



DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

CATHOLIC TIMES

A journal of Catholic life in Ohio



NOVEMBER 30, 2014
FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT
VOLUME 64:9
WWW.CTONLINE.ORG



ADVENT:
A SEASON OF PREPARATION

The Editor's Notebook

Waiting

By David Garick, Editor



Life is full of waiting. Almost nothing of real value comes to us suddenly. All the important things in life are awaited, looked forward to, given time, hoped for. We begin life waiting for our birth. Our parents wait expectantly for our first step. Soon, we look forward to going to school, to high school, to college. In time, we look forward to graduating and beginning a career. We look forward to love and for that one special love to deepen. We expect various transitions in our life that cannot be skipped: settling down, parenthood, midlife, maturity. Then we look forward to retirement. Finally, we reluctantly wait for death in hope for God's great promise. Waiting is the law of life, the measure of love.

Some of this waiting is neutral – wasted time: waiting for a bus, or elevator, waiting in a checkout line or on hold on the telephone. Just waiting for something ... anything ... to happen. Some of our waiting is filled with suspense or anxiety, like waiting at the doctor's office for test results, or for the result of a job interview. Such also is our concern for a child who has not come home on schedule. This waiting is a dark time in which we seek a glimmer of light or relief.

But some of our waiting is expectant and joyful. It could be the anticipation of a vacation trip, the long expectancy of a mother awaiting the birth of her child, or, at this time of year, a child who can barely contain the excitement of the impending visit

of Santa Claus.

As Catholics, we get special training on handling the waiting with the annual observance of the Advent season. The Advent wreath is a beautiful symbol of this waiting in many forms. Its weekly increase in brilliance as more candles are lit is a reminder of Christ's incarnation, which we celebrate at Christmas. The coming of Christ was the culmination of a thousand years of prophecy for God's people to see His plan of salvation revealed in Christ. As Isaiah expressed, "Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down." It is very human for us to repeat this anticipation for a unique event which changed all of history.

The wreath is also a symbol of Christ's coming at the end of time or at the end of our life. This is the only thing certain in our life: that the end will come, and that then we are assured of life after death flowing from Christ's death and resurrection.

Finally, the wreath, with its increasing brilliance, is a symbol of the way in which we experience Christian growth, the way in which Christ becomes more and more integral in who we are. With Christ, our human growth has a model, a concrete human ideal. With Christ, all of our waiting, all of our life transitions, have a final goal and purpose. With Christ, all of our waiting is joyous and every moment is a wondrous gift.



2015 – The Year of Consecrated Life

In 2013, Pope Francis declared that a Year of Consecrated Life (YCL) be celebrated throughout the world. YCL will begin on the First Sunday of Advent, November 30, 2014. It will close on the World Day of Consecrated Life, February 2, 2016.

Prayer for the Year of Consecrated Life

O God, throughout the ages you have called women and men to pursue lives of perfect charity through the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience.

During this Year of Consecrated Life, we give you thanks for these courageous witnesses of Faith and models of inspiration.

Their pursuit of holy lives teaches us to make a more perfect offering of ourselves to you.

Continue to enrich your Church by calling forth sons and daughters who, having found the pearl of great price, treasure the Kingdom of Heaven above all things.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

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Correction - The first name of Eagle Scout Dominick Milano was misspelled in the Nov. 23 Catholic Times.

In Turkey, pope will visit Blue Mosque, celebrate Mass in Istanbul cathedral

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

Although prayers and meetings with Orthodox leaders dominate the schedule of Pope Francis' Nov. 28-30 trip to Turkey, he also will meet government leaders and visit Istanbul's Blue Mosque.

His visit to the secular but Muslim nation of nearly 77 million people also offers the opportunity for him to join Orthodox Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople for celebrations in Istanbul of the Feast of St. Andrew.

The pope and the patriarch send delegations to each other's churches each year for the celebrations of their patron saints' feast days: the Vatican's June 29 Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul and the Orthodox churches' Nov. 30 Feast of St. Andrew.

While the pope will pray with and meet privately with Patriarch Bartholomew on Nov. 29 and attend his celebration of the Nov. 30 feast day liturgy in Istanbul, Pope Francis also will visit the city's Hagia Sophia Museum, an architectural masterpiece once regarded as the finest church of

POPE FRANCIS' VISIT TO TURKEY, NOV. 28-30

76.1 million total population: 120,000 Christians, including 53,000 Catholics 75.9 million Muslims

6 Bishops (as of Oct. 29, 2014)	17 Church jurisdictions	54 Parishes	13 Other pastoral centers
58 Priests	Education		
7 Male Religious	23 Schools	6 Centers of special education	
54 Women Religious	Social/charitable centers owned or run by priests or religious		
2 Permanent deacons	3 Hospitals	2 Clinics	5 Residences for the elderly/disabled
2 Lay members of secular institutes			
7 Lay missionaries			
68 Catechists			

Source: Vatican Information Service, Vatican Press Office © 2014 CNS Graphics

the Christian Byzantine Empire. It was converted into a mosque in the 15th century and was turned into a museum in 1935, after Turkey became a secular state.

Pope Francis will visit the grandiose Sultan Ahmet Mosque, often called the Blue Mosque because of the turquoise ceramic tiles that adorn the 400-year-

old structure's interior.

The scheduled stops underline Turkey's varied cultural heritage and history as being at the crossroads of Christian Europe and the Muslim Middle East.

The first day of his trip, which will be spent in Ankara, the capital, will be dedicated to relations with the Turkish government, its office overseeing religious affairs, and ambassadors serving in the nation.



Pope Francis and Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople meet outside the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem in this May 25 file photo. During his Nov. 28-30 visit to Turkey, Pope Francis will meet privately with Patriarch Bartholomew and attend the patriarch's Nov. 30 celebration of the Feast of St. Andrew in Istanbul. CNS photo/Abir Sultan, EPA



Front Page photo: A lit Advent candle is seen on a wreath at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. The wreath is a main symbol of the Advent season.

