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TRANSITIONAL DEACONS
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The Editor's Notebook

"It's not my job." Yes, it is!

By David Garick, Editor

One of my biggest gripes with our modern culture is the ubiquitous phrase "That's not my job" that is so common in the workplace. It crops up virtually every time someone is asked to go beyond the path of least resistance, to put in that extra effort to really provide service to someone. In fact, the very notion of service is in pretty short supply these days. People seem to think that it is somehow beneath them to be servants of others. We live in a society filled with people only concerned with doing the least possible to get what they believe is coming to them.

I guess that has always been present in human nature. But I have to think that we have raised it to an unprecedented level in the 21st century. As Christians, we are called to be much better than that. Throughout his ministry on earth, Christ modeled for us the role of being a servant of others. He did not lead by issuing orders and directing others' work. He fed the hungry; he reached out and healed the sick. Where there was need, he gave of himself to meet that need. His role as a servant was so strong that he suffered and died on the cross and then rose again, not out of his own desires, but to provide salvation for us. He continues to serve us today by spiritually feeding us daily with his own body and blood.

But he does expect something from us. Not for his benefit; rather, he expects us to live our lives by his example of love and service to others. On the very night when he gave us the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, he also gave us a lesson on how we should live. The greatest man ever to walk the face of the earth got down on his knees and washed the feet of his disciples. If ever there was an occasion when it might seem appropriate to say "That's not my job," that would be it. But Jesus did not say that. What he did say was "I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do."

We all are called to serve in some fashion. All of us have something in our makeup that God

put there for a special purpose. We are to use that talent, skill, knowledge, or love, not for our own benefit, but for the service of the people of God and to the greater glory of God. For many, that may mean committing to the vocation of marriage and the physical and spiritual nurturing of family. It may mean using artistic talents to glorify the beauty of God's creation. It may mean feeding and clothing the poor, assisting the downtrodden, defending the weak, healing the sick. It may mean proclaiming the truth of Christ's message to those who desperately need to hear it.

For some, it may mean making an even greater sacrifice to emulate the life of Christ by accepting his call to the holy priesthood or religious life.

Whatever it is that God has called each of us to do, it would be the height of insolence to say "It's not my job!" When Our Lord approached Peter, Andrew, James, and John at the Sea of Galilee and said "Follow me," they dropped their nets and answered the call. Even Matthew the tax collector heard the call. Can you imagine a modern-day bureaucrat giving up a structured civil-service gig with great benefits to accept a life of poverty, service, and martyrdom?

This edition of *Catholic Times* salutes some of the men and women who have responded to that special call to a vocation in Holy Orders or religious life. You will read about some of the priests and sisters who are celebrating special anniversaries of their service to the Church. You will read about seminarians who have heard the call and who are preparing for this life of holy service, including four young men who this past week took the step of being ordained deacons in preparation for becoming priests next year. Pray for people -- including yourself -- to hear what God is calling them to do. Yes, it is your job!



Four men ordained as transitional deacons



Jeremiah Guappone



Stephen Smith



Timothy Lynch



Daniel Swartz

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, *Catholic Times*

Bishop Frederick Campbell ordained four men as transitional deacons for the Diocese of Columbus on Friday, May 1, advising them to model themselves after the example of St. Joseph, who has been honored on that day by the Catholic Church since 1955 in his role as patron saint of all workers.

The ordination of Deacons Jeremiah Guappone, Timothy Lynch, Stephen Smith, and Daniel Swartz at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral is one of the final steps in their preparation for ordination as priests of the Diocese

of Columbus.

This summer, Deacon Guappone will serve at the cathedral, Deacon Lynch at Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church, Deacon Smith at Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator Church, and Deacon Swartz at Columbus St. Agatha Church. They will return in the fall to the Pontifical College Josephinum for one more year of study before their anticipated ordination as priests on May 28, 2016.

Addressing the four in his homily, the bishop noted that the New Testament says little about St. Joseph, whom

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he described as "a just man, devoted to living the law of God and pursuing righteousness." No words of St. Joseph are quoted, and he passes out of the picture after Jesus turns 12 years old.

Bishop Campbell said a good motto for St. Joseph might be "'He was silent, and he did it.' He recognized the voice of God and began without hesitation the work to which God had called him. Accepting a life of perfect chastity, he became the ever-watchful guardian of the Savior and protector of the Lord's mother."

"Your generous embrace of your vocations can offer you peace and purpose and no little joy, even in the face of challenges," the bishop told the four men. "To resist a true vocation is to live a life of restlessness and quiet dissatisfaction."

"As a herald of the Gospel, a deacon must guard the (scriptural) Word of God, as Joseph guarded (Jesus,) the Incarnate Word of God," Bishop Campbell said. "He must let the voice of Christ speak through him to accomplish this. One must seek a greater conformity to the Lord as servant and teacher. The thirst for holiness should reflect St. Joseph's desire for righteousness and justice, enlightened by the never-exhausted charity of God."

Their ordination means the four new deacons have entered from the lay state of the church into the clerical state through the Sacrament of Holy Orders. At their diaconal ordination, they made promises to the bishop of obedience and celibacy.

Many people may say they made vows, but promises is the more accurate theological term because promises are made to a person -- in this case, the bishop -- while vows are made directly to God.

Unlike members of religious orders, members of the diocesan clergy, including transitional deacons, do not make a vow or a promise of poverty. However, they are expected to live in simplicity, without an excess of material goods.

The new deacons, as ordained ministers of the Catholic Church, can now baptize, assist the priest at Mass, proclaim the Gospel and give homilies, witness at marriages, preside at funeral vigils and graveside committal services, and give certain blessings. They cannot celebrate Mass, hear confes-



From left: Father Paul Noble, diocesan vocations director; Deacon Timothy Lynch; Deacon Jeremiah Guappone; Bishop Frederick Campbell; Deacon Daniel Swartz; Deacon Stephen Smith; and Msgr. Christopher Schreck, rector of the Pontifical College Josephinum. CT photo by Ken Snow

sions, or anoint the sick.

Deacon Guappone attended Lisbon St. George Church while growing up and Columbus St. Catharine Church as a student at Ohio Dominican University. He graduated from Hanoverton United Local High School in 2006 and received a bachelor of science degree in 2010 from ODU, where he studied business administration, computer information systems, and philosophy. He was class president at the university for two consecutive years.

His summer assignments as a seminarian include time at Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona, Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare, Chillicothe St. Peter, and Columbus St. Andrew churches, the cathedral, and the diocesan Face Forward vocations program. He also is the leader of the diocesan Seek Holiness seminarians' bike tour.

Deacon Lynch, who is from Columbus St. Mary, graduated from Whitehall-Yearling High School in 1998 and received a bachelor's degree in communications from Franciscan University of Steubenville in 2002. After college, he worked in outside sales. From 2005-2008, he was a sales engineer in industrial automation in Houston.

While in the secular workforce, he discerned a call to the priesthood, enrolling in the Josephinum in 2009 and

receiving an undergraduate degree in philosophy from the college. He has spent summers working at New Philadelphia Sacred Heart, Plain City St. Joseph, and Westerville St. Paul churches and at his home parish, and spent part of one summer walking the *Camino de Santiago de Compostela* in Spain.

Deacon Smith, from Hilliard St. Brendan, graduated from River Valley High School in Marion County in 2007. He received a bachelor's degree in history from the Josephinum in 2011. Before entering the seminary, he worked in fast-food jobs and was a pizza delivery driver. He did summer maintenance work at Marion St. Mary Church from 2008-11.

His summer assignments as a seminarian have included time at Newark St. Francis de Sales, Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains, New Boston St. Monica, and Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona churches. In 2013, he had an extended placement of seven months at St. Brendan.

Deacon Swartz, who attends Columbus St. Agatha, is a 2007 Columbus Bishop Watterson High school graduate. He received degrees in political science, philosophy, theology, and Latin from St. Vincent College in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, taking off a year during his college career to serve as a mission-

ary in Europe and India.

He has worked during the summer at Newark St. Francis de Sales, Columbus St. Catharine, Chillicothe St. Peter, and Sunbury St. John Neumann churches. He was commissioned into the Navy as an ensign on Jan. 20 and is a candidate to become a military chaplain.

Bishop Campbell's homily was preceded by a calling forward of the deacon candidates, a formal testimony by Father Paul Noble, diocesan vocations director, of their readiness for service, and the bishop's response that they had been chosen for the order of the diaconate.

It was followed by the candidates' declaration of readiness to become deacons, their promise of respect and obedience to the bishop and his successors, and the chanting of the Litany of the Saints by a cantor and the congregation as the candidates lay face down. They then were formally consecrated through the bishop's laying-on of hands and reading of the prayer of consecration.

This was followed by their investiture with the stole and dalmatic which are signs of the diaconal ministry, presentation of the Book of the Gospels, signifying their role as preachers, and the sign of peace from the bishop and fellow deacons.



Front Page photo:

Newly ordained Deacons (from left) Daniel Swartz, Stephen Smith, Timothy Lynch, and Jeremiah Guappone at their ordination ceremony in Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on May 1.

