



DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

# CATHOLIC TIMES

*A journal of Catholic life in Ohio*



DECEMBER 28, 2014  
FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY  
VOLUME 64:13  
WWW.CTONLINE.ORG

*“O come,  
let us  
adore Him”*

*Merry  
Christmas*





## Vatican report calls U.S. women religious to continued dialogue

By Cindy Wooden

Catholic News Service

A Vatican-ordered investigation of U.S. communities of women religious ended with a call for them to continue discerning how best to live the Gospel in fidelity to their orders' founding ideals, in the face of declining numbers and a rapidly aging membership.

Although initially seen by many religious and lay Catholics as a punitive measure, the apostolic visitation concluded with publication on Dec. 16 of a 5,000-word final report. The document summarized the problems and challenges the women themselves see in their communities and thanked them for their service to the church and society.

The visitation took place between 2009 and 2012 with detailed questionnaires and on-site visits, mainly by other women religious. It "sought to convey the caring support of the church in respectful, sister-to-sister dialogue," says the final report by the Vatican's Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life.

The process attempted to help the Vatican "and the sisters themselves to be more cognizant of their current situation and challenges in order to formulate realistic, effective plans for the future," said the report, signed by Cardinal Joao Braz de Aviz, prefect of the congregation, and Archbishop Jose Rodriguez Carballo, its secretary (pictured above at right).

In summarizing the results, the congregation called for special attention in several areas, including: formation programs for new members; the personal, liturgical and common prayer life of members; ensuring that their spiritual practices and ministries are fully in harmony with church teaching "about God, creation, the Incarnation and redemption" in Christ; strengthening community life, especially for members living on their own or with just one other sister; living their vow of poverty while wisely administering financial resources; and strengthening communion within the church, especially with the bishops and Vatican officials.

The report says the Vatican "is well aware that the apostolic visitation was met with apprehension and suspicion by some women religious. This resulted in a refusal, on the part of some institutes, to collaborate fully in the process."

"While the lack of full cooperation



was a painful disappointment for us," the congregation writes, "we use this present opportunity to invite all religious institutes to accept our willingness to engage in respectful and fruitful dialogue with them."

"A number of sisters conveyed to the apostolic visitor a desire for greater recognition and support of the contribution of women religious to the church on the part of its pastors," the report says. "They noted the ongoing need for honest dialogue with bishops and clergy as a means of clarifying their role in the church and strengthening their witness and effectiveness as women faithful to the church's teaching and mission."

In addition, it says, "some spoke of their perception of not having enough input into pastoral decisions which affect them or about which they have considerable experience and expertise."

The current Year of Consecrated Life, the congregation says, should be "a graced opportunity for all of us within the church -- religious, clergy and laity -- to take those steps toward forgiveness and reconciliation, which will offer a radiant and attractive witness of fraternal communion to all."

The former prefect of the congregation, Cardinal Franc Rode, ordered the visitation in 2008, saying its aim would be to study the community, prayer life, and apostolic life of the orders to learn why the number of women religious in the United States had declined so sharply since the 1960s.

Almost a year into the study, Cardinal Rode told Vatican Radio that the investigation was a response to concerns -- including some expressed by an unnamed "important representative of the U.S. church" -- regarding "some irregularities or omissions in American reli-

gious life. Most of all, you could say, it involves a certain secular mentality that has spread in these religious families, and, perhaps, also a certain 'feminist' spirit," he said.

As the process began, the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, which represents about 80 percent of U.S. women religious, questioned what its officials considered a lack of full disclosure about what motivated the visitation.

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith's investigation of the LCWR, begun in 2008, was a separate process; in 2011, the congregation ordered a reform of the organization, saying "the current doctrinal and pastoral situation of LCWR is grave and a matter of serious concern, also given the influence the LCWR exercises on religious congregations in other parts of the world."

At a Dec. 16 news conference presenting the report, the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life invited the president of the LCWR and the chairwoman of the smaller U.S. Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious to address the media. They were joined by Mother Mary Clare Millea, superior general of the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (pictured above at left), who was the apostolic visitor appointed by the Vatican.

The congregation's final report says that while apostolic visits are "a normal instrument of governance" designed to "assist the group in question to improve the way in which it carries out its mission in the life of the church," the visitation of U.S. women religious "was unprecedented" in many ways.

"It involved 341 religious institutes of both diocesan and pontifical right, to

which approximately 50,000 women religious throughout the United States belong," the report says. Only communities of cloistered nuns were excluded.

While not news, the report presents striking statistics. "Today, the median age of apostolic women religious in the United States is in the mid- to late-70s. The current number of approximately 50,000 apostolic women religious is a decline of about 125,000 since the mid-1960s, when the numbers of religious in the United States had reached their peak," it says.

"It is important to note, however, that the very large numbers of religious in the 1960s was a relatively short-term phenomenon that was not typical of the experience of religious life through most of the nation's history," the report says. "The steady growth in the number of women religious peaked dramatically from the late 1940s through the early 1960s, after which it began to decline as many of the sisters who had entered during the peak years left religious life, the remaining sisters aged and considerably fewer women joined religious institutes."

Citing a variety of founding principles, ministries, and community sizes among religious orders for women, the congregation's final report notes an overall trend of "aging and diminishment" in the number of members of those orders.

Most religious communities, it says, "are expending considerable spiritual and material energies in the area of vocation promotion." However, many are obtaining results "not commensurate with the expectations and efforts."

"Vocation and formation personnel interviewed noted that candidates often desire the experience of living in formative communities, and many wish to be externally recognizable as consecrated women," the report says, in an apparent reference to the wearing of traditional habits. "This is a particular challenge in institutes whose current lifestyle does not emphasize these aspects of religious life."

The congregation's report does not make specific recommendations, other than urging the entire church "to offer fervent prayer for religious vocations" and to ask religious communities to ensure they provide "a solid, theological, human, cultural, spiritual and pastoral preparation" for religious life.

CNS photo/Paul Haring

My brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ,

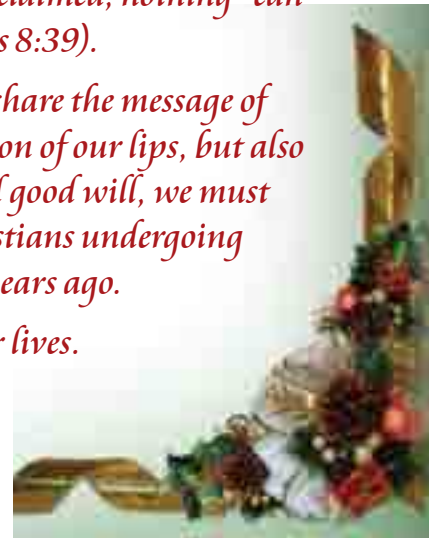
Even in a world beset by many problems, the brightness and promise of the feast of Christmas cannot be darkened. And even though the particular excitement and good cheer with which the world around us celebrates this season may fade and pass into memory, the joy of the birth of our Savior will continue to illumine the hearts and minds of faithful Christians.

When our Lord took on human flesh and entered into our human history, He changed the whole of human destiny, offering every human person the promise of life, abundant and eternal. Now the powers of sin, violence, and even death have lost their dominion over us and will never be the final word. As St. Paul exclaimed, nothing "can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:39).

The celebration of the Christmas mysteries calls all the faithful to share the message of hope and meaning that Christmas brings, not only by the proclamation of our lips, but also by the language of our lives and actions. If we are the heralds of peace and good will, we must be the encouragers of these gifts. During this particular year, remember in your prayers those Christians undergoing persecution, especially in that part of the world where Jesus appeared in human flesh some 2,000 years ago.

May the blessing and joy of the incarnate Lord Jesus Christ be with you now and throughout your lives.

Most Reverend Frederick F. Campbell, DD, PhD  
Bishop of Columbus



**Merry Christmas**  
from all of us at Catholic Times!  
Alexandra Dave Tim

The Times will be taking a week off for Christmas, so there will be no issue next week. We'll be back with more on Jan. 11, 2015.

### HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

NATIVITY OF THE LORD  
DECEMBER 25

SOLEMNITY OF MARY,  
MOTHER OF GOD  
JANUARY 1

Check individual parishes for schedule of Holy Day Mass times

Front Page photo:  
"Nativity at Night" by Italian Baroque painter Guido Reni depicts the birth of Christ in a Bethlehem manger.  
CNS/Bridgeman Art Library

**CATHOLIC TIMES**

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Bishop Frederick F. Campbell, D.D., Ph.D. ~ President & Publisher  
David Garick ~ Editor (dgarick@coltsdioc.org)  
Tim Puet ~ Reporter (tpuet@coltsdioc.org)  
Alexandra Keves ~ Graphic Design Manager (akeves@coltsdioc.org)  
Deacon Steve DeMers ~ Business Manager (sdemers@coltsdioc.org)  
Jodie Sfreddo ~ Bookkeeper/Circulation Coordinator (jsfreddo@coltsdioc.org)

Mailing Address: 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215  
Editorial Staff Telephone (614) 224-5195 FAX (614) 241-2518  
Business Staff Telephone (614) 224-6530 FAX (614) 241-2518