CNS photo/Bob Roller



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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

Hail

Did you thank God for the great leadership and spirituality of our priests this past week? It is so easy to focus on the shortage of priests and the issues accompanying that problem. At the same time, we have the cream of the crop among us, working harder than ever, and selflessly giving themselves in their ministry for the sake of our souls. Thanking God for them is very important. But thanking our priests personally, sincerely, and lovingly can be a real boost to the entire parish community. Do it often. Prayer works well, and our seminaries are filling up again. God is providing the shepherds we need, and, as laity, you and I are becoming more involved with our parishes by serving on committees and ministries. That is good stewardship. We give of our treasure to support and sustain the operation of our parish daily and annually. Just as important is our time and talent. Our priests cannot do everything themselves. Our expertise via our time and talent is welcome, necessary, and a gift to God through the people of our respective parishes and the whole Body of Christ. Do not wait to be asked. Help your parish and practice good stewardship.

Thanksgiving is that wonderful time of year when we can be thankful and proud for so many people, things, and blessings. We certainly know how to go through all the proper motions, and we are all sincere as we thank God for all His good gifts. As good and faithful stewards, we know that everything we have is a gift from God, and we own nothing. We cherish what we borrow and hold, especially the gift of life. We lovingly share what we can, and we return everything to God with good measure, especially at our passing, when there will be a full accounting of our lives. For what are we thankful? We thank God for Him, His Son, and His Holy Spirit. We give thanks for the gift of life, and for each new day in which we can enrich and share our lives. We are thankful for God's love and for the privilege to be a part of that love to others -- not just receiving, but giving. Our thanks stretch to our spouse and children, our parents and siblings, our respective communities, parishes, and congregations, our friends, co-workers, fellow students, and neighbors. We humbly give thanks for the freedom, liberty, and great bounty that we enjoy in the greatest nation on earth -- the United States of America. Thank you, Lord, for our priests, religious, teachers, doctors, nurses, police, firefighters, public servants, attorneys, accountants, architects, engineers, researchers, pharmacists, sports heroes, artists, musicians, bankers, investors, economists, computer technicians, mail carriers, truck drivers, construction workers, laborers, pilots, chemists, retailers, soldiers, and retired seniors. The list keeps going, and we are humble enough to know that the world does not revolve around me. It revolves in spite of me. Thank God!

Our practical challenge this week is to hail those for whom we are most grateful. "Hail" is a form of acknowledgment that is not commonly used these days. "Hail Caesar" was common and formal in ancient Rome. "Hail Mary" is familiar to us in prayer. Each time we pray this week, let us mention one person in loving thanks. Say their name with "Hail" in front of it. Make it a simple, yet thoughtful addition to your morning and evening prayer, Mass, and even grace before meals. Hail God and thank God for those gifts of people who have made us better persons. Jeric is director of development and planning for the Columbus Diocese.



The Catholic Foundation Is Joining the #GivingTuesday Movement

The Catholic Foundation will join the #GivingTuesday movement. This is a first-of-its-kind effort to combine the power of people, businesses, charities, and families to revolutionize the way people think and talk about the giving season.

Corresponding with the Thanksgiving holiday and the beginning of Christmas shopping, #GivingTuesday is designed to motivate people to work together to actively improve their local communities, give back more efficiently, and help change the world for the better.

The event will kick off on Dec. 2, the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. #GivingTuesday will employ the power of social media to generate a national event around the holidays dedicated to giving, similar to the way Black Friday and Cyber Monday have become a part of holiday shopping.

Today, many people have forgotten the real meaning of the holiday season. With all the commercials, advertisements, and media coverage, the true meaning of Thanksgiving and Christmas often gets lost in the shuffle. But with #GivingTuesday, we can revive the spirit of giving and selflessness.

As Catholics, we naturally want our giving to coincide with the teachings of our faith. You can ensure this happens by giving back to your community through The Catholic Foundation. The Foundation's Bridge the Gap program allows you to support parishes, schools, social service agencies, and other ministries throughout the Diocese of Columbus.

"We're trying to bring to light the many needs of the ministries in our diocese," said Amy Parker, vice president of grants and diocesan partnerships for

the Foundation. "We hope to inspire individuals to contribute to a program or project that speaks to them."

When you discover a need or a program that you are passionate about, use #GivingTuesday as a means to encourage yourself and others to support that cause. Whether you choose the men's homeless shelter at St. Vincent Haven in Newark, the food pantry expansion at Lancaster St. Mark Church, or some other program, you can help bridge the gap and support your local community.

Mother Teresa said "We can do no great things, only small things with great love." Her wisdom reminds us that any amount of charity we offer has value. From an hour of volunteer work to a small donation to your parish, every act of giving is meaningful.

"People sometimes underestimate the importance of giving, especially when they feel as though what they can give isn't all that much. We'd encourage people to remember Mark, chapter 12, in which a poor widow gave but two small copper coins—an act for which Jesus praised her. No amount is insignificant in the eyes of the Lord," said Loren Brown, president and chief executive officer of The Catholic Foundation.

The need within the diocese is great, which is why the Bridge the Gap program was created. Last year, The Catholic Foundation received more than \$3.2 million in requests for funding from schools, parishes, and other ministries in the Diocese of Columbus. While this has provided at least partial funding to more than half of the requests, a large funding gap still remains. As you join #GivingTuesday, consider The Catholic Foundation's Bridge the Gap program as a means for your giving.

Eucharistic Adoration/Exposition Throughout the Diocese

For readers who may be interested in taking part in Eucharistic devotions during Advent, here is an updated list of parishes in the diocese where Eucharistic adoration or exposition takes place on a regular basis.

In addition to the activities listed, Advent penance services will be conducted at a number of parishes. Readers are advised to contact parishes for specific dates and times.

Anyone with additions or corrections to this list may contact Tim Puet at Catholic Times.

Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel – Exposition: Sundays, Nov. 30, Dec. 7, and Dec. 21, 4 to 5 p.m.

Chillicothe St. Peter – Exposition: Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Columbus Christ the King – Exposition: First Fridays, 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Columbus Holy Cross – First Fridays, from end of 7:30 p.m. Mass to 7:30 a.m. Saturday. All-night Eucharistic vigil begins with Mass, followed by communal prayers, litanies, Rosaries, hymns and quiet time between prayers until 11:30, then exposition and private prayer until 7:30 a.m. **Moved to Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral for December because of renovation.**

Columbus Holy Family – Exposition: Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., Thursdays, 10 a.m. continuous to 11:45 a.m. Friday, ending with Benediction. Contact church for details concerning entry.

Columbus Holy Name – During day in chapel, followed by Vespers and Mass at 5:30 p.m.

Columbus Immaculate Conception – Exposition: 24 hours, seven days a week, except during the Sacred Triduum, in the children's center (former convent). Press rear buzzer.

Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal – Exposition: First Friday, from end of 9 a.m. Mass through Holy Hour at 6 p.m.

Columbus Our Lady of Peace – Exposition, Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Columbus Our Lady of Victory – Exposition: First Friday, from 8 p.m. Friday to start of 8 a.m. Saturday Mass.

Columbus St. Agnes – Exposition: First Sunday, 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Columbus St. Andrew – Exposition: Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, from end of 6:30 a.m. Mass to

8:15 a.m.; Tuesdays, from end of 8:30 a.m. Mass to 9 p.m.

Columbus St. Anthony – Exposition: First Fridays, from end of 9 a.m. Mass to noon.

Columbus St. Catharine – Holy Hour, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursdays with exposition, Benediction, and confession. Exposition: First Friday, after 8 a.m. Mass to 9:30 a.m.

Columbus St. Cecilia – Exposition: First Fridays, 9 a.m. Friday to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Columbus St. Christopher – Adoration and prayer ministry: Weekdays from end of 8:30 a.m. Mass to 4:30 p.m.

Columbus St. Elizabeth – Exposition: second Sunday of the month, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral – Holy Hour with Adoration and confession: Wednesdays, following 5:15 p.m. Mass; Thursdays, 10:45 to 11:45 a.m.

Columbus St. Ladislav – Adoration: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays in former convent. Call Sister Wilma Ross, SCN, at (614) 444-2598 for how to enter.

Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona – Exposition: Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., with Stations of the Cross at 7:30 p.m., followed by sung Vespers and Benediction on the Thursdays of Lent.

Columbus St. Mary – Exposition: First Fridays, 9 to 10 a.m.

Columbus St. Mary Magdalene – Exposition: second Monday of the month, following 8:15 a.m. Mass in church; fourth Saturday of the month, 9 a.m. to noon in Bishop Campbell Hall.

Columbus St. Patrick – Adoration: Third and fourth Fridays of the month, 8 p.m. Friday to 7 a.m. Saturday (church locked; call church office at (614) 224-9522 for access information). Exposition: 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. Fridays (church open).

Columbus St. Peter – Exposition: First Fridays, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; all other Fridays, 9 to 10 a.m.

Columbus St. Stephen – Exposition: Wednesdays, 6 to 7 p.m., first Fridays, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., other Fridays, 5 to 9 p.m., first Saturdays, 8 p.m. to 7 a.m. Sunday.

Columbus St. Timothy – Exposition: Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Danville St. Luke – Exposition: Once a month (date varies), from after 10 a.m.

Mass until 8 p.m. prayer service Sunday. **Delaware St. Mary** – Exposition, Mondays, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare – Exposition: First Fridays from end of 9 a.m. Mass to 5 p.m., in Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Gahanna St. Matthew – Exposition: Second and fourth Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Granville St. Edward – Exposition: 9:30 a.m. Monday to 9 a.m. Tuesday.

Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help – Exposition: First Fridays, from end of 8:30 a.m. Mass to 8:30 a.m. Saturday.

Jackson Holy Trinity – Exposition: First Fridays, 11 a.m. to noon.

Kenton Immaculate Conception – Exposition: First Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., closing with Benediction.

Lancaster St. Bernadette – Exposition: Monday through Friday, 5 a.m. to midnight in chapel. Knock on front door to gain admittance.

Lancaster St. Mark – Exposition: Mondays, 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesdays, 8:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Lancaster St. Mary – Exposition: Thursday, Dec. 4 from end of 9 a.m. Mass to Benediction at 1:45 p.m. Times vary during rest of year; call parish for information.

Logan St. John – Exposition: First Fridays, from 8:30 a.m. Friday to 8 a.m. Saturday, in adoration chapel.

Marion St. Mary – Adoration: Fridays, from after 8:30 a.m. Mass to 9 a.m. Saturday. Holy Hour with exposition and confessions: Tuesdays, 5 to 6 p.m.

Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes – Exposition: First Fridays, from after 5:15 p.m. Mass to 10 a.m. Saturday.

Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul – Exposition: 5 p.m. Thursday to 5 p.m. Friday, followed by Mass and Benediction.

New Albany Church of the Resurrection – Exposition: Call parish office at (614) 855-1400 for times or go to parish website, www.churchoftheresurrection.com.

New Boston St. Monica – Adoration: Mondays and first Fridays, 6 to 7 p.m.

New Lexington St. Rose – Exposition: First Fridays, from after 8 or 9 a.m. Mass to 4 p.m.

New Philadelphia Sacred Heart –

Exposition: 9 a.m. Tuesday to 5:15 p.m. Wednesday. Confession and Adoration, followed by prayer service, 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 1, 8, 15, and 22.

Newark Blessed Sacrament – Exposition: Noon to midnight Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays in chapel; 9 a.m. to midnight Wednesdays in sanctuary.

Newark St. Francis de Sales – Exposition: 7 p.m. Sunday to 4 p.m. Saturday, in day chapel behind sanctuary.

Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton – Adoration: 24 hours, seven days a week, except when Mass is being celebrated and during the Sacred Triduum, in the church's Eucharistic Chapel.

Plain City St. Joseph – Exposition: 6 to 8 a.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays; 6 a.m. every Thursday to 8 a.m. Friday; 6 to 9 p.m. Fridays; evening hours follow 5:30 p.m. Mass and Vespers.

Portsmouth Holy Redeemer – Exposition: Thursdays, 8:30 to 10 a.m.

Portsmouth St. Mary – Exposition: Fridays, from end of noon Mass to Benediction at 5:30 p.m.

Powell St. Joan of Arc – Exposition: 9 a.m. Monday to 8 a.m. Friday.

Sunbury St. John Neumann – Exposition: Noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, then 6 p.m. Sunday to midnight Friday.

Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne – Exposition: Holy Days of Obligation; all night on Feast of Corpus Christi.

Waverly St. Mary – Exposition: First Wednesday, from end of 6:30 p.m. Mass to Benediction at 8 p.m.

Westerville St. Paul – Holy Hour of adoration: Thursdays, 6 to 7 p.m.

Wheelerburg St. Peter in Chains – Adoration: Sundays, 5 p.m.

Worthington St. Michael – Exposition: 24 hours, seven days a week, except during daily and weekend Masses and during the Sacred Triduum, in the church's Adoration Chapel.

Zaleski St. Sylvester – Exposition: Thursdays, from after 8 a.m. Mass to 7 p.m.

Zanesville St. Nicholas – Exposition: First Fridays, 8 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas – Exposition: Wednesdays, after noon Mass to 8 p.m., with Holy Hour from 7 to 8.

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PRIVILEGES OF A DEACON; LONGING FOR HEAVEN



QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. Often, I have been at a Mass where the deacon reads the Gospel, which is fine. But then, sometimes, the deacon goes on to give the homily while the priest watches. This disappoints me and makes me feel that the deacon is overstepping his bounds. Why should a deacon, rather than the priest, comment on church teachings? Is this a new function in the church today? (Missouri)

Q. Our parish recently had a baptism at a Mass, with both a priest and a deacon on the altar. When it came time for the baptism, the deacon went to the (baptismal) font and performed the ceremony. I was under the impression that a deacon could baptize only if a priest were not available. Has this been changed? (Richmond, Virginia)

A. Although the permanent diaconate was restored by Pope Paul VI in 1967, the questions above would seem to indicate that even today, nearly a half-century later, there is still some confusion about a deacon's role. Deacons can baptize, witness marriages, perform funeral and burial services (outside of Mass), distribute holy Communion, and preach a homily. They cannot celebrate Mass, hear confessions, or administer the sacrament of the anointing of the sick. They are obligated each day to pray the Liturgy of the Hours. Deacons were first appointed in the earliest days of the church and were given the special ministry of serving the poor.

There are two kinds of deacons: transitional deacons, who are seminarians in the final stage of their training for the priesthood, and permanent deacons. Permanent deacons, ordained after several years of theological preparation, may be single or married. They often have secular jobs, but also assist parish communities at liturgies and in service ministries such as visiting the sick or counseling families.

When joining the priest at Mass, a deacon normally introduces the penitential rite, reads the Gospel and the prayers of communion (petitions), helps in distributing Communion, and proclaims the dismissal rite.

When a deacon baptizes or preaches, there is no requirement that a priest be unavailable. The church's *Code of Canon Law*, in No. 861, for example, says simply that "the ordinary minister of baptism is a bishop, a presbyter or deacon." Sometimes when a deacon baptizes or

accepts wedding vows, it is because he has a particular relationship with those receiving the sacrament, but that is not necessary. Often in parishes that have a deacon, the deacon preaches the homily on a regular rotation (perhaps once a month, perhaps at one Mass each weekend). Parishioners have often commented that a deacon, especially if he has a family, can share a different perspective.

Pastorally, when a deacon is scheduled to do a baptism, wedding, or funeral service, it is best for the priest to advise the family in advance -- since many still expect that a priest will officiate.

Q. Over the past few years, my faith has deepened and I feel Jesus present with me. I want to know him better, and so I have begun to pray and to read the Scriptures more, in addition to attending Mass and praying the rosary. I am not old or sick, but I have become more focused on passing on. The more I consider the promise of Christ, the less I want to live in this world. I assure you that I am not suicidal, but my eyes are already set on the final prize.

I know that the Gospel calls us to love and serve others after the example of Jesus, but why should I aspire to living a long time when I am just waiting for God to call me home? What spiritual message must I be missing? Can you share some wisdom on rekindling joy for this life? (Prospect, Kentucky)

A. I really can't find fault with anything that you are doing or thinking. Like you, I look forward to heaven and believe with all my heart in that which "eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him" (I Corinthians 2:9). Not long ago, a woman told me on her deathbed what she thought it was going to be like to be with God in heaven: "Like a mother's love -- times ten thousand."

It is certainly right to aspire to that, and even to hope that it comes sooner rather than later. The timing, though, is all in God's good hands, and meanwhile, we accept this earthly existence as God's gift, if only because it offers us the chance to share with others our view of God's love and what lies beyond. The Hebrews sang in Psalm 126:2-3, "Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues sang for joy. ... The Lord had done great things for us." On the night of the Last Supper, Jesus encouraged the apostles to keep his commandments and then said in John 15:11, "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete."

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

SPIRITUAL DAY SPA

St. Therese Retreat Center invites you to pamper your soul with a special Advent spiritual day spa, a one-day retreat from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 4 -- a schedule set up to start after children have left for school and end before they return home.

Speakers include Elizabeth Ficocelli, a nationally known Catholic speaker and author from Reynoldsburg, who will share six ways to keep the Advent season holy; her husband, Mark, a certified personal trainer, who will provide sound advice on how to find balance in the critical areas of life -- spiritual, mental, physical, and relationships -- that can easily get out of balance at this hectic time of year; and Father Josh Wagner, pastor of Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John and St. Dominic churches, who will share an Advent reflection and celebrate Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In the afternoon, there will be a special Rosary meditation.

