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*Rejoice! He is risen!*





## The Editor's Notebook

*This day you will be with me in Paradise*

By David Garick, Editor



Easter is the victory of Christ over death. His victory over death is what makes our Christian faith unique among all religions of the world. For Christ alone has accomplished this transition from earthly life to eternal life with God and has given evidence that He is the door of life. His victory at Easter is the basis for His claim, "No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6). That is, all Christians who rise to life with God from this world rise because of Jesus and His Resurrection at Easter.

In this earth-shattering moment, Christ changes everything. It is not just that He rose from the dead. It is that Christ, though God Himself, took on human form with all its pain, suffering, disgrace, and failure. He endured the punishment of sins that were not His own, but rather the sins of the entire world, including sins each of us continue to heap upon Him to this day. And in doing so, He suffered death in order to overcome death and to rise again, not just for His own sake, but as a model for each of us who believe in Him.

One of my favorite images of Easter is that of the Good Thief. Tradition has come to call him St. Dismas. He was one of the two criminals crucified with Jesus on Good Friday. St. Luke writes that one of the thieves reviled Jesus, saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us." The other, however, rebuking him, said in reply, "Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same condemnation? And indeed, we have been condemned justly, for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this man has done nothing criminal." Then

he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

That is the promise of Easter to each of us. No matter how often our lives have struggled in sin, Christ, through His sacrificial love, has provided us with the promise of a resurrection to life with Him in eternal joy if only we will turn away from sin and believe in Him.

So, as we celebrate this glorious Easter day, perhaps we might reflect on this simple prayer to St. Dismas: "Glorious St. Dismas, you alone of all the great Penitent Saints were directly canonized by Christ Himself; you were assured of a place in Heaven with Him 'this day' because of the sincere confession of your sins to Him in the tribunal of Calvary and your true sorrow for them as you hung beside Him in that open confessional; you who by the direct sword thrust of your love and repentance did open the Heart of Jesus in mercy and forgiveness even before the centurion's spear tore it asunder; you whose face was closer to that of Jesus in His last agony, to offer Him a word of comfort, closer even than that of His Beloved Mother, Mary; you who knew so well how to pray, teach me the words to say to Him to gain pardon and the grace of perseverance; and you who are so close to Him now in Heaven, as you were during His last moments on earth, pray to Him for me that I shall never again desert Him, but that at the close of my life I may hear from Him the words He addressed to you: 'This day you will be with me in Paradise.' Amen."

**EASTER GREETINGS FROM OUR BISHOP****My brothers and sisters in Christ,**

Nature itself provides the evidence of new life. Perhaps because we have experienced a real winter this year, we await the fresh growth of spring more eagerly. Yet the new life of spring grows all too rapidly to maturity, then fades and dies, creating a momentary joy, but no lasting promise of the life that every human person instinctively craves, a life that deepens and continues to expand. In the end, the new life of spring may serve as a symbol of the life that we desire, but it does not offer an answer to one of the most fundamental mysteries of our existence, the mystery of our death, a reality that threatens the sense of meaning and purpose in our earthly life.

In His suffering, death, and resurrection, Jesus Christ not only confronts the mystery of death, but experiences it to its depths, and, rising to new life, crushes its power over us. In the power of the resurrection, as St. Paul tells us, our "life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ (our) life appears, then (we) too will appear with Him in glory."

In the power of Easter, we can live a life free of fear and full of hope. True, we still experience trials, infirmities, and our natural death, but we know that none of them is the end of the story. In Christ, we have the victory. Every moment of our lives that we live in the Gospel of the risen Lord can be a contribution, no matter how small, to the manifestation of Christ's victory in the place and time in which we live.

Eastertide is a time of thanksgiving and lasting joy: thanksgiving for what Christ has accomplished for us, and lasting joy that in His merciful love, God has joined us to the never-ending life that He shares with His Son and the Holy Spirit.

May you have a happy Easter and may the risen Lord rise in your hearts and bring you to eternal life.

**Most Rev. Frederick F. Campbell, Ph.D., DD**  
**Bishop of Columbus**



**Front Page photo:** Three women at Christ's empty tomb and his appearance to Mary Magdalene are depicted in a 14th-century painting from Austria. Easter, the feast of the Resurrection, is on March 31 in the Latin church this year.

CNS/Erich Lessing, Art Resource, New York

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## EASTER MOVES US TOWARD CHRIST AND CHRIST TOWARD US

By Cardinal  
**Jorge Mario Bergoglio**

*(As this Easter edition of Catholic Times goes to press, our new Holy Father, Pope Francis, has not yet given his first Easter message from Rome. What follows is a translation of the Easter message he gave in 2008 as Archbishop of Buenos Aires.)*

In the shadows of the Temple, we have followed the signposts of a long road. God chooses a people and sends them on their way. Starting with Abram: "Go forth out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and out of thy father's house, and come into the land which I shall show thee. And I will make of thee a great nation" (Genesis 12:1-2). Abram went forth and became the father of a people that made history along the way, a people on the way toward that which was promised. We also recently made our way listening to this history of traversing lands and centuries, with our eyes fixed on the Paschal event, the definitive Promise made reality, the Living Christ, victor over death, resurrected. Life in God is not sedentary. It is a life on the road ... and even God Himself desired to be on the road, in search of man ... and became man. On this night, we have traveled both roads: of the people, of man toward God and that of God to man, both roads leading to an encounter. The anxiousness for God sown in our human heart, that anxiousness of God given as a promise to Abram, and, on the other hand, the anxiousness of God's heart, His immeasurable love for us, are to be found here today, before this paschal event, the figure of Christ Resurrected that resolves in itself all searches



and anxiousness, wishes and loves. Christ Resurrected is the goal and triumph of these two roads that meet. This is the night of an encounter ... of "ENCOUNTER" with capital letters.

It is brought to our attention how the Gospel we have just heard describes the Encounter of Jesus Christ Victorious with the women. Nobody stands still ... all are in movement, on the move. It is said the women went, that the earth shook strongly; the Angel came down from Heaven, making the stone roll, the guards trembled. Then, the invitation: He will go to Galilee, that all go to Galilee. The women, with that mix of fear and joy -- that is, with their hearts in movement -- back up rapidly and run to spread the news. They encounter Jesus and approach Him and fall to His feet. Movement of the women toward Christ, movement of Christ toward them. In this movement, the encounter

happens.

The Gospel announcement is not relegated to a faraway history of 2,000 years ago. It is a reality that repeats itself each time we place ourselves on the road toward God, and we allow ourselves to be met by Him. The Gospel tells of an encounter, a victorious encounter between the faithful God, passionate for His people, and us sinners, thirsty for love and searching, who have (finally) accepted placing ourselves on the road ... on the road to find Him ... to allow ourselves to be found by Him. In that instant, existential and temporal, we share the experience of the women: fear and joy at the same time; we experience the stupor of an encounter with Jesus Christ which overflows our desires but which never says "stay," but rather, "go." The encounter relaxes us, strengthens our identity and sends us forth, puts us on the road again so that, from encounter to en-



counter, we may reach the definitive encounter.

I was recently mentioning that, in the midst of the shadows, our gaze was fixed on the Paschal event -- Christ, reality and hope at the same time -- reality of an encounter today and hope for the great final encounter. This is good because we breathe losses daily. We have become accustomed to living in a culture of loss in which our passions, our disorientations, enmities, and conflicts confront us, separate us, isolate us, crystallize us inside a sterile individualism which is proposed to us as a way of life daily. The women that morning were victims of a painful loss. They had their Lord taken from them. They found themselves desolate before a sepulcher. That's the way today's cultural paganism, active in the world and our city, wants us: alone, passive, at the end of an illusory path that leads to a sepulcher, dead in our frustra-

tion and sterile egotism.

Today, we need the strength of God to move us, that we have a great shaking of the earth, that an Angel move the great stone in our heart, that stone that prevents us from heading out on the road, that there is lightning and much light. Today, we need our soul shaken, that we're told the idolatry of cultured passivity and possessiveness does not lead to life. Today, we need, after being shaken for our many frustrations, to encounter Him anew and that He tell us, "Be not afraid, get back on the road once again, return to that Galilee of your first love." We must renew the march begun by our father Abraham and which signals this Paschal event. Today, we need to encounter Him; that we find Him and He find us. Brethren, Happy Easter! My wish for you is that today an Angel rolls away our stone and we allow ourselves to encounter Him. May it be thus.



## PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

### Commissioning

Were you able to do three things for our priests during Holy Week? Most of us receive our issue of the Catholic Times in the middle or the later part of the week, so there is still time. Tuesday was the annual Chrism Mass at St. Joseph Cathedral, celebrated by Bishop Frederick Campbell, concelebrated by many of the priests of the Diocese of Columbus, and attended by many of our deacons. The practical issue was the blessing of the Holy Oils, and their distribution to our 106 parishes and three missions. The spiritual and camaraderie issue was the fraternal fellowship of our clergy gathered around our bishop. Our prayers for all of them during that 6 to 8 p.m. time period were special and were heard, I am sure. The renewal of priestly vows and the commemoration of the institution of the Eucharist and priesthood at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening is a very special annual event at our parishes. Our participation as families in that Liturgy is a great way to begin the Sacred Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. It also shows our love and support for our priests. Our specific notes and words to encourage and lift up the spirits of our priests on Easter Sunday and throughout the Easter season will go a long way in reaching out to these men who so many of us take for granted. We need their guidance, presence, and administering of the sacraments. They need our prayers, our thanks, our support, and our acknowledgment.

Alleluia! Let us rejoice in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ! We now embark upon 50 days of Easter. We rejoice in our refined focus on what is good, having prayed, fasted, and sought forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance over the past 40 days. In addition to the rejoicing, celebrating, feasting, and good times with our families, what do we do now? There is a very important commissioning which Jesus ordered for His disciples, and which He orders for each and every one of us. After the Resurrection, in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus tells us, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." In the Gospel of Mark, He says, "Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned!" At the end of the Gospel of Luke, Jesus gives us three very comforting quotes. First, He says, "Peace be with you." Next, "Why are you troubled?" And finally, "I am sending the promise of my Father upon you (the Holy Spirit)." What an awesome motivation for our commissioning this is! We have His peace, we have His comfort and strength, and we have His Holy Spirit. Toward the end of the Gospel of John, there are two great quotes for our contemplation. Jesus tells us, "I am going to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." And finally, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

Our practical challenge this week is to rejoice in the peace, comfort, motivation, strength, and promise of the Resurrection. We are heirs to eternal life and the infinite love of our God, thanks to this single greatest act of love. Contemplate this, and meditate on the fact that God did this for every one of us, no matter who we are, and no matter our sins. Relax and revel in this joy this week, but never back down from the discipline and forgiveness of Lent. Pray more than ever this week. Alleluia!

