FORMER PORTSMOUTH CONVENT SERVES CHURCH IN NEW WAYS
The Editor's Notebook

Living the Life of Love and Service

By David Geurk, Editor

Pope Francis is often noted for his love of the poor and marginalized, Recently, he said, “The Church must step outside the comfort zone of its own existence and begin to discover where it is no longer needed.” That is an important point: encountering the poor. If we are to be the Church of Christ, we must pass that love on to others. He has told us that the whole of the life of God is Christ’s love, that to be the Church is “to love with all one’s heart, and all your soul and all your mind, and the second is like unto it, love your neighbor as yourself.”

We are a home of ours, out of our churches, and bring Christ to the people of the world. An open house is possible! An open house is a scandal. A scandal; ah, that is how He commanded all Christians – to go out, to prophesy, to be the Church.

The Church exists in the place where the love of God is being lived and reaching out with love to those in need. That is how He is manifested in the world: Where are the poor and marginalized?! That is how He commanded us to love them. That is how we are to live.

By David Geurk, Editor

FATHER WILLIAM J. METZGER
PASSED AWAY ON NOVEMBER 4, 2014

Funeral Mass for Father William J. Metzger, 77, who died Tuesday, Nov. 4, was held Friday, Nov. 7 at Junction City Park St. Patrick Church. Burial was at St. Patrick Cemetery.

He was born April 10, 1937 to the late Robert and Mary Elizabeth Metzger, and received a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from the former St. Charles Seminary in Columbus and a theology degree from Mount St. Mary’s of the West Seminary in Norwood. He was ordained a priest on June 8, 1963 by Bishop Francis Innis at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart (1963-66), Clevelan- dite St. John (1966-68), Westerville St. Mary (1968-72), Columbus St. Anthony (1972), the Fortey County Consortium of Parishes (1972-84), Dover St. Joseph (2001-03), and St. Mary’s (2003-07), and served as assistant minister at Newcomerstown St. Francis of Sales (1983-84). In addition, he taught at Columbus Bishop Wattson, Chillicothe Bishop Wattson, and Columbus St. Francis De Sales high schools, served as director of the Community for the South Central Diocese, and provided spiritual direction for seminarians at the Pontifical College Josephinum. During his retirement, he spent seasonal time in Florida where he continues to make all things possible.

He is survived by three brothers who are priests of the Diocese of Columbus, Morgan Robert Metzger and Father Stephen Metzger both retired, and Father Richard Metzger, pastor of Groveport St. William Church; two brothers, Marty Jones, a volunteer, and a sister, Nola Kelly, a cousin, Father John Metzger, is also a retired priest of the diocese.

BISHOPS REMINDED OF ROLE AS PASTORS TO CHRIST’S FAMILY – THE CHURCH

The role of Catholic bishops is to accompany their faithful in the shared challenges of our time, through their fears and concerns, the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said on Nov. 10.

In his first presidential address since his election last November, Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz told his brother bishops gathered in Baltimore for the annual fall general assembly from Nov. 10-13 that as pastors, we are expected to accompany the families who face their own fears and concerns and who have a hunger for the love of Jesus in and through the loving presence of the Word of God.

“Together, brothers, we seek to walk with these families and to build their confidence in faith,” said the archbishop, who heads the Archdiocese of Louisville.

Before the presidential address, Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone, auxiliary archbishop of San Francisco, chairman of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 

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Consumerism: Our Call to Economic Stewardship

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, at the recent fall general assembly in Baltimore, said the bishops are called to be “champions of a more just and sustainable future.”

The archbishop urged the bishops not to “shy away from challenges” but to meet them head on, saying that marriage即是 marriage.

As many as 15,000 attendees are ex-pected for the gathering of families from around the nation and the world, according to the diocese. The event includes a range of speakers and activities planned for adults and youth, and will be the largest convention to be held in Philadelphia next year. Registration and other information is available at the website www.wmof.org.