If you can't make it to the retreat center at 5277 E. Broad St. (only 44 seats are available), don't worry.

You can attend via the Internet from the comfort of your own home. The retreat will be live and interactive. To find out more, go to <http://spiritualdayspa.com/info>, or to register, go to <http://spiritualdayspa.com/register-now>.

ODU CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Ohio Dominican University will ring in the holiday season with its annual Christmas celebration at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3, on its main campus at 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. The evening will include Scripture readings, seasonal music provided by the ODU chorus, and more than 100,000 lights illuminating the campus.

It will begin on the front steps of Erskine Hall with a tree lighting ceremony and the blessing of the creche. Hot chocolate, cookies, and crafts will then be available in the Bishop James A. Griffin Student Center, and children will have an opportunity to visit with Santa Claus. The event will conclude with carols and lessons at 7 p.m. at Christ the King Chapel in Sansbury Hall.

MEN'S LUNCHEON CLUB

The Catholic Men's Luncheon Club meeting on Friday, Dec. 5 will feature Father Cyrus Haddad telling his vocation story. Father Haddad was ordained this past May and is serving as parochial vicar at Hilliard St. Brendan Church.

The meeting will take place at Columbus St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., following Mass at 11:45 a.m., and will conclude by 1 p.m. No reservations are necessary. A requested charge of \$10 covers the lunch and meeting.

For more information on the club and the Columbus Catholic Men organization, visit www.Columbus-CatholicMen.com or contact John Schechter, the luncheon club's president, at jschechter@sbcglobal.net.



ON A FIRM FOUNDATION

By Loren Brown



Advent candles cast a special glow in a season of expectation

Each Advent season is a special time in our home as we prepare for the coming of Our Lord Jesus. Ever since our son and daughter were very little children, we have celebrated a tradition in our home of lighting the Advent wreath candles while reciting prayers.

Many years ago, my wife, Stacey, found a book titled *We Light the Candles* by Catharine Brandt, and we use this each year to guide our reflection and prayers as we light the Advent candles. As is traditional in our Church, we use an off-colored candle for the third week of Advent, typically pink. Each Sunday after Mass, one of the four of us reads from the book and another lights the candles.

We begin with the First Sunday of Advent by lighting the candle of Promise. The candle of Promise reminds us that God promised to send His son Jesus. Isaiah 9:6 says, "For to us a child is born and to us a son is given, and the government will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called wonderful counselor, mighty God, everlasting father, prince of peace." Then we end with a prayer from the book.

On the Second Sunday of Advent, we again light the candle of Promise, followed by the candle of Light. The candle of Light reminds us of the star the Wise Men followed. Wise men from the east came to Jerusalem saying, "Where is He who has been born the King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the east and have come to worship Him" (Matthew 2:1-2). Then we say a prayer for guidance.

On the Third Sunday of Advent, we again light the candles of Promise and Light, but we also light the pink candle of Love. The candle of Love reminds us of God's love for each of us. John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." Again, we end with a prayer from

Brandt's book.

Lastly, on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of Hope. The candle of Hope reminds us that God gave us the gift of hope -- life forever with Him. "And when I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am, you may be also" (John 14:3). Our reflection again closes with a prayer, a joyful one, from the book.

I imagine that many of you have similar memories of lighting the Advent wreath in your home. For us, it is an important break from our busy everyday life, a purposeful time to reflect. In addition to symbolizing Advent, this tradition reminds us that Sunday is a special time of the week -- a time for us to be together as family. Our children are now grown into young adults, but Stacey and I hope this tradition of lighting the Advent wreath will continue with their visits and will be brought into their homes when they raise their own families.

I encourage each of you to spend the season of Advent reflecting on our Catholic faith, our Savior, and the hope and guidance He provides for us. Think about how you might give back to the faith that has given you so much throughout the year, perhaps by volunteering, by bringing a dear friend to Mass, by contributing to a family in need, or with a financial gift through The Catholic Foundation. Remember the words of Jesus Himself in Acts 20:35, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

On behalf of the staff and board of trustees of The Catholic Foundation, I want to extend our warmest wishes for a blessed and holy Advent.

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

Holy Cross Events Rescheduled

The interior renovations at Columbus Holy Cross Church are taking a little longer than expected. As a result, two of its traditional monthly events will take place at St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., again this month, said Father Michael Lumpe, rector for both parishes.

The first Friday vigil and all-night Eucharistic Adoration which usually is at Holy Cross will be at the cathedral on Friday, Dec. 5, beginning with Mass at 7:30 p.m., followed by confessions and devotional prayers, and

concluding with Benediction at 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6.

The monthly Mass in the Tagalog language for the Filipino community will be at the cathedral at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 6.

The annual Filipino *Simbang Gabi* celebration, featuring celebration of Mass for nine consecutive days leading to Christmas, will be at Holy Cross, provided the renovations are complete. The Masses are tentatively scheduled at 7 p.m. daily from Monday, Dec. 15 to Tuesday, Dec. 23.