CT photo by Ken Snow



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PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

Eve



Did you make a generous pledge to the Bishop's Annual Appeal this past week? I hope it was a challenge that brought you to prayer and reflection. We need to give so that it impacts our surplus of financial resources. The Bishop's Annual Appeal is just one piece of the many worthy charities to which we give. And as we give more, our gratitude also grows. Giving because we feel compelled or even pressured is never good. Good stewardship and generous giving begins in our hearts. As a Catholic Christian people, we are amazingly generous. We respond to needs both great and small, to catastrophes and disasters both natural and man-caused, and to people half a world away in places such as Nepal. We give to the face of Jesus Christ. Too often, we hear people say that they do not want to give to charities or organizations that help people in other parts of the world who should be learning to help themselves. Maybe so, or maybe not. The Bishop's Annual Appeal offers us a unique, solid opportunity to help our brothers and sisters who are our neighbors in our own backyards, parishes, and the Local Church of the Diocese of Columbus. Let us be generous and give with gratitude for God's many blessings.

This Sunday is Mother's Day. We all go out of our way to honor and thank our moms for the love, care, and discipline we received as we grew up. As we reflect upon all the good things we absorbed from our moms, maybe we can reflect a bit on our original mother, Eve. She is not only original in our ancestry, but original in sin. At whatever point in time God created man and woman, everything was perfect. How could anything go wrong, and what could be missing? And so goes our mysterious faith history. Even though God has always existed as a Trinity – one God in three persons – the one thing missing among all the perfection of Eden was the man, Jesus Christ. As Eve sinned, and so also Adam, that first encounter with evil set everything in motion toward Christmas and the Incarnation, and Easter and the Resurrection. Today, we cannot imagine our existence without the love of Jesus Christ. As the Exsultet goes at the Easter Vigil, "Oh happy fault, Oh necessary sin of Adam." We rejoice because we have our Savior, Lord, and Brother in Jesus Christ. Can we "thank" Eve for this on Mother's Day? In a way, we can, as our original mother paved the way for God the Son to become a man. Eve was not perfect. She struggled with many things. And when they were discovered and questioned by God, she even had to listen to Adam blame her: "The woman gave it to me, so I ate it." Her children were far from perfect, as we know from Cain and Abel. Probably no mom in history, except St. Anne, knew what it was like to raise a perfect child. I wonder what it was like to raise our Blessed Mother Mary as a child. And then she raised the Son of God. There are definitely some good reflections to be found here. Mary was the new Eve, just as Our Lord Jesus Christ was the new Adam. Let us love and remember our mothers as we love and thank Eve for the role she played.

Our practical challenge this week is to pray a special rosary. May is the month of Mary and the rosary. Some schools and churches still conduct a May crowning. A well-prayed rosary takes about 20 minutes. We can all find that time to set aside over the next seven days or so. Instead of a set of the mysteries, pray the first decade to Eve, the second to St. Anne, the third to our Blessed Mother, the fourth for your own mom, and the fifth for your wife, mother-in-law, or whoever fits your situation. Pray for the continued love, guidance, example, and grace that only these five individuals can provide. Love your moms, past, present, and future.

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

Two Mount Carmel Hospitals Honored

Two hospitals operated by Mount Carmel Health have received national recognition from The Leapfrog Group, an independent industry watchdog.

Mount Carmel New Albany has been named to Leapfrog's annual list of top hospitals, an elite distinction given to less than seven percent of all eligible hospitals.

Mount Carmel St. Ann's has been recognized by Leapfrog for its efforts to keep patients safe. It was honored with an "A" grade in the Fall 2014 hospital safety score, which rates how well hospitals protect patients from errors, injuries, and infections.

"We are committed to delivering high-quality, people-centered care in a safe environment," said Richard D'Enbeau, Mount Carmel New Albany's president and chief operating officer. "Mount Carmel New Albany holds itself to the highest standards of excellence, and this is evident through Leapfrog's recognition."

"Patients are at the center of everything we do here," said Janet Meeks, president and chief operating officer of Mount Carmel St. Ann's. "We're extremely proud of our colleagues and physicians who have helped us achieve this incredible distinction."

The safety score is compiled under the guidance of the nation's leading experts on patient safety and is administered by The Leapfrog Group. The score uses 28 measures of publicly available hospital safety data to produce a single "A," "B," "C," "D," or "F" score representing a hospital's capacity to keep patients safe

from preventable harm.

"We continuously strive to improve our patient experience in order to provide remarkable care," Meeks said.

Mount Carmel New Albany was one of 94 top hospitals recognized nationally by Leapfrog. The selection is based on the group's annual hospital survey, which measures hospitals' performance on patient safety and quality, focusing on three critical areas: how patients fare, resource use, and management structures established to prevent errors.

Mount Carmel New Albany also has also been recognized for nine consecutive years with the Guardian of Excellence Award from national health care research firm Press Ganey Associates. The award recognizes facilities achieving the 95th percentile in patient satisfaction for inpatient services.

The New Albany hospital's joint replacement program has been certified by The Joint Commission. This two-year certification requires facilities to comply with national standards; use appropriate, evidence-based clinical practices; and collect and analyze key performance measures for joint replacement.

Mount Carmel St. Ann's finished a historic \$110 million expansion project in 2014 and has been able to introduce a number of new technologies and services. The hospital is the only facility in northeast Columbus to offer open-heart surgery, and is the only hospital to offer automated breast ultrasound, the only FDA-approved breast screening technology developed for women with dense breast tissue.

Granville Pilgrimage to Dresden

Granville St. Edward Church parishioners will make a pilgrimage to the historic country churches of Mattingly Settlement St. Mary (1856) and Dresden St. Ann (1889) on Tuesday, May 12.

The day will include Mass, a luncheon

prepared by the women's club of the two parishes, Eucharistic Adoration, a presentation on the history of the newly restored and refurbished churches and their parish life, and a visit to the shops of Dresden.

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GOOGLE APPS FOR EDUCATION



Columbus St. Anthony School students in grades seven and eight are learning to use Google apps for education. Teacher Bob Keep and the students are creating and working in Google Classroom, which is a learning management system for schools that aims to simplify creating, distributing, and grading assignments in a paperless way. The goal is to prepare students for successful high school and college careers by introducing them to technology that will aid in that process.

Photo courtesy St. Anthony School



First Communion Preparation

Students from Logan St. John School prepared to receive their first Communion by attending a retreat with their parents. Shown are (from left) Stephanie and Matthew Mansfield and Chloe and Andrea Thimmes making a banner to put on the church pews set aside for each of their families for the event.

Photo courtesy St. John School

Catholic Women's Group Grant Recipients

The Catholic Foundation's St. Martha Giving Circle has announced its first five grant recipients. This year, grants totaling \$24,216 were awarded to organizations throughout the Diocese of Columbus.

The recipients were the St. Francis Evangelization Center in McArthur, \$6,650; the Pike County Outreach Council of Churches, \$4,250; the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Columbus Ss. Augustine & Gabriel Church, \$4,500; Catholic Social Services, \$6,066; and the Christ Child Society, \$2,750.

These five organizations were chosen to receive grants by members of the St. Martha Giving Circle. The members, known as Marthas, nominated 11 organizations for consid-

eration, then narrowed the selection through a vote in March.

The St. Martha Giving Circle is a relatively new initiative designed to bring Catholic women together to raise awareness and funds for charities in the diocese. Started last March, the Marthas gather periodically to learn about organizations and their needs, to join together in service, and to decide together which projects to fund. Martha memberships in the first year of the program greatly exceeded expectations. It has 120 members, 40 of whom contributed \$1,000 to join the Founder's Circle.

For additional information about the St. Martha Giving Circle, visit www.catholic-foundation.org/TheMarthas.

CINDERELLA

Members of the Delaware St. Mary School Drama Club performed "Cinderella" for the school on Thursday, April 23. Evening performances followed on Thursday and Friday for the Delaware community. Anna McLeod and Cole Stojkov portrayed Cinderella and Prince Charming.

Photo courtesy St. Mary School



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THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION

Best time for prayer request; Marital status in church



QUESTION & ANSWER
by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. I read recently that, during the consecration at Mass, the blessed Savior is most present to us -- and that if we have a special prayer request, that would be the best time to make it. Can you tell me if that is correct, or is there a more appropriate time? (Columbia, Missouri)

A. It is true that when the words of consecration are pronounced by the priest, Jesus himself becomes present on the altar under the appearance of bread and wine. This makes that moment, of course, an especially sacred one. I have noticed that even when a congregation has seemed fidgety and distracted, a reverent hush descends at the time of consecration.

If you feel a particular closeness to Christ right then, by all means go ahead and make your request -- although the primary focus at that moment should be gratitude to the Lord for coming so near.

Finally, I need to point out that, in listening to our needs, God has no "office hours." I believe, and the teaching of the church holds, that Jesus' invitation to "ask and you shall receive" applies in any circumstance and in every setting.

Q. I have read your column and you seem to make appropriate clarifications. Here is the situation of my friend, who lives in the Philippines. (By the way, divorce is not legal in the Philippines.) Some time ago, she was married in a Catholic Church wedding; that marriage has now been annulled civilly, but not yet by the church. Later, she married a different man in a civil wedding, and that second marriage is now in the process of civil annulment.

I am only concerned about her standing in the church. In the church's eyes, is she still married to

husband No. 1? Does this mean that she has two husbands at the same time? And, finally, can she take Communion in the Catholic Church? (City of origin withheld)

A. It is true that the Philippines, where 86 percent of the population is Catholic, is one of the few nations in the world where divorce is not recognized legally. However, that fact is extraneous to your question, which regards only your friend's status in the church.

Her first marriage, which took place in a Catholic Church, was and still is recognized by the church. It sounds as though a petition for a church annulment may have been filed, but until that process is decided, the first marriage is still valid in the church's eyes.

The second wedding "did not count" in the view of the church; not only were they married outside the church, but your friend was still married to husband No. 1 and therefore was not eligible to marry again with the Catholic Church's blessing. (So she doesn't have "two husbands" in the church's view, only the first one.)