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia for-merly operated an office in Trenton, N.J., but closed it in 2011. Pius XII House now serves as the diocese’s mission and outreach center.

The article was included reports on the recently concluded extraordinar-}
PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

Connect

How has that stewardship grace affected you this past week? Even though Stewardship Sunday may not be a celebration or momentous occasion, it reminds us of how blessed we are as a people and as a nation. We have the great privilege, honor, and right to vote in a free, democratic society. Sadly, we also know by the low percentage of eligible voters who actually vote at each election that many are spoiled and apathetic. No one has the right to deny the freedom of others to choose what is best, right, and just for us. The power and impact of prayer can- not be denied. Just ask a veteran.

Our practical challenge this week is to choose three or four politicians, public officials, or public servants and pray for them by name to ask God to give them the wisdom and courage to do what is right and just for us. For example, do we condemn all teachers, clergy, or other professional people who live in ZIP codes 43209, 43219, 43237, 43086, and 43232. For more information on the Bishop Griffin Center, visit www.bishopgriffincenter.com. We all notice how often people who live in ZIP codes 43209, 43219, 43237, 43086, and 43232.

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

Mount Carmel Receives Award

The National Stroke Association has selected Mount Carmel Health Sys- tem as the recipient of the 2014 Raising Awareness in Stroke Excellence (RAISE) award in the “most creative” category. The center's next tutor training ses- sion will take place from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15. Those interested may call (614) 466-7330 or email lindomark@oppeace.org to sign up. Volunteers need to be 18 and older and hold a high school diploma. Books are provided free to tutors.

Tutor Training

If you can read, you can teach! The Dominican Learning Center, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus, needs tutors for adults who are learning literacy and/ or GED. Tutors are seeking English as a Second Language instruction.

ODU Holiday Food Drive

Ohio Dominican University collected more than 740 pounds of food for homeless families in Central Ohio this holiday season. Led by ODU’s coordinator of campus ministry, Sister Margie Davis, OP, ODU students, faculty, staff, alumni, and sup- porters donated 771 pounds of pack aged and canned nonperishable food items during an attractive eight-week fundraising campaign. Sodexo, matched the donation, bringing the total food donation to 742 pounds of food.

ODU provided the food to representa- tives from the Bishop Griffin Center on Monday, Nov. 3. The center delivered the food to local groups working in the food pantry. The Bishop Griffin Center serves more than 2,000 men, women, and children of all ages each week. Its choice food pantry provides a three-day supply of food per person per month, including meat, dairy, bread, and fresh produce. All of the organization's services are offered free of charge.

The Bishop Griffin Center opened in November 2007 for outreach to the poor and is located at Columbus Christ the King Church. It is a ministry of the St. Vincent de Paul Society of the United States.
For many priests, moving from one parish to another is a normal part of their vocation, even if it may be difficult. I have tried praying and asking for guidance while I was not sure if I could hear any. What advice can you give a priest who is thinking of moving to a different parish, one who has also been at the same parish for a long period and has considered the idea of moving? I would strongly encourage the priest to go through a silence period of about two months and then exchange with a priest friend or pastor of another parish. The exchange can be unstructured but should include an open and frank discussion of the reasons for considering a change and the reasons against it. The exchange must be focused more on the person and his or her vocation than on the people who may be affected by the move.

In my opinion, any change of parish is too abrupt for the parishioners, especially those long-term ones, and can usually answer questions, sometimes in the middle of the night. In our small parish, I have been used to putting together the Catholic Church, a rejoice, since I have been told that I am not intended to be there.

A strong point of the parish is its theology of pastoral ministry. It has been a place of hospitality and service, not only for those on the frontier but for all who have passed through it. It has provided a sense of belonging and identity for many of our parishioners. It has also been a place of spiritual renewal and growth for many of our members. It is a place where we can find a sense of community and a place where we can grow as individuals.

