those 15-minute periods of reflection last week? For the first one, it was pretty easy to reflect upon those who had a very familiar impact on my life. Parents, family members, friends, and even my own spouse and children brought a smile to my face and my heart. For the second one, I was amazed by how many other people I thought of, even though they had been largely forgotten. It was nice and refreshing to recall impactful people from childhood and many years ago who have so positively helped to shape my mind, my heart, and my soul. There are even some more recent good people who I may have just taken for granted, or simply not thought about in that particular way. All these role models played a particular part in our lives, some in a small way, others in a big way, and some still do. We appreciate them for who they are and for their positive effect on us. We pray that our own names are on the lists of others. We are committed by our baptism to be the model of Jesus Christ for the rest of the world.

Since we are in the midst of the Easter season, I have been reflecting upon this wonderful time of the liturgical year. One of the most joyful and inspirational parts of this time of year is the great liturgies of the Sacred Triduum and Easter, and then Pentecost. The greatest joy is participating in them as a family. It is always great to see so many families celebrating and worshipping together. I thought about this, and also about some families who are not as fortunate to have that experience for any number of reasons. I considered questions such as: We are nothing special, or are we? Why do some people struggle to be together at Mass and other services? Does it matter? To whom? What can we do to make a difference, besides prayer? Are there things that young families can do to help with better results as all grow older? I found part of the answer in a recent issue of the CARA (Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate) Report. The question of parent-to-child faith transmission is addressed, with reference to a book by Vern L. Bergston. That transmission of our faith, not unlike so many other important parts of our lives, is critical from an early age and as a family. I will share only some of the information, all of which offers some good food for thought and contemplation, and maybe even action. Consistent behavior of parents as good role models is a major factor in religious socialization and faith transmission. "If the parents are not themselves involved in religious activities, if their actions are not consistent with what they preach, children are rarely motivated to follow in their parents' religious footsteps," Bergston writes. Among his suggestions for enhancing the intergenerational transmission of faith are: focusing on the family as a unit and strengthening connections across generations; taking a long-range view and being encouraged that "religious intensity" does ebb and flow, religious expression does grow and mature, as do young people, and religious revival or renewal can be sparked by innovation within particular generations.

Our practical challenge this week is to pray for and consider our own efforts in transmission of our Catholic faith to our children, grandchildren, relatives, students, or parishioners. We must consciously live a life that reflects our faith. We are role models, whether we think of it that way or not. Pray for the grace, courage, and strength to do so consistently. Here is one statistic to ponder: the percentage of Catholic parents whose young adult children have the same faith tradition in 1970 was 84 percent. Today, it is 43 percent. What has happened?

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



CORPUS CHRISTI FILM

The next film in the "Movies that Touch Our Hearts" series at the Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus, will be *The Canary Effect: Kill the Indian, Save the Man*, to be shown at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 4.

Delving deeply into the often misunderstood and frequently overlooked historic realities of the American Indian, *The Canary Effect* is an award-winning documentary that examines the abuses instilled upon the indigenous people of North America by the U.S. government and the continuing

effects of those events on today's Native Americans.

The film will be followed by a conversation led by a representative of the Native American Indian Center of Central Ohio.

To reserve a bowl of popcorn and your seat for this film, register online at cccenterofpeace.org or (614) 512-3731, or send an email message to corpuschristicenterofpeace@gmail.com.

The event is free. A free-will offering will be taken to support the work of the Corpus Christi center.

www.ctonline.org

Bookkeeper Position Available

The parish community of Saint Andrew is seeking a fulltime Bookkeeper who, under the direct supervision of the Business Administrator, will be responsible for performing various duties in the area of cash disbursements and cash receipts, including the automated capture, repair and processing of checks and other transit items; miscellaneous balancing and processing duties pertinent to a batch transaction environment. Duties including, but not limited to, the following: Maintain the Accounts Payable for all entities of the parish and reconcile all bank/PAF accounts; enter data into the Parish census database for contributions, payments, and annual pledges; account codes and data - enter deposits and journal entries, posting approved entries to General Ledger; maintain various Excel data base sub ledgers; process payroll for designated entities, including withholding payroll taxes and filing of related quarterly and annual tax forms; assist Business Administrator in preparation of the annual budget and financial reports; deposit checks as needed using Electronic Deposit Transfer; deposit cash at bank; assist with the tracking, collecting, and posting of tuition.

Qualifications for the position: The ideal candidate must also be self-motivated to complete the responsibilities of the job with minimum supervision; ability to multi-task and establish priorities; ability to maintain flexible attitude and approach towards assignments and successfully operate under appropriate guidelines; ability to read and comprehend simple instructions, write short correspondence, and memos; ability to effectively communicate with staff, parishioners, and other visitors to the parish and school; ability to exercise discreet judgment in maintaining all information highly confidential; ability to be flexible but meet deadlines when required; establish good organizational skills and priorities; exhibit initiative and responsibility. A college degree is preferred with a degree in a related field or comparable bookkeeping experience. Ongoing working knowledge of computer software including Microsoft Office and accounting programs is required. Extensive experience with Microsoft Excel is preferred. A minimum of three years of related experience is required.

Passing a background screening and completion of the VIRTUS "Protecting God's Children" course are mandatory. Salary is commensurate with education and experience. All benefits are according to Columbus Diocesan policy. Send cover letter, resume, salary requirement and references by April 30, 2015

Dominic Prunte, HR Director at dprunte@colsdio.org

MARCH FOR FREEDOM CALLS FOR ACTION AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

According to UNICEF, the average age a person enters the sex trade in the United States is 12 to 14 years old. Many victims are runaway girls who were sexually abused as children. They are still children. And they live here in Columbus.

They may have been on the bus you rode last week or in the car driving next to you on Interstate 270. Most people are unaware of how pervasive human trafficking is. Ohio is ranked seventh in the United States in the number of human trafficking cases reported.

Keep in mind that most human trafficking involves children, who

are recruited, transported, transferred, harbored, or received for the purpose of sexual exploitation. They also may be forced to work in sweatshops, on construction sites, or in houses as domestic servants; on the streets as child beggars; in wars as child soldiers; on farms; or in restaurants and hotels. Some are forced to work in brothels and strip clubs or for escort and massage services. Although most people feel powerless to do anything about it, others are hoping to raise awareness of the problem and call for action.

Organizers in Columbus plan a

March for Freedom – Columbus at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 3. Jeanette Bradley, a victim of trafficking who later survived it, said, "This is an interfaith march – all denominations, races, and backgrounds, because human trafficking can happen to anyone."

The goal of the march is to raise awareness and raise the conversation about victims of sex and labor trafficking, a subject few people know anything about. The group will march from City Hall at 90 W. Broad St. to the Statehouse steps. Franklin Coun-

ty Municipal Judge Paul Herbert will speak. He is the founder of CATCH Court, a program that helps rebuild the lives of victims of prostitution and human trafficking. Gerald Rice, a community leader, sponsor, and organizer of the march will also speak.

You can register online for the march at marchforfreedomcolumbus.org until the day of the event. All funds received will be used for anti-human trafficking causes. Parking will be available for \$5 at the Statehouse parking garage and the garage at 50 W Broad St.

CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON CLUB

The May session of the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club will feature a presentation by Rear Adm. Father Louis Iasiello, a priest and a retired Navy officer who has served as chief of chaplains for the Navy and as president of the Washington Theological Union, a Catholic graduate school of theology and ministry.

The club meets on the first Friday of most months at Columbus St. Patrick

Church, 280 N. Grant Ave. Mass will begin at 11:45 a.m., followed by lunch and Father Iasiello's talk until 1 p.m. No reservations are necessary. A \$10 donation is requested to cover the cost of the lunch and meeting.

For more information on Catholic men's luncheons, visit www.columbuscatholicmen.com or contact John Schechter at jschechter@sbcglobal.net.

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Too much focus on the Passion; Donating body to science



QUESTION & ANSWER
by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. I have always wondered why we read the Passion during Palm Sunday services. Palm Sunday is a day of rejoicing and jubilation, as we remember Jesus riding into Jerusalem amid throngs of cheering people.