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



## SCOUTING INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS

The diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting will sponsor its annual International Awareness program on Saturday, April 13, at Holy Redeemer Melkite Catholic Church, 4611 Glenmawr Ave., Columbus.

The church's pastor, Father Ignatius Harrington, will talk about the Melkite church and other Eastern Catholic churches, their liturgies, their difference and similarities with the Roman Catholic Church, and how all are united under the leadership of Pope Francis, the successor to St. Peter as head of the Church.

There will be two programs, both starting at 8:30 a.m. One will last two-and-a-half hours and be for students in grades

one through five. The other is for sixth-through 12th-graders and will take five hours. All young people of the diocese and their parents are invited.

All participants will receive a patch and a pin at the conclusion of the program. There will be a snack for the younger students and lunch for the older youths, who will receive a medallion in addition to the patch and pin.

Fees for the event are \$9 per person for the shorter program and \$20 for the longer one before Monday, April 8, and \$5 more after that date.

For more information, go to the diocesan Scouting website at [www.cdeducation.org/oym/dccs](http://www.cdeducation.org/oym/dccs) or call Chuck Lamb at (614) 882-7806.

## PDHC Abortion Recovery Network Group

Pregnancy Decision Health Centers (PDHC) has begun offering a monthly abortion recovery network group to connect abortion recovery leaders, past participants, and women interested in learning more about resources and support after abortion. The group meets on the first Tuesday evening of each month at 7 p.m. in the PDHC office at 665 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus.

PDHC was founded in 1981 to provide education, practical help, material aid, and emotional support to women facing unplanned pregnancies.

Today, PDHC operates five neighborhood caring centers, with plans for a

sixth, plus a 24-hour hotline, ultrasound services, parenting classes, an abstinence education program, testing for sexually transmitted diseases, and ongoing support and healing programs.

The agency is funded by private donations and maintains a small staff. PDHC has more than 200 volunteers who give time to the organization. All services are provided free of charge. More information about PDHC may be found at its website, [www.pdhc.org](http://www.pdhc.org). Its 24-hour hotline is (614) 444-4411.

To learn more about the program, call Deborah Gregory-Tims at (614) 888-8774, extension 6115.

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

to The National Catholic College Admission Association

The National Catholic College Admission Association (The National CCAA) is seeking a part-time (5-10 hours/week) Administrative Assistant, depending on the needs of the Association. This position reports directly to the Executive Director. The primary functions of the Administrative Assistant include:

**For a full description of the position and application procedures, please go to: [http://www.catholiccollegesonline.org/catholic\\_colleges-universities/job-board.html?id=1468](http://www.catholiccollegesonline.org/catholic_colleges-universities/job-board.html?id=1468)**

*The application deadline is April 5, 2013.*

Founded in 1959, The National CCAA is a nonprofit organization of Catholic colleges and universities committed to promoting the value of Catholic higher education and to serving students in the transition to college. Currently, there are approximately 160 member institutions in the organization. The National CCAA leadership is comprised of a Board of Directors who are senior-level college admission professionals from member schools, college/guidance counselors from Catholic high schools, and a full-time Executive Director. The Executive Director runs the national office just outside of Columbus, Ohio.

**To learn more about the association, please go to [catholiccollegesonline.org](http://catholiccollegesonline.org).**

## ST. CHARLES 2013 FATHER-SON MASS AND BREAKFAST



Participants in last year's Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School father-son Mass and breakfast were (from left) Matthew Schechter (current St. Charles sophomore), John Schechter (parent), St. Charles principal Jim Lower, Frank Carsonie (sophomore), Zach Schmitt, Frank Carsonie (parent), Austin Schmitt, and Steven Schmitt. Photo courtesy St. Charles Preparatory School

Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School's annual father-son Mass and breakfast will take place Saturday, April 20, at the school, 2010 E. Broad St. All current students and incoming freshmen are encouraged to attend, as are any fourth- to eighth-grade boys and their fathers who might be interested in learning more about the school.

The event will begin at 9:30 a.m. with Mass in the Mother of Mercy Chapel, celebrated by Father Mike Lumpe, followed by a buffet breakfast prepared by Mass Appeal Dining Services in the Robert C. Walter Student Commons.

St. Charles alumnus and Chuck Gehring, chief executive officer of Lifecare Alliance, will be the guest speaker. Gehring, a former vice president and chief executive officer for Catholic Social Services, has spent most of his professional career dedicated to serving the neediest, most vulnerable members of the central Ohio community through his leadership positions and board activities.

Participants are asked to reserve their spots to ensure there is plenty of food on hand. To sign up or for more information, contact Louis J. Fabro in the school's alumni and development office at [lfabro@st-charlesprep.org](mailto:lfabro@st-charlesprep.org).

## BISHOP HARTLEY MERIT FINALISTS

Columbus Bishop Hartley High School students (from left) Clare Kossler, Hannah Hostetler, Tommy Zaino, and Dominic Pfister have been selected as National Merit Scholarship finalists. Hartley's Justine Franklin (right) is a National Achievement Scholarship finalist. Both programs are administered by the National Merit Scholarship Corp. They are conducted concurrently, but operated and funded separately. A student's standing is determined independently in each program. Black American students can qualify for recognition and be honored as scholars in both, but can receive only one monetary award. There are about 15,000 Merit Scholarship finalists and 1,300 Achievement Scholarship finalists nationwide. They are eligible for one of about 8,300 Merit Scholarships and 800 Achievement Scholarships to be awarded in the spring. Photo courtesy Bishop Hartley High School



## MATT NEARY EARNS PERFECT ACT SCORE

Columbus Bishop Watterson High School junior Matt Neary earned the highest possible composite score of 36 on the ACT college admission and placement exam.

Nationally, while the number of students earning a composite score of 36 varies from year to year, less than one-tenth of one percent of students who take the ACT earn a top score. Among test takers in the high school graduating class of 2012, only 781 of more than 1.66 million students earned a composite score of 36.

"Matt is a very gifted student. He has the ability to comprehend and synthesize complex issues and has excellent reasoning and problem

solving skills," said Marian Hutson, Watterson principal. "Matt is intrinsically motivated to learn and he thrives on intellectual challenge. We are very proud of Matt's accomplishment."

The ACT consists of tests in English, mathematics, reading, and science. Each test is scored on a scale of one to 36, and a student's composite score is the average of the four test scores. Some students also take ACT's optional writing test, but the score for that test is reported separately and is not included within the ACT composite score.



In a letter recognizing this exceptional achievement, ACT chief executive officer Jon Whitmore said, "While test scores are just one of the many criteria that most colleges consider when making admission decisions, your exceptional ACT composite score should prove helpful as you pursue your education and career goals."

ACT test scores are accepted by all major U.S. colleges, and exceptional scores of 36 provide colleges with evidence of student readiness for the academic rigors that lie ahead.



**POPE CALLS ARGENTINE KIOSK OWNER TO CANCEL PAPER DELIVERY**

Buenos Aires, Argentina, (CNA/EWTN News)



Pope Francis surprised the owner of a kiosk in Buenos Aires, Argentina, with a telephone call to send his greetings and explain that he will no longer need a morning paper delivered each day.

Around 1:30 p.m. local time on March 18, Daniel Del Regno, the kiosk owner's son, answered the phone and heard a voice say, "Hi Daniel, it's Cardinal Jorge."

He thought that maybe a friend who knew that the former archbishop of Buenos Aires bought the newspaper from them every day was pulling a prank on him.

"Seriously, it's Jorge Bergoglio, I'm calling you from Rome," the pope insisted.

"I was in shock, I broke down in tears and didn't know what to say," Del Regno told the Argentinean daily *La Nacion*. "He thanked me for delivering the paper all this time and sent best wishes to my family."

Del Regno shared that when Cardinal Bergoglio left for Rome for the conclave, he asked him if he thought he would be elected pope.

"He answered me, 'That is too hot to touch. See you in 20 days. Keep delivering the paper.' And the rest is, well, history," he said.

"I told him to take care and that I would miss him," Del Regno continued. "I asked him if there

would ever be the chance to see him here again. He said that for the time being that would be very difficult, but that he would always be with us."

Before hanging up the phone, he added, the pope asked him for his prayers.

Daniel's father, Luis Del Regno, said they delivered the paper to the former cardinal's residence every day.

On Sundays, he said, the cardinal "would come by the kiosk at 5:30 a.m. and buy *La Nacion*. He would chat with us for a few minutes and then take the bus to Lugano, where he would serve *mate* (tea) to young people and the sick."

Among the "thousands of anecdotes" the elder Del Regno remembers is one involving the rubber bands that he put around the newspapers to keep them from being blown away when they were delivered to the cardinal: "At the end of the month, he always brought them back to me. All 30 of them!"

He said he gets goose bumps whenever he thinks about Pope Francis' simplicity.

"In June, he baptized my grandson, it was an amazing feeling," Del Regno said.

"I know what he's like. He's one of a kind."

**Did Jesus baptize anyone? Lectors and inclusive language**



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

**Q.** I remember being taught, somewhere in my Catholic training, that the Bible never mentions Jesus baptizing anyone, because our sacrament of baptism commemorates the death and resurrection of Christ and he had not yet died and risen. But I recently came across this passage in John's Gospel (3:22-23): "After this Jesus and his disciples went into the region of Judea, where he spent some time with them baptizing. John was also baptizing in Aenon near Salim." In Matthew 3:11, though, John says that he is baptizing with water and Jesus will baptize with fire and the Holy Spirit. So my question is this: In John 3:22, isn't Jesus baptizing with water, or what else would that quote mean? (Milwaukee, Wis.)

**A.** You raise a good question, and the plain truth is that we don't really know whether Jesus baptized anyone with water during the two-and-a-half years of his public ministry. The scriptural passage to which you refer (John 3:22) would seem to indicate that Jesus did baptize, along with some of his disciples.

However, if you continue on just a few more verses, you will read (John 4:1-3): "Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and

baptizing more disciples than John (although Jesus himself was not baptizing, just his disciples), he left Judea and returned to Galilee."