It is our hope that this church, with its faith and community, will continue to grow and to be a place of hope and renewal for all who come to it. We hope that it will continue to be a place of hospitality and service, not only for those on the frontier but for all who have passed through it. It has provided a sense of belonging and identity for many of our parishioners. It has also been a place of spiritual renewal and growth for many of our members. It is a place where we can find a sense of community and a place where we can grow as individuals.

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Kathleen Goodyear celebrates 15 years as consecrated virgin

By Phyllis Petrosky

A little more than a month ago, on Oct. 9, Pope Francis described the act of organ donation as a "testimony of love for our neighbor" in our own community. In April, during Donate Life Month, The Ohio State University's Comprehensive Transplant Center planted a garden of 7,700 pinwheels on the Wexner Medical Center Plaza, each representing a lifesaving transplant performed at Ohio State since 1967.

At Lifetime of Ohio's annual Dash for Donation this past summer, more than 4,000 transplant recipients, donor families, friends, and supporters walked and ran through downtown Columbus in a sea of green T-shirts to showcase the Gift of Life. For transplant recipients it was a "lives saved," for donor families and their families – a time for meeting, huging, socializing in celebration of receiving organ, eye, and tissue donation.

The transplant numbers provide testimony, too. Nearly 29,000 transplants were performed in the U.S. in 2013, from about 6,000 from living donors. Each year, more than one million Americans receive a donated tissue transplant. In 2013, 288 Ohioans received a kidney transplant.

While we have much testimony to celebrate, we also have an ever-growing need to share this act of love with our families and our neighbors. Where there are 118,000 Americans waiting just a year ago, today there are more than 121,000. And I am registered organ, eye, and tissue donor, with more than 3,400 in Ohio waiting for an organ transplant, and hundreds more awaiting tissue transplants. Eighteen men, women, and children die each day in the U.S. because a life-saving transplant comes in time. One Ohioan dies every 48 hours while waiting for a transplant; in the past 10 years, 10 million Americans have registered as organ donors.

My wife, who received a lifesaving kidney transplant nearly 15 years ago, is not only a witness, but a part of our local community. We regularly share our story with others who have not registered to be a part of the "testimony of love." And I join in on the Ohio State University's Dash for Donation, during this National Donor Sabbath Weekend, at the Lifetime of Ohio website, www.lifetimeofohio.org.

Petrosky is a parishioner at Columbus St. Catherine Church.

Kathleen Goodyear celebrates 15 years as consecrated virgin

BY TIM PEUT

Kathleen Goodyear of Reynoldsburg St. Paul X Church celebrated her 15th anniversary as a consecrated virgin during a Mass in the church on Saturday, Nov. 8, with Bishop Frederick Campbell as principal celebrant.

Goodyear is one of three consecrated virgins in the Diocese of Columbus, and the oldest, who became a consecrated virgin in 2002, but when and how, it is better to completely devote my life to Our Lord. I am a consecrated virgin, for I am no longer whether same-sex marriage will be allowed in the United States, but when and how, it is better to "allow change through the customary political process" than through court rulings.

"The church does not let the people resolve new social issues like this one, they perpetuate the idea that the heroes court rulings. "They perpetuate the idea that the heroes are the political processes," than through the 6th Circuit said that the question of same-sex marriage is directly within the province of the states, but when and how, it is better to completely devote my life to Our Lord. I am a consecrated virgin, for I am no longer whether same-sex marriage will be allowed in the United States, but when and how, it is better to "allow change through the customary political process" than through court rulings.

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Some of the volunteers who helped convert the former convent of the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration into the St. Francis Outreach Center are shown. From left are Father Joseph Yokum and Barbara McKenzie of the Portsmouth Catholic Outreach Center. McKenzie and the other volunteers have been working for the Portsmouth branch of CSS for various reasons.

When Barbara McKenzie began working for the Portsmouth branch of Catholic Social Services in 1992, about 500 people a year came to her office seeking assistance for a variety of reasons.

In the 22 years since then, that number increased to 5,000, with CSS becoming Scioto County’s leading agency in providing several family services programs at a time when the county was devastated by economic hardship resulting from multiple plant closings.