But then we read the passion of Christ, which we also read again on Holy Thursday and, for a third time, on Good Friday. There is no mistaking the fact that historically these events unfolded with Jesus arriving triumphantly into the city. We seem to be the only Christian denomination to turn Palm Sunday into such a sad and horrible day. (Louisville, Kentucky)

A. First, a correction. The narrative of the passion is not read on Holy Thursday; the readings at Mass on that day focus on the Last Supper -- on Christ's institution of the Eucharist and his washing the feet of the apostles. The passion of Jesus is read twice in the Catholic liturgy: once on Palm Sunday, when the account is taken from one of the synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, or Luke), and again on Good Friday, when John's Gospel is proclaimed.

On Palm Sunday, the Catholic liturgy is like an overture for all of Holy Week. At the beginning of the ceremony, palms

are blessed and a short Gospel is read describing Jesus' triumphal entrance into Jerusalem riding on a donkey. During the Mass, the Passion is read, often in three parts.

The liturgy for Palm Sunday is something of a hybrid. It begins in triumph, but quickly there looms the shadow of the cross. In fact, the joy of Christ's followers on the first Palm Sunday was short-lived. The crowd in Jerusalem was swelled immensely that day by Jews who had gathered for the Passover celebration.

Many in that assembly were unaware that the savior of the world was in their midst, and those followers who honored him with palms were doubtless in the minority -- as evidenced by his arrest a few days later and the cries of the crowd for crucifixion.

For many Catholics, Palm Sunday is the only time they hear the Passion read, since the Good Friday liturgy often takes place during workday hours and the congregation is much larger on Palm Sunday.

Q. I have been asked by several people who know that I am a Catholic whether the church permits people to donate their bodies to a medical center after death. Their intent is to enable others to live lon-

ger if any viable organs can be used or to provide material for research that might prevent disease in the future. Following any procedures, the remains are then cremated. (Chadron, Nebraska)

A. The answer to your question is a resounding "Yes." In fact, in October 2014, Pope Francis met with the Transplantation Committee for the Council of Europe and called the act of organ donation "a testimony of love for our neighbor."

That statement echoed the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, which says in No. 2296 that "organ donation after death is a noble and meritorious act and is to be encouraged as an expression of generous solidarity."

Likewise, the *Catechism* states in No. 2301 that "autopsies can be morally permitted for legal inquests or scientific research." In 1995, in his encyclical *The Gospel of Life*, Pope John Paul II called organ donation an example of "everyday heroism."

The remains, after organ donation or medical research, must be treated with reverence and entombed or buried. In my diocese, our diocesan cemetery donates gravesites and burial services for the interment of the cremated remains of those who donated their bodies to science.

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



ST. CHARLES SIGNEES

Six seniors participating in spring sports at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School will be continuing their athletic careers in the 2015-16 academic year in college. They are (from left): first row, Frank Carsonie, soccer, Denver; NiQuille Bell, football, Ohio Dominican; and Timothy Rooney Jr., wrestling, Kent State; second row, Eddie O'Brien, golf, Tiffin; Will Eichel, volleyball, Ohio State; and Nick Marino, track and cross country, Walsh.

Photo courtesy St. Charles Preparatory School

Catholic Charismatic Renewal Event

A citywide charismatic prayer gathering will take place from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 9 at Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road. It will begin with Mass at 9 a.m., followed by a prayer meeting at 9:45 and a potluck luncheon.

There will be a day of renewal on Thursday, May 14 at Columbus St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd. It will begin with registration at 9 a.m., confessions and praise and worship at 9:30, Mass at 10:15, a talk on "Unity Through Love," and a potluck.

The rosary will be recited at 5:30 p.m., followed by praise and worship at 6 and Mass at 7. Personal prayer will be available during praise and worship.

For more information, contact the Catholic Charismatic Renewal at (614) 914-8556, log onto its website at www.cccolumbus.org, or follow it on Facebook at Catholic Charismatic Renewal, Inc.

PreSchool Director

The preferred candidate should be a highly organized and motivated individual for this 30 hour per week position and have a four year degree in Early Childhood Education or a related field, and the appropriate Pre-School certification. Previous experience as a Pre-School Director or someone who can ensure compliance with state licensing standards is also required. Excellent communication and planning skills are a must.

Anyone interested in applying for this position must be an active, practicing Catholic, submit to a BCI background check and attend (or have attended) the diocesan-mandated Protecting God's Children Workshop. Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. Candidates for consideration should send a resume and cover letter to the parish office (St. Edward Church, 785 Newark-Granville Rd., Granville, OH, 43203) or send this information by e-mail:

church@saintedwards.org

Sizemore will be

Legal Counsel Position
Heartbeat International seeks Legal Counsel for their office in Upper Arlington. This is a part-time role, 20 hours per week, offering schedule flexibility and the opportunity to serve a great cause - Life! Please visit our web page for details: <http://www.heartbeat-services.org/job-registry>

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ON A FIRM FOUNDATION
By Loren Brown

Helping to spread the good news

Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature.
- Mark 16:15

In the Gospel reading for this Saturday, April 25, the Feast of St. Mark, Jesus appears to the apostles and instructs them to go out and proclaim the Gospel and those who believe will be saved. As Catholics, we also know that it is our role to share the Gospel and to help others accept Him as our Savior.

At The Catholic Foundation, we support many initiatives to spread the Gospel. We're very excited about two recent grant opportunities that focus on this. The first is The Amazing Parish conference. As I mentioned in a previous column, we recently awarded grants for 25 parishes and 100 people to attend this conference in Denver. The conference took place this past week, presented important and challenging ideas, and helped guide the parishes in attendance in forming a strategic plan to develop and grow their ministries, thus making a more dynamic and

engaging parish community. I hope to share more in the coming months as we learn how the parishes are using the information they learned at the conference.

The second grant opportunity is announced on Page 3 of this week's Catholic Times and is designed to help ignite a fire and spread the Gospel to our younger Catholics. The Catholic Foundation is offering multi-year grants to fund five full-time youth ministry positions. Youth ministry programs empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today. They help young people make the right connections, and they grow young disciples. However, fewer than half the parishes in the diocese have a youth ministry position.

We want to reverse that statistic and help our parishes engage this impressionable group. During the next three years, The Catholic Foundation is committed to funding as many as 15 new youth ministry positions. This was made possible by a partnership with the Diocesan Office of Youth

& Young Adult Ministry and donors who are dedicated to growing our faith. We are very blessed to have the support of a community that is so committed to sharing the Gospel.

You can also help support initiatives that spread the Gospel. Have you considered a donation to our Support for Parishes Fund? This fund provides financial support to our parishes so that they may implement new programs and initiatives to better engage the parish community. Maybe you can't make a donation at this time, but still want to support the initiatives. I ask you to pray about leaving a portion of your estate to this fund as a bequest in your will. The Catholic Foundation offers many options for you to support the initiatives and organizations that mean the most to you. Please give us a call at (614) 443-8893 to discuss an option that makes the most sense for your situation and goals.

Brown is president and chief executive officer of The Catholic Foundation and a parishioner at Granville St. Edward Church.

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Grief Support Group
A grief support group for anyone adjusting to the loss of a loved one is forming at Worthington St. Michael Church, 5750 N. High St., and will meet for six weeks beginning Monday, May 4 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.
A Christian-based manual, suggested readings, and handout material will be available. Co-facilitators are C.G. Jones and Mary Ann Koncal. Call Jones at (614) 846-2361 or the parish office at (614) 885-7814 with questions or to register.

BIKE BLESSING RETURNS TO ST. MONICA CHURCH

With Spring here, thoughts turn to outdoor activities, and that includes motorcycleing.

Portsmouth Council 741 and New Boston-Wheelersburg Council 14346 of the Knights of Columbus are hosting their second annual Blessing of the Bikes following the 4 p.m. Mass on Saturday, May 9 at New Boston St. Monica Church. Father Joseph Yokum will conduct the service.

Following the blessing, there will be a ride, weather permitting, through the country, ending at the Knights of Columbus hall in Portsmouth.

Wyatt Bates, a member of Council 14346 and an organizer of the event, said last year's blessing was a great success, considering the weather.

"Just as Father Joe was administering the blessing, the wind kicked up, the clouds rolled, thunder and lightning lit the sky, and the rain poured," Bates said.

"We ducked in the church to allow the



rain to pass, and then went on to the K of C hall in Portsmouth and continued our fellowship. We knew then we had to make this an annual event."