Where does this leave your friend right now? I assume that she is no longer living with husband No. 2, since you said that the marriage is in the process of being civilly annulled. So your friend is in good standing in the church and eligible to take holy Communion.

However, before she does that, she should go to confession and tell the priest about her marriages -- especially the second civil marriage, which would have been objectively sinful.

It will be good for you to pass this information on to your friend; there is a common belief that a failed marriage by itself (apart from a second marriage) separates one from the community of the church and the grace of the sacraments.

That is not true -- a spouse might be relatively blameless in the collapse of a marriage and may (and should) continue to receive the sacraments.

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

Patrick Madrid to headline Cradling Christianity dinner

The tenth annual Cradling Christianity fundraiser for Christians in the Holy Land will take place Thursday, Sept. 10 at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St. The event will open with a 5:30 p.m. Mass in the school's chapel, followed by a dinner and featured presentation in the Walter Student Commons.

Mass will be celebrated by Father Peter Vasko, OFM, president of the board of trustees of the Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land, and concelebrating priests from central Ohio.

This year's speaker is Patrick Madrid, noted Catho-

lic apologist, author, broadcaster, and speaker. He and his family live in the Columbus area.

Preserving Christian life in the Holy Land is the goal of the Cradling Christianity dinners. Information on coming Holy Land group pilgrimages will be available at the dinner.

Those attending also will be able to hear about the travel experiences of diocesan residents who have been on Holy Land pilgrimages.

Contact cmers@columbus.rr.com or phone Charles Mers at (614) 890-6996 to reserve seats or an entire table.

In the marriage case styled STULL - WATTERS, 51/15, the Tribunal of the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio, is currently unaware of the present address of MR. JERRY CORDELL WATTERS. The Tribunal herewith informs him of the case and invites him to contact REVEREND DENNIS STEVENSON JCL, Presiding and sole Judge, no later than 26 MAY 2015. Phone: 614-241-2500. Anyone who knows of the whereabouts of MR. JERRY CORDELL WATTERS, is herewith asked to make this Citation known to him or to inform the Tribunal of his current address. Given this 4th day of MAY 2015. REVEREND DENNIS STEVENSON JCL, Presiding Judge.

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DEADLINE IS EXTENDED FOR FACE FORWARD SERVICE AWARDS

The diocesan Vocations Office has extended the deadline for its third annual Face Forward Service Awards contest through Friday, May 22.

These awards are offered to all eighth- to 12th- grade students in the Diocese of Columbus.

Two \$500 awards will be given, based on the three criteria of a 300-word essay on the importance of service and giving back to the community, level of parish involvement, and service to the community.

Entries may be submitted by going to www.faceforward-columbusblog.com or Facebook.com/FaceForwardColumbus. Winners will be announced on Wednesday, May 27.

Father Paul Noble, diocesan vocations director, will present the awards at the end of the school year.

Last year's winners were Jonathan Eskay Zins of Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School and Cara Shaver of Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School.

"We are pleased to offer this opportunity for all of the young people in the diocese," Father Noble said.

"The awards are available to all students, whether public, private, or home-schooled. We encourage all students to take advantage of this opportunity and be rewarded for their outstanding service to their parishes and communities."

Face Forward is a program of the Vocations Office that allows for interaction with diocesan young people and provides platforms for communication, events, and opportunities to learn more about the Catholic faith and a life in vocations. There are more than 10,000 people within the Face Forward community.

Answering God's Call

HELP FROM OTHERS ENABLED HER TO RESPOND



Sr. Mary Michael Carlton, OP
by Tim Puet

A call to serve God in the religious life is a personal thing, but help from others often is needed before someone who has been called can respond to God's invitation.

For Sister Mary Michael Carlton, OP, her helpers included a parish priest, college friends, St. Therese of Lisieux, the Newman Center at her college, and the Knights of Columbus.

Sister Mary Michael, 35, was the middle child of a family of three, growing up with an older brother and a younger sister in Kingsport, Tennessee. Her father was a construction worker and her mother, originally from New Jersey, worked in a hospital. Both have retired and are living in Piney Flats, Tennessee.

Kingsport, located in northeast Tennessee near the Virginia border, is a somewhat unlikely place to nurture a religious vocation because it's part of the Diocese of Knoxville, which has the smallest percentage of Catholics in any diocese in the United States -- 2.3 percent, or about 50,000 Catholics, in a population of 2.2 million. Tennessee as a whole is the nation's least-Catholic state, with a Catholic population of 3.5 percent, according to the Association of Statisticians of American Religious Bodies.

"I was raised Catholic in an interfaith family," Sister Mary Michael said. "I had a lot of Protestant friends who had questions about the Catholic Church, and I felt a little embarrassed to be Catholic for a while. But their questions made me look for the answers. Doing that enabled me to discover the truth of Catholic doctrine and to defend the faith."

The first seeds of her vocation may have been planted by a priest at her parish, Father Ragan Schriver. "He inspired me as being a great example of someone who lived his faith, encouraging me to do the same in whatever profession I entered," she said. Father Schriver now is with Catholic Charities in Washington after serving as diocesan Catholic Charities director in Knoxville for 14 years and a professor of social work at the University of Tennessee.

Sister Mary Michael was considering a career in occupational therapy when she entered the University of South Alabama in Mobile. The university had an active Newman Center for Catholic students and was located in a city with a relatively high percentage of Catholics -- 17 percent, the largest of any major city in Alabama. While in Mobile, she first thought about entering the religious life and ultimately decided to become a sister.

"My Protestant friends in college had encouraged me to pray for my future spouse, whoever it might be," she said. "A Catholic friend said I needed to pray for my vocation first. That's when I learned what a vocation was. My friend gave me a book on St. Therese of Lisieux, which I read in one weekend, and it changed my life."

"After reading the book, I knew I wanted to give my life to God in some way, and I started looking around for religious communities. The Little Sisters of the Poor operate the Sacred Heart Residence for the aged in Mobile, so I began volunteering there. That was my first real contact with sisters. Their order's charism is to work with older people, but I didn't feel called to enter the order," she said.

"One day, a friend who was involved in the college Newman Center with me and knew I was discerning my vocation invited me to Ann Arbor, Michigan, for a retreat with the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist. Their joy made me realize that I could give my life fully to God and be happy, and that I was being called to religious life."

When Sister Mary Michael left college to join the Dominican Sisters in 2002, she was a year-and-a-half short of completing requirements for her bachelor's degree, which she ultimately earned at Eastern Michigan University. She also has a graduate degree in educational leadership from the University of Southern Mississippi.

"I had \$18,000 in college debt I had to pay off before entering the convent, and I have the Knights of Columbus to thank for making it possible to become a sister," she said. "In August 2002, I was working two full-time jobs at a bank and a restaurant, but I knew that what I earned wouldn't be nearly enough to cover the debt. I was praying constantly for a solution. Just before I had to make a decision on what to do, the pastor of my parish told me that the Knights had decided to pay most of the balance of what I owed, and he would pay for the rest. I wouldn't be a sister today if it weren't for the Knights of Columbus."

After entering religious life in 2002, she made her first vows in 2005 and her final vows in 2010. She was a teacher and administrator in 2007-08 at two schools in Loomis, California, then spent two years teaching fifth and sixth grades at St. Thomas School in Phoenix and one year as a sixth-grade teacher at Spiritus Sanctus Academy in Ann Arbor.

When her order accepted an invitation to come to the Diocese of Columbus in the fall of 2011, she and three other sisters were sent to teach at Worthington St. Michael School. She has been principal there for the past four years. Sister Mary Jacinta Campbell, OP, has taught kindergarten at the school since the sisters' arrival. Other sisters on the teaching staff are Sister Mary Perpetua Ha, OP, second grade; Sister Mary Gabriel Whitney, OP, fifth grade; and Sister Maris Stella Ragetli, OP, sixth- through eighth-grade religion.

"St. Michael School is thriving, with 461 students and the addition of a preschool," Sister Mary Michael said. "Students are striving to live virtuously in school and, we hope, when they go home, with the help of the virtues-based curriculum our order has developed. Last year, six students and two staff members from the school voluntarily made a total consecration to Mary. This year, several students are planning to do the same on Wednesday, May 13, the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima."

Sister Mary Michael is vice president of the diocesan Council for Religious, a representative group of priests and sisters from religious orders who work with Bishop Frederick Campbell. This is an especially significant year for members of religious communities because Pope Francis has declared the period from last Nov. 30 to Feb. 2, 2016 as the Year of Consecrated Life to honor their service.

The council sponsors several public and private events throughout the year. The public events include the Marian Dinner to promote women's religious vocations, usually in the fall, and an annual Jubilee Mass at which religious marking significant anniversaries of their profession of vows are recognized. This year's Mass will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 6 in Columbus St. John the Baptist Church.

"Our world looks at religious life as saying 'No' to something. I understand why people would think that way," Sister Mary Michael said. "But I look at it as saying 'Yes' to something greater. I could have married, had a family, and been happy with those things. But I know that God called me to be a sister, and that fulfilling his purpose and doing his will makes me happier than any other choice I may have made."

Ready Students Inducted into National Business Honor Society

Six Columbus Bishop Ready High School students were inducted as charter members in the school's chapter of the National Business Honor Society. Pictured are (from left) Fatima Alfaro, Lorissa LaForge, Benjamin Young, Meg Beattie, and Connor Lancia. Lauren Ruth is not pictured. Society members must be juniors or seniors and either be enrolled in or have completed a third business course, with a minimum grade-point average of 3.5 in business classes and 3.0 overall. The NBHS is a division of the National Business Education Association. Ready business faculty member Maria Illig is moderator for the chapter.