The synoptic writers -- Matthew, Mark, and Luke -- offer no clarity on this, because they are silent on the question of Jesus baptizing.

What we know is this -- if Christ did in fact baptize during the early days with his apostles, it was not the sacrament of baptism as we know it today. That sacrament, as you correctly point out, inserts us into the mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection and applies the merits of Christ's action to ourselves.

We, the baptized, are initiated into the sacramental life of the church and placed on a path to holiness and to heaven.

**Q.** My parish regularly changes or omits words from the first and second Scriptural readings at Sunday Mass. They claim that, under Vatican II, it is permissible to do so under the inclusive-language guidelines. Shouldn't the Scripture readings be read as they are printed in the *Lectionary*? (Louisville, Ky.)

**A.** First, and parenthetically, isn't it funny how the Second Vatican Council gets blamed for (and sometimes credited with)

things that were far from its agenda? During the years of Vatican II (1962-1965), I don't think that the issue of inclusive language was on the radar screen of the council fathers or of the world.

The answer to your question is stated in a balanced and succinct way by the Office for Worship of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in guidelines offered to lectors: "In recent years, sensitivity for inclusive language in the liturgy has been encouraged. It is important to note, however, that the lector is not at liberty to change the approved scriptural and prayer texts for the liturgy. In the preparation of other texts, such as the general intercessions or commentary of any type, language which is inclusive is always used."

The approved text for the Mass readings is a modified version of the *New American Bible* with revised Psalms and revised New Testament; this is the text found in all current lectionaries in the United States.

In publishing that text, the Holy See accepted some suggestions on inclusive language by a committee of U.S. bishops and rejected others: where, for example, the speaker/author intended a mixed audience, "brothers and sisters" is now allowed in place of the earlier "brethren." What were not changed, though, were references to God or to Christ.

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

**The Unity of Pope Benedict and Pope Francis**

By Daniel Thimons

Much news has been reported concerning the differences between Pope Benedict and Pope Francis. It is certainly evident that they have very different charisms, styles, and personalities. Unfortunately, our culture has conditioned us into thinking that "difference" means "inequality." We see this happen any time someone either rejoices or complains that Pope Francis has done away with the style of Pope Benedict. When Pope Benedict and Pope Francis are contrasted as if one were "better" than the other, we miss the profound beauty and unity in their differences.

I think a "key" to understanding the beautiful unity of the papacies of Pope Benedict and Pope Francis can be found in Pope Benedict's first encyclical, *Deus Caritas Est*. In this encyclical, Pope Benedict eloquently spoke of the unity in difference of *eros* (passionate) and *agape* (compassionate) love.

In discussing the various meanings of love, Pope Benedict concludes that one meaning of love seems to stand out above the rest -- the passionate love between a man and a woman that draws them to "an apparently irresistible promise of happiness." Don't all the other definitions of love seem to fade in comparison with this one?

And yet, the Gospels give us an entirely different definition of love -- a love that is sacrificial. Aren't we called as Christians to give of our time and resources in service to those who are less fortunate? Isn't the true meaning of love this giving of ourselves for the good of another?

We now have two very different definitions of love -- on the one hand is a passionate love between man and woman, and on the other hand is a compassionate love, giving of ourselves in service to another. In fact, many in today's world ask "Why is the Church even concerned about passionate love. Isn't this a private matter between two people? Shouldn't the Church only be concerned with compassionate love?"

Pope Benedict XVI shows us the beautiful unity of these different meanings of love by explaining the love that God bestows on each one of us. Throughout the Old Testament, God describes the love that he has for Israel in the terms of the passionate love between a husband and wife. From the prophet Isaiah, we read: "For the Lord takes delight in you, and makes your land his spouse. As a young man marries a virgin, your Builder shall marry you; as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so shall your God rejoice in you." Through the prophet Hosea, God speaks: "I will espouse you to me forever: I will espouse you in right and in justice, in love and in mercy; I will espouse you in fidelity, and you shall know the Lord." In fact, the entire Book of the Song of Songs is a poem about the passionate love between the Lord and His people. God loves us so passionately that He sent us His only-begotten Son. He is not a God who creates the world and then remains distant from his creation. In Jesus Christ, He is Emmanuel, God with us.

The passionate love of God and the compassion of God are united in the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus came to earth to be near us, as a lover longs to be near his beloved. In drawing near

to us, he also showed us compassion. He made the blind see, the deaf hear, and the lame walk, and forgave sinners. This love of God that is both passionate and compassionate is revealed perfectly in the cross of Christ. His bitter agony and death is really a love story. The Passion of Jesus reveals how deeply and intimately God loves us. In truth, it is only the Church who knows and understands the true meaning of authentic passionate love, because the Church constantly gazes upon the face of the crucified Christ.

As Christians, *eros* and *agape* go hand in hand. It is only from receiving the intimate love of God that we can go and serve our neighbor. All compassion that we show to those who are less fortunate must first flow from the love that Christ has bestowed upon us. And any authentic passionate love must not

be selfish or self-seeking, but always strive to make sacrifices for the good of the other, imitating the self-giving love of Jesus Christ.

Pope Benedict demonstrated that unity in difference is both beautiful and fruitful. This is most clearly evident in the difference between a husband and wife. This difference does not mean inequality, and yet it is precisely the difference that enables their union to bear fruit. So, too, the Church will bear much fruit by respecting, appreciating, and embracing the unique difference between Pope Benedict and Pope Francis. The Holy Spirit has truly gifted the Church by appointing for us two very holy, very humble, and very different popes.

*Daniel Thimons is director of the diocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life.*



**Living Stations of the Cross in Scioto County**

Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains and New Boston St. Monica churches sponsored a Living Stations of the Cross presentation on Palm Sunday at St. Monica. John Scherer portrays a bystander and Luke Welsh is Jesus in the station "Jesus Falls the First Time."

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## STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT ST. ROSE SCHOOL



Each Thursday during Lent, the students of New Lexington St. Rose School led meditations on the stations of the cross. Students in the eighth and sixth grades presented character sculptures as narrators read meditations for each station. Pictured are members of the sixth and eighth grade classes at the conclusion of their re-enactment of the stations.

Photo courtesy St. Rose School

## Appreciating our faith and what it gives us

By Stephen Kent  
Catholic News Service

Having concluded, some with disappointment, that Pope Francis will not change the church's stance on abortion, same-sex marriage, and other issues in the first week of his pontificate, the bulk of the thousands of journalists covering the papal election left the Vatican.

But not without leaving gems such as this one from The Associated Press:

"Pope Francis put his humility on display during his first day as pontiff Thursday, stopping by his hotel to pick up his luggage and pay the bill himself in a decidedly different style of papacy than his tradition-minded predecessor, who tended to stay ensconced in the frescoed halls of the Vatican."

Isn't it not humble to display your humility? However, this was not the worst misinterpretation by many who covered the conclave much as they would a Republican or Democratic convention, dealing with front-runners, dark horses, and backroom deals.

On the Sunday before the conclave, Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley of Boston gave a homily based on the day's Gospel reading of the prodigal son, noting how many children of God today leave their father's house -- the church --

because of "ignorance, a lack of feeling welcome, negative experiences, scandals, spiritual mediocrity, and other reasons."

"Spiritual mediocrity" is the best and most concise description of the general situation of the church I've heard in some time. View this in terms not necessarily of some failing at the top -- by a pope, the cardinals and bishops -- as much as a failing of the people to appreciate the depth of our faith. We must dwell upon what we have. It takes time and thoughtful, prayerful reflection.

Pope Francis will not transform or push legislation through a congress. A leader does not command or direct as much as point out the goal, the objective, and then provide the means and assistance for those he is leading to reach that goal. In terms of the church, that is holiness and unity.

Pope Francis is a Jesuit, and that will become a great blessing to cure mediocrity. The word "mediocre" is not in a Jesuit's vocabulary (and I say this as a "Jesuit boy" from high school through college and graduate school. Mediocrity is not tolerated.)

Pope Francis has been guided for most of his life by Ignatian spirituality, at the core of which is finding God in all things. We need to work at it.

In the "Spiritual Exercises," the title used by St. Ignatius for his philosophy, "exercise" is the operative word. It is not enough to recite by rote or read without taking the time to reflect deeply on its meaning.

Those (including the media) who are looking for drastic change are doomed to disappointment.

Jesus did not inspire immediate enthusiasm after his resurrection. His closest followers, some who were on the road to Emmaus, were quite disappointed at the outcome of what once seemed to be a good prospect.

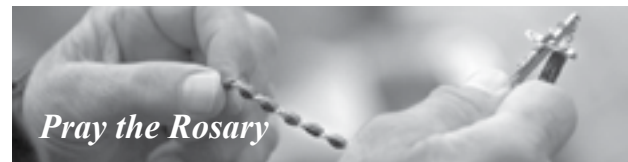
Pope Francis thinks of himself as "a man for others." This Jesuit motto is more than a style. It is the method of seeing God in all things and living in accordance with that understanding.

Cardinal O'Malley capsulized the problem as spiritual mediocrity.

Pope Francis offered the solution: "The Christian truth is attractive and persuasive because it responds to humanity's deepest needs."

We are "Alleluia" people. Let's act like it.

*Kent is the retired editor of archdiocesan newspapers in Omaha and Seattle. Contact him at considersk@gmail.com.*



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## CELEBRATING THE PASCHAL MYSTERY

By Sister Margie Lavinis, CSC

Easter is the celebration of the resurrection of Christ and is the most important feast of the Church. At Easter, we renew our faith and welcome new members into the Church. It is the Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil) that is the highpoint of the church year.

Easter is the fulfillment of the paschal mystery -- the suffering, death, and rising of Jesus. This mystery is not a one-time historical event. As members of the body of Christ, we live this mystery throughout our lives.

We entered the paschal mystery at baptism. We were baptized into the death and resurrection of Jesus. This means that we share in Christ's suffering, death, and rising throughout our lives.

The paschal mystery assures us that the "pain and dying" we experience in our daily lives ultimately leads to resurrection. It is our Christian belief

that God can and does bring good out of evil and suffering. Jesus' life is the greatest example of this. God did not leave Jesus in his pain. God raised him from the dead. Death had no power over him.

There are many examples of living the paschal mystery. I think of a young college student friend of mine who was hurt and nearly devastated by the unfaithfulness of her fiance, who was dating other women during their engagement. She cut off their relationship, but didn't know how she would live without him. Later, she met and fell in love with another young man who was everything a woman could ask for in a husband. They are now happily married and have a growing family. As she reflects back on her life, she always says that if her first relationship had not failed, they probably never would have met.