The blessing is open to everyone – all ages, all bikes, all riders, all faiths.

There is no charge for the blessing or to join the ride.

Food and beverages will be available at the hall afterward for a nominal cost. All blessing attendees will receive a St. Christopher medal to keep on their

bikes as they travel.

St. Monica Church is on the corner of Gallia and Pine streets in New Boston. The K of C hall is at 1518 Gallia St. in Portsmouth. For more information, contact Wyatt Bates at (740) 352-6204.

Hawthorne Dominicans vocation weekend

Young women who are discerning a religious vocation are invited to experience the life and charism of the Dominican Sisters of Hawthorne during a vocations weekend in their motherhouse at Hawthorne, New York, Friday to Sunday, May 22 to 24.

The sisters' sole apostolate is to care for terminal cancer patients who cannot afford medical care. The sisters operate homes for all those in need of their assistance. They accept no money from any government agency, no Medicare or Medicaid, no private insurance, and

nothing from patients or their families. Their homes are free, and patients can stay as long as they want. One of the Hawthorne Dominicans, Sister Mary Damien, OP, grew up in Columbus, attending Holy Rosary High School and graduating from Bishop Hartley High School. She serves at the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Home in Atlanta.

For more information about the weekend or the Hawthorne Dominicans, contact Sister Alma Marie, OP, at (845) 745-1319 or email vocationdirector@hawthorne-dominicans.org.

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From the attic to the inbox, the American accumulation problem

Carly Poppalardo had blisters on her feet when she drove home from an eight-hour session of professional organizing, threw a bag of Trader Joe's pre-cut veggies and simmer sauce on the stove, flipped on *The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills* and sank into the couch.

"I was high on adrenaline," Carly said, "but I was so tired I could barely move."

When she arrived at the client's three-story house at 9 o'clock that morning, the situation hadn't looked particularly dire. But she and the mother of three, a Southern woman with an affinity for matching dresses, managed to fill two truck beds and an SUV with four car seats, five bouncy chairs, and enough toys to stock a preschool room.

One of the ironies of our age of excess is how the littlest among us come with such outsized equipment. And then there is the strange reality that Americans pay to store the things we cannot fit in our homes, driving demand for more than 78 square miles of rentable self-storage – more than three times the size of Manhattan.

The burden of sorting the stuff under our roofs increasingly has become the work of a professional, an outsourcing of the most personal nature with a humbling implication: Help me manage my life. Until the expert arrives, the truth is we often don't even know what we have. Carly once uncovered 27 spatulas in one



Twenty Something

Christina Capecchi

home, and, in another, seven jars of saffron.

"Clients tell me I'm kind of like a therapist," Carly said. "As we're getting rid of stuff, we're talking about why it accumulated in the first place."

The 27-year-old Catholic has no doubt there are spiritual ramifications to her work: a garage loaded with bulk items from Costco, a drawer stuffed with expired coupons, a "give pile" of clothes with tags.

"It's a rabbit hole," Carly said. "People are looking to fill other needs when they buy things, especially when they overbuy. Once they develop that awareness, there's a mental shift, and they can focus on the more important stuff."

Hence, the statement on her Twitter profile: "I organize your life so you can live it."

Carly makes a point to keep her own life in order, which is why you'll find her at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass at St. Agnes in Arlington, Virginia, in her family's standard spot – right side, toward the back –

for a weekly "regrounding and regrouping."

It was her trust in God that emboldened her to take the leap into self-employment at 23, turning down a job offer from a public-relations firm that once would have sounded like her dream job, but felt more like a trap. "I was miserable in the corporate world. The system didn't make sense to me. The interns were working 7 to 7 because they wanted to move up to be an assistant account executive to work even longer hours," she said.

Since then, Carly has successfully built up her business. Armed with bins, shelving, and a label maker, there's no basement she can't conquer. She jokes about spotting *National Geographic* magazines – that recurring strip of canary yellow – and her 50 percent success rate of persuading the owner to recycle them.

Nearly all her clients hug her when she leaves, describing the weight lifted off their shoulders. It's amazing how the sight of a bare counter can fill your lungs and clear your mind.

In this season of spring cleaning, of open windows and Alleluias, of the pontiff who preaches simple living, now is the time to de-clutter – time to travel light, to give freely, to be empty-handed and open-hearted.

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota, and the editor of SisterStory.org.

MARION ST. MARY SCHOOL SERVICE PROJECT

Nearly 75 students in grades one to eight from Marion St. Mary School, along with their teachers and several parent volunteers, spent part of a recent afternoon walking around downtown picking up trash. Students and teachers used a "divide and conquer" approach and covered several blocks, including some

residential streets near the school. The event, a part of Marion's Earth Week cleanup, was organized by Marion County Recycling and Litter Prevention, which provided gloves and trash bags. Jack Mental, school principal, said students and teachers were happy to participate in this community service project.

Photo courtesy St. Mary School

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Chiara Lubich

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, Catholic Times

Seventy-two years ago in Italy, one ordinary laywoman looked beyond the devastation caused by World War II and had a dream of social and spiritual renewal, with the nations of the world uniting in a movement marked by everyday spirituality and following the inspiration of Jesus' prayer "that all may be one."

Before her death in 2008, that woman, Chiara Lubich, saw the movement, known as Focolare (the Italian word for "hearth" or "family fireside"), expand worldwide to 192 nations.

Its essence is summed up in 25 words on a six-sided rubber cube that is one of its symbols – "Love everyone. Be the first one to love. Love the other as oneself. Share the other's joy of suffering. Love your enemy. Love one another." Lubich describes



Ohio Focolare members (from left): first row, Agnes Ndobegang, Maria Rocha, and Jade Giacobbe; second row, Paula Taliaferro, Lindsay Taliaferro, Bea Romo, and Sheila Osterman.
CT photo by Tim Puet

FOCOLARE MOVEMENT

this as the Art of Loving. In essence, it's a longer version of the Golden Rule – Jesus' command to "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Chiara Lubich now has the title Servant of God, the first step in the process which could lead to her canonization. That honor was conferred on her this past Jan. 27, at a Mass which included a message from Pope Francis saying Lubich "welcomed the invitation of the Lord and enkindled a new light for the Church on the journey towards unity."

Lubich is one of 24 *focolarini* who have been honored as Servants of God. One of them, Blessed Chiara Luce Badano, was only 18 years old when she died in 1990. Twenty years later, she was beatified, the final step before being declared a saint. Her extraordinary spirituality was seen as a model of holiness for young people by many, including Pope Benedict XVI.

Another Focolare member, Cardinal Nguyen Van Thuan, was a Vietnamese bishop who became a cardinal in 2001, died the following year, and received the title Servant of God five years later. But most Focolare members who have been given that honor were ordinary single and mar-

ried laypersons whose recognition resulted from their efforts to put into practice the movement's underlying principles.

At the core of Focolare activities are *focolarini* – single people devoted to the movement who live in a common household and share their possessions. More than 7,000 *focolarini* live in 742 Focolare centers around the world, including one near Port Columbus International Airport. More than two million other people are involved with the movement internationally.

Focolare has been in Columbus since 1991 and is strongly supported by Bishop Frederick Campbell, who celebrated a memorial Mass commemorating the life of Chiara Lubich on March 20 at Ohio Dominican University. The Columbus Focolare community is one of more than 30 across the United States.

Four *focolarini* – Jade Giacobbe, Maria Rocha, Bea Romo, and Sheila Padayahag, who currently is visiting her family in the Philippines – live at the Columbus Focolare house. The house also serves as the center for the movement for Ohio, Michigan, and parts of Tennessee and Kentucky.

Focolare in Columbus has been at its current location for about six months. The local Focolare center has been at several rented sites in the Columbus area in the 24 years since its founding.

Giacobbe is from New Jersey and is a telephone company retiree. She has been part of the movement since 1965, four years after the first *focolarini* arrived in the United States from Italy. "I was attending Mount Mercy College in Pittsburgh (now Carlow University) at the time and, like many young people in the '60s, was searching for some-

thing. I wasn't in love with the Catholic Church, and I asked Jesus to show me somebody who was really living the Gospel," she said.

"I learned about Focolare on a retreat. I had no idea what it was, but was struck by the women involved in Focolare who were there and the sense of love that they had. I felt the presence of Jesus in the way they talked about him as though they knew him, and how they wanted to change the world through the Gospel.