Photo by Hailey Bryan



St. Mary Solo and Ensemble Contestants

Four Lancaster St. Mary School band students participated in and received superior ratings at the district solo and ensemble competition at Amanda-Clearcreek High School. The competition is an adjudicated event at which students receive a rating based on how well they perform their musical selection, using various skills necessary to perform the specific work.

St. Mary participants were (from left): Geneva Frank, trumpet; Collin Rimkus, trumpet; Clara Craaybeek, alto sax; and Caroline Messerly, flute. Photo courtesy St. Mary School



Lancaster St. Bernadette builds Jerusalem

Lancaster St. Bernadette School kindergarten students recently built their own version of Jerusalem. Pictured are Pontius Pilate (block figure in red robe) in his courtyard, the Temple, across from Pilate's court, and Jesus' empty tomb at top left, with an angel.

Photo courtesy St. Bernadette School



Revolutionary War Presentation



Coshocton Sacred Heart School sixth-graders completed the study of a person or event central to the Revolutionary War. Students researched, compiled a report and a Power Point slide show, and presented a first-person portrayal. Participants included (from left) Raiff Berry, Sydney Stewart, Connor Stevens-Woolery, Morgaan Kelton, Brandon Jacobs, Sydney Starcher, Jonathan Lyons, MaryAnn Lozowski, and, seated, Anna Richcreek. Photo courtesy Sacred Heart School

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A Mindful Day

I don't know about you, but sometimes I feel like God is in hiding. Sometimes, that sense of absence lasts a long time. One day while thinking about that, I decided to take a "mindful" day, borrowing the term from the Buddhist practice of "mindfulness."

"Perhaps this disconnect has something to do with my lack of being present to the moment," I thought. Ironic, since that is what I often write about in this column. "Easier said than done," or "Easier written than done" in my case.

I started the day with mass at St. Thomas. I was a little late, but rush-hour traffic tied me up on the trip across town. Despite frustration with lanes of slow-

moving cars, I managed to take a deep breath and relax. I noticed the sky, battled the wind buffeting my little Civic, and sat through four turns of the traffic light at Fifth and Cassady before walking into church.

Next was a drive down Route 33 for allergy shots. I resisted the temptation to use the drive as an opportunity to catch up with one of my daughters, and instead paid attention to the countryside stretching out on either side of the highway.

The morning light was spectacular. Spring's greens included a wide spectrum of color. I thought of the claim that Inuit people of northern Canada have 50 or more words to refer to snow (anthropologist Franz Boas made that observation in the late 1800s to early 1900s, and it has been debated ever since).

"We should have more words for 'green,'" I thought. I suppose we do if you count adjective descriptors such as "sap green" (a favorite watercolor hue), "Kelly green," "olive green," and "forest green."

What about the green that seems to have sucked up sunlight through a plant's roots, appearing to glow green from inside out? Or the green that calls us to "watch this space," with leaves shining with emerging life, changing from hour to hour?

The entire day was like that. I recognized courage and perseverance in the gait of an older man struggling up the slight incline from parking lot to sidewalk in front of a doctor's office. Appreciation for his effort stirred in my heart, and I stood respectfully by, telling him not to hurry despite his blocking my car door. Like an honor guard for a returning soldier, I stood straight as he moved slowly by. Life is difficult, and he was "keeping on," as Pete Seeger and Woody Guthrie said.

One by one, experience by experience, the day nurtured my soul as I paid attention to where I was, turning away from the temptation to fret over the past, worry about the future, or multitask while eating by

GRACE IN THE MOMENT
Mary van Balen

reading email or *New York Times* headline articles (To all the mothers out there who survive by multitasking at home and at work, mindfulness can be like a drink of cool water on a hot day). I savored tastes and ate slowly, an accomplishment for one who chews a few times and then swallows.

By the end of the day, which I celebrated with a call from my youngest daughter, then candles and Rumi at bedtime, I felt full -- fuller in spirit than I had been for quite a while.

Mindfulness isn't a miracle cure for spiritual emptiness or feeling distant from the One we long for. Still, being truly present to the moment helped me recognize the beauty of nature and of souls, and the wonder and Mystery of life bursting at its seams. That's the conventional wisdom, isn't it? You don't meet God in the past or future, but in the present. I was able to ponder the possibility that the Divine truly is reaching out from every direction, including from within, to connect with us. (This is much more difficult to do if one is watching reruns of *The West Wing* or *Frazier* on Netflix to distract from uncomfortable chatter in one's mind.)

"You sound great," my daughter observed during our phone conversation.

I shared my "mindful day" with her and heard myself saying "This day nourished me." And when I finally closed my eyes, I had the smallest sense that God was right there with me.

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DeSALES SIGNEES

Three Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School seniors signed letters of intent to continue their athletic careers in college. They are (from left): Evan Feltz, volleyball, St. Francis (Pennsylvania); Jordan Stoll, rowing, Eastern Michigan; and Jared Pressley, soccer, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School



65

MSGR. JAMES A. GEIGER, 90,

a resident of Mother Angeline McCrory Manor in Columbus, was ordained on Aug. 15, 1950, by Bishop Michael Ready in the chapel of St. Charles Seminary in Columbus. He is a native of Bucyrus.

He served as pastor at Logan St. John (1970-87) and Sugar Grove St. Joseph (1992-2009) churches and associate pastor at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral (1951-55) and Lancaster St. Mary (1988-92), and as an instructor in residence at St. Charles Seminary (1957-70).

He also has been an instructor at the Pontifical College Josephinum, a member of the diocesan Tribunal, the diocesan board of consultors, and the diocesan liturgical commission, chaplain of several Knights of Columbus councils, moderator of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Nurses, and chaplain of the Columbus circle of the Daughters of Isabella.

He was appointed as a monsignor by Pope St. John Paul II, with the title prelate of honor, in 1999. He retired on June 30, 2009.



60

MSGR. CARL P. CLAGETT JR., 85,

a Leitchfield, Kentucky, native, was ordained by Bishop Ready at St. Joseph Cathedral on May 28, 1955.

He was pastor at Gahanna St. Matthew (1970-75), Danville St. Luke (1975-82), Columbus Corpus Christi (1982-86), and Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal (1986-99), associate pastor at Lancaster St. Mary (1955-60), Columbus St. Mary Magdalene (1960-63), Columbus St. Dominic (1963-65), and Columbus St. Mary (1965-66), and in residence at St. Mary (1966-67), St. Mary Magdalene (1967-68), and Columbus St. Aloysius (1968-70).

He was a teacher at Columbus Bishop Hartley High School and served as diocesan youth ministry director, a member of the diocesan Priests' Senate, vocations committee, and personnel board, vicar of the Newark vicariate, and chaplain of Santa Maria Council 2898 of the Knights of Columbus.

He retired on July 13, 1999, and lives in the assisted

NINE LOCAL PRIESTS REACHING SIGNIFICANT MILESTONES IN 2015

SIX DIOCESAN PRIESTS, TWO JOSEPHINUM FACULTY MEMBERS, ONE DOMINICAN MARK ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

living section of the Villas of St. Therese in Columbus. Pope St. John Paul II appointed him as a monsignor, with the title prelate of honor, in 1995.

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal parishioners have invited Msgr. Clagett to be the honored guest at the parish's annual dinner for volunteers after the 4 p.m. Mass on Saturday, May 16.



50

MSGR. ROMANO CIOTOLA,

who turns 75 on May 11, was born in Campobasso, Italy, and came to the United States in 1958. Bishop John Carberry ordained him at the cathedral on May 29, 1965.

He has been pastor of Columbus Our Lady of Victory Church since July 2000. He previously was pastor at London St. Patrick (1976-87) and Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help (1987-2000) and associate pastor at Gahanna St. Matthew (1965-67), Columbus St. Agnes (1967-71), Dennison Immaculate Conception (1971-73), and Newark Blessed Sacrament (1973-76).

He taught at Columbus Bishop Hartley, Columbus Bishop Ready, New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic, and Newark Catholic high schools.

He was appointed a monsignor, with the title prelate of honor, by Pope St. John Paul II in 1992.

He will celebrate a Mass of thanksgiving in honor of his anniversary, followed by a reception at 11 a.m. Sunday, May 31 in Our Lady of Victory Church.



50

MSGR WILLIAM A. DUNN, 76,

is from Columbus and was ordained by Bishop

Carberry at the cathedral on May 29, 1965.

He served as pastor at Columbus Holy Rosary (1976-78), Lancaster St. Mary (1981-90), Worthington St. Michael (1990-2002), and Logan St. John (2002-14), and associate pastor at St. Michael (1965-67), Newark Blessed Sacrament (1967-68), and the cathedral (1974-76). He was an instructor in residence at St. Charles Seminary (1968-74), and also was in residence at Columbus Our Lady of Victory (1978-81).

He was a teacher at Columbus Bishop Watterson and Newark Catholic high schools, served as diocesan religious education director and chairman of the diocesan liturgical commission, was associate director of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine for the Northern Deanery, was a member of the diocesan integration committee, personnel board, and Priests' Senate, and was vicar of the North High Vicariate and dean of the Lancaster Deanery. He is a member of the Diocesan College of Consultors for a five-year term expiring in October 2019.

He moved to Hilliard after retiring on July 8, 2014. Pope St. John Paul II appointed him a monsignor, with the title prelate of honor, in 1999.