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



# PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

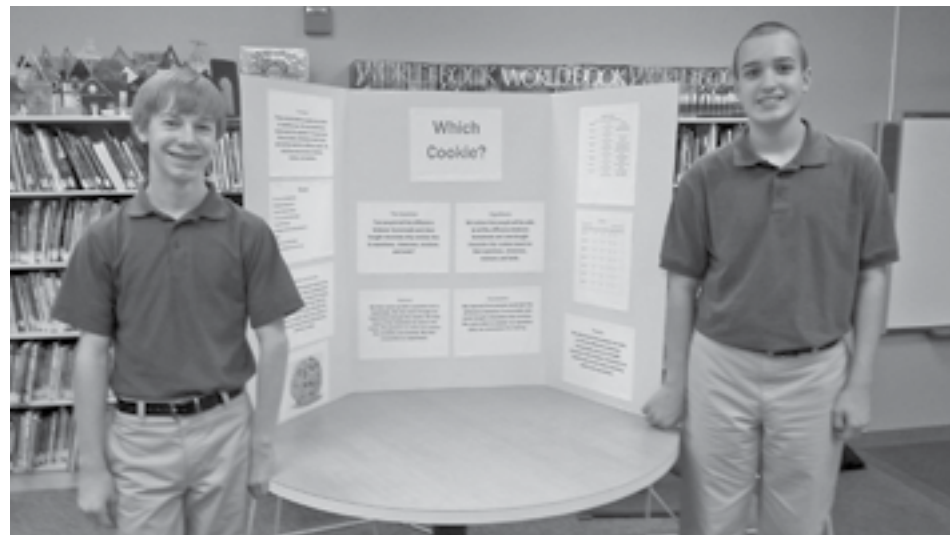
## Lost

Are you enjoying the longer days with more daylight since the winter solstice last week? It may be difficult to notice, but the promise of longer and warmer days is ahead. For now, we have to deal with longer and warmer clothing. Our prayers of preparation throughout Advent are over. Our prayers of joy and triumph ring like church bells throughout the Christmas Octave. The birth of our Lord and Savior begins His triumph over sin and death, a triumph for every one of us. That is why we loudly sing and proclaim, seemingly with broad smiles on our faces, "O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant." Christmas marks that all-important step in our process of redemption. The Incarnation begins to free us from sin and opens Heaven to us, never to be closed again. It sounds profound and difficult to grasp, but our faith and our hope help us to accept the reality. And that is why the soloist sings "O holy night. ... it is the night of our dear Savior's birth. ... O night divine!" Let us continue to sing and pray as St. Thomas did, recognizing that final, critical step in our redemption after Christ's Resurrection: "My Lord and my God!"

Merry Christmas! May the grace and peace of God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all! Of course, this is one of the familiar greetings used by the priest at the start of Mass. Christmas made this greeting possible. The Holy Trinity had always existed, but the birth of Jesus Christ manifested His presence on earth as our Savior. The grace and peace that we all long for comes from God in His enduring love and endless mercy. As we joyfully celebrate the Octave of the Christmas season, we especially recognize the Holy Family this Sunday. The focus on the sacrament of marriage and the critical importance of a strong and healthy family life cannot be diminished. We know there is no better model than the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. After Christmas, we do not have anything written in the Gospels until Jesus is lost. He is separated from His family, and it takes a number of days for Mary and Joseph to realize He is lost. We know that He is not lost at all, but teaching in His Heavenly Father's home in the temple. As we strive to keep our own families holy and strong, let us pray earnestly to Jesus, Mary, and Joseph to rescue those who are lost, and return them to their families. In our midst, around the world, and sometimes in our own families, there are lost loved ones and even strangers. Think about those who are estranged, separated, divorced, mentally ill, run-away, unemployed, homeless, underemployed, addicted to substances or behaviors, imprisoned, hungry, oppressed, lonely, hospitalized, chronically ill, alone, or just plain lost. All our brothers and sisters in these challenges are lost.

Our practical challenge this week is to seek and find someone who is lost. Just as Mary and Joseph searched until they found Jesus, find someone in your family who is lost and could use some help. No criteria, no strings attached; just help without expectation of reimbursement. We can all find someone who is lost. Focus as earnestly as possible at Mass this Sunday and pray for the grace and peace and love of the Holy Family. May God bless our families with strength, stability, and love this Christmas season and forever.

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



## St. Brendan Science Fair

Hilliard St. Brendan School's Science Fair Club is a project-based learning experience that encourages seventh- and eighth-grade students to study science, engineering, and technology. Club members who gave presentations at the school's science fair were Max Balyeat, Scott Bingham, Eli Bowles, Clay Chilenski, Ethan Foltz, Craig Hammon, Jarek Kolinski, and Donnie Search. Pictured are Clay Chilenski (left) and Jarek Kolinski. The science fair benefited from the assistance of Dr. John Mascazine of Ohio Dominican University, who supplied judges for the presentations.

Photo courtesy St. Brendan School

## Mount Carmel Foundation has new president

Mount Carmel Health System announces the appointment of Deanna D. Stewart as president and executive director of the Mount Carmel Foundation.



"Deanna has an extensive knowledge of the Columbus community and is an established leader," said Claus von Zychlin, president and chief executive officer of Mount Carmel Health. "Her experience will be an asset to the foundation and to Mount Carmel Health System overall as we look to continue fulfilling our mission of providing high-quality, people-centered care."

Most recently, Stewart served as a senior vice president of institutional advancement at the United Way of Central Ohio. In this role, she increased overall funds raised by 20 percent and developed and closed a \$5 million individual leadership gift, the largest in United Way of Central Ohio history.

"The Mount Carmel Foundation plays an important role in supporting the system's overall mission to provide a

compassionate and healing presence in the community," she said. "It is an honor to be part of this team, building on a strong base and extending our work to support even more people and programs."

Stewart also has served as assistant vice president of university development at The Ohio State University, senior director of development at OSU's John Glenn School of Public Affairs, vice president of strategic customer development at Metatec Corp., and sales center vice president of AT&T Corp.

The Mount Carmel Foundation is an Ohio 501(c)(3) organization and serves as the sole fundraising entity for Mount Carmel Health System. The foundation is dedicated to funding programs that help thousands of people in central Ohio obtain the care and services they deserve.

More information on the Mount Carmel Foundation is available at [www.mountcarmelfoundation.org](http://www.mountcarmelfoundation.org).

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## Part-time Painter Position

Mother Angeline McCrory Manor is looking for a mission oriented individual to join its maintenance department as a part time painter. Interested individuals should have at least two years of commercial painting experience. This is a benefited position. They must have a commitment to quality care of the elderly. If you would like to join a dedicated team of caregivers who are carrying on the mission of the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and infirm please fax your resume attention HR to: **614-751-8311** or apply in person at: **Mother Angeline McCrory Manor, 5199 East Broad St., Columbus, OH 43213.**

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## Clergy Chefs Will Compete on January 30

Clergy chefs will cook and compete when Clergy Who Cook returns to the Jessing Center at the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus, on Friday, Jan. 30 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The Friends of the Josephinum present this annual and always popular event, which features Columbus diocesan clergy, priests, deacons, and seminarians.

The menu changes from year to year, but the tasty offerings are always palate-pleasing for the sellout crowd which attends. The parishes represented and clergy competing this year include: Father James Black, Powell St. Joan of Arc; Deacon Joseph Ciacuria, Westerville St. Paul; Father Michael Mary Dosch, OP, Columbus St. Patrick; Father Nick Droll, Columbus St. Andrew; Father Michael Watson, Delaware St. Mary; Father Pete Gideon, Lan-



caster St. Mark; Father Walter Oxley and Father John Heisler, Pontifical College Josephinum; Deacons Dale Meade and Brian Seiler, PCJ seminarians from the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana; Father Kevin Lutz, Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God; Father Matt Hoover, Columbus Immaculate Conception; Father Bill Hahn, Chillicothe St. Peter; Deacon Tony Bonacci, Plain City St. Joseph; and Deacon Andy Naporano, Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona.

Reservations are required. The cost is \$40 per person. Reserved tables of eight are available at the sponsorship level of \$1,000.

Clergy Who Cook has always sold out. Don't be left out on a cold January night. Visit [www.PCJ.edu](http://www.PCJ.edu) or call (614) 985-2234 for reservations.

## Silent Retreat for Women

All women of the diocese are invited to a silent retreat sponsored by the Catholic Laywomen's Retreat League from Friday to Sunday, March 6 to 8, at St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus.

Fr. Cassian Derbes, OP, promoter of the Most Holy Rosary for the Dominican Province of St. Joseph, will be the retreat master. Father Derbes, who also is parochial vicar of Columbus St. Patrick Church, studied in Europe and at the Dominican House of Studies in Washington.

With the theme "The Virtues of Mary," the retreat will be focused on the humanity of the Virgin Mary and the ways in which grace caused her to flourish in virtue. Her

feminine genius is animated by diving grace and by union with her son. This retreat will emphasize the specific virtues of Mary, contrasted with the vice of Eve, which speak of the radiant grace of her womanhood and motherhood.

The retreat will begin with registration at 5:30 p.m. March 6 and end at noon March 8. The \$125 fee includes six meals and a private room for two nights. Assistance is available for those who need financial help.

There will be Masses on Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday, as well as all-night Eucharistic adoration on Saturday and opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Quiet times for private prayer and meditation are built into the schedule.

For more information, email [retreatleague@gmail.com](mailto:retreatleague@gmail.com) for a registration form listing all the pertinent details, or call Betsy Issett, retreat league president, at (614) 235-8204. The registration deadline is Sunday, Feb. 1. Space is limited, and registration will be guaranteed only with receipt of a \$50 deposit. No phone or email registrations can be accepted.

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## Holy Days of Obligation; Praying from Purgatory



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

**Q.** When are we going to do away with holy days of obligation? We no longer live in medieval times when a whole village is closed down for the day. The only people at Mass now are the true diehards. Please encourage the bishops to put the celebrations on Sunday or take away the obligation. (Copake, New York)

**A.** In the Catholic world, there is considerable variation from country to country in the number of holy days of obligation (when Catholics are required to participate in the Eucharist). The *Code of Canon Law* in No. 1246 lists 10 of these, in addition to Sundays, but allows national conferences of bishops to reduce the number or to transfer their observance to a Sunday.