"I didn't act on my feelings right away, but continued to feel a strong desire to get in touch with them," Giacobbe said. Once she did so, she went to Italy for training at one of the "little cities" operated by Focolare as formation centers. There are now 32 such sites worldwide, including one in Hyde Park, New York.

Giacobbe has been a *focolarina* in New York City, San Antonio, Los Angeles, and Boston, and twice in Chicago, where she served from 1997 until coming to Columbus two-and-a-half years ago. *Focolarini* do not make the same formal promise of obedience as priests and religious, but are asked to serve at Focolare centers in response to the needs of communities where the centers are located.

In keeping with the international nature of the Focolare movement as a witness to unity, its communities consist of members from multiple backgrounds. Padayahag, a nurse, is from the Philippines, Rocha from Brazil, and Romo from Spain. To help the Columbus Focolare center maintain its cultural variety, Rocha and Romo both were asked to come to Columbus about six months ago, at about the same time the local Focolare house moved to its current location.

Rocha, who is looking for work



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Left: The opening for the cause of the beatification of Focolare founder Chiara Lubich in the cathedral of Frascati, Italy. Right: Chiara Lubich Memorial Mass at Ohio Dominican University on March 20. Photos courtesy Focolare International, Ohio Focolare

as a pharmacist, and Roma, pastoral assistant at Columbus St. Peter church, tell similar stories of becoming involved with Focolare because they came in contact with the movement in their respective nations and were inspired by how *focolarini* fulfilled their commitment to living Gospel values.

Agnes Ndobegang, a native of Cameroon, has been taking part in Focolare events for the last 17 years. Her first exposure to the movement came at one of the Mariapolis gatherings the movement sponsors each summer to give members and other interested people a chance to get together, discuss their efforts, and encourage interfaith dialogue. This year's Midwest Mariapolis is scheduled for July 9-13 in Valparaiso, Indiana.

Ndobegang, like most Focolare members who do not live in community, is not involved with the organization full-time, but considers her participation an important part of her everyday life. She works as a home health aide.

Sheila Osterman, retired after a career in banking, said she has been involved with Focolare since 1967. "What's always impressed me about Focolare is that its members are like the first Christians in the way they live

for each other," she said. "When I first joined the movement, I found myself giving things away. Over the years, it's shown me that the more you help another person, the more it becomes part of you."

"I married into Focolare, and it turned my life around," said Lindsay Taliaferro, who is employed by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. His wife, Paula, who works for the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging, had been involved with the movement for several years when the couple met in Texas. They were married 30 years ago.

"I wasn't a Christian when we were married, but through Paula's involvement with Focolare, I began feeling a real sense of community and a presence of

God whenever I was around the organization," Taliaferro said. "After many years, I realized this was what I wanted," so he joined the Catholic Church and became more involved with Focolare about 15 years ago.

Father Timothy Hayes, pastor of Columbus St. Timothy Church, first became aware of Focolare while he was studying for the priesthood in Rome. He has retained ties to the movement throughout the 30 years since his ordination. This year, he was one of 17 priests who gathered at Hyde Park from several states, with one coming from Rome, for a post-Easter retreat week.

"I've stayed involved with Focolare for several reasons," he said. "First is its powerful focus on unity among all people and

all religions. In addition, the organization is very much open to a variety of forms of involvement. And it brings people from many walks of life – married, single laypeople, and religious – together and integrates them through a similar vision of service."

Focolare is a Roman Catholic ecclesial movement and has been involved in ecumenism and interreligious dialogue for decades. Maria Voce, the organization's international president, was among those taking part this past Tuesday and Wednesday, April 21 and 22, in a discussion at the United Nations on the promotion of tolerance and reconciliation, with the aim of fostering peaceful and inclusive societies and countering violent extremism.

In Columbus, Focolare has been part of many interfaith dinners and other events over the years. In June, the local Focolare center will host a picnic which will continue an ongoing relationship with the American Muslim organization inspired by the late Wallace D. Mohammed, son of Eli-

Left: Columbus participants at Focolare's 2014 Midwest Mariapolis conference. Right: Muslimah Muhammad (left) and Nicole Lula are greeted by an unidentified woman at an Ohio Focolare picnic. Photos/Ohio Focolare



jah Muhammad, founder of the Nation of Islam. This relationship is part of a dialogue that has been continuing since the 1990s as a result of invitations by Chiara Lubich and Pope John Paul II to Wallace Mohammed to speak at interfaith events at Rome, Assisi, and the Vatican.

The Columbus Focolare center is a site for weekly gatherings of the local *focolarini* and others involved in the movement, an open house on the second Sunday of each month, monthly youth activities, and special events.

Columbus will be a key link in a major international activity sponsored by Focolare on Sunday, May 3. The event, Run4Unity 2015, is a 24-hour global relay, beginning in New Zealand and ending in Hawaii.

It will feature activities from 11 a.m. to noon local time at a designated site in all 24 of the world's time zones, with Columbus serving as the site for the Eastern U.S. zone.

A torch will be symbolically passed from Brazil to Columbus via Skype at 11 a.m. that day, then be passed on to Dallas in the same way at noon. The event will take place locally at the Run the Race Club, 880 S. Wayne Ave., Columbus, beginning with Mass at 8:30 a.m. and featuring games and workshops from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

To learn more about Focolare, go to www.focolare.org/usa, then click on links to Columbus or Run4Unity for specific information on the local organization.



St. John Learning Center Expands Its Mission

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, Catholic Times

For nearly 30 years, the St. John Learning Center has promoted literacy, learning, and leadership in Columbus' inner city through adult education and computer training classes.

Now the center is set to expand its mission of community service by adding programs involving employment skills, anger management, and strengthening families, said its executive director, Teresa Thorpe.

Thorpe, who has been in her current position since February 2013, came to the center in 2010 to teach General Educational Development classes for people wishing to earn a high-school equivalency diploma. She also started the center's annual job fair. She said that after becoming executive director, it didn't take long to discover in her conversations with GED students and others in the community that they felt certain issues weren't being adequately addressed.

"I talked to parents, teens, school officials, judges, police officers, public defenders, and people from other churches. All of them said there was a need for programs that could help people get jobs, keep families together, and teach how to handle stressful family situations in a way in which people could deal with problems themselves without getting the courts involved," she said.

"The programs we have put together are a direct result of those conversations. Strengthening the community has always been our priority. Our pro-

St. John Learning Center staff members (from left): Sheri Finch, administrative assistant; Leo Brown, computer teacher; Gloria Power, office volunteer; Teresa Thorpe, executive director.

(T photo by Tim Puet)



gramming is focused around supporting the whole person and the family. The new opportunities we are offering will enable us to do that in a way we know will help more than ever to fulfill the community's needs."

The employment skills program is a part of the GED classes that take place throughout the year at the center from 10 a.m. to noon and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and the computer classes which meet from 1 to 3 p.m. Wednesdays and 10 a.m. to noon and noon to 2 p.m. Saturdays. The current term for those classes began on Tuesday, April 7 and will continue through mid-June.

Those attending the classes also have an opportunity to receive the free breakfast and lunch served Mondays through Saturdays by The Community Kitchen, which shares the former St. John School building at 640 S. Ohio Ave. on the city's near-southeast side with the St. John Learning Center.

In cooperation with Columbus Public Schools, the center also offers classes at The Neighborhood House, The Salvation Army, and the Columbus YWCA.

"The employment skills training is designed to help people enter or re-enter the work force by showing them how to write a resume, conducting mock interviews, working with job placement ser-

VICES, referring them to the Nehemiah Project ministry for suitable clothing for job interviews when needed, and finally sending them on actual interviews," Thorpe said.