50

FATHER F. RICHARD SNOKE, 79,

lives in retirement with family members in Lancaster, the city of his birth. Bishop Carberry ordained him at the cathedral on May 29, 1965.

He was pastor at New Lexington St. Rose (1977-87) and Danville St. Luke (1987-2012), retiring on July 10, 2012. He was assistant pastor at Columbus St. Leo (1965-67), teaching at Columbus Bishop Hartley and Father Wehrle high schools, then spent the next 10 years in residence at various high schools, serving as assistant principal at Columbus St. Francis DeSales (1967-69) and Columbus Bishop Watterson (1969-70), and principal at Portsmouth Notre Dame (1970-71) and Chillicothe Bishop Flaget (1971-77).

He was chaplain of New Lexington Council 1065 and Danville Council 910 of the Knights of Columbus and has served as Ohio father prior (chaplain) of the Columbian Squires, the Knights' organization for boys

ages 10 to 18, since the late 1980s.

He also served for two years as state chaplain of the Knights, was chaplain at Mercy Hospital in Columbus, and served in leadership roles on a number of civic organizations in New Lexington and Danville, particularly the ecumenical ministerial associations of both communities.

A Mass of thanksgiving, followed by a barbecue, will take place Sunday, June 14 at Lancaster St. Mary Church.



40

FATHER PATRICK A. TONER, 71,

born in Braddock, Pennsylvania, was ordained at the cathedral by Bishop Edward Herrmann on May 24, 1975.

Before beginning studies for the priesthood, he was an Army intelligence specialist in Germany and Vietnam.

From 1986-92, he was a chaplain in the Air Force, stationed in Arizona, Panama, and Andrews Air Force Base near Washington.

His service included assignments in Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield.

As a priest of the Diocese of Columbus, he was pastor at Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes (1978-82), Sunbury St. John Neumann (1983-85), and Portsmouth St. Mary (1993-96), and administrator at Zoar Holy Trinity (1996-97) before being assigned in 1997 to his current position as pastor at Plain City St. Joseph. He also has been associate pastor of Marion St. Mary (1975-78), Columbus St. Agatha (1978), Columbus Holy Spirit (1985-86), Columbus Our Lady of Peace (1992-93), and Newark St. Francis de Sales (1996), and in residence at Columbus St. Ladislav (1982-83).

In addition, he was a teacher at Columbus Bishop Watterson and Newark Catholic high schools, a member of the diocesan board of consultors, co-director of the diocesan youth ministry office, and vicar for the West Vicariate.

He plans to retire from active ministry later this year. A reception honoring both his anniversary and his retirement is scheduled from 4 to 7 p.m. Sunday, July 12 at Plain City.



40

MSGR. KEVIN T. McMAHON, 65,

professor of moral theology at the Pontifical College Josephinum since 2010, has been a priest of the diocese of Wilmington, Delaware, since his ordination by Blessed Pope Paul VI in Rome on June 29, 1975.

He was born and grew up in Philadelphia, served in parish ministry in the Diocese of Wilmington from 1975-82, and has spent most of his priestly service since then as an educator, teaching moral theology at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland (1983-88) and St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia (1988-2007) before becoming episcopal vicar for health care and biotechnology in the Archdiocese of St. Louis (2007-09), and coming to the Josephinum. He has been a consultant to the pro-life activities committee of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and a member of many committees charged with examining specific moral questions.

He was appointed a monsignor, with the title chaplain to His Holiness, by Pope St. John Paul II in 2003 and was awarded the title prelate of honor by Pope Benedict XVI in 2008.



40

FATHER MICHAEL P. TRAINOR, OP, 67,

was ordained a Dominican friar on May 28, 1975, after spending much of his early life being educated by Dominican friars and sisters in Columbus at St. Patrick and St. Gabriel churches and the former St. Mary of the Springs College (now Ohio Dominican University).

In the Diocese of Columbus, he has served at Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas (1976, 1985-88) and

Columbus St. Patrick (1990-91, 2005-06), and has been chaplain for the Dominican Sisters of Peace at their Columbus Motherhouse since October 2011. His other assignments have been in parochial ministry at St. Mary Church, New Haven, Connecticut (1976-78); St. Vincent Ferrer Church, New York City (1978-84); St. Catherine of Siena Church, New York City (1984-85, 1989-90, 2006-11); and St. Pius V Church, Providence, Rhode Island (1991-98); and as chaplain to the Dominican Sisters at the Monastery of Mary the Queen, Elmira, New York (1998-2005).

He also served in hospital ministry in New York City at the Sloane Kettering Memorial Hospital, New York Presbyterian Hospital, and the Hospital for Special Surgery.



25

FATHER DAVID MONACO, CP, 55,

has been associate professor of Sacred Scripture and formation adviser at the Pontifical College Josephinum since 2011. He is a native of Yonkers, New York, and was ordained as a member of the

Passionist Fathers on May 17, 1990, by Bishop Norbert Dorsey in Jamaica, New York.

He was in retreat ministry in Massachusetts from 1989-95, studied at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome from 1995-1999, graduating with a licentiate in Sacred Scripture, and studied at the University of Chicago from 1999-2011, graduating with a doctorate in Biblical studies while teaching from 2006-11 as an adjunct at Dominican University in River Forest, Illinois, before coming to the Josephinum.

**GOD CALLED
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Congratulations!

Dominican Sisters of Peace Elect New Leaders, Set Direction

The Dominican Sisters of Peace have elected new leaders for a six-year term.

Sister Pat Twohill, OP, was elected prioress. Sisters Therese Leckert, OP, Gemma Doll, OP, Gene Poore, OP, and Anne Lythgoe, OP, were elected as councilors.

The terms of the new leaders will end in 2021.

Sisters Therese, Gemma, and Gene were elected to a second term.

Sisters Margaret Ormond, OP, prioress, and Joan Scanlon, OP, will complete their terms on Aug. 8.

The Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Peace is located in Columbus. About 140 members of the congregation live and minister in the Diocese of Columbus.

Ohio Dominican University and the Dominican Learning Center are among their 26 sponsored ministries.

The election was part of the congregation's second General Chapter, which took place in St. Louis from April 6-12.

Reflecting on the theme "Unfolding a Future Full of Hope," Sister Margaret opened the meeting by inviting



At their second General Chapter, the Dominican Sisters of Peace elected new leaders for a six-year term. They are (from left): Sisters Gene Poore, OP, Therese Leckert, OP, Pat Twohill, OP, (prioress), Anne Lythgoe, OP, and Gemma Doll, OP.

Photo courtesy Dominican Sisters of Peace

more than 250 sisters and associates to "dance first, think later."

She used the metaphor of dance to describe her approach to the gathering and asked the group to come together

with adaptability, balance, confidence, courage, and civility.

She also presented the Easter story of doubting Thomas to remind those in attendance that it was the community

of believers who shaped his faith.

Carolyn Woo, president and chief executive officer of Catholic Relief Services, expressed her deep appreciation for the role Catholic sisters play in bringing relief and comfort around the world. CRS is the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States.

Woo said the Maryknoll Sisters in Hong Kong taught her not only how to read and learn, but also how to care for others.

It is easy to be overwhelmed, Woo said. Rather than try to do too much, she suggested that her listeners "pick a spot and work on that, follow the politics and issues of a particular area and identify it with one thing related to your ministry. Learn as much as you can about it."

Following her remarks, members of the congregation discussed its mission and its direction setting.

They approved chapter commitments for the next six years which include a statement that called them to study, contemplate, and preach God's revelation discovered in the unfolding mystery of creation and in Sacred Scripture; create environments of peace by promoting non-violence, unity in diversity, and reconciliation among themselves, in the Church, and throughout the world; promote justice through solidarity with those who are marginalized, especially women and children, and work with others to identify and transform oppressive systems; create welcoming communities, inviting others to join the congregation as vowed members, associates, volunteers, and partners in its mission to be the Holy Preaching; and foster God's web of life personally, communally, and ministerially by advocating and supporting just policies and decisions to reduce the impact of global climate change.

The mission of the Dominican Sisters of Peace is to bring the Gospel to the world by being peace, building peace, and preaching peace.

The congregation consists of 540 sisters and 625 associates. They minister in 26 states and in Peru, Honduras, and Nigeria in many ministerial areas, including education, health care, spirituality, pastoral care, prison ministry, and care of creation.

St. Andrew Students Win Latin Honors

Pictured are the 22 Columbus St. Andrew School students who won gold or silver medals in this year's National Latin Exam. Eighth-grade student Alex Leonard earned a perfect score for the second year in a row. A total of 42 St. Andrew students received awards for their accomplishment on the exam. St. Andrew was one of only 12 grade schools competing against more than 150,000 students from high schools and colleges.

Photo courtesy St. Andrew School



Joliet Franciscans Celebrate Anniversaries

Four members of the Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate, also known as the Joliet Franciscans, who have connections to the Diocese of Columbus will mark significant anniversaries of their profession of vows this year.

Sister Felicity (Joy) Gaffney, OSF, will be celebrating her 75th anniversary. It will be the 60th anniversary for Sister Lauren Wiegman, OSF, and the 50th anniversary for Sister Martha Eckstein, OSF, and Sister Elaine Kerscher, OSF.

They and other jubilarians of the Joliet Franciscans will be honored at the 10:30 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral of St. Raymond in Joliet, Illinois, on Sunday, June 13.

Sister Felicity, a native of Columbus, is one of seven daughters and three sons born to the late Irene and James Gaffney. She was preceded in death by five sisters and all three brothers. Her sister Betty DeJohn lives in Ohio.