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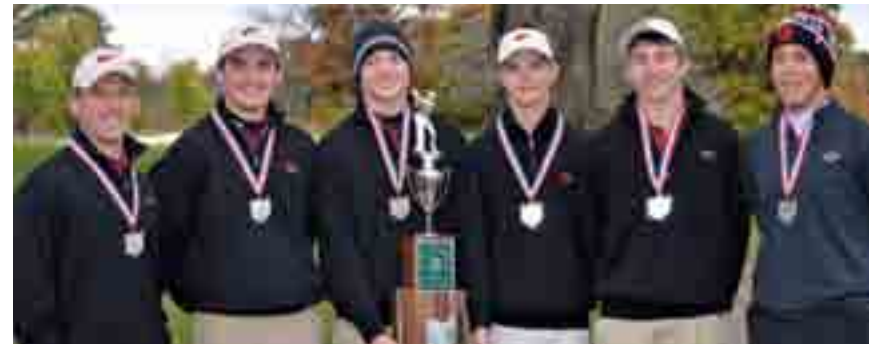


Members of the 2014 Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School water polo team celebrate with their state championship trophy after defeating Mason 15-14 in the title match at Ohio Wesleyan University. Team members are (from left) first row: Stuart Decker, Nick Ward, Joey Hickman, Andrew Alfred, Sam Aslaner, coach Geoff Gear, Tyler Welty, Jack Lumpe, Noah Miller, Sam Smith, and assistant coach Sam Kocher; second row, assistant coach Nate Cohen, Conner Timmons, Anthony Baglione, James Sullivan, Vincent Sears, Joe Heller, Bryce Long, Derek Nguyen, Charlie Henry, and David Allen; third row, Hannes Kabelka, John Lewis, Will Price, Michael Gutman, Ben Sugar, Jack Carlin, James Grodesky, Austin Beam, Adam Lieser, Colin Hawes, and Ben Mooney.

Photo courtesy St. Charles Preparatory School

Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School finished as runner-up to Cincinnati Moeller in the 2014 Division I state high school golf tournament at The Ohio State University's Scarlet Course. Moeller shot a team total of 636, with St. Charles and Upper Arlington finishing nine strokes behind. The Cardinals were awarded the second-place trophy based on a fifth-man tiebreaker over each round. Team members are (from left) coach Brian Unk, Eddie O'Brien, Mike Altomare, Conner Yakubov, Evan Yakubov, and Jacob Ruffola.

Photo courtesy St. Charles Preparatory School



Columbus St. Francis DeSales won its fifth state soccer championship, defeating Bay Village 1-0 in overtime in the Division II state championship on a goal by Ryan Cannon. Team members are (from left) first row, Hector Gomez, Peter Marth, Ryan Cannon, Lucas Agin, Matt Higgins, Collin Sabedra, and assistant coach Jacob Eganhouse; second row, Bryan Roach, Erneste Dusegimana, Brady Krietemeyer, Ben Plzak, Antonio Romanelli, Zayne Cook, Patrick Mulligan, Anthony Salmeron, and assistant coach Ben Brooks; third row, coach Domenic Romanelli, Andrew Mannion, Michael Zelina, Drew Schwenk, Bruno Bertolo, Zack Garrett, Jared Pressley, Ross Burke, Chase Agin, Colin Higgins, Juan Ovalle, Nick Rafter, JP Baughman, and assistant coach Mike Coury. Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School

The Columbus Bishop Hartley High School volleyball team finished second in the state Division II volleyball tournament, losing to Chardon Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin in the championship game. Team members are (from left): first row, Monica Briggs, Caroline Young, Kristen Chatman, Lauren Elliott, and Emily Zawatsky; second row, assistant coach Jen Reeve, Ellie Teague, Emily Rahe, Abby Dawes, and Maria Cegledy; third row, assistant coach Blair Arms, Mickey Bischoff, Bethany Matuska, Madeline Brandewie, Shelby Chesko, Tatum Wise, and coach Michael Rahe. Olivia Kirwin is not pictured.

Photo courtesy Bishop Hartley High School



ART AMONG US, ART WITHIN US: HONORING THE 'DIVINE SPARK'

Looking back, the son that was born to Leopold and Anna Maria Mozart on a Tuesday evening in late January seemed to arrive with fully formed symphonies bound up in his tiny body, waiting for ink and instrument. At age 3, the toddler nicknamed Wolfgangl was identifying thirds on the clavier. At 5, he was composing music.

How tempting it must have been for Leopold, himself a musician, to look at his fair-skinned son with those wide, searching eyes and claim the credit. But the devout Catholic cast it upward, not inward. He believed his son's musical genius had a divine origin, describing it to a friend as "a miracle which God has allowed to see the light in Salzburg" and insisting on his paternal duty to share it and "let God have the honor."

When Mozart was 14, he visited the Sistine Chapel and heard *Miserere Mei Deus*, a haunting Tenebrae melody commissioned by the Vatican more than a century earlier. It was performed once a year and forbidden to be transcribed or played elsewhere, in order to preserve its mystery. Young Mozart, so the



Twenty Something
Christina Capecchi

story goes, was so riveted by the music that he went home and wrote out the 12-minute song entirely by ear. That score eventually made its way into the hands of a British historian and into publication. When Pope Clement XIV heard what had happened, he met with Mozart. Rather than excommunicate the teen, the pontiff praised his talent – and lifted the longtime ban, allowing the song to be enjoyed widely.

Over the years, Leopold often urged his boy to hold onto his Catholic faith. He once wrote to Anna Maria, on a trip with their 21-year-old son: "Is it necessary for me to ask whether Wolfgang is not perhaps getting a little lax about confession? God must come first! ... Young people do not like to hear about these things,

do anything which I would not do before the whole world."

During this month of giving thanks, I've been thinking about Mozart's desire to compose – which feels so distant and grand – and our own desire to create, to seek and celebrate beauty in the world. If we are truly grateful for an artistic gift – or any talent, for that matter – we honor it. To give thanks for creative ability is to guard and nurture it.

In St. John Paul II's 1999 letter to artists – 6,361 words I have not fully mined, uncovering new insight each time I turn to them – the late pope made a connection between art and gratitude. "That is why artists," he wrote, "the more conscious they are of their 'gift,' are led all the more to see themselves and the whole of creation with eyes able to contemplate and give thanks, and to raise to God a hymn of praise. This is the only way for them to come to a full understanding of themselves, their vocation and their mission."

I recently interviewed a series of Catholic artists, all but one of whom quoted John Paul II, multiple pointing to his statement that "those who perceive in themselves this kind of divine spark which is the artistic vocation ... feel at the same time the obligation not to waste it but to develop it, in order to put it at the service of their neighbor and of humanity as a whole."