Other people have experienced the pain and suffering of being laid off or

fired from jobs only to find ones often more fulfilling. I know a man who gave his heart and soul to a company for 30 years. Later, new owners laid him off. He was crushed and went into a deep depression. Finally, he decided to go back to school, got his teaching license, and is now a very happy elementary school teacher. It was something he always wanted to do, but he did not feel he could adequately raise a family on a teacher's salary. The death of one job brought him new life in another.

I have also known people whose suffering made them more compassionate and understanding of another's pain. There are also those who, as a result of personal tragedies, have taken up causes to create a better world. One example is the mother whose children were all shot to death on the streets of Chicago. She now dedicates her life to support gun control, so other mothers will not have to go through the same pain. There is also the woman who began the Mothers Against

Drunk Driving (MADD) organization as a result of her daughter's death by a drunk driver.

Blessed Basil Moreau, the founder of the Congregations of the Holy Cross, was misunderstood and suffered greatly at the hands of bishops and even his own community members when he was trying to get them officially approved by the church. From his suffering came four religious congregations whose members now serve around the world.

When we reflect on our lives, most of us can think of situations where good came out of suffering. Even though we may not have seen God's design in the midst of the suffering, our faith and experience was that God did not leave us in our pain. Like Jesus, God will and does raise us up. This gives us hope, something our world desperately needs at this time.

*Sister Margie Lavinis is a Sister of the Holy Cross in Notre Dame, Ind.*

## THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

By Father Patrick Toner

How often have you watched a basketball player step to the foul line, bounce the ball, make the Sign of the Cross, and then shoot the foul shot? You may think, "Oh, it's that Catholic thing," or "He must be a Catholic." You are correct in some regards.

The Sign of the Cross is more than a "Catholic thing." It is an appropriate gesture for all Christians. Here is a little biblical background you may find helpful. In the Book of Genesis, when God is ready to banish Cain, Cain says "If you send me out there, they will kill me." God puts a mark on Cain to protect him. At the time of the Passover, God instructed the people of Israel to put a mark on the doorposts of their homes to

protect them from the Angel of Death. Through the prophet Ezekiel, God promised to write his covenant on their hearts, marking them as his people.

In the Fourth Century, Constantine the Emperor received a vision in a dream. It was the Sign of the Cross and the words "In this sign you will conquer." Constantine had his soldiers mark their shields with the Sign of the Cross, and they were victorious. As a result, Constantine became a Christian. Later, the Crusaders marked their shields with the Sign of the Cross as they went off to defend the faith.

The Sign of the Cross is a sign of Christ's victory and protection. It proclaims the allegiance of the one wearing the mark. It says to the world,

"I belong to Christ." Making the Sign of the Cross is a public profession of faith. As scripture reminds us, if we deny him, he will deny us before the Father, but if we are faithful to him, he will be faithful to us.

It is true that Catholics place a lot of importance on praying "sacramentally"; that is, using external signs. You may see them blessing themselves at restaurants with the Sign of the Cross. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. The Incarnation of Jesus is the principle behind the "sacramental" prayers of Catholics. God spoke to us through signs, and we use this sign language to pray to him.

All Christians are familiar with gestures of prayer. We fold our hands.

We bow our heads. We kneel at times, or raise our hands in prayer or petition. External gestures of faith are common. Christian chaplains in the Air Force wear a cross that designates them as Christian chaplains. The cross is worn over their decorations on the dress uniform. Military protocol recognizes the importance of the sign. I have always appreciated that the cross gets preference over all of my medals.

The cross is often worn as jewelry. It is more important that it mark our lives, and the practice of making the Sign of the Cross is a reminder that we have "put on Christ" and are proud to be marked as his own.

*Father Patrick Toner is pastor of Plain City St. Joseph Church.*





**Pope Francis embraces Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI at papal summer residence in Castel Gandolfo**

Pope Francis greets Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI at the papal summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, on March 23. Pope Francis traveled by helicopter from the Vatican to Castel Gandolfo for a private meeting with the retired pontiff.

CNS photo/L'Osservatore Romano via Reuters

**Portsmouth family mission**

Portsmouth St. Mary and Holy Redeemer churches will sponsor a Sacred Heart family mission from Sunday to Wednesday, April 7 to 10, led by Redemptorist Father William Gaffney, CSSR, and lay speaker Gloria Anson, who has promoted the enthronement of the Sacred Heart since 1974.

Father Gaffney and Anson call people to a Eucharistic lifestyle which is designed to revitalize faith and love in the home. They have conducted family missions throughout the United States, Canada, and the Caribbean for the past 17 years. In 2011, they were a part of the Global Sacred Heart Congress in France.

Since April 7 is Divine Mercy Sunday, the mission will be-

gin on that day at 3 p.m. with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at St. Mary Church, 524 6th St. It is suggested that everyone bring pictures of family and friends to the first day of the mission. It will continue on the next three evenings at 7 p.m. – Monday at St. Mary, and Tuesday and Wednesday at Holy Redeemer Church, 1325 Gallia St.

Father Gaffney will preach at Masses at both churches on Saturday and Sunday, April 6 and 7. He and Anson will meet with all the students of Notre Dame Elementary School by grade level on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of the mission. Children and teens will have an interactive and fun-filled role every evening of the mission.

[www.ctonline.org](http://www.ctonline.org)



**MARION CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL TO CLOSE AT END OF SCHOOL YEAR**

The Diocese of Columbus announced on Tuesday, March 19, that Marion Catholic Senior High School will close at the end of the 2012-13 school year because of declining enrollment and financial concerns. The school served students in grades seven through 12. Beginning with the 2013-14 school year, grades seven and eight will be incorporated into Marion St. Mary School.

In a March 20 letter to school families and alumni, Bishop Frederick Campbell said, "This was a difficult decision to reach, but in light of all the data available, it was the only responsible one to make. Enrollment continued to remain low and the financial picture worsened. I had hoped that after I and school officials met with a large number of individuals at the town meeting on September 22, 2010, the situation could be turned around, but the many admirable efforts to boost enrollment and raise needed funds fell far short of the minimum required to sustain the high school now and in the future."

Bishop Campbell recommended the closing of the school following a March 11 meeting with representatives of the school's advisory board, foundation board, and staff.

"The decision to close Marion Catholic has been a very difficult one," said diocesan school Superintendent Lucia D. McQuaide. "While the quality of

both academics and religious education delivered at the school remains high, we also need to consider, over and above the financial imperatives, the quality of the overall student experience. With such a limited number of students, it becomes impossible to provide them with many of the extra-curricular activities and programs that compose a well-rounded student life."

Bishop Campbell hosted a forum at the school in the fall of 2010 to address concerns about the high school and refocus community efforts to increase its enrollment and improve its financial position. Following the meeting, a committee of representatives of various groups within the school community was formed in hopes of reversing the decline, but with insufficient results.

Enrollment at the school has declined steadily over the past several decades, from more than 200 senior high school students in 1979-80 to 39 in 2012-13. In 1988, seventh and eighth grades were added to the school to increase enrollment. The total student population this school year is 78 students.

Options for ongoing utilization of the Marion Catholic campus and the nearby St. Mary School are being considered. Events at the high school activity center, which is home to many outside activities in the area, will continue as scheduled.



**GROUNDBREAKING AT ST. MICHAEL**

Worthington St. Michael Church recently broke ground on a new addition which will include parish offices, an adoration chapel, a preschool area, a food pantry, extra meeting rooms, and an elevator. Construction should be completed before the end of the year, weather permitting. The offices are currently in a trailer on the church grounds, having been moved there when the Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, came to the parish school in 2011 to teach and the building which had housed the offices was reconverted to its original use as a convent. Pictured at the groundbreaking are (from left): Deacon Bill Demidovich; Father Anthony Dinovo, pastor; Bishop Frederick Campbell; Father Mark Summers, parochial vicar; and Father Carmen Arcuri, retired priest in residence.

Photo courtesy St. Michael Church




**The Central Ohio Jewish Community expresses our sincerest blessings and shares in the joy of the Catholic Church on the selection of Pope Francis.**

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**Jewish Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Columbus**





## CCL FOR THE KIDS DANCE MARATHON

Students from four schools which compete against each other athletically in the Central Catholic League have united in the fight against childhood cancer and will sponsor a dance marathon from 2 to 8 p.m. Saturday, April 13, at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road.

Proceeds from the CCL for the Kids Dance Marathon will be donated to BuckeyeThon, the Ohio State University's student philanthropy that benefits the hematology-oncology department of Nationwide Children's Hospital.

The event will include dancing, games, displays of cancer facts, and guest speakers including students and teachers who are cancer survivors, as well as families of children benefiting from the work being done at the hospital. Students from DeSales and from Columbus Bishop Hartley, Bishop Waterson, and Bishop Ready high schools will be taking part.

One student for whom the marathon



Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School students involved in organizing the CCL for the Kids Dance Marathon are (from left), kneeling, Jordan Noble, Anthony Stranges, and Donatella Guanciale; standing, school mascot Grant Brimmer, Emily Ripke, Kara Hoying, Elaine Caw, Danny Barren, Eunice Agyapong, and mascot Courtney Klosterman.

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School

will have particular meaning is Anthony Stranges, a survivor of childhood cancer, who is chairman for the event at DeSales, where he is a senior.

"When I was in second grade, I went to the dentist for a routine checkup and he noticed something unusual in my mouth," he said. "It turned out to be a

tumor, which was diagnosed as mucopidermoid carcinoma, a malignancy of the salivary gland. I started treatment immediately at Nationwide Children's Hospital, and after a year-and-a-half of inpatient and outpatient surgery, the doctors said it was dormant.

"Thanks to early detection and the

work of the doctors at the hospital and at the James Cancer Center at Ohio State, the spread of the cancer was halted by the middle of my third-grade year and I'm in good health today," he said. Stranges said he has a checkup each year at the James center to make sure the cancer is still dormant.

He learned of the marathon from his sister, who attends OSU. Several public high schools have their own versions of the event, with the money also going to Nationwide Children's. He decided to take the idea to DeSales, and that soon led to a decision to have other CCL schools join in.

Stranges also raises funds for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life and for Nellie's Club, a charity started by Ohio Dominican University student Jenelle Krumlauf to help families affected by childhood cancer.