Vatican City observes all 10, while Canada keeps only two (Christmas and Jan. 1).

The United States has kept six holy days of obligation: the Feast of Mary, Mother of God (Jan. 1); Ascension Thursday (40 days after Easter); the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady (Aug. 15); All Saints' Day (Nov. 1); the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8); and Christmas (Dec. 25).

The U.S. Conference of Bishops decided to maintain the traditional

six holy days. Later, in 1999, ecclesiastical provinces of the country were permitted to transfer the observance of the Feast of the Ascension to the following Sunday, and most of the United States has done that.

The most confusing aspect, I believe, was the determination of the U.S. bishops' conference that whenever Jan. 1, Aug. 15, or Nov. 1 falls on a Saturday or a Monday, the obligation to attend Mass is removed. As a pastor, I confess that each time this happens, I feel the need to review the regulation and explain it in our parish bulletin, because neither our parishioners nor I can seem to keep it straight.

Regretfully, I acknowledge your contention that Mass attendance is low on some of these holy days. In the fourth century, St. John Chrysostom lamented in a homily that "many people celebrate the holy days and know their names; but of their history, meaning, and origin, they know nothing." If we are to maintain the six holy days of obligation for the United States, we probably need to do a better job of explaining their meaning and their importance.

But we cannot exclude that possibility. It could be that praying for the living is part of their purification in readying themselves for the holiness of heaven. So I see no harm in asking for their prayers. If they are in purgatory, they might be able to pray for us; if they are already in heaven, they certainly can.

**Q.** If I recall correctly from grade school (60 years ago), the poor souls in purgatory cannot pray for

themselves, but they are able to pray for those still in the world. I have been asked on a number of occasions to say a few words at a funeral in honor of the deceased. Each time, I am moved to close my reflection with, "Pray for us (name of the deceased), now and at the hour of our death." Am I off-base? (Wauwatosa, Wisconsin)

**A.** Whether the souls in purgatory can, by their prayers, help those still on earth is an unsettled question in Catholic theology and a matter on which renowned theologians have differed. Thomas Aquinas held quite definitively that the poor souls could not help us, while Robert Bellarmine and Alphonsus Liguori believed that they could.

The section in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* that deals with purgatory (No. 1030-1032) makes no mention of the holy souls praying for us, and at no point does the liturgy of the church invoke their help.

But we cannot exclude that possibility. It could be that praying for the living is part of their purification in readying themselves for the holiness of heaven. So I see no harm in asking for their prayers. If they are in purgatory, they might be able to pray for us; if they are already in heaven, they certainly can.

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

## St. Charles ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in graduation test scores

Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, with an adjusted performance index score of 116.5, ranked first overall among all 1,008 high schools in Ohio which were included in an analysis of Ohio Graduation Test scores by Gerber Analytics, LLC, of Columbus. The analysis was based on an adjusted version of a state performance standard for all five portions of the March 2014 OGT.

The performance index score was developed by the Ohio Department of Education to measure the achievement of every student, regardless of his or her level of proficiency. It is calculated by using a weighted average of individual student performance levels on the state achievement and graduation tests for grades three through eight and for grade 10.

The Gerber adjusted version of the

score mimics the state calculation, but calculates the number only for 10th-graders. It also includes an adjusted score for private schools, which the state does not provide. A score of 120 is considered to be perfect.

St. Charles' adjusted scores in four of the five test categories – reading, math, science, and social studies – ranked first overall in the state. The school was ranked eighth by Gerber in the writing portion of the test.

This is the eighth year Gerber Analytics has examined performance of all Ohio public, private, and charter high schools on the test, and the second year it has displayed statewide rankings for each school. The current OGT is being phased out and replaced by new examinations. This year's high-school sophomores will be the last to take the current test.

## Centering Prayer Workshop

An Introduction to Centering Prayer workshop will take place from 12:15 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17 at the New Albany Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road.

The workshop, sponsored by Contemplative Outreach Ltd., will be presented by Carol Lepley and Adele Sheffieck, commissioned presenters for the organization.

Centering prayer is a method of

silent prayer which prepares people to receive the gift of contemplative prayer and to experience God's presence within themselves. This method of prayer is both a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship.

The cost of the workshop is \$15. To register by Monday, Jan. 12, call the church at (614) 855-1400 or email Suanne Gettings at SGettings@cotma.org.



### Catholic Consumerism: Solidarity

By **Stephanie Rapp**

**Catholic Relief Services Fair Trade Ambassador**

As God's children, we are part of a family and called to live in solidarity with others, including our families, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and people that we have never met. This also includes people of different faiths, ethnicities, and backgrounds. Pope John Paul II, in his encyclical "Sollicitudo Rei Socialis," states, "Solidarity then is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far. On the contrary, it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good; that is to say to the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all." When purchasing Fair Trade products, we are standing in solidarity with others. This week, learn about BREAD (Building Responsibility, Equality, And Dignity), a local organization aimed at bringing various people of faith together to promote justice in Columbus.

Read the Bible!

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By Loren Brown



## A Christmas gift that builds amazing parishes

As we celebrate Christmas and look forward to the Epiphany, many of us exchange gifts with loved ones, close friends, and even strangers in need. The Advent and Christmas season was especially joyful at The Catholic Foundation this year. Just before Advent, we received a special gift that has the potential to impact thousands of people in our diocese. It is a gift that could ignite transformational change in our parishes.

You see, we are very blessed and honored to spend time with so many of our pastors and priests throughout the year. We are quite familiar with the many hats that they wear, and we see firsthand how they are pulled in many directions, from spiritual leader to business manager to on-call confidante. I often think of what the Foundation might do to lighten their load or give them some relief.

When asked, many of the pastors indicate that they need help with involving the laity in parish operations or with developing strategies for a stronger parish community. In fact, The Catholic Foundation's own pastors advisory council asked us to look for ways we can assist with these very things. Ultimately, they see the Foundation's role as supporting them as they seek to inspire the faithful to get involved.

Recently, the advisory council came across a great resource to help in achieving this goal: the Amazing Parish conference. I attended the inaugural conference, along with Father David Sizemore of Sunbury St. John Neumann Church and his staff, this past August. The conference was an extraordinary opportunity to experience a movement of parishes who want to provide amazing ministry to those they serve. The conference featured best practices from parishes across the nation that are growing, and ways to use those strategies in our own parishes. The conference not only presented important and challenging ideas,

but guided the parish leadership teams in the creation of a plan that they could take back to their parish and use to make it more amazing.

When news came of a second Amazing Parish conference in April, our pastors were thoroughly excited and invigorated by the thought of attending. It wouldn't come easily, though, as the conference is in Denver, and the cost of airfare alone would be prohibitive for many. However, I knew the Foundation didn't want to let this opportunity slip away from our pastors.

In speaking with some of the Foundation's loyal supporters, we came up with a plan. Thanks to the generosity of donors who also believe in this opportunity, The Catholic Foundation is offering 20 grants to attend the conference. Each \$3,500 grant will pay for the cost of registration and airfare for a pastor and as many as four of his team members.

By providing the resources for as many as 100 people to attend this conference, we expect thousands of people to grow in their faith journey as our pastors and their teams bring home new ideas and strategies to share with their parishes. This truly is a wonderful Christmas gift, and I can't thank our donors enough.

I hope this is just one of many future major initiatives that The Catholic Foundation can use to support our pastors and priests. With your help, the Foundation can provide funding to help our parishes grow and strengthen their communities in whatever way is best for them. It is up to the parishes to determine what that looks like, but with your help, The Catholic Foundation can help make their vision a reality.

As you make your resolutions for 2015, I encourage you each to consider whether you can do more to support your parish and other Catholic ministries as part of your estate planning. Most of our parishes and Catholic ministries already benefit from endowment funds administered by The Catholic Foundation, and if yours is not one of them, we can help you set one up. We also have several field of interest funds that help to provide grants for special projects and initiatives such as the Amazing Parish conference. Please pray about making a contribution to one of our many funds, and call us at (614) 443-8893 if you need any guidance.

I wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. God bless you.

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

### Len Barbe, CFP®, CRPC®

Wealth Management Advisor  
Portfolio Manager, PIA Program  
614.825.4048 • 800.254.6671  
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ARTRNKJ | AD-10-141107 | 470944PM-0314 | 11/2014



# HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS THROUGHOUT THE DIOCESE

Worthington St. Michael School hosted its annual St. Nicholas Day celebration on Friday, Dec. 5. Students donated more than 700 hats, scarves, and gloves, which were divided among the St. Vincent de Paul Society's Sponsor-A-Family program, the St. Francis Center in Vinton County, West Portsmouth Our Lady of Sorrows Church, and the Holy Family Soup Kitchen and Ministries in Columbus. "St. Nicholas" (parent volunteer Larry Hanna) is pictured with helpers Grace Lensmire and Keegan Keller, who handed out holy cards with the saint's image. Photo courtesy St. Michael School



Students at Delaware St. Mary School had a visit from St. Nicholas on the day before his Dec. 6 feast day. Each class in the school read stories and studied the history of the saint and shared their knowledge with him. Pictured are teacher Paula Bevins and her first-grade class. Photo courtesy St. Mary School



Members of Cardington Sacred Hearts Church took part in a live Nativity tableau in downtown Cardington, where they were joined by members of other churches from throughout Morrow County. Sacred Hearts Church is the only Catholic church serving Morrow County. Its church building burned to the ground on Thanksgiving Day 2013, and the parish is actively raising funds in hopes of beginning construction of a new church in the spring of 2015. Photo courtesy Sacred Hearts Church



About six years ago, Amy Knight of Columbus St. Francis of Assisi Church saw a three-piece Nativity set made out of gourds from Peru on display at a local shop. The self-taught artist and longtime preschool teacher (pictured with her work) thought she'd like to make something similar, and began with gourds she formed into Mary, Joseph, and the infant Jesus.