She was a member of Columbus St. Mary Magdalene Church, graduated from Columbus St. Mary of the Springs High School, and received her bachelor's degree from the College of St. Francis in Joliet, with a major in French. She has a master of arts degree in education from DePaul University, attended the Franciscan Institute in Theology at the College of St. Francis, and took courses in Spanish at the University of Colorado.



Sr. Felicity Gaffney



Sr. Lauren Wiegman



Sr. Felicity Gaffney



Sr. Elaine Kercher

For 50 years, she taught from California to Florida in high schools of diverse cultures: Indian, Mexican, rural, inner-city, private academy, parish schools for girls, citywide parish schools, large diocesan high schools, and a high-school equivalency diploma program. She lives at the at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home in Joliet.

Sister Lauren grew up in Mansfield and received her high-school diploma from St. Francis Academy in Joliet and her bachelor of arts degree from the College of St. Francis. She has a master of education degree from Loyola University in Chicago, and certificates as a reading specialist from The Ohio State University and as an accountant from Columbus State Community College.

She has ministered in the field of education as a teacher and an administrator for 50 years, including periods as principal of elementary schools in Illinois and Alabama.

She also was a teacher and counselor

at high schools before becoming a clinician in reading and math. She was an accountant in Columbus for 10 years and currently ministers as a private tutor in Worthington.

Sister Martha is the eldest daughter of the late Herbert Eckstein and his wife, Dorothy, who lives in Reynoldsburg. Her siblings all live in central Ohio. Her brothers are William, of Westerville; Richard, of Pataskala; Robert, of Gahanna; and Thomas, of Millersport. Her sisters are Joanne Rousculp, of Columbus; and Marilyn Wright, of Grove City. Her brother Michael died on March 10 of this year.

She was a member of Columbus St. John the Evangelist Church, graduated from Columbus St. Joseph Academy, and received her bachelor's degree from the College of St. Francis. She has a master of arts degree in early childhood education from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colorado.

She has ministered primarily as an

educator in the primary grades of schools in Chicago, Loveland, Colorado, and the Cleveland area. She is a primary grade teacher at Assumption Academy in Broadview Heights, and an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist at University Hospital in Cleveland.

Sister Elaine is a native of Columbus. She is the daughter of the late Margaret and Charles Kerscher. A sister, Carolyn Bell, is deceased. Her brother, Timothy, lives in Reynoldsburg, and her twin sister, Eileen Martin, lives in Pickerington, OH. She also has a sister, Judith Fugazzi, living in Gilroy, California.

She was a member of Columbus St. John the Evangelist Church, graduated from Columbus St. Mary High School, and received a bachelor of arts degree in speech pathology from the College of St. Francis. She has a master of arts degree in pastoral studies from Loyola University of Chicago and a master of arts and licentiate in canon law from St. Paul University in Ottawa, Ontario.

She has ministered in the field of education for nine years, has served in leadership of the Joliet Franciscan congregation for 12 years, and has been a pastoral minister at parishes and institutions in Illinois and Ohio.

She served in the Tribunal of the Diocese of Rockford, Illinois, for 11 years, and currently ministers as defender of the bond at the diocesan Tribunal in Joliet.



Our Lady of Peace Student Citizens

Students from Columbus Our Lady of Peace School were recognized as part of the Clintonville Chamber of Commerce's 18th annual middle-school student citizen breakfast at the Ohio State University's Fawcett Center. The students are (from left) Lilianna Mendiola, Faith Watson, Tessa Whittaker, Adam Benadum, Vivian Divierte, and Maddison McCleary. Sponsors of the event and Ryan Schwieterman, the school's principal, also are shown.

Photo courtesy Our Lady of Peace School

Sixth Sunday of Easter (Cycle B)

As friends of Jesus, we must be friends of others



Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48

1 John 4:7-10

John 15:9-17

Cornelius, a Roman centurion, was a “God fearer” (a non-Jew, sympathetic to Judaism) and an alms-giver, who respected the Jewish religion and prayed often to God. He had a vision which ended with a command to send messengers to Simon Peter in Joppa. Joppa was a coastal city on the Mediterranean Sea 30 miles to the south of Caesarea, also a coastal city.

The scene in Acts unfolds the next day, after Peter himself has fallen into a trance and has a vision and hears a voice which he does not understand. He is told to go with the messengers who have arrived, who then bring him to Caesarea.

Peter enters the house of Cornelius, who is clearly a Gentile. Such an act was clearly forbidden to Jews. Peter’s vision had been about eating unclean animals, but what follows far surpasses a lesson in dietary rules and regulations. What Peter finds is that the house is filled with Cornelius’ relatives and friends, who are gathered there to meet and listen to Peter.

They explain their visions to each other, and Peter discovers that in God’s eyes, no one is unclean. He announces that to the whole household as he begins to tell them about Jesus Christ. He focuses especially on Jesus’ death and resurrection, concluding by saying that “everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name.”

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit “fell upon all who were listening to the word.” Peter’s entourage, who came with him from Joppa and who are of the “circumcision party” (converts from Judaism who insisted on the necessity of circumcision

for males) are “astounded” to see the Spirit enabling those gathered to speak in tongues and to glorify God. Seeing this, Peter orders their immediate baptism.

Obviously, such sudden baptisms were unique to the early years of the New Testament period. We now require a period of discernment, which the RCIA provides.

Peter is questioned about this by the rest of the apostles in Acts 11, especially by the “circumcised believers.” After Peter explained what had happened, they all “glorified God,” but continuing questions about Gentile converts and their religious practice would remain, even after Paul made his own explanation in Acts 15.

Over the years, the early church gradually grew more comfortable with and was finally outnumbered by the Gentile converts, until the split with Judaism became complete by the middle to late first century.

The Gospel notes that Jesus loves the disciples with the same love with which the Father loves him. “Remain in my love” recalls the use of that word “remain” (or *stay*) which was mentioned in last week’s article. There is one commandment which we are to keep: “Love one another as I have loved you.” We are no longer servants of the Lord, but friends of Jesus.

Becoming aware of what it means to be a friend of Jesus should affect our relationships with others. We can hardly be enemies with others (no matter who those others are) and at the same time remain friends with Jesus.

“It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you to go and bear fruit that will remain. ... Love one another.” We must be at peace in the world around us and with all those who populate this planet if we are going to bear lasting fruit.

This is not an option. It is a commandment from the same Lord in whom we claim to believe; the same Lord who saves us from sin and death; the same Lord whose resurrection we continue to celebrate even now. “This I command you: love one another.”

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

WATTERSON CAMPS

Columbus Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road, is hosting 17 three- or four-day sports camps between Monday, June 8 and Wednesday, July 15.

They include six camps for boys basketball, two each for girls basketball,

baseball, and girls volleyball, and one each for cheerleading, field hockey, football, weight training, and wrestling.

Dates and times for various grade levels, costs, and registration forms may be found at www.bishopwatterson.com.

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
Acts 16:11-15
Psalm 149:1b-6a,9b
John 15:26-16:4a

TUESDAY
Acts 16:22-34
Psalm 138:1-3,7c-8
John 16:5-11

WEDNESDAY
Acts 17:15,22-18:1
Psalm 148:1-2,11-14
John 16:12-15

THURSDAY
Acts 1:15,17,20-26
Psalm 113:1-8
John 15:9-17

FRIDAY
Acts 18:9-18
Psalm 47:2-7
John 16:20-23

SATURDAY
Acts 18:23-28
Psalm 47:2-3,8-10
John 16:23b-28

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF MAY 10, 2015

SUNDAY MASS

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

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

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

(Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).

DAILY MASS

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

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

The Miraculous and the Mundane

Do we expect God to perform miracles on a daily basis? If so, do we recognize them? Do we see God in the slower moments of life, even in the mundane?

As mentioned in a previous column, Jesus became very upset about the people of his time who demanded a sign from him. The reason was simple; We should be able to interpret signs ourselves, with the Holy Spirit’s help.

Perhaps the role of God in our lives is a little like the old story of the guy who drowned, awaiting God to rescue him from a flood while perched atop his home. People in boats and helicopters could not talk the man into coming aboard because the man said he was anticipating God would rescue him.

When the man finally died, St Peter asked why he didn’t use the means of transport God had sent his way. The man was stunned, not realizing the boats and helicopters were God’s way of trying to save him.

Recently, someone told me a story which took place shortly after the death of Pope St. John Paul II 10 years ago. The story took place in a funeral home where family and friends were gathered to mourn the death of the woman, who, like John Paul the Great, had suffered a great deal in her waning years.

Some of the people at the funeral home were noting that this woman had followed John Paul’s example by offering up her suffering for those near and dear to her, and for those not so near and dear as well.

A self-styled “tough guy” scoffed, saying “What good could come of all this?” and proclaiming that he would just shoot himself if he was faced with the prospect of undergoing a long period of suffering.



THE TIDE IS TURNING
TOWARD CATHOLICISM
David Hartline

One of the elderly women in attendance began to speak of the attitude of Christ and St. Paul that suffering on Earth was nothing when compared with the glory of Heaven. She began to rattle off the names of the people this dearly departed woman had prayed for in her dying days, and noted that there seemed to be a difference in the lives of some of them as a result of those prayers.

The “tough guy” was one of those people, though he refused to let God’s mercy work in his life. He was left speechless and departed the funeral home forthwith.

Perhaps this man is a harbinger for all of those in this world who want the Catholic Church to change with the times and become popular and hip, instead of following the way of Jesus and the early church.

Isn’t it amazing that so many secular folks in the media, even though they have very little experience with faith in their own lives, have seemingly become theologians and are telling the faithful what to believe and not to believe?