Anyone who cannot participate in the marathon, but is interested in making a donation, may send a check to: St. Francis DeSales High School, Attention: CCL for the Kids, 4212 Karl Road, Columbus OH 43224.

## LIFE AWARENESS LUNCHEON

What do religious sisters do for fun? Can they visit their family? Do sisters wear bathing suits? Do they watch TV? What's the difference between a nun and a sister? How do you know if God wants you to be a nun?

These are some of the questions that have been asked by diocesan girls at the Serra Club of North Columbus girls life awareness youth luncheons. An opportunity to obtain more answers is coming soon.

This year's luncheon will take place at 11:45 a.m. Tuesday, April 23, in the Jessing Center at the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St. Eighth-grade and high-school girls are invited to hear Sister Mary Michael, OP, principal of Worthington St. Michael School, answer questions and speak to the students about their vocation choices. Her topic will be "The Surpassing Worth of Knowing Christ Jesus."

Sister Mary Michael spoke to the students last year and was so enthusiastically received that she has been invited to tell "the rest of the story" and to encourage girls to give serious, prayerful thought to their life choices.

Students who wish to attend should

contact their schools, if they attend a Catholic school, or call Rosemary Finneran at (614) 738-4233. Home-schooled students and their parents also are welcome. There is no charge for the luncheon, which will end at about 1:15 p.m. and be followed by a tour of the Pontifical College Josephinum for those who can stay.

Sister Mary Michael is a member of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, a community of women religious based in Ann Arbor, Mich. The community was founded 16 years ago in the Dominican tradition to spread the witness of religious life in accord with Blessed John Paul II's vision for a new evangelization. Sister Mary Michael and three other sisters from her community have been at St. Michael School since 2011.

The Serra Club of North Columbus is a chapter of Serra International, a lay organization dedicated to the promotion and support of vocations to the priesthood and consecrated religious life for men and women.

**New members are welcome. For information, contact Jan Schwartz at (614) 775-9409.**



## LIZZY SAUNDERS RECEIVES "GOLD KEY" AWARD

Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School junior Lizzy Saunders had her photograph titled "Fish Guy" chosen for a Gold Key Award in the Scholastic Art Awards 2013 Central Ohio Regional Exhibition. The photo is on display at the Canzani Center of the Columbus College of Art and Design, and her photo will be judged at the national level.

Photo courtesy DeSales High School

## CATHOLIC WOMEN'S COOKING CLUB

The diocesan Catholic Women's Cooking Club has a mission to promote the domestic church, which was Vatican II's description for the home in an increasingly challenging world. As members of the club are called to the table of the Lord, the altar, at Mass, so too do they invite others to gather around their own tables at home.

On Thursday, April 18, at 6:30 p.m. in Lavelle Hall of Powell St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, the club will present the first in a series of dinners focusing on the food of America. This dinner will feature Southern cuisine. It will be followed by dinners in May featuring food from the American heartland and in June by "a walk in California wine country."

The club's chef, Justin Hernandez, looks forward to the opportunity to spend some time over good food and

good drink while discussing food, answering questions about cooking and ingredients, exploring the history of cuisines, and sharing in Christian fellowship with a Christ-centered atmosphere.

He is a graduate of the Columbus Culinary Institute and has spent 10 years in and out of the food industry, most recently at Spagio in Grandview and working in development for Giant Eagle's Market District store in the Kingsdale Center.

The cost of the event is \$15. For more information, call (614) 241-2540 or send an email to socmailbox@coldsdioc.org. Checks should be made payable to Catholic Women's Cooking Club and mailed to the club in care of the Office of Social Concerns, Diocese of Columbus, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215.

## DIOCESAN RESPECT LIFE CONFERENCE

The diocesan Respect Life Conference will take place Saturday, May 11, at Columbus St. Andrew Church, 1899 McCoy Road. Featured speaker will be Dr. James Keating, director of theological formation for the Institute for Priestly Formation at Creighton University in Omaha, Neb.

Mass will begin at 9 a.m., followed by the conference from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Registration is \$15, which includes lunch.

To register, send a check payable to the Office for Social Concerns, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215.

For details, call (614) 241-2540 or email socmailbox@coldsdioc.org.

Before joining the IPF, Keating taught moral and spiritual theology at the Pontifical College Josephinum's school of theology. He will speak on the interior healing that is necessary for an effective pro-life witness. His second talk will focus on authentic intimacy in marriage.

In addition to hearing from Keating, participants will learn about efforts around the diocese to promote the dignity of all human life in the areas of prayer, education, pastoral outreach, and advocacy.

## LEGION OF MARY'S ANNUAL "ACIES" CEREMONY



The Legion of Mary recently conducted its annual Acies ceremony at Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church. The ceremony is a time of recommitment and rededication of all active and auxiliary members to the Blessed Virgin Mary in service to Our Lord. Father Joshua Wagner, the Legion's diocesan spiritual director (sixth from left, first row), was the celebrant and led prayers and Benediction. Fifty members from various parishes participated in the service and dinner.

Photo courtesy Legion of Mary

## Come to ODU's Graduate Open House



A graduate degree from Ohio Dominican University can help you achieve your career goals. Attend ODU's open house on April 9 to find out more about our master's programs in:

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\*Price per person/double occupancy. Add \$159 tax, service & gov't fees. Airfare is extra.

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## Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord (Cycle C)

# Christ is risen, no matter how the story is told



Father  
Lawrence L. Hummer

Acts 10:34a,37-43

Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8

John 20:1-9 or Luke 24:1-12

As we can see, the choices for readings at Easter are many and varied. To begin, let us compare the Gospel readings from Luke and John. Striking at the outset in John is that only Mary Magdalene sets out for the tomb, early on that first day of the week “while it was still dark.” Luke says there were a number of women from Galilee, who came on the first day of the week “at daybreak.” Luke suggests that the sun was up. John is still going from darkness to light.

The women carry spices with them to anoint the body of Jesus, which they could not do on the day he died because of the nearness of the Sabbath. John does not say why Mary was going to the tomb. All the women discover the stone rolled away, but in John, Mary Magdalene runs off to tell Simon Peter and the beloved disciple. In Luke, the women move right on in to the tomb.

In Luke, the women find no body, and as they puzzle over where the body went, they see two men in dazzling garments. In John, Peter and the other disciple run to the tomb, and although the beloved disciple gets there first, he waits for Peter to go in first, but all they find are burial cloths and a head cloth rolled up in a separate place. It was enough for the beloved disciple to see and “believe,” but John does not tell us what he believed.

In Luke, the women hear the men say to them that the living one will not be found among the dead: “He has been raised.” They are reminded of what “he”

had said (i.e., the risen one) when he was in Galilee. They recall Jesus’ prediction that the Son of Man would rise on the third day.

The women announced all this to the eleven (Judah was no longer in the group). The women are then identified as Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and some other unnamed women. The apostles thought their story was nonsense and refused to believe them. But Peter (in order to be sure??) got up, ran to the tomb and saw the burial cloths, and went (home) amazed.

These are only comparisons between Luke and John. Had we added Mark and Matthew, we would have found how really varied the accounts after the death of Jesus were. We would also discover that none of the Gospels includes a description of the resurrection itself. It remains steeped in mystery. The closest we come would be in various encounters by women (usually) with the Risen One, who is rarely recognized by those who see him.

This variety of accounts of the resurrection narratives shows that the Church was content to live with the variations. No one testimony can do justice to the one account that all Gospels agree on; namely, that Jesus is risen from the dead. The “how” is not important in these New Testament accounts. The “what” is essential.

All of the Gospels speak of the empty tomb, which becomes the symbol of the disciples’ faith in his victory over death. Critics of the women’s testimony, beginning with the apostles that “their story seemed like nonsense and they did not believe them,” were not limited to the New Testament period. That theme echoes through time as authorities continue to reject the testimony of the people of God as nonsense and they do not believe them.

But this year, we cry out once again with renewed confidence: “He is not here, but he has been raised!” That may be nonsense to some; to us it is the cry of salvation itself.

Father Lawrence Hummer, pastor at Chillicothe St. Mary, can be reached at [hummer@stmarychillicothe.com](mailto:hummer@stmarychillicothe.com).

## Living Way of the Cross



Children and adults at Portsmouth St. Mary Church took part in the Living Way of the Cross during Lent. Participants were (from left): first row, Elijah Lisath, C.R. Cochran, Wayde Fout, Maxwell Ottney, Simon Cochran, Isabella Ottney, Kyra Akers, Annabelle Burke, William Burke, Brice Otter, Kendall Ramey, Wyatt Foot, Cole Hunter, Colin Bennington, and Richard Paul; second row, Tanner Queen, Andrea Queen, Lauren Edwards, Tyler Compton, Aaron Bazler, Hunter Harrell, Grant Sparks, Kathy Moore, Robbie Ramey, Madeline Burke, Michelle Ramey, and Braden Bennington.

Photo courtesy St. Mary Church

## The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY  
Acts 2:14,22-32  
Psalm 16:1-2a,5,7-11  
Matthew 28:8-15

TUESDAY  
Acts 2:36-41  
Psalm 33:4-5,18-20,22  
John 20:11-18

WEDNESDAY  
Acts 3:1-10  
Psalm 105:1-4,6-9  
Luke 24:13-35

THURSDAY  
Acts 3:11-26  
Psalm 8:2a,5-9  
Luke 24:35-48

FRIDAY  
Acts 4:1-12  
Psalm 118:1-2,4,22-27a  
John 21:14

SATURDAY  
Acts 4:13-21  
Psalm 118:1,14-15,16ab-21  
Mark 16:9-15

## DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF MARCH 31, 2013

### SUNDAY MASS

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

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

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).

Mass from Kenton Immaculate Conception Church at 10 a.m. on Time Warner Cable Channel 6 (Hardin County).

Mass from Portsmouth St. Mary Church at noon on Time Warner Channel 24 in Scioto County.

### 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](http://www.stgabrielradio.com).

We pray the Seasonal Propers for the Days of the Octave of Easter

# Cross-centered Catholic renewal

In a Sistine Chapel homily given to the cardinals who had elected him pope the evening before, the new bishop of Rome, reflecting on the dialogue between Jesus and Peter at Caesarea Philippi (Matthew 16:13-25), challenged those who had just laid a great cross on his shoulders to deepen their own commitment to Christ crucified:

“... The same Peter who has confessed Jesus Christ says to him, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.’ I will follow you, but let us not speak of the Cross. This has nothing to do with it. I will follow you with other possibilities, without the Cross.