Then she found a long, thin gourd which reminded her of a giraffe, which is not an animal one would usually find in a Nativity scene, but that was no problem. She decided she would create an African-themed Nativity, and it's been growing ever since. Knight originally made the scene for her living room, but a friend persuaded her to display it at her parish in 2010. It has returned there every year afterward, and has kept growing.

The original display had about 25 animals, five angels, three kings, and the Holy Family. Today, it includes about 65 animals, 11 angels, three shepherds, a camel herder, the Holy Family, the three kings, and an Egyptian queen to represent the flight of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph into Egypt. Animals in the scene include a hippo, gazelle, wildebeest, snake, zebra, baboon, and meerkat. This year's additions are a marabou stork, honey badger, and vulture.

Knight did woodburn details in all the figures, but used no paint, dye, or stain. All the materials are as natural as possible, except for the gourds representing the kings' gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The Nativity scene is in the basement of the church, at 386 Buttles Ave. in Victorian Village, and may be viewed after Masses at 9 and 11 a.m. Sunday and 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and by appointment on weekdays through Sunday, Jan. 4, the Feast of the Epiphany. Call the church office at (614) 299-5781 for more information. CT photos by Tim Puef



## Give the gift of "presence" this Christmas

By Sister Constance Veit, LSP

Christmas is the feast of encounter, the celebration of God's love and nearness. "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth," we read in St. John's Gospel. God became one of us! He united himself to every man, woman, and child in every time and place in Jesus Christ, the sacrament of our encounter with God.

Jesus' coming among us in the Incarnation is the ultimate encounter, but the Gospels also present the Nativity as a time full of meaningful human encounters.

The first to meet the newborn infant and his parents were the shepherds. They represent the simple and lowly of this world, who are receptive to the Good News because they recognize their poverty and their need for God. The Magi who came from the East represent those with wealth, social standing, or fame. But the Magi, too, were inwardly seized by God and possessed the humility born of faith, which gave them the courage to leave all and undertake a long and arduous journey into the unknown.

The Christmas season traditionally comes to a close with the feast of Jesus' Presentation in the Temple, the day when Mary and Joseph brought their Son to the Temple for the first time, where they were greeted by the elderly prophets Simeon



and Anna. For me, these two figures have always symbolized the countless elderly residents of our homes, who live far from the public eye, but who lift up the world with their sincere, faith-filled prayers.

Unfortunately, many contemporary Simeons and Annas will spend this Christmas alone. In some cases, they have outlived their loved ones, while in others, they have essentially been forgotten by children and grandchildren who are all too caught

up in the material pursuits that have come to define the Christmas season in our culture. The irony is that not only do the elderly deserve our attention and care, but spending time with them would enrich us with the gifts that really matter – unconditional love, wisdom, patience, and kindness.

I would like to suggest that this Christmas, we focus more on 'presence' than 'presents,' especially in our relationships with the elderly. Whether we consider ourselves poor shepherds or kings of privilege, we have something to give, and much to receive, from our encounters with the elderly.

Here are five practical suggestions for this Christmas season and the new year:

- ◆ Offer to help an elderly relative or neighbor decorate for Christmas, or offer to drive them to

church for all the important celebrations of the holiday season.

- ◆ Bring a home-cooked meal to an elderly relative or neighbor and take the time to enjoy it with them. Even better, give them the "homemade dinner of the month club" for the coming year.

- ◆ Similarly, give older people a "movie of the month club" by joining them at home once a month for one of their favorite old movies. If your older friend or relative lives in a senior care facility, offer to sponsor a monthly movie night for a group of residents.

- ◆ Offer to complete some much-needed home repairs for an elderly loved one or neighbor.

- ◆ Ask an older person to teach you how to knit, crochet, bake, or play a favorite card game. Giving them the opportunity to share their experience and expertise will bring them much joy.

- ◆ Help a grandparent compile family photos into an album, photo book, or video that could be shared with the family as a Christmas gift. You would be helping to create a precious family heirloom.

In giving the gift of 'presence' rather than 'presents,' you will nurture a spirituality of encounter between the generations by reaching out to the elders in your midst. In doing so, you will make love incarnate in your midst, and that is what Christmas is all about!

*Sister Constance Veit is director of communications for the Little Sisters of the Poor.*



## BISHOP READY ANGEL TREE

Columbus Bishop Ready High School Student Council members are pictured with some of the gifts they were collected as part of the council's Angel Tree project. In conjunction with the Salvation Army, the students collected toys and clothes for children ages one through 14. The gifts, two for each child, were distributed in the Columbus area.

Photo courtesy Bishop Ready High School





BY TIM PUET, *Catholic Times* Reporter

# YEAR IN REVIEW

Among the highlights of the year 2014 in the Diocese of Columbus was the arrival of another order of sisters in the diocese. Three members of the Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, which is based in India, took up residence during the summer in the convent at Chillicothe St. Mary Church and began evangelizing in Ross and Pike counties.

This was the third convent to be established in the diocese in two years. Members of the Dominican Sisters of the Immaculate Conception have been living in a converted residence at 957 E. Broad St. in Columbus since September 2013 and working in various locations in and near downtown.

Three sisters from the Missionary Servants of the Word established the order's second Columbus convent later that year at Columbus Christ the King Church, where they are working with the parish's

large Latino population. Other sisters from that order have been at Columbus St. Stephen Church since 2009 and have been joined there by priests from that order. The parish previously had been staffed by diocesan priests.

A community of six Franciscan Brothers Minor who had been living in Columbus for two years, first at St. James the Less Church and then at Our Lady of Peace Church, moved to South Bend, Indiana, following the end of the school year at the Pontifical College Josephinum, where some of the brothers had been studying for the priesthood.

Brother Giles Mary, FFM, said that although Our Lady of Peace is only five miles from the Josephinum, the commuting time between the two sites, compounded by Interstate 270 construction near the college, made it too hard for the brothers to attend classes full-time while maintaining the prayer life called for in

the Rule of St. Francis. He said that the trip between their new church home and Holy Cross College in Notre Dame, Indiana, where the brothers now are studying, is much more manageable.

It was a year of significant change for Columbus Holy Cross Church, the oldest church in the diocese. The church was closed for about two months late in the year. Activities which normally take place there were moved to St. Joseph Cathedral, allowing work on the 181-year-old church to proceed faster. The floor in the church's nave was replaced, pews were renovated, new wainscoting was placed in some areas, an LED lighting system was installed, and some painting and carpeting improvements were made.

The work did not affect the daily food distribution at St. Lawrence Haven, located in the old Holy Cross School next to the church. The improvements were completed by mid-December, in time for the Filipino Catholic community's annual eight-day *Simbang Gabi* celebration leading up to Christmas.

It was announced in September that the cathedral and Holy Cross would be clustered because of demographic changes and changes in the number of priests available to serve the diocese. Father Mi-



**Left: Cristo Rey High School's permanent location at the former Ohio State School for the Deaf in downtown Columbus.**  
CT photo by Jack Kustron

**Right: A drawing of St. Vincent Family Center's proposed 21,000-square-foot addition.**  
Graphic courtesy St. Vincent Family Center

**Far right: Bishop Campbell, Father John Bakle, SM, and parishioners break ground for the new Cardington Sacred Hearts Church.**  
Photo courtesy Sacred Hearts Church



**Father Vincent Nguyen (left) and Father Cyrus Haddad were ordained as priests by Bishop Frederick Campbell on May 24 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.**  
CT photo by Ken Snow



**Bishop Campbell and Father William Hahn, pastor of Chillicothe St. Peter Church, are shown with members of the Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.**  
CT photo by Tim Puet

chael Lumpe, rector of the cathedral, was assigned by Bishop Frederick Campbell as pastor at Holy Cross. Fathers Ramon Owera, CFIC, and Augustine Okpe are in residence at Holy Cross, and Fathers Paul Noble and Hilary Ike reside at the cathedral.

Clustering began in July at Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul and Danville St. Luke churches and the Church of the Ascension in Johnstown, where Father Mark Hammond is serving as pastor and Father Vincent Nguyen as parochial vicar. There are now 21 parish clusters among the 106 parishes of the diocese, with more to occur as necessary to address changing diocesan demographics, resources, and needs.

Ground was broken Oct. 1 for the new Cardington Sacred Hearts Church and attached hall, which will replace a building that burned down on Thanksgiving Day of 2013. The parish is about \$225,000 short

of raising the funds needed to cover the \$2.3 million cost of the building. About \$1.2 million was received in an insurance settlement, the parish had \$100,000 in reserve funds, and gifts and pledges from parishioners and others totaled about \$775,000 as of mid-December.

London St. Patrick Church's new parish activity and recreational center was dedicated in January. The \$1.8 million project, paid for through donations from parish funds and the return of Bishop's Annual Appeal funds raised by the parish in excess of its goal, includes a gymnasium large enough for the parish to host Diocesan Recreation Association events, a stage, a concession area, and rest rooms.

St. Vincent Family Center in Columbus broke ground for a 21,000-square-foot addition that will include 17 classrooms for children who attend school at the center, where they receive treatment for behavioral problems. Small, inadequate-

ly lit rooms will be replaced with larger rooms and natural lighting, and the addition will include a courtyard with a therapeutic play area for children ages three to five.

Catholic Social Services combined with the St. Vincent de Paul Society and local parishes to combine all Catholic outreach services in the Scioto County area under one roof, opening the Mercy House Outreach Center at the former St. Joseph Monastery in Portsmouth on Oct. 1.