Gift and obligation, duty and desire. The work of our hands, the stamp of our hearts.

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota, and editor of SisterStory.org, the official website of National Catholic Sisters Week.


A Bethlehem Carol

The 22nd annual performance of "A Bethlehem Carol" will be presented by children from Powell St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6. The child actors in the Nativity musical are from Columbus, Dublin, Worthington, Powell, and Delaware. Admission is free. Cast members pictured are (from left): first row, Sadie Okonak, Noah Gall, Kevin Martinez, Mark Biagi, and Greg Conkling; second row, Ellie Okonak, Cecilia Vasey, Brooke Biagi, Jacob Sulewski as Joseph, Kelly Martinez as Mary, and Lexi Winship.



Photo courtesy St. Joan of Arc Church

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Seasonal Events in the Columbus Diocese

Churches and other organizations throughout the Diocese of Columbus will be conducting special holiday programs and collecting goods for the needy throughout the Advent and Christmas seasons. In addition to the events listed, a number of parishes have scheduled penance services at various times throughout the season.

The following is a sampling of seasonal events in the diocese:

Ada Our Lady of Lourdes – Afternoon of reflection, including Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and confessions, Sunday, Dec. 7, 12:30 to 3 p.m.; live Nativity scene with live animals, Friday, Dec. 19, 6 to 8 p.m.

Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by prayer service, Sundays, Nov. 30, Dec. 7, and Dec. 21, 4 to 5 p.m.

Circleville St. Joseph – Talks by Bishop Emeritus James Griffin on “Advent: Waiting for Joseph, Mary, and Jesus,” Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 10 and 11, 7 p.m., with Mass to be celebrated Thursday.

Columbus Corpus Christi – Advent quiet evenings, Thursdays, Dec. 1, 8, 15, and 22, 6:30 to 8 p.m.; holiday benefit concert with local choirs, guest musicians, and soloists, co-sponsored by Edgewood Civic Association, Sunday, Dec. 7, 3:30 p.m.

Columbus Holy Cross – *Simbang Gabi*, a Filipino Christmas tradition, featuring celebration of Mass for nine consecutive days, Monday, Dec. 15 to Tuesday, Dec. 23, 7:30 p.m., provided church renovation is complete.

Columbus Holy Spirit – *On a Night Like This* concert narrative featuring local Christian music group Living Water, Tuesday, Dec. 16, 7 p.m.

Columbus St. Anthony – Christmas concert featuring choirs from Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School and St. Anthony Middle School, Sunday, Dec. 14, 3 p.m.

Columbus St. Cecilia – Advent lessons and carols, Tuesday, Dec. 16, 7 p.m.; Giving Tree program provides gifts for 500 children and adults, including nursing home residents, through social service agencies and parishioners; St. Vincent de Paul Adopt-A-Turkey program purchases 150 Thanksgiving turkeys; parish collects food in cooperation with a local pantry for Christmas dinner baskets.

Columbus St. Dominic – Joint Christmas concert with choirs of Columbus St. Andrew Presbyterian Church and St. Dominic, Sunday, Dec. 14, 4 p.m.

Columbus St. Elizabeth – Concert featuring parish choirs with an evening of religious and secular music, Wednesday, Dec. 3, 7 p.m.

Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral – Lessons and carols with cathedral choir and chamber orchestra, Sunday, Dec. 14, 3 p.m.; Giving Tree provides items for residents of Bryden Place nursing home and gift cards for Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs, and assistance for families of cathedral and Columbus Holy Cross Church parishioners.

Columbus St. Mary – Traditional German-Austrian celebration of First Sunday of Advent, featuring prelude and postlude by Alphorn Gruezie alphorn group and singing of *Adventjodler* hymn by parish choir before Mass, Sunday, Nov. 30, 9 a.m.

Columbus St. Mary Magdalene – *On a Night Like This* concert narrative featuring local Christian music group Living Water, Sunday, Dec. 21, 5:30 p.m.

Columbus St. Patrick – Sung Advent Vespers, Sundays, Nov. 30, Dec. 7, and Dec. 21, 7 p.m.; parish mission with Father Jordan Turano, OP, of St. Vincent Ferrer Church, New York City. Theme: “ASSUME Everything (Angels, Saints, Spirit, Unity, Mary, Eternity),” Monday, Dec. 1 to Thursday, Dec. 4, 7 p.m.; Advent lessons and carols, Sunday, Dec. 14, 7 p.m.; Holy Hours with talks by Father Joseph Alobaidi, OP, of the Dominican House of Studies in Washington on Mary (Monday) and the star of Bethlehem (Tuesday), Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 22 and 23, 7 p.m.

Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center – Seventh annual “Blue Christmas” Liturgy of Hope for people who may not be feeling joyful during the holidays or may be experiencing life challenges, Wednesday, Dec. 24, 8 p.m.; donations to food drive and to mitten tree (knitted hats, scarves, and gloves) benefit those in need in University District through Neighborhood Services, Inc.

Columbus St. Timothy – Mission talk by George and Molly Cleary on Passion Center for Children in African nation of Malawi, with music by parish choir, Monday, Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m., preceded by potluck at 6:30.

Delaware St. Mary – Advent concert, Saturday, Dec. 6, 7 p.m.; St. Vincent de Paul Society Giving Tree collection, Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 6 and 7; Advent by Candlelight program with Father Michael Watson and others discussing their Holy Land pilgrimage, and seasonal music by Ken and Annette Schwartz, Thursday, Dec. 11, 6 to 8 p.m., Snyder-Rodman Funeral Home. Dinner provided; bring appetizer or dessert to share.

Granville St. Edward – St. Vincent de Paul Society Giving Tree benefits

families in Licking County, foster children, and homeless men living at St. Vincent Haven in Newark.

Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help – Photos of children and Santa with the infant Jesus in the manger, sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 4603, Sunday, Dec. 14, following 8 and 9:30 a.m. Masses.