“When we walk without the Cross, when we build without the Cross and when we confess Christ without the Cross, we are not disciples of the Lord: we are worldly, we are bishops, priests, cardinals, popes, but not disciples of the Lord.

“I would like that everyone ... should have the courage, truly the courage, to walk in the presence of the Lord, with the Cross of the Lord; to build up the Church upon the blood of the Lord that was shed upon the Cross; and to confess the only glory—Christ crucified. And in this way, the Church will move forward.”

That challenge to the cardinal-electors applies to every Catholic, as Preface I of the Passion of the Lord reminds us:

*“For through the saving Passion of your Son, the whole world has received a heart to confess the infinite power of your majesty, since by the wondrous power of the Cross*



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE  
George Weigel

*your judgment on the world is now revealed and the authority of Christ crucified.”*

Easter is the axial point of history: the moment when God demonstrates that his creative purposes have been vindicated—redeemed—such that the entire cosmic drama of creation, redemption, and sanctification will be brought to its proper conclusion in the New Jerusalem, at the Wedding Feast of the Lamb. No Easter, no Easter faith; no Easter, no Church; at Easter, history and the cosmos are re-ordered to the trajectory intended for them “in the beginning” (Genesis 1:1). Still, the Church remembers throughout Lent that there is no Easter without Good Friday. Good Friday is not an accidental prelude to Easter; Good Friday is the essential, divinely ordered gateway to Easter.

This has always been hard to accept, as we see from the dialogue at Caesarea Philippi to which Pope Francis referred in his post-election homily. We would have arranged things differently; we would have chosen another kind of Messiah. That theme runs like a

bright thread throughout Lent, in the readings from the Old and New Testaments that the Church assigns to the liturgy during the Forty Days, so that the Church can ponder again the full panorama of salvation history. And as the Holy Father suggested in the Sistine Chapel, the temptation to deny the Cross is perennial; moreover, it is at the root of the Church’s failure to be the credible witness it must be if the world is to be offered friendship with Jesus Christ.

There is much that needs reforming in the Church; and true reform, as I describe it in “Evangelical Catholicism” (Basic Books) is always Christ-centered and mission-oriented. True reform gives fresh expression to the truth of Christ crucified; true reform equips the Church for the more effective proclamation of Christ crucified. That expression and proclamation ought to be done with joy, for we are living on the far side of Easter. But Easter can never be emptied of the Passion and Death of the Lord; Easter faith must be faith built on an embrace of the Cross.

So in venerating the Cross on Good Friday, in the first Holy Week of a pontificate of reform and renewal, let the entire Church remember the truths expressed in what we may imagine as the first papal encyclical:

“Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. ... He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed” (1 Peter 2: 21, 24).

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

## PATRIK GARREN WRESTLING STATE CHAMP

Patrik Garren of Columbus Bishop Ready High School became the school’s first state wrestling champion in 14 years, winning the Division III title in the 285-pound class on Saturday, March 2.

Garren (center) is shown with Ready wrestling coach James Yonushonis (left) and assistant Dominic Jantony. He defeated Austin Cary of Loudonville 5-2 in the championship match. Tommy Rowlands won Ready’s last state title in 1999 and went on to an outstanding career at Ohio State, winning two NCAA championships and making the U.S. national team six times before retiring in 2012.

On his way to the state championship, Garren won sectional and regional tournaments, placed first in his division at the Olentangy Orange Invitational and was tournament champion at the 52nd annual Catholic Invitational, the Central Catholic League tournament, the Pioneer Invitational, the North Canton Hoover Holiday Tournament, the Highland Invitational,



and the Ready Winter Classic.

He has 101 career victories and was 42-1 this past season. He also has played football for two years and was a first-team All-CCL and a second-team All-Central District player in 2012.

In addition to his sports prowess, he is an honor roll student, member of the BETA Club and National Honor Society, and a homeroom representative on the school’s Student Council. He is also a member of the school’s Environmental Club and volunteers with Special Olympics and at the food pantry of his parish, Columbus St. Ladislav.

Photo courtesy Bishop Ready High School



## TRINITY SCIENCE PROJECT

Dr. Jeanette Ferguson of Columbus State Community College (in white lab coat) spent her spring break at Columbus Trinity Elementary School working on science projects with students from all grades. She is pictured with seventh-graders making plastic foam from scratch.

Photo courtesy Trinity Elementary School



# Pray for our dead

**AGRIESTI, Louise, 86, March 22**  
St. Rose Church, New Lexington

**BRENNAN, Ada A., 90, March 22**  
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

**COLLINS, Air Force Tech. Sgt. (Ret.) Eugene P., 80, March 18**  
Christ the King Church, Columbus

**DIPIETRO, Joseph L., 71, March 17**  
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

**FARLEY, Juanita L., 97, March 22**  
Christ the King Church, Columbus

**GEYER, Bernard H., 93, March 15**  
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

**HALEY, Thomas R., 71, March 17**  
St. Margaret of Cortona Church, Columbus

**MARTINELLI, Camillo, 94, March 17**  
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

**MARTONE, Sam A., 92, March 22**  
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

## Charles A. Barcio

Funeral Mass for Charles A. Barcio, 108, who died Monday, March 18, was held Monday, March 25 at Columbus Holy Spirit Church. Burial was in Florida.

He was born on March 22, 1904, in Erie, Pa., where he lived for most of his life until moving to Florida in 1972. He also spent part of his childhood in Rochester, N.Y. He and his wife moved to Victorville, Calif., where one of her sons and his family live, in 2011, then came in 2012 to Columbus, where he resided in the Woodlands assisted living facility while she lived with another son and his family.

As a story in the Nov. 25, 2012, *Catholic Times* noted, "Barcio was a multitasker long before the word became fashionable, serving as, among other things, an electrician, a mechanic, an auto dealer, a fire chief, a sailor, a first aid instructor, a musician, a broadcaster, and a maintenance man — often holding several of those jobs at once."

The election of Pope Francis just before his death meant he lived through all or part of the eras of 10 popes and 19 presidents. He was one of the oldest members of the Knights of Columbus, an organization he joined in 1948. He had been a fourth-degree Knight since

**NORDMAN, Genevieve M., 96, March 18**  
Christ the King Church, Columbus

**PARDI, Janice B., 74, March 18**  
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

**PRECHTEL, Richard E., 77, March 17**  
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

**SAUNDERS, Richard L., 82, March 19**  
Pope John XXIII Church, Canal Winchester

**SCHUMACHER, Ed, 60, March 20**  
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

**SHUMATE, Julia M., 92, March 22**  
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

**SIMPSON, Margaret D., 79, March 20**  
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

**TRENEFF, Helen R., 82, March 16**  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

**ULIETTI, Laura J., March 18**  
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

1951. He was honored as the oldest Knight in Florida at the organization's state convention there in 2010.

He was in charge of maintenance for the Catholic churches he attended in Sharpes, Fla., from 1972-90 and in St. Cloud, Fla., from 1990 until moving to California. He retired from his position in St. Cloud in 2004 only because his parish's insurance company wouldn't cover him because of his age.

He was one of the founders of St. Julia Church in Erie in 1939, and narrated broadcasts of Mass on an Erie radio station for 32 years. He helped organize the West Lake Volunteer Fire Department in Erie, eventually becoming its chief, was a state fire instructor for Pennsylvania and a Red Cross first aid instructor, and spent terms as commodore of the Presque Isle Yacht Club in Erie and president of the chamber of commerce in the Erie suburb of Millcreek.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Winnie, to whom he was married from 1922-69, and a son, Charles. Survivors include his wife, Dorothy; son, Jack (Dorothy); daughter, Phyllis (Norman) Dill; stepsons, Glenn (Sandy) Colann and Donald (Debbie) Colann; and many grandchildren.

## High Tea and a Program at Martin de Porres Center

The Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Road, Columbus, will host its first "High Tea and a Program" event from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, April 20.

Featured will be award-winning cook and author Amy Heyd of Cincinnati, who will discuss her book "Saints at the Dinner Table."

The book includes brief biographies of 12 beloved saints, Heyd's personal reflections on their lives, and the recipes that inspired her to celebrate them.

The High Tea menu will include items from the book, plus treats from the de Porres Center's own Chef Andy.

Heyd has been a finalist in many

cooking contests, including the Pillsbury Bake-Off. Her award-winning recipe was published in "100 Pillsbury Bake-Off Finalist Recipes."

She and her husband, Jim, and children, Abby, Maggie and Charley, enjoy entertaining friends with food and conversation about family, faith, and fun.

Pre-paid registration of \$35 is required by Monday, April 15, and may be made in person, via mail (print out the form on the center's web page), or online by credit card at [www.martin-deporrescenter.net](http://www.martin-deporrescenter.net).

For additional information, call the center at (614) 416-1910.

**Submit obituaries to:**  
**[tpuet@colsdio.org](mailto:tpuet@colsdio.org)**

## TUNE IN TO PATRICK MADRID'S NEW DAILY RADIO SHOW!



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**Speaker Series at St. Paul Church**  
313 N. State St., Westerville (in Miller Hall)  
**Sundays after Easter 6:30-8:00 pm**  
**April 7—The Real Face of Immigration —  
Why do immigrants risk their lives?**  
by Angela Johnston (Diocesan Catholic Latino Ministry)  
**April 14—Human Trafficking in the USA,**  
by Theresa Flores (survivor, victims advocate)  
**April 21—Hunger in our Midst — Hunger  
impacts our family, friends, neighbors  
and coworkers!**  
by Matt Habash (Mid-Ohio Food Bank)  
**All are welcome!**

## MARCH

**28, THURSDAY**  
**Bishop Campbell Celebrates Mass of the Lord's Supper**  
7:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus.  
Bishop Frederick Campbell celebrates the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper. **614-224-1295**

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 Deacon Steve DeMers at 614-224-6530 or 800-511-0584.