Services offered there include emergency food assistance, clothing, counseling, and other programs staffed by parish volunteers. In addition, Catholic Social Services' Portsmouth office will be at the site.

Cristo Rey High School students began classes in their permanent home, the former Ohio State School for the Deaf in downtown Columbus. A class of 122 freshmen joined 73 sophomores who had attended classes for a year at a temporary

location in the former Diocesan Child Guidance Center. Those two classes will be joined by two more in the next two years. School officials anticipate the building will house 400 to 500 students by the fall of 2016, with Cristo Rey's first class scheduled to graduate in 2017.

Joseph Brettnacher was appointed as episcopal moderator for education and superintendent of schools for the diocese. Brettnacher has more than 20 years of experience as an administrator in public and Catholic schools and came to Columbus from Lafayette, Indiana, where he was principal/president of Central Catholic Junior/Senior High School for nine years. He replaced Lucia McQuaide, who retired after 16 years as superintendent, 12 years as assistant superintendent, and more than 35 years with the diocesan Schools Office.

Dr. Christine Wynd became president and dean of the Mount Carmel College of

Nursing on July 31. Wynd, who had been dean of the nursing school at Ursuline College in suburban Cleveland, succeeded Dr. Ann Schiele, who had been with the Mount Carmel Health System for 52 years, 48 of them with the college. Schiele, now the institution's president emeritus, became its president and dean in 1990 at the time of its transition from a diploma-granting nursing school to a degree-granting college. At the time of her retirement, she was the longest-serving college or university president in Ohio.

Michael Stickle of Newark Blessed Sacrament Church was selected as diocesan Catholic Man of the Year by the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club for his multiple activities and maintenance work for the parish and his assistance in helping the Children of Mary com-

See REVIEW, Page 12







### HOLIDAY PROJECTS

December was a very productive, very busy month at Wellston Sts. Peter & Paul School. At the beginning of the month, Student Council sponsored a collection of canned and nonperishable food items, which resulted in the donation of 14 boxes of food items to the St. Francis Center in McArthur. The following week, first- and second-graders baked cookies, made gift bags, and filled containers. Teacher Dana Wiseman is pictured with some of the 20 students, who produced 20 care bags for the Shepherd's House domestic violence shelter in McArthur, more than 50 candy jar favors for J-VAC Industries in Wellston, which works with adults with special needs, more than 20 cards for soldiers, more than four dozen cookies for law enforcement, and seven blankets for Nationwide Children's Hospital. In the third week of December, students collected donations of new and gently used pajamas that were given to Shepherd's House.



Photos courtesy Sts. Peter & Paul School

### REVIEW, continued from Page 11

munity in rural Licking County build its chapel and retreat center.

The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women presented its Catholic Woman of the Year award to Colleen Gomez of Columbus St. James the Less Church, who has worked extensively with the parish's immigrant families and helped create a service learning network for diocesan schools. Maya Lea Steller of Columbus St. Timothy Church was selected as Catholic Young Woman of the Year for her volunteer work with the parish, Columbus Bishop Watterson High School, and the Diocesan Youth Council.

A former rector-president of the Pontifical College Josephinum was installed as archbishop of Chicago on Nov. 18. Bishop Blase Cupich of Spokane, Washington, who led the Jo-

sephinum from 1989-96, succeeded Cardinal Francis George as spiritual leader of the 2.2 million Catholics in the Chicago Archdiocese.

Bishop Campbell ordained two new priests for the Diocese of Columbus at St. Joseph Cathedral on May 24. Father Cyrus Haddad is parochial vicar at Hilliard St. Brendan Church, and Father Vincent Nguyen is parochial vicar of the new Knox-Licking Consortium of Catholic Churches in Mount Vernon, Danville, and Utica.

Father Paul Shelton, SJ, a Columbus native, was ordained a Jesuit priest on June 7 at the Church of the Gesu in Milwaukee by retired Milwaukee Auxiliary Bishop Richard Skiba. He is stationed at St. Procopius Church, which serves a primarily Mexican-American congregation in the Pilsen neighborhood of Chicago.

## IN MEMORIAM - DIOCESAN RELIGIOUS WHO DIED IN 2014



Msgr. Anthony Borrelli



Father Richard J. Pendolphi



Father Robert E. Gately



Msgr. Ralph J. Huntzinger



Father William J. Metzger



Deacon Francis X. Ball

**Msgr. Anthony Borrelli**, 83, died on Thursday, April 24, about a month after his 60th anniversary as a priest of the diocese.

The native of Italy served in various positions on the diocesan Tribunal from 1953 until 2010. He also was pastor of Columbus St. Catharine (1978-88) and co-pastor (1988-91) and pastor (1991-2001) of Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona.

**Father Richard J. Pendolphi**, 64, who had been a priest of the diocese for 27 years and with the PIME missionary order for 10 years, died on May 23.

He had been priest moderator of Columbus St. Agnes and St. Aloysius churches since September 2012 and was pastor at Logan St. John (1990-2002) and Worthington St. Michael (2002-12).

**Father Robert E. Gately**, 89, who was originally ordained for the Diocese of Columbus and spent most of his career in the military and in Florida, died on June 9 in Sun City Center, Florida.

He was a priest for 62 years, serving in the Columbus area from 1952-58. He spent 21 years as a chaplain with the Navy and the Marine Corps, includ-

ing a tour with the aircraft carrier USS Oriskany in the Gulf of Tonkin during the Vietnam War. After retiring from the military in 1979, he served as a retreat director in Spokane, Washington, and at several parishes in Florida.

**Msgr. Ralph J. Huntzinger**, 89, a priest for 64 years, died on July 30.

He was pastor at Columbus St. Mary from 1979-94 and spent several years as an educator, serving as a teacher at the former St. Charles Seminary in Columbus from 1954-55 and 1956-68 and principal there from 1968-71, and as spiritual director and pastoral activities director at the Pontifical College Josephinum from 1971-79.

**Father William J. Metzger**, 77, died on Nov. 4.

He was a priest for 51 years, serving as pastor at Columbus Holy Rosary (1972-76), LaRue St. Joseph (1976-81), Waverly St. Mary (1985-98), and Dresden St. Ann and Mattingly Settlement St. Mary (1998-2001).

**Father Joseph C. Burns, OP**, 86 died on Sept. 25 at the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus, where he resided for the last few months of his life. He was a Dominican priest for 60 years,

serving in a variety of roles which included conducting parish missions for 20 years. He spent most of the last 20 years of his priesthood at Cincinnati St. Gertrude Church.

**Brother Nathan M. Cochran, OSB**, 57, a Marion native, died on July 30.

He was a Benedictine monk at St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, for 31 years, serving as curator for its art collections from 1983 until his death and holding a number of other teaching and administrative positions at the archabbey and its affiliated seminary and college.

**Deacon Francis X. (Frank) Ball**, 81, died on Oct. 2.

He had been a deacon for 33 years, serving with a family life ministry at Chillicothe St. Mary, Chillicothe St. Peter, Circleville St. Joseph, and Waverly St. Mary churches from his ordination until 1987, then at Columbus St. Elizabeth Church until retiring from active ministry in 2006.

Religious sisters who died in 2014 or late 2013 and served in or were natives of the Diocese of Columbus, or who were living in the diocese at the time of their death, were:

**Sister Mary Agnes McMahon, OP**, 95, Dec. 27, 1913; **Sister Rose Clement Stalter, OP**, 91, March 25; **Sister Michele Ryan, OP**, 89, April 5; **Sister Theresa Jane Bellner, CSC**, 89, April 15; **Sister Catherine Allen, OP**, 82, April 20; **Sister Bettina Mollica, OP**, 74, May 16; **Sister Corinne Halsema, OSF**, 87, June 21; **Sister Anne White, OP**, 86, June 21; **Sister Jeremy Lawlor, OP**, 77, June 27; **Sister Loretta Petersen, OSF**, 87, July 15; **Sister Laurene Hagman, OP**, 82, July 16; **Sister Marjorie Suttmiller, SNDdeN**, 91, Aug. 9; **Sister Mary Olivieri, OSF**, 86, Aug. 17; **Sister Charles Marie Brantl, OP**, 85, Aug. 21; **Sister Irene Euman, OP**, 85, Aug. 28; **Sister Mary Goretti Campbell, PCJ**, 95, Aug. 29; **Sister Sarah Doran, OSF**, 98, Sept. 19; **Sister Sharon Kerscher, OSF**, 88, Sept. 24; **Sister Paulette Boll, OP**, 88, Nov. 8; **Sister Mary Dorothy LeDiard, SNDdeN**, 98, Nov. 8; **Sister Nancy McAward, OP**, 82, Nov. 14; **Sister Rita Agnes Masse, OP**, 93, Nov. 16; **Sister Mary Michael Spangler, OP**, 90, Nov. 22; **Sister Patricia McNamee, SNDdeN**, 84, Dec. 11.



## Happy New Year from Ohio Dominican



The Ohio Dominican University family sends you and your loved ones best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2015.

We hope to see you on campus in the new year. Ohio Dominican is the Columbus diocese's only Catholic university. Here, students connect their passion with a purpose. Schedule a tour at [ohiodominican.edu/Admissions\\_Visit](http://ohiodominican.edu/Admissions_Visit).

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THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION

## PILGRIMAGE

Retrace the footsteps of Jesus with a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2015, with Father Joseph Klee, priest in residence at Columbus Sacred Heart Church, as the chaplain.

The journey will include visits to Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Galilee, the *Via Crucis*, the location of the Last Supper, Gethsemane, the place of the Assumption, Nativity Church, and Capernaum.