Though the programs grew, the office was never available for them. CSS operated out of several sites during that time, and for that time, the 14th street building was located in increasingly cramped offices in a former single-story structure, located on the northern edge of Portsmouth.

“We were doing everything we could with the space we could find,” McKenzie said.

When CSS was given the opportunity to expand its efforts because there would be torn down in another year, McKenzie said that was a dream come true,” she said.

That change about a year ago, when CSS was given the opportunity to renovate a nearby building which the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration had sold as a convent in the north, was a dream come true,” she said.

“After a couple of years, dozens of officials talked with the Agnus Dei community and said the building would be torn down in another year if no one could be found for it.

The conscience of Scotland was an effort to help people because the social structure of the nation and it was a side line,” McKenzie said.

That changed about a year ago, when CSS was given the opportunity to renovate a nearby building which the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration had sold as a convent in the north. The sisters had been in Portsmouth since 1956, but because of a lack of economic support, they left the community in 1982.

“After a couple of years, dozens of officials talked with the Agnus Dei community and said the building would be torn down in another year if no one could be found for it.

The Diocese of Columbus was a dream come true,” she said.

As soon as McKenzie saw the building, she went to the diocese and suggested converting it for CSS. The building was then purchased by the Diocese of Columbus as an adoption office of CSS as an adoption agency.

The organization no longer

Portsmouth Outreach site open in former convent

The Portsmouth Catholic Outreach Center was founded in 1992 by Joseph Yokum, who previously served as the executive director of the National Catholic Family Action Committee in Washington, D.C. Yokum started the center with a small staff and a limited budget.

The center now operates out of a former convent in Portsmouth, Ohio, and provides a range of services to individuals and families in the area.

The center offers counseling and referral services to individuals and families in need of assistance. It also provides advocacy and referral services to individuals and families who are facing financial difficulties.

The center is open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and is staffed by trained professionals who are available to provide support and guidance.

The center has received funding from a variety of sources, including private donations, government grants, and community partnerships. It is supported by a dedicated board of directors and a team of committed volunteers.

The center is committed to providing quality services to individuals and families in need of assistance, and it continues to expand its programs and services to meet the changing needs of the community.

The center is located at 123 Main Street in Portsmouth, Ohio. For more information, please visit their website at www.portmoutnochoutreach.org or call 740-352-1234.
Kindergarten students at Columbus Our Lady of Peace School and teacher Kate DeStephen work on estimating measurements and weights by weighing a pumpkin before their visit to a pumpkin patch.

Panther for a Day

Attend Ohio Dominican University’s Panther Day to learn how you can help students, visit www.ourladyofbethlehem.org.

THE “GREAT PUMPKIN”

“TRICK OR TRUNK” EVENT

Columbus Our Lady of Bethlehem School students celebrated All Saints’ Day with parties, a “trick or trunk” event, and a family pumpkin decorating contest. Teacher Taylor Schwind is pictured with some of the students, from ages six weeks through kindergarten, who learned about the religious aspect of the holiday and enjoyed games, crafts, healthy snacks, and a little treating. For more information about Our Lady of Bethlehem and its programs for preschool and kindergarten students, visit www.ourladyofbethlehem.org.

-pane-
What have we done with what has been given us?