## 'Happenings' submissions

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

## H A P P E N I N G S

**Seder Meal at Delaware St. Mary**  
After 7 p.m. Mass, Kavanagh Hall, St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware. Traditional Passover Seder meal presented by parish youth group. **740-363-4641**

**29, FRIDAY**  
**Walking Stations of the Cross in Downtown Columbus**  
8 to 11 a.m., starting at St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Annual Walking Stations of the Cross. a four-mile walk stopping at 14 sites around downtown Columbus to commemorate Jesus' crucifixion and reflect on various social issues. **614-241-2540**  
**Stations of the Cross for Victims of Abortion**  
10:30 a.m., sidewalk in front of Complete Healthcare for Women, 5888 Cleveland Ave., Columbus. Stations of the Cross for victims of abortion. Concluding event of 40 Days for Life campaign. **614-445-8508**

**Community Cross Walk at St. Edward**  
10:45 a.m., St. Edward Church, 785 Newark Road, Granville. Community Cross Walk, a 13-mile silent procession from church to Denison University's Swasey Chapel, with students carrying a wooden cross, led by a drummer, and Scripture passages read at five stops.  
**Walking Stations of the Cross at Delaware St. Mary**  
11 a.m., St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware. Walking Stations of the Cross, followed by ecumenical prayer service at noon. **740-363-4641**

**Bishop Presides at Cathedral Good Friday Liturgy**  
Noon, St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bishop Frederick Campbell presides at Good Friday liturgy. **614-224-1295**  
**'Seven Last Words' at Columbus St. Patrick**  
Noon to 2:45 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Meditations on the seven last words of Christ. **614-224-9522**

**Outdoor Stations of the Cross at St. Mark**  
2:30 (time approximate following Passion service) and 7 p.m., St. Mark Church, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Outdoor Stations of the Cross. **740-653-1229**  
**Circleville St. Joseph Youth Ministry Program**  
7 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 134 W. Mound St., Circleville. Good Friday reflections program sponsored by parish youth ministry. **740-477-2549**

**Tenebrae Services at Several Parishes**  
Tenebrae services, designed to recreate the sense of betrayal, abandonment, and agony related to Good Friday, are scheduled at several parishes. Times are: 7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus; 7:30 p.m., St. Christopher Church, 1420 Grandview Ave., Columbus; and 8 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus.

**29-APRIL 7, FRIDAY-SUNDAY**

**Divine Mercy Novena at St. John Neumann**  
3 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 East State Route 37, Sunbury. Daily praying of the Divine Mercy novena, concluding on April 7 with Holy Hour and sung Chaplet of Divine Mercy after 5 p.m. Mass. **740-965-1358**  
**Divine Mercy Chaptel Recital at Chillicothe St. Peter**  
3 p.m., St. Peter Church, 118 Church St., Chillicothe. Daily recital of Chaplet of Divine Mercy (except March 30, when chaplet will be sung at 7 p.m.), concluding on April 7 with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from end of 11:30 a.m. Mass until 3 p.m., when chaplet will be sung, followed by Benediction. **740-774-4172**

**30, SATURDAY**  
**Wilderness Outreach 'Carry the Cross' Hike**  
7:30 a.m., Clearcreek Metro Park, off U.S. 33 near the Fairfield-Hocking county border. Wilderness Outreach sponsors 12-mile "Carry the Cross" hike for men, carrying a 10-foot timber cross through park. Participants may take part in all or a portion of the hike and should bring a day pack with two or three liters of water and rain gear if appropriate. **614-679-6761**

**Easter Food Basket Blessings in Delaware, Reynoldsburg**  
8:30 a.m., St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware; 1 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Blessing of Easter food baskets.  
**Bishop Campbell Presides at Cathedral Vigil Service**  
8:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bishop Frederick Campbell is celebrant for Easter Vigil service. **614-224-1295**

**31, SUNDAY**  
**Bishop Campbell Celebrates Easter Morning Mass**  
10:30 a.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bishop Frederick Campbell celebrates Easter Mass. **614-224-1295**

**Praise Mass at Seton Parish**  
11:15 a.m., St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, 600 Hill Road N., Pickerington. Praise Mass with contemporary music by parish's small musical groups. **614-833-0482**  
**Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter**  
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. **706-761-4054**

## APRIL

**1, MONDAY**  
**Aquinas Alumni Luncheon**  
Noon, TAT Ristorante di Famiglia, 1210 S. James Road, Columbus. Monthly Columbus Aquinas High School alumni luncheon.  
**Charismatic Prayer Group at St. Thomas**  
7 p.m., St. Thomas Church, 2692 E. 5th Ave., Columbus. Meeting of Charismatic Prayer Group. **614-832-9525**

**2, TUESDAY**  
**Abortion Recovery Network Group**  
7 p.m., Pregnancy Decision Health Center, 665 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus. Abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program and wants to stay connected. **614-444-4411**  
**Catholic War Veterans Monthly Meeting**  
7 p.m., Red Room, St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Catholic War Veterans Post 1936 meeting. **614-221-7601**

**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. **740-653-4919**

**4, THURSDAY**  
**Job Fair at Westerville St. Paul**  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Activities center, St. Paul Church, 313 N. State St., Westerville. Job fair sponsored by Stewardship Employment Ministry. **614-306-4487**  
**Baptisms, Confirmations With Bishop Campbell at ODU**  
3:30 p.m., Sansbury Hall, Christ the King Chapel, Ohio Do-

minican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Bishop Frederick Campbell baptizes and confirms two ODU students and confirms an alumna, a staff member, and a friend of the university. **614-251-4453**

**20s Group Meeting at Columbus St. Patrick**  
7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Weekly meeting of parish's 20s Group. All young adults invited. Begins with Holy Hour, followed at 8 by program. **614-406-9516**

**5, FRIDAY**  
**St. Cecilia Adoration of Blessed Sacrament**  
St. Cecilia Church, 434 Norton Road, Columbus. Begins after 8:15 a.m. Mass; continues to 5 p.m. Saturday.  
**Monthly Adoration of Blessed Sacrament**  
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Begins after 9 a.m. Mass; continues through 6 p.m. Holy Hour.  
**Catholic Men's Luncheon Club Meeting**  
12:15 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Catholic Men's Luncheon Club meeting, with Dan DeMatte, St. Patrick's director of religious education and youth ministry, speaking on "The Mission of the Domestic Church." Details at [www.columbuscatholicmen.com](http://www.columbuscatholicmen.com).

**All-Night Exposition at Our Lady of Victory**  
Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8 p.m. until Mass at 8 a.m. Saturday, sponsored by church's Knights of Columbus council and Columbus Serra Club.

**5-7, FRIDAY-SUNDAY**  
**Disciples4Life Retreat at St. Therese's**  
St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Retreat sponsored by Disciples4Life team of Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. **614-871-7998**

**6, 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. **614-565-8654**  
**Mary's Little Children Prayer Group**  
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. 8:30 a.m., confessions, 9 a.m., Mass, followed by Fatima prayers and Rosary (Shepherds of Christ format); 10 a.m., meeting. **614-861-4888**

**Filipino Mass at Holy Cross**  
7:30 p.m., Holy Cross Church, 204 S. 5th St., Columbus. Mass in the Tagalog language for members of the Filipino Catholic community. **614-224-3416**

**7, SUNDAY**  
**Pilgrimage to Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibit in Cincinnati**  
9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Bus leaves from St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus, to visit Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit at Cincinnati Museum Center. Mass, buffet lunch included. Details at [www.saintjosephcathedral.org](http://www.saintjosephcathedral.org).  
**St. Christopher Adult Religious Education**  
10 to 11:15 a.m., St. Christopher Parish Center, 1420 Grandview Ave., Columbus. "Understanding Our Muslim Patient Population" with Dr. Yosef Khan of The Ohio State University Medical Center.  
**Exposition at Church of the Resurrection**  
Our Lady of the Resurrection Chapel, Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, beginning with procession into chapel following 11 a.m. Mass and continuing to 5 p.m. **614-933-9318**





BOOK REVIEW

# NEW EVANGELIZATION

*New evangelization can transform hearts and change world, says cardinal*

**By Mark Zimmermann**  
Catholic News Service

Like the first disciples who walked with Jesus as his friends, today's Catholics are called to proclaim his good news to an indifferent and sometimes even hostile world that now more than ever needs that message of Christ's truth and love, Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl writes in a new book.

Titled "New Evangelization: Passing on the Catholic Faith Today," the book was published in January by Our Sunday Visitor Press.

"Today, like the first disciples, we can be Jesus's witnesses, and proclaim his good news in our everyday lives," Cardinal Wuerl writes. "With our hearts transformed by Christ, we can change the hearts of others, and transform the world."

Cardinal Wuerl, the archbishop of Washington, was relator general of the World Synod of Bishops on the New Evangelization last October in Rome, summarizing and reporting on the sessions.

The pope and the 250 bishops at the synod emphasized that this is the moment for a new Pentecost, and a critical time for all Catholics to take up the work of the new evangelization.

"It's our turn now to share the great gift we have been given, the gift of our Catholic faith, and renew the face of the earth," the cardinal writes in his book.

The cardinal, who arrived in Rome on Feb. 25 to vote in the papal election, draws on personal stories and church teaching and history to illustrate how the new evangelization requires

the personal commitment of today's Catholics to deepen their faith and share it with others, especially with those who may have drifted from the faith or never heard the Gospel message.

He emphasizes that the new evangelization is not a program, but a lens, a way of looking at how individual Catholics and parishes share their faith. Each chapter of the book includes summaries and reflections designed for personal and parish use.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, who made the work of the new evangelization a key priority of his papacy, has emphasized that the call must be undertaken by all Catholics, especially the laity, "to re-propose the perennial truth of Christ's Gospel."

Just as the apostles and first disciples who encountered Jesus were called to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth, Cardinal Wuerl notes that Catholics of today must help family members, friends, neighbors, and co-workers encounter Christ.

Then and now, all evangelization "begins with the experience of Jesus Christ," writes the cardinal, and he adds that proclaiming the good news remains "the church's primary mission."

Cardinal Wuerl said that the pope and the bishops at the synod underscored the urgency of the need for the new evangelization.

That, he noted, was a key message of Pope Benedict's 2008 visit to Washington, when the pontiff warned of a secularism that causes people to treat religion "as a private matter," a materialism in which people seek meaning through their possessions, and an individualism in which people's self-reliance causes them not to recognize

the need to rely on God and to reach out to others.