You wouldn’t trust your favorite mechanic to perform brain surgery on you just because he’s good with his hands.

Conversely, you wouldn’t trust a surgeon to restore a vintage automobile because he also is good with his hands.

Why are we falling into this trap of allowing others to influence our beliefs? You don’t often see people in poor countries, especially in the Third World, doing this. Yet Jesus told us precisely this very thing would happen, and that was 2,000 years ago!

We are of little faith. We have more faith in pop culture trends that come and go with the wind than in the words of the Old and the New Testament, as well as the catechism of the Church.

To put it in financial terms, far too many people who should know better in the Western world are falling for a Ponzi scheme in which they are buying into pop psychology and leaving the faith behind.

Like all Ponzi schemes, the signs of a problem are there, and yet no one seems to want to know what foolishness and eventual heartbreak they are buying into by signing up.

We had better hope God’s mercy and grace are greater than our wildest dreams, because with the way this world is headed, we are going to need every last bit of it.

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

“The Big Give” Assists Three Diocesan Charities

On Tuesday and Wednesday, May 12 and 13, three diocesan charities will participate in The Columbus Foundation’s The Big Give – a 24-hour online fundraising event benefiting hundreds of local nonprofits. This year, the foundation will amplify contributions with a \$1.3 million bonus pool, meaning that each donated dollar will receive additional support.

This communitywide giving campaign has the potential to raise significant funds for Catholic Social Services, St. Vincent Family Center, and St.

Stephen’s Community House. These Catholic charities provide essential programs and services to tens of thousands of poor and vulnerable children, seniors, families, and individuals each year.

If you would like to donate during The Big Give, you can find out more at www.columbusfoundation.org. To utilize the bonus pool, donations must be made through the site from 10 a.m. May 12 to 10 a.m. the following day. You also can follow the charities’ Big Give fundraising efforts on social media.

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ARTRNKJD | AD-10-14-1107 | 470944PM-0314 | 11/2014

St. Mary, Lancaster Youth Minister

St. Mary of the Assumption Church, Lancaster, OH, is seeking a full-time Youth Minister to plan, develop and implement the new youth ministry program in the Parish that will strengthen the faith formation of the parish youth from Middle School through High School.

Job Requirements include, but not limited to:

- Be a practicing Roman Catholic in good standing with the Church
- Be compliant with BCI/FBI backgrounds checks and complete the Protecting God’s Children program
- Have a Bachelor’s Degree in theology or religious studies or other relevant degree
- Have diocesan catechetical training or certification, or in the process toward completion
- Have youth ministry, or similar experience, familiarity to youth ministry principles
- Be familiar with youth ministry principles
- Have leadership strengths and the ability to work well with others
- Have strong communication skills, especially in digital and social media

Salary is commensurate with academic background and experience. To request a copy of the job description, please contact Julie Ogilvie at jogilvie@stmarylanaster.org. Resumes may be mailed to Fr. Craig R. Eilerman, St. Mary Church, 132 S. High St. Lancaster, OH 43130 no later than June 15, 2015.

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Carmela Manago
Executive Director

St. Matthew Speech Contest



Gahanna St. Matthew School's seventh annual speech contest focused on the theme of the theological virtues. Sixth- seventh- and eighth grade students wrote and delivered speeches on the themes of faith, hope, and charity, with six students being chosen as finalists. Judging this year's competition were (back row, from left) Dr. Joe Brettacher, diocesan school superintendent; Barbara Casson, dean of academics at Columbus Bishop Hartley High School; and Dana Forsythe of the diocesan schools office. Finalists were (from left) Anthony Sciarroni, Thomas Berry (second place), Grace Ettenhofer (third place), Ashley Casagrande, Catherine Maas (first place), and Lily Lindemann.

Photo courtesy St. Matthew School

Jason Jones to Speak at GCRTL Banquet

Jason Jones, best known for his work on films such as *Bella*, *Crescendo*, and *Little Boy*, will be the featured speaker at the Greater Columbus Right to Life annual banquet at 6 p.m. Monday, June 1, in Villa Milano, 1630 Schrock Road, Columbus. The event is free, but registration is required.

Jones is a Hollywood producer and director, humanitarian aid worker, author, and pro-life activist. He dropped out of high school to enter the Army after learning his girlfriend was pregnant. Just before he finished basic training, he received a phone call from his sobbing girlfriend and learned that her parents had pressured her into having an abortion and ending the life of their unborn child. Since that moment, he has dedicated his life to protecting the dignity of all human life.

He started by going door-to-door at his Army base in his free time, then starting a campus pro-life club when he enrolled in college. His work has taken him from political campaigns to

leadership positions with national pro-life organizations and as far away as Darfur, but he is most well-known for bringing the culture of life, faith, and modesty to one of America's most hostile institutions: Hollywood. Today, he focuses on using the power of television, film, and the media to elevate faith and family in a positive way. His latest project, *Little Boy*, is showing in theaters and has been highly acclaimed by the Christian and secular media.

The dinner also will bring back guest master of ceremonies Dr. Michael Parker of *The Catholic Doctors* on St. Gabriel Radio and music by local praise and worship group Outside the Box.

Registration for the banquet is available online at www.gcrtl.org/banquet, by emailing rsvp@gcrtl.org, or by calling (614) 445-8505. Although attendance is free, an opportunity to make a donation to support the work of Greater Columbus Right to Life will be extended following dinner. Event sponsorship is available

Pray for our dead

CASSIDY, J. Daniel, 81, April 27
St. Peter Church, Columbus

CRAINE, Sara J., 92, May 1
St. Philip Church, Columbus

FESTI, Frank, 87, April 28
St. Joseph Church, Dover

FRIEDMAN, Anne M., 62, April 26
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

HOGAN, Robert A., 60, April 30
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

JAKEWAY, Walter J., 79, April 28
Holy Cross Church, Columbus

LYONS, Mary L., 91, April 26
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

MACHINSKY, Stanley R. "Sonny," 83, April 24
St. Matthias Church, Columbus

MAHOTA, Mary K., formerly of Dublin, April 25
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Edgewater, Md.

MENKE, Dr. Richard, April 26
St. Peter Church, Columbus

MURPHY, Mamie, 83, May 1
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

RADER, Elinor C., 97, April 28
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

ROLLETTA, Alexander Jr., 84, May 1
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

TOOLE, David R., 75, April 26
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

TRISTANO, Louis, 87, April 25
St. Joseph Church, Dover



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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.

MAY

7, THURSDAY

Holy Hour at Holy Family
6 to 7 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Holy Hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by meeting of parish Holy Name and Junior

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@colodioc.org

Holy Name societies, with refreshments. 614-221-4323
Back in His Arms Again Meeting
7 p.m., Panera restaurant, 782 N. State St., Westerville. Monthly meeting of Back in His Arms Again support group for mothers who have experienced the loss of a child. 614-906-3115; 614-800-8888
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

7-9, THURSDAY-SATURDAY

Hartley Presents 'Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood' 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Saturday, Columbus Performing Arts Center, 549 Franklin Ave., Columbus. Columbus Bishop Hartley High School theater department presents "The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood." Tickets \$4 to \$10. 614-237-5421

8, 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

9, 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.
Charismatic Prayer Gathering at Church of Our Lady
9 a.m. to noon, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Citywide charismatic prayer gathering sponsored by diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Mass, followed by prayer meeting and potluck luncheon. 614-914-8556
Spring Commencement at Ohio Dominican
11 a.m., Alumni Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. University's spring commencement exercises. Speaker: Gov. John Kasich. 614-251-4453
Motorcycle Blessing at St. Monica
Following 4 p.m. Mass, St. Monica Church, 4252 Pine St., New Boston. Second annual Scioto Deaneary all-faiths blessing of motorcycles, with Father Joseph Yokum, sponsored by Knights of Columbus Councils 14346 and 741, followed by guided ride through the countryside, ending at Council 741 hall, 1518 Gallia St., Portsmouth. All participants receive a St. Christopher medal. 740-352-6204

10, SUNDAY

Kateri Prayer Circle at St. Mark
1 p.m., Aranda Center, St. Mark Church, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Kateri Prayer Circle meeting to honor St. Kateri Tekakwitha and promote Native Catholic spirituality. 740-756-7008
Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic Meeting
1:30 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Meeting of St. Catherine of Siena chapter, Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic.
Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King
5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching. 614-886-8266

Bishop's Bible Study at Cathedral
Following 5:15 p.m. Mass, Undercroft, St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bible study with Bishop Frederick Campbell for people aged 22-40. 614-224-1295
Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. 706-761-4054

11, MONDAY

Bethesda Healing Ministry Mass of Comfort
7 p.m., Infant of Prague Chapel, Five Porticos, 2744 Dover Road, Columbus (Christ the King convent, first building west of the church). Annual Bethesda Healing Ministry Mass of Comfort for all who mourn the loss of a child through miscarriage, early termination, or stillbirth, celebrated by Father Dean Mathewson and Father Michael Gentry, followed by reception. 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

12, TUESDAY

Calix Society Meeting
6 p.m., Panera restaurant, 4519 N. High St., Columbus. Monthly meeting of the Calix Society, an association of Catholic alcoholics. Preceded by 5:30 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Peace Church, across street from meeting site.
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

13, WEDNESDAY

Turning Leaves and Tea Leaves
2 to 3:30 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus. Turning Leaves and Tea Leaves book club with Dominican Sisters Marialein Anzenberger and Colleen Gallagher. 614-416-1910