Dates are Aug. 26-Sept. 5, and the cost is \$3,999 per person, airfare included. To register, call (855) 842-8001 toll-free, or (508) 340-9370, or register online at [www.proximo-travel.com](http://www.proximo-travel.com).



## THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Coshocton Sacred Heart School students presented "The Christmas Story (Through the Eyes of the Friendly Beasts)" on Wednesday, Dec. 17. Participants included (from left): first row, Paige Stone, Jillian Given, Danna Stewart, and Julian Rivera; second row, Jackson Smith, Jaden Everhart and Collin Ladrach; third row, Jonathan Vu, Camille Yutzy, Kamry Tubbs, Kyrstin Bailey, and Seth Brown; and fourth row, Cassie Johnson, O'Ryhin Hoist, and Sophia Dotson.

Photo courtesy Sacred Heart School



## Feast of the Holy Family (Cycle B)

### Abraham, Simeon, and Anna: models of faith



Father  
Lawrence L. Hummer

December 28

Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3 Hebrews 11:8,11,12,17-19

Luke 2:22-40

All too often on this feast, the readings include the infamous words from Colossians: “Wives, be submissive to your husbands.” Because they are still a possible selection, some parishes may hear those readings proclaimed. Year B assigns Genesis and Hebrews as the first two readings, to the great relief of those who preach on the readings, and likely to the wives who hear them.

We hear from Genesis too rarely as it is. Today, we jump from chapter 15 to chapter 21 in the blink of an eye, leaving out some key passages in the process. The intention of the *Lectio* is to get from point A to point B in the quickest way possible. Thus, Genesis 15 begins with the Lord promising Abram offspring as numerous as the stars in the sky: “Abram put his trust in the Lord, who credited it to him as an act of righteousness.”

The *Lectio* then jumps to chapter 21, when Sarah becomes pregnant (at the age of 90!) and bears their son, Isaac. What is missing between chapters 15 and 21 is some of the most enjoyable material of the entire Abraham cycle. A quick sketch includes the covenant between the Lord and Abram; the whole Hagar story and her son, Ishmael; Abram’s name change to Abraham; the origin of circumcision; Abraham’s plea bargaining over the fate of Sodom and Gomorrah; Lot’s deliverance; and the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Like all family sagas, that of Abraham is filled with highs and lows. Heroic tales of faith on the one hand are balanced by dramatic failures on the other. One of the beauties of the book of Genesis is the unfolding

(one might even suggest the unraveling) of the human family (warts and all) that makes up the Abraham saga, with the lone figure of Abraham staying the course of righteous faith, no matter what happens.

The unknown author of the letter to the Hebrews was sufficiently impressed by Abraham’s faith that he used him as an example of one who demonstrated his faith. According to the author of Hebrews, faith “is the realization of things hoped for and evidence of things not seen (Hebrews 11:1).” Abraham was a model believer, according to this definition of faith. Many other people from the Old Testament are cited in this same chapter as exemplars of faith.

The Gospel from Luke brings together other examples of faith in connection with the presentation of the child Jesus at the Temple in Jerusalem: the prophet Simeon and the prophetess Anna. They will testify in various ways about the child and his future.

At the beginning of the scene, Luke cites a requirement from the Law of Moses, actually a collection from Exodus (13:2, 12, and 15) about consecration of a first-born son. None of these required a visit to the Temple, but these instructions were all part of the pre-Temple era. Leviticus 12:8 included the mention of turtledoves or pigeons, but in connection with purifying a woman who had given birth. There is no dictate of the Law regarding presenting the firstborn child in the Temple, nor did Jewish women have to be pronounced purified at the Temple in Jerusalem. Father Raymond Brown concludes that Luke confused the laws of purification of the mother and the presentation of the child (*The Birth of the Messiah*, page 447). We must agree.

The presentation of the child Jesus is used here as a symbol of his later encounters with the Temple, and all it represented for Judaism and for Jesus. In the words of Simeon, the child, not the Temple, will be understood as “a light for revelation to the Gentiles and glory for your people Israel.”

**Father Hummer, pastor at Chillicothe St. Mary Church, may be reached at hummerl@stmarychillicothe.com.**

#### St. Brigid Open House

Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare School, 7179 Avery Road, recently chosen as a Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education, will host an open house from noon to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25.

Guided tours for parents and prospective students will display the school’s 21st-century learning environments and show how the school integrates academic excellence and Catholic teaching to provide a quality education in a warm environment.

Please RSVP by visiting [www.stbrigidokildare.com](http://www.stbrigidokildare.com) and clicking “RSVP for Open House.”

#### The Weekday Bible Readings

12/29-1/3

MONDAY  
1 John 2:3-11  
Psalm 96:1-3,5b-6  
Luke 2:22-35

TUESDAY  
1 John 2:12-17  
Psalm 96:7-10  
Luke 2:36-40

WEDNESDAY  
1 John 2:18-21  
Psalm 96:1-2, 11-13  
John 1:1-18

THURSDAY  
Numbers 6:22-27  
Psalm 67:2-3,5,6,8  
Galatians 4:4-7  
Luke 2:16-21

FRIDAY  
1 John 2:22-28  
Psalm 98:1-4  
John 1:19-28

SATURDAY  
1 John 2:29-3:6  
Psalm 98:1,3cd-4,5-6  
John 1:29-34

1/5-1/10

MONDAY  
1 John 3:22-4:6  
Psalm 2:7bc-8,10-12a  
Matthew 4:12-17,23-25

TUESDAY  
1 John 4:7-10  
Psalm 72:1-4,7-8  
Mark 6:34-44

WEDNESDAY  
1 John 4:11-18  
Psalm 72:1-2,10,12-13  
Mark 6:45-52

THURSDAY  
1 John 4:19-5:4  
Psalm 72:1-2,14,15bc,17  
Luke 4:14-22a

FRIDAY  
1 John 5:5-13  
Psalm 147:12-15,19-20  
Luke 5:12-16

SATURDAY  
1 John 5:14-21  
Psalm 149:1-6a,9b  
John 3:22-30

#### DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEKS OF DEC. 28, 2014 AND JAN. 4, 2015

##### SUNDAY MASS

10:30 a.m. Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (820 AM), Columbus, and at [www.stgabrielradio.com](http://www.stgabrielradio.com). Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 7:30 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus, and 10:30 a.m. on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18, Zanesville. Check local cable systems for 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).

##### 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 Sanctoral and Seasonal Propers or Week I (after Jan. 1) of the Liturgy of the Hours

## Francis, filtered



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE  
George Weigel

About a year ago, I suggested to one of the top editors of a major American newspaper that his journal’s coverage of things papal left something to be desired, as it seemed based on the assumption that Pope Francis was some kind of radical wild man, eager to toss into the garbage bin of history all those aspects of Catholic faith and practice that mainstream Western culture finds distasteful. My friend replied, in so many words, “Look, you know how these media narratives are: they’re like bamboo. Once they get started, there’s no stopping them. They just keep growing.”

Alas, he was right. And while there’s been a lot of talk about the “Francis Effect,” it’s worth pondering, on the Holy Father’s 78th birthday, the Francis Filtration.

The Francis Filtration began in earnest during an impromptu news conference in the papal plane while the pope was en route home from World Youth Day 2013 in Rio de Janeiro. That event produced the single-most quoted line of the pontificate: “Who am I to judge?” But as the retired archbishop of Chicago, Cardinal Francis George, pointed out in a pre-retirement interview with John Allen, that sound bite “has been very misused ... because he was talking about someone who has already asked for mercy and been given absolution. ... That’s entirely different than talking (about) someone who demands acceptance rather than asking for forgiveness” (for the record, the entire quote, which is almost never cited, was “Who am I to judge them if they’re seeking the Lord in good faith?”).

But as my journalist friend suggested, the “bamboo” shoot of “Who am I to judge?” has continued to grow,

until it’s now a virtual bamboo curtain. And what’s being filtered out? All the things the pope says that don’t fit the now-established “narrative” of “humane, progressive pope vs. meanie reactionary bishops and hidebound Catholic traditionalists.”

Things like what?

Well, things like the pope’s passionate defense of marriage as the stable union of a man and a woman, which he underscored in an address to the Schoenstatt movement right after the 2014 extraordinary synod of bishops, and in his keynote address to a November interreligious conference at the Vatican on the crisis of marriage in the 21st century.

And things like the pope’s defense of the Gospel of Life, a persistent theme in his November address to the European Parliament. The press reports I read focused on Francis’ concerns for immigrants and the unemployed. Fair enough; that was certainly in the text. But what about the Holy Father’s defense of those whom indifference condemns to loneliness or death, “as in the case of the terminally ill, the elderly who are abandoned or uncared for, and children who are

killed in the womb?” What about his insistence that “Europe,” past, present, and future, makes no sense without Christianity? What about his condemnation of those who subject Christians “to barbaric acts of violence” and his plea for support for those Christians who are “evicted from their homes and native lands, sold as slaves, killed, beheaded, crucified or burned alive, under the shameful and complicit silence of so many?” You didn’t read much about that, did you?

Nor did you read (unless you read the pope’s text himself) that Francis, having made a plea for environmental stewardship, went on to “emphasize” (his word) that “along with an environmental ecology, there is also need of a human ecology which consists in respect for the person.”

Another aspect of Pope Francis’ preaching that’s been too often filtered out of the coverage of his pontificate involves (if you’ll pardon the term) demonology. No pope in decades has so regularly referred to Satan. The Evil One is no abstraction to this pontiff, nor does he think of “satanic” as a rhetorical intensifier to underscore one’s disapproval of, say, Hitler. Satan and his minions are very real to Pope Francis. It would be interesting for an enterprising reporter to draw him out on the subject in one of those freewheeling papal press conferences.

The Francis Filter may be bamboo. But if it keeps growing, so will the distortions that bamboo curtain creates.