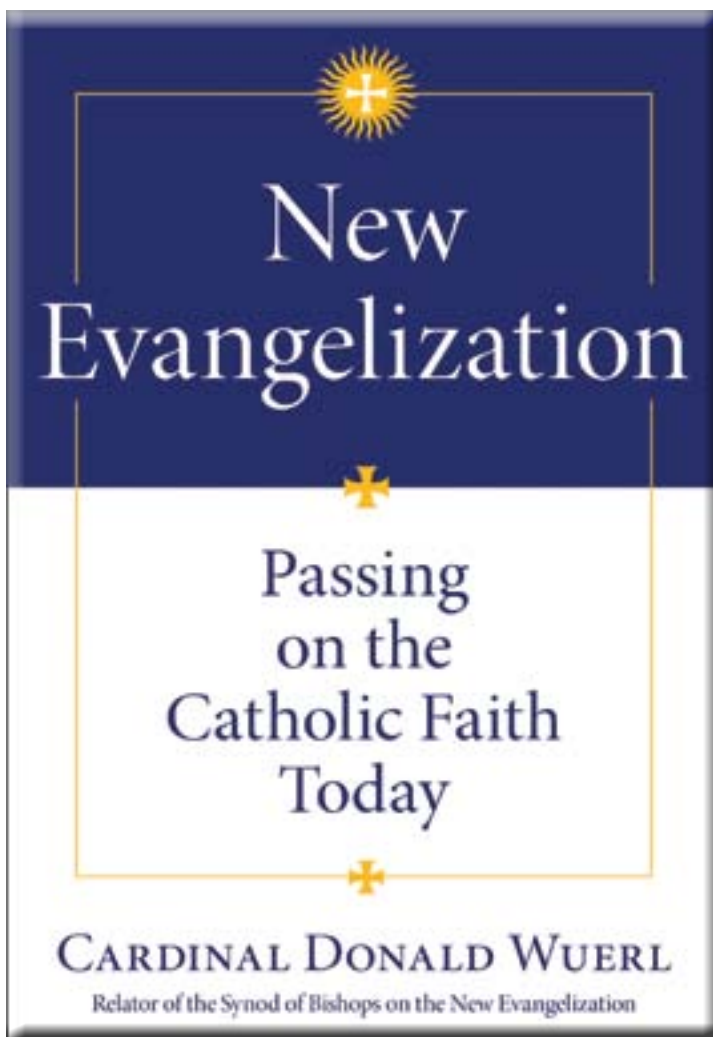
To counter secularism and materialism, today's witnesses of Jesus must share the good news, proclaiming "the Gospel (which) offers us a whole new way of seeing life and the world around us," the cardinal writes.

Cardinal Wuerl shares the story of a Catholic husband and wife married for many years who told him that they pray together every night before they go to bed. "Otherwise, we could forget that Jesus is a part of our love, our marriage, and our lives," they told the cardinal after a Mass for couples marking milestone anniversaries.

That illustrates how "the church and her sacraments are a continual reminder to us of God, God's love and God's place in our lives," he writes.

The cardinal emphasizes that "the Eucharist is at the heart" of the life of the Catholic Church. He notes how Blessed John Paul II emphasized the centrality of the Eucharist in the life of individual Catholics and the life of the church today, just as it was for the first Christians who came together to devote their lives to "the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers" (Acts 2:42).

That early description of the Mass, the cardinal writes, shows how the eucharistic celebration then and now



reflects Jesus' teaching that he is "the living bread come down from heaven," and how "at the Last Supper, the Lord instituted a new memorial sacrifice."

Also in the book, Cardinal Wuerl notes how during the recent synod, New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan recommended that the sacrament of reconciliation be seen as "the sacrament of the new evangelization, because it offers people the chance for a new encounter with Christ and his church."

The parish as a center where the new evangelization can unfold also was an emphasis at the synod, the Washington cardinal notes.

He pointed to an effort under way in the Archdiocese of Washington to revitalize parishes, in which those communities study five "indicators of vitality": worship, education, community life, administration, and service to the poor and marginalized.

"As agents of the new evangelization," Cardinal Wuerl writes, "we are called to renew and deepen our faith, grow in confidence in its truth, and joyfully share it with others."

*Zimmermann is editor of the Catholic Standard, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Washington.*



## PALM SUNDAY AROUND THE WORLD

Archbishop Jose H. Gomez blesses people holding palms with holy water during Palm Sunday Mass outside the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in Los Angeles. CNS photo/Victor Aleman, Vida Nueva

Christians carry olive branches and a statue of Jesus during the traditional Palm Sunday procession on the Mount of Olives overlooking the Old City of Jerusalem. Also known as Passion Sunday, this first day of Holy Week commemorates Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem before his crucifixion. CNS photo/Debbie Hill



Cardinal Norberto Rivera Carrera of Mexico City blesses a child during a procession before Palm Sunday Mass at the Metropolitan Cathedral in Mexico City. CNS photo/Tomas Bravo, Reuters



Pope Francis (seated) begins Palm Sunday Mass at the obelisk in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican. CNS photo/Alessia Giuliani, Catholic Press Photo



## New proposed rules on mandate still violate religious freedom

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- New proposed regulations governing the contraceptive mandate under the Affordable Care Act still violate basic principles of religious freedom, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said.

In comments filed on March 20 with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the USCCB raised a series of concerns, among them being that the new proposals keep in place “an unjust and unlawful mandate” regarding the provision of contraceptive and other pregnancy services and that the rules provide no exemption or accommodation for “most stakeholders in the health insurance process, such as individual employees and for-profit employers,” who are morally opposed to such coverage.

Other objections raised in the comments include:

-- An “unreasonable and unlawfully narrow” exemption for some nonprofit religious organizations, primarily houses of worship.

-- Limited accommodation for religious employers that continues to require those employers falling outside of the government’s definition to “fund or facilitate objectionable coverage.”

The USCCB position is built around a series of legal arguments stemming largely from decisions in earlier court cases.

The document said that the contrac-

tive mandate remains unchanged and again presented the USCCB position that it should be rescinded.

“Contraceptives and sterilization procedures, unlike other mandated ‘preventive services,’ do not ‘prevent’ disease,” the document said. “Instead they disrupt the healthy functioning of the human reproductive system.”

The USCCB argued that the contraceptive mandate requires the coverage of abortifacient drugs and devices, in violation of various aspects of the Affordable Care Act dealing with abortion coverage and the non-pre-emption of state law, as well as other laws. Such concerns are separate from religious freedom issues, the comments said.

The document also contended that the new proposed rules offer no exemption or accommodation for “the overwhelming majority” of individuals and institutions who object to contraceptive coverage on religious or moral grounds.

“Those without exemption or accommodation include conscientiously opposed individuals, for-profit employers (whether secular or religious), nonprofit employers that are not explicitly religious organizations (even in cases where their objection is religious in nature), insurers and third-party administrators. Respect for their consciences demands some adequate legal protection, but under the current proposed regulation, they have none,” the US-

CCB told the government.

The document said the religious-employer exemption in the new proposed rules was “improved slightly” in one area, but was “worsened” in another.

The first version of proposed rules exempted only religious organizations whose main purpose is the inculcation of faith and which employ and serve members of the faith. A later accommodation said the contraceptive mandate could be met by nonexempt organizations through third-party insurers.

Under the new proposed rules for exempt religious organizations, HHS eliminated standards governing inculcation of the faith and who the organization serves, which the USCCB welcomed.

The USCCB raised concerns, however, that the new proposed rules exclude from the definition of religious employer various organizations that “undeniably are ‘religious’ and undeniably ‘employ’ people, such as Catholic hospitals, charities and schools.

“The government’s proposed definition of religious employer still reduces religious freedom to freedom of worship by limiting the exemption almost exclusively to houses of worship,” the USCCB argued.

The document also questioned the accommodation to nonprofit religious organizations in the rules that fall outside the definition of religious employer,



saying the accommodation is based on a number of “questionable factual assumptions.”

“Even if all of those assumptions were sound, the accommodation still requires the objecting religious organization to fund or otherwise facilitate the morally objectionable coverage. Such organizations and their employees remain deprived of their right to live and work under a health plan consonant with their explicit religious beliefs and commitments,” the document said.

The USCCB also maintained that the contraceptive mandate “continues to represent an unprecedented (and now sustained) violation of religious liberty by the federal government.”

“As applied to individuals and organizations with a religious objection to contraceptive coverage, the mandate violates the First Amendment, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act and the Administrative Procedure Act.”

## Franciscan University Reacts to Court’s Dismissal of HHS Mandate Lawsuit

U.S. District Judge Algenon L. Marbley of the Southern District of Ohio has dismissed Franciscan University of Steubenville’s federal lawsuit against Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius and the Obama administration.

Franciscan University sought to have the HHS mandate declared unconstitutional and to enjoin the government from enforcing the requirement that employers provide insurance coverage that includes abortion-inducing drugs, contraceptives, and sterilization procedures.

Marbley dismissed the case on ripeness, reasoning that the university had yet to be injured by

the HHS mandate.

“This is in no way a loss. The judge did not rule on the merits of our case and dismissed our lawsuit for ripeness, so Franciscan University has every right—and, I would add, the duty—to refile our lawsuit at the appropriate time,” said Father Terence Henry, TOR, president of the university.

Franciscan University maintains that the requirement to fund and facilitate such activities violates its core religious and moral convictions as a Catholic university, and vows to continue to fight for the freedom to practice its faith without government interference.

Last spring, Franciscan reportedly became the first uni-

versity to drop its requirement for student health insurance because of moral and economic concerns connected to the HHS mandate. In May, the university sued the federal government, saying the HHS mandate constitutes “a grave threat” to Franciscan’s ability to continue to teach from the heart of the Church.

Father Henry took issue with the dismissal of the university’s lawsuit on the grounds of ripeness. “Franciscan University’s employee health insurance plans hold ‘grandfathered’ status, but this does not mean we have experienced no harm from the HHS mandate. Right now, being grandfathered ties our hands,” Fa-

ther Henry said. “Since many changes to our plan would cause it to lose grandfathered status, it denies both our employees and the university opportunities to save money and enact plan changes appropriate to our changing needs for coverage. In effect, this makes us second-class citizens because of our faith.”

Marbley noted that the Obama administration has promised to protect religious institutions by amending the regulations. The federal government is expected to announce additional modifications to the HHS mandate that will allegedly address Franciscan’s chief complaints within the next few months.

The Franciscan lawsuit was

one of 12 lawsuits filed on May 21, 2012, by 43 Catholic organizations, including the archdioceses of New York, Washington, and St. Louis, as well as the dioceses of Dallas, Fort Worth, Rockville Centre, N.Y., and Pittsburgh. Several of those lawsuits already have been dismissed in the first round of what Franciscan’s legal counsel foresees as a protracted legal battle.

“We will not stop fighting this unjust mandate, and we are in this for the long haul. We are very confident in the merits of our case, and we will continue to do everything in our power to protect our constitutional right to religious freedom,” Father Henry said.