She said banks, hotels, restaurants, a trucking school, Nationwide Children's Hospital, and the Columbus police and fire divisions are working with the cen-

ter's job placement efforts. Most participants in the employment skills program are referred by one of the nearly 30 agencies that are partners with the center, but walk-ins also are accepted. Lessons for the program are being provided by Thorpe and several retired

See MISSION, Page 15

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K of C HONORS CLERGY AND RELIGIOUS

Lancaster Knights of Columbus Council 1016 honored priests serving Fairfield County parishes and Dominican Sisters of Peace with roots in the county at the council's annual clergy night dinner. The Knights presented the sisters with a check for \$1,860.50 for vocations-related activities. Honored were (from left): first row, Becky Sullivan, wife of Deacon Frank Sullivan of Lancaster St. Mary Church; Sister Maxine Shonk, OP, celebrating 50 years since her profession of vows; Sister Noreen Malone, OP (62 years); and Sister Joan Franks, OP (53 years); second row, Father Thomas Kessler, pastor of Bremen St. Mary and Lancaster St. Bernadette churches; Deacon Sullivan; Father James Walter, pastor of Sugar Grove St. Joseph Church; and Father Craig Eilerman, pastor of Lancaster St. Mary. Photo/K of C Council 1016

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The Catholic Foundation Is Offering Five Grants for Youth Ministry

Youth ministry programs empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today. They help youth to make the right connections and they grow young disciples.

Observations from a survey of millennial youth showed 75 percent of respondents say that religion is important in their lives and that they want to know what the Church teaches. However, did you know that less than half of the nation's dioceses have a paid youth ministry position?

The Catholic Foundation is announcing a partnership with the Diocesan Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry and donors who want to support an effort to reverse that statistic.

The Foundation is accepting online applications for five youth ministry grants. The deadline to apply is noon Friday, May 15.

These grants will help to pay for a new, full-time parish youth minister or a new, full-time position having youth ministry as a primary responsibility (based on a \$50,000 annual budget for salary and benefits) over a period of four years.

Parishes which currently have a part-time youth ministry position and wish to expand it to a full-time position may

also apply. By the end of the grant term, the person holding this position will become a certified catechist and youth minister.

These grants provide an opportunity for parishes to engage and revitalize their youth. The parish(es) will pay an increasing portion of the annual costs each year for four years, and by the fifth year, will fund the position in its entirety.

Parishes are encouraged to think about partnering with one another, or partnering at the deanery level where appropriate, to provide future funding of the position after the grant period ends.

For the complete grant guidelines and eligibility, visit grants.catholic-foundation.org. The Catholic Foundation encourages pastors to prayerfully consider how their parish(es) could benefit from this grant.

For guidance on suggestions and eligibility, contact Amy Parker, Foundation vice president of grants and diocesan partnerships (AParker@catholic-foundation.org or 614-443-8893) or reach out to the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry.

The office also is offering workshops regarding multiparish ministries on Wednesday and Thursday, May 20 and 21.

Parishes applying for a shared youth ministry grant are encouraged to attend these workshops. For more information, contact Mike Hall at (614) 241-2565 or mhall@cducation.org.

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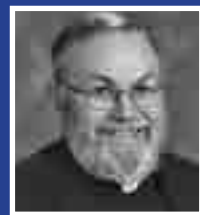
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Fourth Sunday of Easter (Cycle B)

Being a good shepherd can mean many things



Father Lawrence L. Hummer

Acts 4:8-12
1 John 3:1-2
John 10:11-18

The issue in Sunday's Acts reading continues to touch on Peter's healing a man who had been crippled from birth (Acts 3:1-11). This led to their arrest by the priest, the temple guard, and the Sadducees. They were brought before the Jewish High Court (the Sanhedrin), and that's where the story picks up. Peter is responding to a question raised by his accusers: "By what authority or by what name have you done this?"

The question they raise is phrased by Luke to reflect the answer. Peter says boldly and forthrightly that the crippled man was healed "in the name of Jesus the Nazorean whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead." These words are directed to those who played a major role in the death of Jesus according to the Gospel accounts of the Passion. Thus, they had become part of the early preaching of Christians in the aftermath of Jesus' death and resurrection.

"The stone rejected by the builders" (Psalm 118:22) is now applied to Jesus in light of New Testament writers like Luke, reflecting on Old Testament passages, which became "proof texts" for things they wrote about Jesus. This enables the New Testament writers to delve into the Old Testament to find what appear to be ready-made prophetic statements of what was to come in and with Jesus.

Many commentators think the verse was originally a proverb about how an insignificant stone which the builders decided was unworthy of placement else-

where became the most significant stone of the structure. As used in the psalm, it may have referred to the king, who was the subject of verses 10-14. The king may have been regarded as less than stellar in his role as king to that point, but then he pulled off some kind of dramatic victory in battle and is thereby praised, together with the Lord, who was Israel's ultimate protector and guide.

The New Testament reapplication of verse 22 to Jesus is self-evident. Given the many places where Jesus is also described in terms of Isaiah's Suffering Servant, it is hard to tell the difference between the heroic figure of this psalm and the mysterious servant of Isaiah.

The "good shepherd" image of the Gospel uses the Greek word *kalos*, which has many meanings. In context, it could mean beautiful or handsome, describing outward appearance. In describing someone or something it could mean good or useful. In terms of moral quality, it could mean good, noble, or praiseworthy.

Deciding the precise meaning here is not easy. If he meant "good" in the sense of noble or praiseworthy, then one might ask "What is praiseworthy about giving one's life for a flock which is then left without a shepherd?" If it is meant to speak of an able and well-qualified shepherd knowing where and how to find pasture for the sheep, again one might well ask "What good does it do for the shepherd to give his life for the flock, leaving it without a shepherd?"

John explains that a "good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep." This must be understood as a wider part of a parable about sheep and shepherds in the rest of John 10. This shepherd shows he is not just willing to give up his life for his sheep, but he does it "in order to take it (his life) up again. I have power to lay it down and power to take it up again." What he does is in fulfillment of a command he has received "from my Father."

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

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 42:2-3;43:3-4
John 10:1-10

TUESDAY
Acts 11:19-26
Psalm 87:1b-7
John 10:22-30

WEDNESDAY
Acts 12:24-13:5a
Psalm 67:2-3,5-6,8
John 12:44-50

THURSDAY
Acts 13:13-25
Psalm 89:2-3,21-22,25,27
John 13:16-20

FRIDAY
Acts 13:26-33
Psalm 2:6-11b
John 14:1-6

SATURDAY
Acts 13:44-52
Psalm 98:1-4
John 14:7-14

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF APRIL 26, 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 IV, Seasonal Proper of the Liturgy of the Hours

The Signs of the Times in Easter Season



THE TIDE IS TURNING TOWARD CATHOLICISM
David Hartline

Jesus was pretty specific about learning to interpret the signs of the times (Matthew 16:2-4). Actually, he said the wicked always seek a sign, while the believer knows what he or she sees. Jesus even used a weather analogy, which is great for those of us who are amateur meteorologists. All too often, we can't see the trees for the forest, because we are too enamored with what is popular in our increasingly secular world to understand the obvious.

The Easter season in the early Church was a precursor to the coming of the Advocate (the Holy Spirit), which Jesus promised. This is why He told the disciples not to leave Jerusalem after His ascension.

The days and weeks following Easter Sunday (the Easter season) have become a time of reflection for me. Usually, my family goes on vacation after Easter, often to a warmer location with a beach. During that time, many metaphors usually pop up when I least expect them. Let me share a few with you and see if any sound familiar.

Getting away from it all with my family brings a lot of joy for all of us. In addition, it is comforting to see so many people who also are less stressed and enjoying a few days off. I often think that seeing families enjoy each other's company is a bit of a glimpse into heaven.

I have heard that in the Third World on any given Sunday near a coastline, one can see large groups of families gathered in the afternoon after Sunday Mass and dinner, and enjoying each other's com-

pany. It is the only time they have to spend with the extended family, since people in many parts of the world commonly work six days a week. They use Sunday to live the joy of the Gospel.

I like to walk the beach at night after most of the family is in bed or about to fall asleep. In some ways, it can be very happy and sad at the same time. When I think of happy events, the roar of the waves, the stars in the sky and the solitude of the setting can be very uplifting.

However, when I think of past mistakes and sins, it can be very lonely. In a way, it strikes me as what purgatory must be like -- a lonely walk reliving and making penance for past sins, all the while knowing the excuses for those sins were just false pretenses. At least in purgatory, everyone knows they eventually will make it to heaven.

In our increasingly secular Western culture, the faithful have been under attack, both outright and often in more subtle ways.

Recently, a *New York Times* columnist raised the

eyebrows of the faithful when he concluded that Catholicism in general and Christianity in particular must change its social teachings and "bow down" to the modern world. One might recall that the evil one demanded that Jesus "bow down" when the Son of God was subjected to His trial in the desert.