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

#### Movie and Discussion

The Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus, will present “A Reading of the Letter from Birmingham Jail,” a nonfiction film featuring central Ohio residents, at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 8.

The film by Jamaal Bell commemorates an open letter written to his fellow clergy members on April 16, 1963, by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., who was imprisoned in the Birmingham, Alabama, city jail at the time for his participation in nonviolent demonstrations against segregation.

The letter defends the strategy of nonviolent resistance to racial discrimination, arguing that people have a moral responsibility to break unjust laws. It was given widespread publication and became a key text for the American civil rights movement of the early 1960s. It will be read in the film by Columbus community leaders and educators from The Ohio State University.

Following the movie, Bell will lead a discussion on the film and on civil rights issues past and present. A free-will offering to support the work of the Corpus Christi center will be taken. Call (614) 512-3731 or email [corpuschristicenterofpeace@gmail.com](mailto:corpuschristicenterofpeace@gmail.com) for more information.

#### Bishop Campbell visits Logan St. John students

**Bishop Frederick Campbell visited Logan St. John School in mid-December. School principal Sharon Elder said the bishop requested the visit because he did not get to spend very much time with St. John students at the Mass in October for students from the Fairfield-Hocking Deanery. The bishop went to each of the classrooms to see what the students were learning and to answer questions. The kindergarten class had made an Advent calendar for the hallway bulletin board and had a picture of**



**Bishop Campbell on the block for Dec. 15, the date of the visit. One of the first-grade students showed the bishop the first-place plaque the school won at the Logan Christmas parade. A third-grade student told the bishop about the school being chosen to sing at Christmas at Ash Cave. The students also talked about what they were learning in each subject.**

Photo courtesy St. John School

#### Part-Time Housekeeper

The Pontifical College Josephinum, a Roman Catholic Seminary located in Columbus, Ohio is in need of a part-time housekeeper to work 18-19 hours/week in the evenings from Monday to Friday. Responsibilities include:

- Sweeping, mopping and waxing floors
- Emptying trash
- Moving furniture, equipment

We require previous experience in a custodial/housekeeping environment. The successful candidate must be dependable, have a good attitude and possess stamina. If interested, please respond with a resume and salary history by January 10, 2015 to:

**The Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43235, Attention: Housekeeping Supervisor.** Alternatively, you can email the information to: [gentry@pcj.edu](mailto:gentry@pcj.edu)



# Pray for our dead

ADAMS, Robert Jr., 83, Dec. 17  
St. James the Less Church, Columbus

ANDERSON, Clarence "Ted," 74, Dec. 12  
St. Mary Church, Marion

ARENA, Ann M., 91, Dec. 17  
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

BALDWIN, Ann, 80, Nov. 24  
St. Rose Church, New Lexington

BARBIER, Roy J., 95, Dec. 12  
St. Mary Church, Marion

BERGMAN, Helen "June," 89, Dec. 15  
St. Cecilia Church, Columbus

DESARRO, Ralph E., 82, Dec. 8  
Church of the Atonement, Crooksville

DeSENO, Mary L., 91, Dec. 13  
Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus

DORSETT, Betty S., 73, Dec. 14  
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

GILL, John E., 69, Dec. 4  
St. Monica Church, New Boston

GORDON, Sylvester, 89, Dec. 9  
St. Patrick Church, Junction City

HEMPFLING, Rosemary F., 78, Dec. 12  
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

JOHNSON, George R., 97, Dec. 17  
Our Lady of Peace Church, Columbus

KOUSKOURIS, Geraldine, 82, Dec. 15  
St. Michael Church, Worthington

KRAMER, Doris L., 84, Dec. 14  
St. Paul Church, Westerville

LAMBERT, Marjorie A., 84, Dec. 18  
Christ the King Church, Columbus

MANN, Gilda M. "Jill," 87, Dec. 14  
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

MANN, Patricia L., 85, Dec. 17  
St. Mary Church, Groveport

McMILLAN, Elizabeth R. "Bette," 92, Dec. 19  
Corpus Christi Church, Columbus

McTIGUE, Ethel A., 85, Dec. 15  
St. Paul Church, Westerville

MOWERY, Helen C., 91, Dec. 8  
St. Monica Church, New Boston

NOLL, Rita M., 90, Nov. 23  
St. Joseph Church, Somerset

POMPEY, William, 67, Nov. 30  
St. Bernard Church, Corning

ROBINE, Sue C., 91, Dec. 18  
St. Aloysius Church, Columbus

RUSSELL, Mariellen, 78, Dec. 16  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

SANDBERG, David, 62, Dec. 13  
St. Stephen Church, Columbus

SHANNON, John J., 97, formerly of Columbus, Dec. 17  
St. Anastasia Church, Newtown Square, Pa.

SHERMAN, Gertrude L., 82, Dec. 11  
St. Peter in Chains Church, Wheelersburg

SHONEBARGER, Philip J., 72, Dec. 15  
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

SKAGGS, Julie L., 56, Dec. 1  
St. Monica Church, New Boston

SOCHOR, Robert J., 89, Dec. 18  
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

STIRES, Janet W., 91, Dec. 14  
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

STRADLEY, Nanci M., 49, formerly of Columbus, Dec. 15  
St. Michael Church, Canton

TRAPP, Thomas D., 79, Dec. 18  
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

TREADWAY, John, 82, Dec. 17  
St. Rose Church, New Lexington

TURGEON, James P., 88, Dec. 12  
St. Joseph Church, Plain City

VALVANO, Salvatore A., 84, Dec. 14  
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

WHITE, John J., 81, Dec. 20  
St. Elizabeth Church, Columbus

WOHRLE, Paul F., 93, Dec. 20  
Corpus Christi Church, Columbus

WOOD, Richard G., 66, Dec. 18  
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

WOLF, Elizabeth J., 92, Dec. 15  
Holy Family Church, Columbus

## Sister Patricia McNamee, SNDdeN

Funeral Mass for Sister Patricia McNamee, SNDdeN, 84, who died Thursday, Dec. 11, was held Wednesday, Dec. 17 at the Mount Notre Dame Health Center in Cincinnati. Burial was at the cemetery of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur in Cincinnati.

She was born May 9, 1930, in Buchtel to the late James and Florence (Edgell) McNamee, and graduated from Logan St. John School and Columbus St. Joseph Academy. She received a bachelor of science degree in education from the former St. Mary of the Springs College (now Ohio Dominican University) in 1965, a master of education degree in curriculum and teaching strategies from Xavier University in 1972, and Montessori certification from DePaul University in 1986. She entered the Sisters of Mount

Notre Dame de Namur in Feb. 2, 1949, taking the name Sister Catherine James. She made her first profession of vows on Aug. 13, 1951, and her final profession on Aug. 13, 1956.

In the Diocese of Columbus, she served at Columbus St. Augustine School (1951-52), Columbus St. Christopher School (1952-60), Columbus Holy Cross School (January-June 1961), and the Notre Dame Reading Center (1982-83). She also taught in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and in Illinois and Tennessee, and took a leave from teaching from 1972-82 to care for her mother in Logan. She performed community service at the Mount Notre Dame convent from 1999-2001, then retired to a ministry of prayer.

She is survived by two brothers, James and Charles, and two nieces.

## Mount Carmel Fitness & Health Center

Mount Carmel Health System has signed an agreement with Power Wellness to manage the physical fitness facility within the MC Fitness & Health center under construction in Orange Township.

"We are extremely excited to be working with Power Wellness. They have extensive experience managing facilities that offer a blend of wellness, fitness, and medical care," said Claus von Zychlin, president and chief executive officer of Mount Carmel Health. "Together, Mount Carmel and Power Wellness will be able to offer an innovative resource for individuals living in the Delaware community to achieve their best health."

Power Wellness is a nationally recognized leader in providing management services customized for medically integrated centers such as MC Fitness & Health. Members of the Power Wellness team will develop a medical advisory board with Mount Carmel's clinical staff to design care and workout plans that meet the needs of specific patients.

"We bring nearly two decades of

experience in leading medically integrated fitness centers, and are eager to begin overseeing the facility within MC Fitness & Health," said Thomas Rhind, president of Power Wellness. "Mount Carmel and Power Wellness share the same goal of improving the health of the communities we serve."

The 130,000-square-foot center will offer the latest in fitness equipment, an indoor track, exercise studios, and a comprehensive aquatics program with a full-size competitive pool and spa. It also will include common areas for healthy lifestyle programs, community space for meetings, a demonstration kitchen, and a healthy food cafe.

In addition, it will house an urgent care center, primary care and specialty physician offices, a lab, comprehensive imaging services, physical therapy, cardiac rehabilitation, and chronic disease clinics.

Completion of MC Fitness & Health is set for the fall of 2015. For more information on the facility, go to [www.mountcarmelhealth.com](http://www.mountcarmelhealth.com).