Thierry Meillier

The reading from Proverbs is an excellent example of biblical poetry, although, in English, it can lose its impact. Jacob’s vision in Genesis is lost and the Levitical code has chosen only isolated verses from a poem of 22 verses. This poem in praise of wisdom is a very valuable source of instruction and direction. Wisdom literature, as we all know, usually ends with a question: “Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him step forward and gain the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.” The woman of Proverbs becomes a central theme in the Christian tradition, the woman who is an example of what we do with what we are given. The woman who is praised for her deeds, but who so often go unrecognized. This woman tends to the needs of her husband, while at the same time conducting business deals of her own. This woman can be seen in the laity, in my own family and in the parishes I have served. We have seen many women doing similar tasks over the years, including in my own family and in the parishes I’ve served. They do it as a part of their duty, and they have been a constant reminder to us that we do not do it out of love. The woman of Proverbs becomes a celebration of women in every age who have managed the largest weight of the day. It would be like saying the fuel that powered the Big Bang. The “talent” was roughly 13.8 billion years old, and it began from a patch of material with this repulsive gravity. The patch was...—one—100-infragravity, a size of a single proton. But the repulsive gravity was like a magic wind, doubling the patch in size every tenth of a trillionth of a billionth of a second. And it wove its doubling power over the patch about 100 times in a row, until it got to the size of [a] marble. And that happened within a hundredth of a trillionth of a trillionth of a second. As a point of comparison, the smallest fraction of time that the average human being can detect is about one-tenth of a second. The amounts are wildly extravagant. The “talent” was the largest weight of the day. It would be like saying a measure of monetary value, which evolved into a word describing useful traits or abilities of human beings, as it is today in English. The master was obviously wealthy beyond measure, or he would not have been able to boast about the three talents his wealth to his (male) slaves, as is clear from the Gospel Parable of the Talents. The man distributed praiseworthy deeds, but who so often go unrecognized. The master was obviously wealthy beyond measure, or he would not have been able to boast about the three talents he buried it. He gave back only what he received, and so a chance with what was handed over to him, and so to grow. The one who was faulted was the one who was handed over to them (Tradition?) and allowed it to rupture the earth, fracking its structure and pouring our successors, but in pursuit of wealth, we continue to muddle our water and befoul our air and and what we do with it, whether in terms of faith, or... When we think about what has been handed on to us in the church at (740) 965-1358. Our Lady of Guadalupe, and the Shroud of Turin and the power of the Eucharistic miracles exhibit will be available for viewing from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday, November 21, and Sunday, November 23. Six diocesan seminarians installed in ministry of lector

The School of Ministry at St. Gabriel Radio in Columbus announced six diocesan seminarians installed in ministry of lector. The seminarians, affiliated with the Archdiocese of Columbus, include: Father Lawrence L. Hummer, pastor at Chillicothe’s St. Mary, can be reached at hummerl@stmarychillicothe.catholic. The guests were Father Lemaitre called, a bit more primly, the “cosmic egg.” As I understand it, Guth’s work, and that of others as we celebrate the presence of our God within and around us.

The Eucharistic miracles exhibit will be available for viewing from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday, November 21, and Sunday, November 23. Six diocesan seminarians installed in ministry of lector. The seminarians, affiliated with the Archdiocese of Columbus, include: Father Lawrence L. Hummer, pastor at Chillicothe’s St. Mary, can be reached at hummerl@stmarychillicothe.catholic. Advent Morning of Reflection Six diocesan seminarians installed in ministry of lector

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Exploded into being by divine love

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St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville
St. James the Less Church, Columbus
HENSEL, Margaret A., 74, Nov. 7
City
HARSH, Betty M., 89, Nov. 6
ELK, John E., 87, formerly of Columbus, Nov. 3
DISBENNETT, Marion L., 95, Nov. 8
St. Andrew Church, Columbus
DeMATHEWS, Valerie A., 65, Oct. 25
CASIMIR, Alice, 92, Oct. 26
BRENNER, John J., 94, Nov. 6
BEATTY, James, 75, Oct. 28
BARRY, Kathleen A., 92, Nov. 3
YOUNG, Robert E. III, 47, Nov. 4
WESTON, Geraldine, 83, Nov. 6
Corpus Christi Church, Columbus
SNYDER, Nancy L., 66, Nov. 4
SCHEURELL, Roger W., 90, Nov. 2
ROGERS, Michael A., 75, Oct. 31
ST. PAUL SCHOOL
1033 W. 5th St., Marysville
Bishop Ready Presents ‘Little Women’
1:30 to 5 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 720 Hamlet St., Lancaster. Light of Life Prayer Group meeting. Tax-deductible donation of $25 is suggested.
Meteer, Kay; Hamilton, Barbara Herbert; featuring poetry and music about compassion, forgiveness, faith and thepower of a vibrant parish.
7 to 8:30 p.m., Holy Trinity Church, 228 S. Columbus St., Columbus. “DivorceCare: Surviving the Holidays” series: “Don’t Think About The Holidays.” For those separated or divorced. 614-224-5195. $5.
From Clara and Fritz to angels and mice, more than 90 children who were cast for four of the children’s roles for the December 29-31 performances of "The Nutcracker" have become Catholic church members since joining the BalletMet company. They are: Kate Fields (Columbus Immaculate Conception), Kathryn O’Sullivan (Columbus St. Andrew), Matt Rees (St. Paul), Francesca Mitchell (Our Lady of Perpetual Help), and Addie Wolfe (Columbus St. Charles).