In classic Ignatian spirituality, the believer must examine who is leading him. There are several indicators of whether something is from God or from the dark forces connected to the devil.

Pope Francis was often considered one of the greatest Jesuit retreat masters in South America, for he was able to tell someone which side -- the forces of good or of evil -- was behind their motivations. As for the *New York Times* column which said Christians needed to "bow down" to the modern world, even the newly confirmed could see which side was behind this need to "bow down" to something that was not of God.

With Easter season in full swing and Pentecost rapidly approaching, we are certainly capable -- as Jesus reminded us often in the New Testament (more than just in Matthew 16:2-4) -- of understanding who and what is guiding us. If we aren't sure, prayer and spiritual guidance from a spiritual mentor or director is certainly worth pursuing. This is the season of mercy. Let's take advantage of this sign of grace.

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

MISSION, continued from Page 12

teachers, in partnership with the city schools. In addition to the employment skills program, the center will sponsor a job fair in October on a date to be determined.

GED classes have been at the core of the center's activities since its founding in 1987. It has been a federally recognized 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization since 1990. The center has provided opportunities for thousands of people since then, with about 300 people attending the GED program and 25 in computer classes in the last year, Thorpe said.

"Mothers wound up having their children placed with Franklin County Children Services. Men would be placed under house arrest and told by the courts to take GED or anger management classes as a condition of their sentence. "If people knew more about what to do when problems arose, much of this could have been prevented. That's where the programs we are starting to offer can help."

The anger management classes, a six-week program, began on Tuesday, April 21, and are taking place on Tuesdays from 10 to 11:30 a.m. The strengthening families program will be offered for

the first time this summer. "In the conversations that led up to starting these courses, I learned of many instances in which the stress in people's lives, and their lack of knowledge about having to deal with certain situations, caused poor responses which led to having the legal system step in," Thorpe said.

In the anger management program, participants will learn to recognize signs that they are becoming angry and will be taught ways of taking action to calm down and deal with the situation in a positive way.

The strengthening families program is for parents and by parents, and is meant to involve the whole family. "The key to it is what's known as the Parents' Cafe," Thorpe said.

"This will involve parents talking to and learning from each other, sharing how they

with more than 20 years of experience working with the hard-to-serve population, will teach the anger management and strengthening families programs and will train some participating parents as facilitators.

handle certain situations. The idea behind this is 'What can you teach to help me handle the responsibilities of parenthood better?' so that when a crisis comes, parents have an answer and there's no need to involve Children Services."

The program will offer baby-sitting and car pool services as a way of encouraging parents to come.

As part of its community service mission, the center also hosts community health events on the fourth Thursday of each month. These include monthly glucose screenings by the Ohio Diabetes Association, a mobile pharmacy providing free medication assistance, chiropractic consultations, insurance information, and a fatherhood development program.

Donations are critical to

the center's success. In connection with its new offerings, it has started a "Pledge Buddy" program in which donors are asked to challenge their friends to match the donor's contribution. The center's website notes that every \$60 donation pays for one GED test.

Thorpe said about \$1,200 has been raised to date from individuals through the "Pledge Buddy" initiative.

She now is inviting businesses and organizations to take part by donating \$500, \$1,000 or any amount, with all the money going toward the center's programs.

Anyone interested in donating, volunteering at the center or learning more about its programs can go to its website, www.stjohnlearning.org, or call (614) 252-3132.

Visit us at www.ctonline.org

Director of Music Ministry

St. Paul and Christ the King Parishes in Athens, OH are seeking a Director of Music Ministry. The parishes serve resident parishioners as well as the Ohio University community.

Responsibilities include: planning / staffing weekend liturgies and events, recruiting, directing, and rehearsing with cantors /choirs.

Email /send résumé to: **Fr. Mark Moore, 75 Stewart Street, Athens, OH, 45701, or mmoore@diostaub.org**

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Pray for our Dead

AGRIESTI-GALL, Mary C., 41, April 13
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

ALAIN, Anthony P., 27, April 18
Holy Resurrection Melkite Catholic Church, Columbus

BARONE, Rose A., 77, April 11
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

BASAR, Christina, 66, April 18
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

BRAZILL, James R., 68, April 11
St. Mary Church, Groveport

CAHILL, Martin T., 64, April 19
St. James the Less Church, Columbus

CALLAHAN, John R., 84, April 19
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

DAINES, Robert A., 58, April 19
St. Michael Church, Worthington

DELLA FLORA, Hugo, 90, April 14
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

DEVINE, Dolores, 83, April 10
St. Thomas More Newman Center, Columbus

FASONE, Augustino R. "Gus," 86, April 14
Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus

FOX, Thomas J., 84, April 10
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

FREY, Georgeann, 93, April 19
St. Paul Church, Westerville

GETTYS, Robert E., 74, April 12
St. Mary, Mother of God Church, Columbus

GIBB, Hilda, 94, April 9
St. Mary Church, Marion

GLASS, John C., 86, April 13
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

GOLD, Norina, 86, April 10
St. Joseph Church, Dover

HERCULES, Santos E., 16, April 12
St. Paul Church, Westerville

HOLLAND, Georgia E., 88, April 14
Holy Rosary-St. John Church, Columbus

HOPE, Donald E., 89, April 12
Corpus Christi Church, Columbus

HUFFMAN, Clarence "Bill," 87, April 19
St. Mary Church, Delaware

JACOBS, Raymond L., April 17
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

KINSLEY, Dale R., 51, April 13
St. Patrick Church, Columbus

KRAJEWSKI, Barbara A., 70, April 16
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

LORENZONI, Marilyn, 60, April 11
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

LUFFEY, Samuel E., 21, April 19
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

MALO, Phyllis M., 79, April 9
St. Mary Church, Marion

MARKHAM, Jane E., 64, April 16
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

MARKS, Dolores, 90, April 10
St. Joseph Church, Dover

McALISTER, Jacqueline M., 87, April 14
Church of the Ascension, Johnstown

MURPHY, Janet E., 62, April 11
St. Ladislav Church, Columbus

PARKER, Sallie, 74, April 3
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

ROHALL, Jean A., 73, March 23
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

SEIPEL, Margot G., 88, April 15
St. Christopher Church, Columbus

STEGMILLER, Linda, 65, April 18
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

WELLS, Joseph H., 92, April 17
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

WICKISER, Scott M., 42, April 10
St. Michael Church, Worthington

ZIMMER, Marie G., 89, April 13
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

Children's Poetry StoryBox Returns

After traveling throughout the United States for more than a year, the Children's Poetry StoryBox is returning to Columbus.

Poems that were started by famous children's poets and finished by elementary students from across the nation will be read at an event at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 26 at the Thurber Center, 77 Jefferson Ave., Columbus.

This will be the first time these poems have been read since the Story-Box Project was launched in February 2014.

Renowned children's poets including poet laureate Ken Nesbitt, Georgia Heard, Nikki Grimes, George Ella David Harrison, Alan Wolfe, and Jane Yule are scheduled to attend.

Dr. Kevin Cordi, Ohio Dominican

University assistant professor of education and professional storyteller, and former poet laureate J. Patrick Lewis started the Children's Poetry StoryBox Project to introduce poetry to students.

"There is no better way to teach students to be creative and learn the value of words than writing and creating poetry," Cordi said. "I have read some of these poems and I laughed and marveled at the beauty in the creative work. I hope everyone comes to this event to see the wonder."

The event also will feature readings by students from Maryland Elementary School in Bexley.

The Children's Poetry StoryBox Project is sponsored by ODU, the Columbus Area Writing Project, and the Thurber Center.

Submit Obituaries to: tpuet@colsdio.org



START YOUR DAY A BETTER WAY!

AM 820 CATHOLIC RADIO

Clark Kellogg to speak at St. Charles

CBS Sports analyst and former Ohio State University and NBA star Clark Kellogg will be the next speaker in the St. Charles speaker series.

Kellogg will speak on leadership and character at 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 29 in the Walter Student Commons

at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St.

Kellogg's appearance is sponsored by My Brother's Keeper, a Columbus-area nonprofit organization.

The program is free and open to the public.