# H A P P E N I N G S

## CLASSIFIED

### ST. MARY'S SCHOOL GALA AND AUCTION

#### The Boat House at Confluence Park January 31 ~ 6:00 P.M.

Tickets \$100 each or \$900 for table of 10. Ticket includes: parking, cocktails and non-alcoholic beverages, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, dessert and coffee.

visit [www.stmarygv.com](http://www.stmarygv.com) and click on the "gala" link to purchase tickets, become a sponsor or make a donation

## DECEMBER

### 27, 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.

### 28, SUNDAY

Praise Mass at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal  
11 a.m., Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Praise Mass with upbeat contemporary music. 614-861-1242  
St. Catherine of Bologna Secular Franciscans  
2:30 to 5 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave., Columbus. Rosary, Liturgy of the Hours, followed by

general meeting, ongoing formation, and social.  
Elizabeth Bowen, OFS 614-276-1953  
Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King  
5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching. 614-886-8266  
Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter  
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. 706-761-4054

### 29, MONDAY

Marian Movement for Priests Cenacle  
7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Mass for priests and consecrated life. Homily: "The Fifth Glorious Mystery: The Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth." 614-235-7435

### 30, TUESDAY

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

### 31, WEDNESDAY

New Year's Eve Mass at St. Therese's  
7 p.m., St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. New Year's Eve Mass sponsored by diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal, celebrated by Father James Coleman. Preceded by praise and worship at 6, followed by fellowship. 614-914-8556  
Midnight Mass at Columbus St. Patrick  
Midnight, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, preceded by Holy Hour at 11 p.m. and singing of traditional "Te Deum" hymn at midnight. 614-224-9522

## JANUARY

### 2, FRIDAY

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.  
All-Night Eucharistic Vigil at Holy Cross  
Holy Cross Church, 204 S. 5th St., Columbus. 7:30 p.m. Mass; Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; prayer until 11:30 p.m.; private prayer until 7:30 p.m. Saturday.  
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.

### 3, SATURDAY

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

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.  
Lay Missionaries of Charity Day of Prayer  
9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Monthly day of prayer for Columbus chapter of Lay Missionaries of Charity. 614-372-5249  
Centering Prayer Group Meeting at Corpus Christi  
10:30 a.m. to noon, Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Centering prayer group meeting, beginning with silent prayer, followed by Contemplative Outreach DVD and discussion. 614-512-3731

### Filipino Mass at Cathedral

7:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus (temporary location). Monthly Mass in the Tagalog language for members of the Filipino Catholic community. 614-224-3416

### 4, SUNDAY

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  
Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King  
5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching. 614-886-8266  
Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter  
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. 706-761-4054  
Compline at Cathedral  
9 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Chanting of Compline. 614-241-2526

### 6, TUESDAY

Catholic War Veterans Monthly Meeting  
7 p.m., Red Room, St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Catholic War Veterans Post 1936 meeting. For those who served three months, were honorably discharged or are on active duty. 614-221-7601  
Abortion Recovery Network Group  
7 p.m., Pregnancy Decision Health Center, 665 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus. Abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program and wants to stay connected. 614-444-4411  
Prayer Group Meeting at St. Mark  
7:30 p.m., St. Raymond Room, St. Mark Center, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Light of Life Prayer group meeting. 740-653-4919

### 8, THURSDAY

Women to Women Listening Circle at Corpus Christi  
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Women to Women program for women of all ages and life circumstances. Begins with soup lunch until noon, followed by listening circle. Participants are asked to arrange for child care if necessary, since none is available on-site. 614-512-3731  
Holy Hour at Holy Family  
6 to 7 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Holy Hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by meeting of parish Holy Name and Junior Holy Name societies, with refreshments. 614-221-4323

'Letter from Birmingham Jail' Film at Corpus Christi  
6:30 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. "A Reading of the Letter from Birmingham Jail," a film by Jamaal Bell featuring Columbus leaders and Ohio State University educators reading one of the key documents of the 1960s civil-rights movement, followed by discussion with the filmmaker. 614-512-3731

### 9-11, FRIDAY-SUNDAY

Engaged Encounter Weekend at St. Therese's  
St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Engaged Encounter marriage preparation weekend for couples of all ages who are engaged or considering marriage and wish to explore and deepen their relationship. Sponsored by diocesan Marriage & Family Life Office. 614-241-2560

### 10, 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.  
Fulton Sheen Presentation at Corpus Christi  
10 a.m. to noon, Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Presentation on Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen, pioneer of the "electronic Gospel," by Ohio Dominican University professor Kathleen Riley, author of a book on the archbishop, followed by light lunch. \$5 per person. 614-512-3731  
Eritrean Divine Liturgy at St. John Chrysostom  
6:30 p.m., St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church, 5858 Cleveland Ave., Columbus. Christmas Divine Liturgy in the Ge'ez (Ethiopian) Rite, celebrated by Father Musie Tesfayohanes, OCist, a Cistercian monk from Mount Laurel, NJ., for the local Eritrean Catholic community, which invites everyone to attend. 614-882-7578

### 11, SUNDAY

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education  
10 to 11:15 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. "Natural Laws" with Dr. Larry Masek, assistant professor of philosophy at The Ohio State University.  
Kateri Prayer Circle at St. Mark  
1 p.m., Aranda Center, St. Mark Church, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Kateri Prayer Circle meeting to honor St. Kateri Tekakwitha and promote Native Catholic spirituality. 740-756-7008  
Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic Meeting  
1:30 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Meeting of St. Catherine of Siena chapter, Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic, featuring presentation on the sacraments at 3 p.m.

Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King  
5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching. 614-886-8266  
Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter  
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. 706-761-4054

### 12, MONDAY

Calix Society Meeting at Columbus St. Patrick  
6:30 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Monthly meeting of the Calix Society, an association of Catholic alcoholics. Business meeting followed by 7 p.m. Mass. 614-406-2939

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





CONCERT

# THE EARLY INTERVAL

## A British Twelfth Night Celebration

The 35th season of the Early Music in Columbus concert series continues with The Early Interval in "A British Twelfth Night Celebration" on Saturday, Jan. 3 and Sunday, Jan. 4 at First Congregational Church, 444 E. Broad St., Columbus.

The Jan. 3 concert begins at 8 p.m., with a preliminary lecture at 7:30. The Jan. 4 concert begins at 3:30 p.m., preceded by a lecture at 3.

The Early Interval is returning to Britain for its annual celebration of Twelfth Night. "A British Twelfth Night Cel-



ebration" will feature music from the 12th through 17th centuries from Great Britain.

Among the selections will be medieval carols; the music of William Byrd; music for a consort of viols by John Dowland and other composers; music from courtly masques; music for two recorders and continuo; and lively English country dances.

The Early Interval will perform vocally and on recorders, bass dulcian, crumhorns, medieval and Renaissance harps, violas da gamba, medieval lute, theorbo, Renaissance and Baroque guitars, rebec, vielle, violin, and pipe and tabor.

Members of The Early Interval are Ron Cook, director, Jim Bates, Janice

Cook, Sean Ferguson, Lyz Liddell, and Tamara Seckel. The Early Interval will be joined for this concert by bass viol player Matthew Utt.

The Early Music in Columbus concert series features regional, national, and international artists who specialize in music from the medieval, Renaissance and Baroque periods on reproductions of historical instruments.

Tickets are \$27 general admission, \$22 for seniors, and \$12 for students, and may be purchased through the web site [www.earlymusicincolumbus.org](http://www.earlymusicincolumbus.org), at the door, or charged by phone.

To order tickets by phone, contact Katherine Wolfe at (614) 861-4569, the CAPA ticket offices at (614) 469-0939, or Ticketmaster at (1-800) 745-3000.



**LAS POSADAS**  
Columbus St. Andrew School celebrated Las Posadas, a traditional Hispanic depiction of Mary and Joseph's search to find a place to stay in Bethlehem. Preschool and elementary school students joined together to celebrate. The students learned prayers, songs, and the sign of the cross in Spanish to enhance the celebration.  
Photo courtesy St. Andrew School

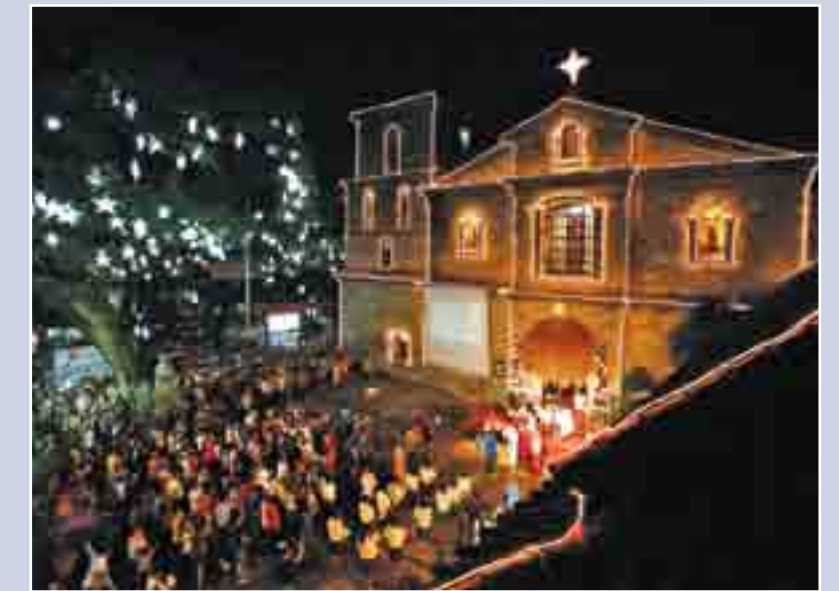
## NEWS IN PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



The Christmas tree and Nativity scene decorate St. Peter's Square at the Vatican after a lighting ceremony on Dec. 19. New LED lighting also was unveiled on the facade and dome of St. Peter's Basilica during the ceremony.  
CNS photo/Paul Haring



Priests offer prayers as worshippers carry bread during a Dec. 12 Mass for around 600 Iraqi Christian refugees at a church in Hazmiyeh, near Beirut. Iraqi Christians who sought refuge in Lebanon after Islamist militants tore through their homeland said they had no idea when they would be able to return.  
CNS photo/Jamal Saidi, Reuters



Devotees take part in the first of a nine-day pre-dawn Mass, locally called "Misa de Gallo," before Christmas at a church in Manila, the Philippines, on Dec. 16. The Mass is one of the most popular traditions among Filipinos during the Christmas season.  
CNS photo/Erik De Castro, Reuters

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