BalletMet also will take the production on tour to Detroit in partnership with the Detroit Opera House. All but four of the children’s roles for the Detroit performances will be filled with more than 90 children who were cast specifically for the five-show run. Friess is one of four BalletMet Academy students who will tour with the full professional company to Detroit.

Tickets to "The Nutcracker" start at $29, and may be purchased at the CAPA ticket center, 59 E. State St., Columbus, (614) 469-0939; all Ticketmaster outlets, (1-800) 982-2787 or www.ticketmaster.com; or the BalletMet box office, (614) 229-4884. Discount coupons are available at all central Ohio Kroger stores. Group discounts are available through the BalletMet box office, (614) 586-8665. College students with ID may purchase student rush tickets at the theater two hours before showtime.

THE WALLS THAT SEPARATE US . . .

The Columbus St. Charles production of "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is a cross between a rock concert and a holiday show for people who don’t like holiday shows. If "Striking 12" doesn't get you in the holiday spirit, nothing will.

THE NUTCRACKER

From Clara and Fritz to angels and mice, 151 children will share the stage with BalletMet’s professional dancers during its annual holiday production of "The Nutcracker," which will be staged 15 times between Friday, Dec. 12 and Saturday, Dec. 27 at the Ohio Theater, 39 East State St., Columbus.

Twenty-eight of these young dancers attend Catholic churches in the Columbus area. They are: Katie Alexander (Columbus St. Agatha), Kristin Brickhouse (Columbus Holy Spirit), Morgan Canalos (Columbus St. Andrew), Faith Delley (Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help), Alexis Detrick (Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral), han-
St. Francis DeSales High School presents “YEARBOOK”

Twenty-six students from Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School will bring a school yearbook to life in the play Yearbook by Steven Fendrich at 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22 and 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 23 in the school’s little theater, 4212 Karl Road.

Admission is $8.

The students will recount events from the school year at the imaginary Northridge High School. This unique production also will feature scenes written by the students themselves, based on their own memories of DeSales. The cast will be led by senior Daniel Kelly, juniors Nate Van Cuyk and Madalyn Laugherty, and freshman Sophie Stiltner.

In the photo: Members of the cast of the Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School play, Yearbook. In the foreground are (from left) Nate VanCuyk, Madalyn Laugherty, Sophie Stiltner, and Daniel Kelly.

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School

The Panther Players present “A Party to Murder”

Ohio Dominican University’s student theater group, the Panther Players, will perform A Party to Murder, a mystery by Marcia Kash and Douglas Hughes, from Thursday to Saturday, Nov. 13 to 15, at 7 p.m. at the Matesich Theater in Erskine Hall on ODU’s main campus, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

General admission is $8 and children under five will be admitted free. Admission is also free for students who show their university ID card. Free parking is available in the gold lot, west of Sunbury Road.

Featured will be ODU students Alexis Haynes, Shyloe Mayle, Mark Willis, Zack Lawson, Andrea Haller, and Paul Shaffner. T.J. Hill will direct the play, a tale of a Halloween murder mystery party in which the game takes on a sinister dimension as the guests begin to die.