14, THURSDAY

Day of Renewal at St. Elizabeth
9 a.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Day of renewal sponsored by diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Confessions and praise and worship at 9:30, followed by Mass at 10:15, talk on "Unity Through Love," and potluck luncheon. 614-914-8556
Women to Women Listening Circle at Corpus Christi
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Women to Women program for women of all ages and life circumstances. Begins with soup lunch until noon, followed by listening circle. Participants are asked to arrange for child care if necessary, since none is available on-site. 614-512-3731
Holy Hour at Holy Family
6 to 7 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Holy Hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by meeting of parish Holy Name and Junior Holy Name societies, with refreshments. 614-221-4323
Evening of the Arts at DeSales
6 p.m., St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, Columbus. Evening of the Arts featuring DeSales students and fifth- through eighth-graders from feeder schools. Begins with art show, followed by spring band concert and choir performance at 7 and resumption of art show at 8. 614-267-6822

Theology on Tap Meeting
7 to 9 p.m., El Vaquero Restaurant, 3230 Olentangy River Road, Columbus. Meeting of Theology on Tap discussion and social group for young Catholics. Topic: "Catholics With Same-Sex Attractions and How the Church Loves Them" with Father Patrick Toner, pastor of Plain City St. Joseph Church. RSVP to cbustheologyontap@gmail.com or Columbus Theology on Tap Facebook page.
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
Abortion Recovery Network Group
7 p.m., Gateway Center, 2670 N. Columbus St., Lancaster. Pregnancy Decision Health Center abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program and wants to stay connected. 614-888-8774

15, 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
Retirement Celebration for Mary Lang at St. Brendan
6:30 to 8:30 p.m., St. Brendan School, 4475 Dublin Road, Hilliard. Celebration honoring Mary Lang, who is retiring as school principal. 614-876-6132
JOIN BiblioBenefit at St. Andrew
7 p.m., Nugent Hall, St. Andrew Church, 1899 McCoy Road, Columbus. 11th annual BiblioBenefit sponsored by Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs. \$50 per person. 614-241-2531

15-16, FRIDAY-SATURDAY

Women's Retreat at Sts. Peter and Paul Center
Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center, 2734 Seminary Road S.E., Newark. Retreat for women, led by Sister Louis Mary Passeri, OP, and Mary Reichler, pastoral associate at Westerville St. Paul Church. Theme: "Longing for God." Cost \$100 single, \$75 double. 740-928-4246
Marriage Preparation Program at Grove City
6 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3730 Broadway, Grove City. "The Joy-Filled Marriage," diocesan Marriage & Family Life Office marriage preparation program for couples preparing to marry. \$175 fee per couple includes three meals. 614-241-2560

15-17, FRIDAY-SUNDAY

Women's Prayer Weekend at Dominican Acres
Dominican Acres, 7400 Wengert Road, Blacklick. Dominican Sisters of Peace prayer weekend for single women ages 18 to 45 who may be considering religious life or ministry in the Church. 614-216-7688
Diocesan Catholic Scout Camporee
St. Joseph Church, 5757 State Route 383 N.E., Somerset. Annual camporee sponsored by diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting for all Boy and Girl Scouts, Venture and Camp Fire members, and adults who work with young people. Theme: "Living Your Faith." Weekend program for those in grades six to 12; Saturday program for first- through fifth-graders. Fulfills Boy Scout Ad Altare Dei award retreat requirements. 614-263-7832



BOOK REVIEW

The WordSmith's Gifts

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, Catholic Times

When the late Father James T. Smith was a seminarian, his fellow students gave him the nickname "The WordSmith," and for good reason.

By the time he died in early 2013 at age 75, after 47 years as a priest, he had gained a widespread reputation as a homilist, with many of his homilies printed in *Celebration*, a monthly worship resource magazine distributed nationally.

Members of the three parishes where he was pastor – Columbus St. Christopher (1973-83), Immaculate Conception (1983-91) and St. Matthias (1991-2013) – requested copies of those homilies, and he saved them. Following his

death, some of those parishioners decided to compile those homilies into a volume titled *The WordSmith's Gifts*.

All 500 copies of an initial printing distributed free of charge were quickly snapped up. Father Raymond Larussa, Father Smith's successor at St. Matthias, agreed to subsidize publication of another 500.

Father Smith's friends Phil Callaghan, Anne Kantor, Michael Curtin, Rosemary Feka, Joyce Hite, and Sister Marie Shields, SNDdeN, put the book together. Hite served as Father Smith's parish assistant for most of his tenure as a pastor. Sister Marie was his longtime ministerial colleague and continues to serve as pastoral associate at St. Matthias.

"Father Smith took his ser-

mons seriously. That's something I appreciate as a writer," said Curtin, now a state representative, who spent 38 years with *The Columbus Dispatch* as a reporter, editor, and executive. He first became familiar with Father Smith's homilies as a parishioner at St. Christopher's.

"His day off was Tuesday, and he would spend all day at the Pontifical College Josephinum library to research that Sunday's homily, then would spend the rest of the week crafting and polishing his message. What he left us with are these things of beauty which are several cuts above the typical homily.

"There was a demand for him to compile his homilies in one volume, but that's something he didn't want. After he died,



The WordSmith's Gifts

A Collection of Homilies from the Reverend James T. Smith

St. Dominic Concert Rescheduled

The St. Dominic Gospel Choir's annual concert has been rescheduled to Sunday, June 28, at 5 p.m. in Columbus St. Dominic Church, 453 N. 20th St.

Featured will be Betty Hill, guest vocalist; Justin Thomas, percussionist; Chris Walker, church youth pianist; Andrea Knox, church flautist; Dwight Bailey,

guest bassist; and Clifford Marsh, guest saxophonist.

Vernon Hairston is the director.

For more information, please call the church at (614) 252-5926.

The church website is www.stdominic-church.org, and the choir's email address is sdcchoirs@gmail.com.

Hartley Presents 'The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood'

Monty Python meets Mel Brooks when Columbus Bishop Hartley High School's drama department presents *The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood*, a comedy by Mary Lynn Dobson, at 7:30 p.m. Thursday to Saturday, May 7 to 9, in the Van Fleet Theater of the Columbus Performing Arts Center, 549 Franklin Ave., Columbus. Tickets are \$7 at the door.

This time around, Robin Hood, in his never-ending quest to aid the needy, encounters a lovely damsel in distress

(oddly obsessed with skin conditions); an ever-scheming sheriff who would rather bowl a strike than hit a bull's-eye; a gold-hoarding, bad-guy monarch wannabe; and a good-natured "Town's Guy" who manages to make his way into every scene, whether he belongs there or not.

Combine them with an expandable band of spoon-wielding Merry Men whose collective IQs equal six, and you have an irreverent jaunt through Sherwood Forest you won't soon forget.

Joyce approached me and the others and said it would be a great gift to put some of those homilies together, and that led to the book," Curtin said.

The volume contains 76 homilies, divided by theme into 15 sections, plus the homily given at Father Smith's funeral Mass by Father Mark Summers, pastor of Columbus St. Peter Church.

"What I think is best about the

book is that you can go to any chapter and you'll find something meaningful for you," Hite said. "It has something for everyone. Each homily is short and easy to read, because Father said that if you couldn't say something in 10 minutes, it wasn't worth saying."

Copies of the book are available by contacting Callaghan at phil@mommfoundation.org.



Students at Columbus St. Mary School began traditional Marian observances for May with a procession on May 1 from St. Mary, Mother of God Church down Third Street to Schiller Park for the crowning of our Blessed Mother.

Photos by John Rees

Crowning Mary



NEWS IN PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



An image of Blessed Junipero Serra is seen as Pope Francis gives the homily while celebrating Mass at the Pontifical North American College in Rome on May 2. It was the first papal visit to the U.S. seminary since 1980. The pope said that while some people seem to relish the idea of listing Blessed Serra's defects, he wondered how many would have the courage he exhibited in giving up everything he had to preach the Gospel.

CNS photo/Paul Haring



Earthquake survivors are seen amid aid supplies from Catholic Relief Services near a village in Gorkha, Nepal, on May 3.

CNS photo/Jake Lyell, CRS



MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES

At your Catholic Cemeteries of Columbus
Monday ~ May 25, 2015



Msgr. Anthony Missimi
Retired

ST. JOSEPH

6440 S. High Street
(Route 23) South of I-270
11:00 A.M. MASS

IN OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS CHAPEL

Military Flag Raising and Salute/10:30 A.M.
American Legion Southway Post #144

614-491-2751

MT. CALVARY

581 Mt. Calvary Avenue
at West Mound Street
11:00 A.M. MASS

ON PRIEST'S CIRCLE

614-491-2751



Fr. Kevin Lutz
Pastor
St. Mary Church/German Village

RESURRECTION

9571 N. High Street
(Route 23) North of I-270
1:00 P.M. MASS

IN CHAPEL MAUSOLEUM

Military Flag Raising and Salute/12:00 Noon
V.F.W. Post #2398

614-888-1805

HOLY CROSS

11539 National Rd. S.W.
(Route 40) East of I-270
11:00 A.M. MASS

IN CHAPEL MAUSOLEUM

Military Service/10:30 A.M.
V.F.W. Post #9473

740-927-4442



Fr. Charles Cotton
Pastor
St. Elizabeth Church



Msgr. David Funk
Pastor
St. Pius X Church

SPECIAL MEMORIAL WEEKEND OFFICE HOURS

SATURDAY 8:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

SUNDAY 11:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

MONDAY 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Cemetery personnel will be available to answer questions and help locate family grave spaces