CLASSIFIED

ST. LADISLAS PARISH

277 Reeb Avenue

ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER
SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2015 12 – 5PM
Pasta, home made meatballs & sauce, salad, bread, homemade desserts & beverage
Adults: \$8.00 Child: \$5.00
(Child portion available to seniors)
Carryouts available.
RAFFLE AND SPRING GIFT MART
Info: 614-443-2828

2nd annual Taylor And Track Event (TATE) 5k

benefitting **Bridges of Saint Mark**
Sunday, May 17th at 10:30 a.m.
beautiful Prairie Oaks Metro Park, Darby Bend Lakes Area, 2755 Amity Road, Hilliard, Ohio
Walk/run 5k (at your own pace)
Registration fee is \$30 Adults and \$15 Students.
To register, please visit:
www.bridgesofsaintmark.org

Bridges of Saint Mark is a lay ministry of Saint Mark Parish, Lancaster, Ohio dedicated to helping the Rach Suc Mission Church in Can Tho, Vietnam do its work.

If you have any questions, you may contact Randy Tipple @: bridgesofsaintmark@gmail.com or call 614-506-0044.

All fund-raising events (festivals, bazaars, 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 additional 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 before 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@colsdio.org

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FRIENDS OF HOLY SPIRIT GOLF OUTING

to benefit Holy Spirit School's Tuition Assistance Program
Sunday, May 3, 2015 - 1:00pm
Shotgun Start 4-person Scramble
Cumberland Trail Golf Club, Pataskala, OH
\$80 pp includes golf, cart, box lunch, drinks, City Barbeque dinner and great prizes!
Registrations: holy-spirit-school.org or call 861-0475
Registration deadline April 28, 2015

APRIL

23, THURSDAY

Holy Hour of Reparation at Columbus Sacred Heart
7 to 8 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour following Holy Hour of Reparation prayer format, concluding with Benediction and social period. Prayers for intention of deepened holiness and an increase in the virtue of fortitude for bishops and priests. 614-372-5249

24, FRIDAY

Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center Open House
10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Center, a ministry of the Dominican Sisters of Peace, will be open, weather permitting, for tours. 614-866-4302
Labyrinth Walk at Shepherd's Corner
7 to 8:30 p.m., Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. "Earth Harmony" labyrinth walk led by Barbara Hamilton. Suggested donation \$5. 614-866-4302

24-26, FRIDAY-SUNDAY

DCCW Silent Retreat at St. Therese's
St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Women's silent retreat sponsored by Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, led by Father Walter Oxley, STD. Theme: "Marian Receptivity to God." 614-228-8601
Bishop Ready Presents 'Joseph and the Dreamcoat'
7 p.m. Friday and Sunday, 2 p.m. Saturday, Bishop Ready High School, 707 Salisbury Road, Columbus. School's theater department presents the musical "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice. Tickets \$10 adults, \$9 seniors, \$8 students. 614-276-5263

25, SATURDAY

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.

Diocesan Fiber Fair at Church of the Resurrection
11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany. Annual diocesan Fiber Fair for all who knit, crochet, sew, quilt, weave, or work with fiber. Bring brown-bag lunch; dessert will be available. 614-342-6003

Christ the King Springfest
5 to 9 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus. Parish's Springfest 2015, with food, entertainment, and raffle. 614-237-0401
Hermana Glenda Concert at St. Paul
6:30 to 9:30 p.m., St. Paul Church, 313 N. State St., Westerville. Concert featuring Hispanic musical evangelist Hermana Glenda, sponsored by Parroquia Santa Cruz of Columbus. Admission \$20. 614-784-9732, 614-348-4026

26, SUNDAY

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education
10 to 11:15 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. "The 12 Fruits of the Holy Spirit" with Deacon Frank Sullivan.
Praise Mass at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
11 a.m., Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Praise Mass with upbeat contemporary music. 614-861-1242
Children's Poetry StoryBox Reading
2 p.m., Thurber Center, 77 Jefferson Ave., Columbus. Reading of poems from Children's Poetry StoryBox project, sponsored by Ohio Dominican University, featuring poems started by famous children's poets and finished by elementary school students. 614-251-4453
St. Catherine of Bologna Secular Franciscans
2:30 to 5 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave., Columbus. Rosary, Meet in church for prayer, followed by general meeting, ongoing formation, and social. **Lincoln Memorial Concert at Cathedral**
3 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. "Ohio Mourns: The Music of Abraham Lincoln's 1865 Columbus Funeral Observances" with the Cathedral Schola and musicologist Thomas Kernan. 614-241-2526
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
Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. 706-761-4054

30, THURSDAY

Talk on St. Catherine of Siena at Ohio Dominican
3:30 to 5 p.m., Colonial Room, Sansbury Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Talk by Dr. Perry Cahall, theology dean at the Pontifical College Josephinum, on "St. Catharine of Siena and the New Evangelization," sponsored by the Center for Dominican Studies. 614-251-4722
Holy Hour of Reparation at Columbus Sacred Heart
7 to 8 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour following Holy Hour of Reparation prayer format, concluding with Benediction and social period. Prayers for intention of deepened holiness and an increase in the virtue of fortitude for bishops and priests. 614-372-5249

27, MONDAY

Bethesda Post-Abortion Healing Ministry
6:30 p.m., support group meeting, 2744 Dover Road, Columbus (Christ the King convent, first building west of the church). 614-718-0277, 614-309-2651, 614-309-0157
Our Lady of Peace Men's Bible Study
7 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus. Bible study of Sunday Scripture readings. 614-459-2766

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 "Artificial Technology: Reconciling the Human Person" with Kimberly Henkel, who is graduating in May with a doctorate in moral theology and ethics from the Catholic University of America. Conclusion of eight talks on the family sponsored by

the Knox-Licking Consortium of Catholic Parishes. 740-392-4711

28, TUESDAY

Serra Club of North Columbus Meeting
Noon, Jessing Center, Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. Serra Club of North Columbus meeting. Reservations required.
Padre Pio Prayer Group at St. John the Baptist
12:30 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 168 E. Lincoln Ave., Columbus. Padre Pio Prayer Group meeting, including rosary, devotions, and 1 p.m. Mass. 614-294-5319
Ohio Dominican Graduate School Open House
6 to 7:30 p.m., Lobby, Bishop Griffin Center, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Open house with information about university's master of business administration program and graduate programs in physician assistant studies and medical practice management. 614-251-4615
Divorce Healing Program at St. Catharine
7 p.m., St. Catharine Church, 300 S. Gould Road, Columbus. Fourth session of 12-week divorce healing program based on "The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide" video presentations. Information available at www.divorced-catholiccolumbus.org.
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

29, WEDNESDAY

Clark Kellogg Talk at St. Charles
4 p.m., Walter Student Commons, St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. Former Ohio State and NBA star Clark Kellogg speaks on leadership and character. 614-252-6724

30, THURSDAY

Talk on St. Catherine of Siena at Ohio Dominican
3:30 to 5 p.m., Colonial Room, Sansbury Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Talk by Dr. Perry Cahall, theology dean at the Pontifical College Josephinum, on "St. Catharine of Siena and the New Evangelization," sponsored by the Center for Dominican Studies. 614-251-4722

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30-MAY 2, THURSDAY-SATURDAY

Three Bags Full Consignment Sale
10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday (dollar dash 6 to 7 p.m. Saturday), St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 600 Hill Road N., Pickerington. Three Bags Full spring consignment sale of children's items, benefiting Catholic and pro-life charities. 614-561-5300

30-MAY 3, THURSDAY-SUNDAY

St. Charles Presents 'Jungalbook'
8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. School's theater department presents "Jungalbook" by Edward Mast. Tickets \$5 to \$10. 614-252-6714



Mother Thomas' Artistic Talent

By Jerri Donohue

On most mornings, Mother Mary Thomas rises to pray before the Blessed Sacrament from 4 to 6 a.m. and again from 8 to 9 in the chapel of the Poor Clare monastery in Cleveland.

Shortly after nine o'clock, the short, frail octogenarian is back on her knees in the Conversion of St. Paul Shrine adjacent to the monastery. This time, she is painting a section of the enormous canvas that covers most of the floor space in an upper chapel. She dons a smock to protect her habit, and works on *Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament and the Communion of Saints* for several hours each day.

"I like to think of it (the art) as a kind of prayer," she said.

Mother Thomas ("Mother" because she was the monastery's superior from 2010–2013) made a living as an artist before she entered the cloister in 1959. The native



Photos/Top: Mother Mary Thomas stands beside her painting *The Risen Christ*.

Photo by Jerri Donohue

Bottom: Mother Thomas' painting of St. Sebastian hangs in Akron St. Sebastian Church. As unseen executioners fire arrows into the saint's body, he leans back into the welcoming arms of Jesus.

Photo courtesy Sharon Deitrick

of Appleton, Wisconsin was known as Joan Schiefen when she graduated from the Art Institute of Chicago, then studied at the Instituto Allende in Guanajuato, Mexico. She created large paintings for the Venezuelan ambassador to Mexico and worked with the celebrated muralist David Alfaro Siqueiros on a mosaic for the University of Mexico City.

After more than a year in Mexico, the future nun returned to the United States to work as a commercial artist in New York City, illustrating beer and soft-drink ads. Sometimes, she modeled dresses for co-workers who produced fashion illustrations.

Back in Chicago a couple of years later, she worked as a draftsman, designing stained glass windows for Daprato Studio on the side.

She headed to Rome next, to paint and to study art history, Italian culture, and early Christianity. She felt no call to religious life.

"I really wanted to be a terrific artist and do religious work for the Church," Mother Thomas recalled.

Her focus gradually shifted, however. She began reading books on spirituality. That Lent, she made a 30-day novena, seeking to learn God's will for her life.

Mother Thomas said she received her answer during the Easter Vigil in the crypt of St. Peter's Basilica. Although she was in a state of grace, she suddenly felt unworthy to receive the Eucharist. She left the Communion line, but an interior "force" urged her to rejoin it. She felt the Lord's presence the instant she received Communion that evening.

"I knew I wanted to devote my life to the Eucharist," she said.

An American priest at St. Susanna Church lent her a directory of religious communities. She read about the Franciscan Nuns of the Blessed Sacrament, the former name of the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration, and immediately wrote to their monastery in Cleveland. She entered the cloister there in November 1959.

For the next 14 years, Mother Thomas did not touch a paintbrush. Busy with community life, she did not miss her art.

Then, for a feast day, the nuns displayed crafts and articles they had made. Mother Thomas sketched a stained glass window depicting the Trinity.

Not long after, the monastery's superior asked her to prepare a portfolio. The artist joyfully complied.

"I had a lot of ideas and they just came readily," Mother Thomas recalled.



She created and sold paintings addressing traditional Catholic subjects in a contemporary style that reflects the influence of El Greco and the Mexican muralists. She received several commissions from the Capuchin Friars, including *The Primacy of Christ*, on view at the Capuchin College in Washington, and *The Stigmatization of St. Francis*, in St. Augustine Friary in Pittsburgh. Parishes in the Cleveland diocese commissioned other works, as did Sharon Deitrick, founder of the non-profit HALO (Hope Always Lives On) Foundation. Sales of Mother Thomas' paintings help support the monastery. Some of her work also is auctioned in its annual fundraiser.

An African-American parish in Philadelphia commissioned Mother Thomas' current and largest project with a request that she portray Jesus and Mary with black skin. Although the parish closed before Mother Thomas had completed the 30-by-16-foot mural, she pushed forward (she now has another potential buyer).

In the vibrantly hued tableau, the face of the Virgin Mary hovers above her son, while holy men and women surround them. After the election of Pope Francis, Mother Thomas added him to the mural.

Mother Thomas said such a large work offers a distinct advantage: Murals appear in churches or public buildings, not in private homes.

"More people see it," she said. "That's how you can evangelize."

She noted that believers in Christ are persecuted in some areas of the world, as they were in the early days of the Church.

"Good religious Christian art really is necessary," she said. "More today than ever before, when you think of what's going on in the world."

View Mother Thomas' art at <http://thepoorclares.com/sister-mary-thomas-art.html>. A website displaying her work (www.motherthomasart.org) is under construction.

Ohio Governor John Kasich to Address ODU Graduates

Gov. John R. Kasich will deliver the commencement address to approximately 250 graduates at Ohio Dominican University's spring commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 9. The event will begin at 11 a.m. inside Alumni Hall, on the university's main campus at 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Kasich also will receive the degree of doctor of humane letters.

"I am honored that Gov. Kasich accepted the invitation to serve as our commencement speaker," said Dr. Peter Cimbolic, Ohio Dominican president. "Gov. Kasich has strong personal ties to ODU through his close friendship with our

beloved former president, Sister Mary Andrew Matesich, OP. The governor has devoted his life to public service, just as we strive to instill in our students a passion for service to make the world a better place. We look forward to the insights he will offer our graduates."

Kasich was sworn in as Ohio's 69th governor on Jan. 10, 2011, and was re-elected in November 2014. He served Ohio's 12th District in the United States House of Representatives for nine consecutive terms from 1983 to 2000. As chair of the House Budget Committee from 1995 to 2000, Kasich led the effort to balance the federal budget for

the first time since 1969. He was first elected to the Ohio Senate in 1977 and served from 1978 to 1982.

After leaving Congress in 2000 to run for president, Kasich served as a managing director in the investment banking Division of Lehman Brothers. He also worked as a commentator for Fox News and was a presidential fellow at The Ohio State University, from which he graduated in 1974. He is the author of three *New York Times* best-sellers: *Courage Is Contagious*, *Stand for Something: The Battle for America's Soul*, and *Every Other Monday*.



St. Charles Spring Drama JUNGALBOOK

The Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School drama department is proud to announce that its spring production, the central Ohio premiere of *Junglebook*, will be presented at 8 p.m. Thursday to Saturday, April 30 to May 2, and 3 p.m. Sunday, May 3, in the campus theater, 2010 E. Broad St. Adult tickets are \$10 and student tickets are \$5. Reservations may be placed by calling the St. Charles main office at (614) 252-6714 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

An evocative tale of loyalty, belonging and courage, adapted by Edward Mast and based on the Mowgli stories of Rudyard Kipling, *Junglebook* brings to life characters both contemporary and timeless.

This creative intertwining of the exotic jungle and the intense street life of the city was received the distinguished play award of the American Alliance for Theatre and Education.

Faithfully adapted from Kipling's 1894 Nobel Prize-winning *The Jungle Book* and its se-



quel, Mast's adaptation was first performed in 1982. It aims to bring Kipling's timeless stories and poems to life with a contemporary spin.

The familiar story of Mowgli the "man-cub" (Nick Anderson)—raised by Akela the wolf (Matt MacManus), tutored by Baloo the bear (Bemnet Negatu) and protected by Bagheera the panther

(Natalie Belford), climaxes in the final showdown with Sherakhan the tiger (Nick Martin). Along the way, Mowgli learns the laws of the jungle and the price paid for breaking them.

Unlike some popular film versions, this adaptation adheres closely to Kipling's stories and captures the poetic spirit of the original tale.

Youth Ministry offering programs on multiparish ministry

The Diocesan Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry is sponsoring a series of seminars on youth ministry efforts that extend across multiple parishes. The programs will take place Wednesday and Thursday, May 20 and 21, at Westerville St. Paul Church, 313 N. State St.

The workshop is intended for pastors, parish ministry leaders, youth ministers, catechetical leaders, and anyone interested in learning more about providing effective ministry in clustered parish arrangements, which are multiple parishes led by a single pastor and sometimes shared staff. Parishes applying as a multiparish ministry for The Catholic Foundation's grant on hiring a youth minister are encouraged to attend this workshop.

The program is being presented by Doug Tooke, Catholic formation services director for the Diocese of Helena, Montana. Tooke is consulted nationally because of his successful work in multiparish ministry.

The sessions are free, but registering in advance online is requested. Those planning to attend are asked to go to the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry website at <http://www.ceducation.org/YouthYoungAdult/YouthMinistry/Training/Managing-MultipleParishMinistry.aspx>, or contact Mike Hall at (614) 241-2565 or mhall@ceducation.org

*Bishop Frederick Campbell and the
Members of the Thomas More Society of Columbus, Ohio
Invite you to St. Joseph Cathedral for the*

ANNUAL RED MASS

Tuesday, May 5 • 5:15 PM



we pray to invoke the Holy Spirit in matters of law and justice

BISHOP FREDERICK F. CAMPBELL, DD, PhD
Celebrant & Homilist

Reception follows in the Cathedral Undercroft