Heath St. Leonard – Christmas concert featuring all parish choirs, parishioner John Sheets’ strings students, and the Leonardi Handchime Choir, Sunday, Dec. 14, 2 p.m.; parish has Giving Tree for families needing help during season.

Kenton Immaculate Conception – Parish sponsors Giving Tree for needy children and assembles Christmas baskets for 40 community families in need.

Lancaster St. Mark – Seventh annual Christmas cantata, *The Mystery and the Majesty*, Sunday, Dec. 14, 7 p.m.; caroling for shut-ins, Sunday, Dec. 21, following 10:30 a.m. Mass; Epiphany party and bingo (bring a dish to share), Sunday, Jan. 4, after 10:30 a.m. Mass; parish also has Giving Tree.

Martin de Porres Center, Columbus – Christmas carols in American Sign Language with “Signs” of Christmas organization, Sunday, Dec. 14, 2 p.m.

Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes – All-night Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, concluding with Benediction, Friday, Dec. 5 after 5:15 p.m. Mass to Saturday, Dec. 6, 10 a.m.; lessons and carols, Sunday, Dec. 21, 6 p.m.

New Albany Church of the Resurrection – *On a Night Like This* concert narrative featuring local Christian music group Living Water, Friday, Dec. 19, 7:30 p.m.

Newark St. Francis de Sales – Church is last stop of Sights and Sounds

of Christmas tour of downtown churches, Thursday, Dec. 4; Advent lessons and carols, Sunday, Dec. 14, 5 p.m.

Ohio Dominican University – Tree lighting, creche blessing, Santa visits, lessons and carols, Wednesday, Dec. 3, 5 to 7 p.m.

Plain City St. Joseph – Advent Vespers, Sunday, Nov. 30, 6 p.m.; Giving Tree benefits two Plain City pantries, Union County Pregnancy Care Center, JOIN, and downtown Columbus ministries served by Deacon Tony Bonacci.

Portsmouth Holy Redeemer and St. Mary – Novena in preparation for Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Sunday, Nov. 30 to Monday, Dec. 8, at home and in churches; “The Divine Physician” parish mission with speaker Jimmy Mitchell, Sunday, Dec. 7, 6:30 to 8 p.m., including penance service, and Monday, Dec. 8, 6 to 8:30 p.m., beginning with Mass, Holy Redeemer; annual holiday tour of St. Mary and other churches in Boneyfiddle historic district, Friday, Dec. 12, 6 to 8 p.m. Meet at Scioto County Courthouse, tours every half-hour; sorting and distribution for Catholic Social Services Portsmouth office Giving Tree program, helping children and school-aged teens, Monday, Dec. 15 to Friday, Dec. 19, St. Francis Outreach Center (former St. Joseph Adoration Monastery); Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton Parish and Catholic Social Services distribution of holiday food baskets, Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 20 and 21, Holy Redeemer activity center.

Powell St. Joan of Arc – 22nd annual performance of *A Bethlehem Carol* children’s Christmas musical, with about 60 children participating, Saturday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m.; family Christmas festival sponsored by parish men’s club, Friday, Dec. 12, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.; Giving Tree

project benefits needy people in the parish, senior citizens, and Kids ‘N’ Kamp organization for children with cancer.

Reynoldsburg St. Pius X – Advent evening of reflection, Monday, Dec. 1, 7 p.m.; parish’s 36th annual Adopt-A-Child program collects toys and clothes for local children, Saturday, Dec. 6 and Sunday, Dec. 7; communal Anointing of the Sick, Saturday, Dec. 13 following 5 p.m. Mass and Sunday, Dec. 14 following 8:30 a.m. Mass.

Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center, Newark – Morning of reflection with Sister Louis Mary Passeri, OP. Theme: “Here Is Your God,” Saturday, Dec. 6, 9 a.m. to noon.

St. Therese’s Retreat Center, Columbus – Advent “spiritual day spa” program with Elizabeth and Mark Ficocelli and Father Josh Wagner, pastor of Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John and St. Dominic churches, Thursday, Dec. 4, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Sugar Grove St. Joseph – “Silent Night in Sugar Grove” Christmas programs, beginning at St. Joseph’s and continuing at Sugar Grove United Methodist and St. Matthew Lutheran churches, Sunday, Dec. 14, 6 p.m.

Wellston Sts. Peter and Paul Church – *On a Night Like This* concert narrative featuring local Christian music group Living Water, Friday, Dec. 12, 7 p.m.

Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains – Advent/Christmas “Hearts Afire” parish renewal program of consecration to Jesus through Mary, Sunday, Dec. 1, 11 a.m. (continues weekly through Advent); lessons and carols, followed by rectory open house, Sunday, Dec. 21, 4 p.m.; youth group New Year’s Eve lock-in, Wednesday, Dec. 31, 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m.

CULTIVATING A ‘SPIRITUALITY OF ENCOUNTER’ THIS ADVENT

By Sister Constance Veit, LSP

In September, Pope Francis celebrated “the blessing of long life” with thousands of senior citizens and their families. In his homily that day, he spoke about the Visitation of the Virgin Mary to her cousin Elizabeth, calling it “a Gospel of encounter.” The pope encouraged those present –



and, through them, all of us – to follow Mary’s example and re-establish a covenant between the young and the old. He said the future of society supposes the meeting between generations as the young “give the strength which enables a people to move forward, while the elderly consolidate this strength by their memory and their traditional wisdom.”

“Encounter” is a particularly rich concept, especially during this Advent/Christmas season. Isn’t “encounter” really what the Incarnation is all about? God encountered his creatures in the most direct way possible by becoming one of them in the person of his Son, Jesus Christ – God-with-us.

Instead of rushing through December in a frenetic preparation for all that Christmas has come to entail in our materialistic society, what if we used this season of Advent to follow Our Lord’s example and concentrate our efforts on nurturing a spirituality of encounter in our daily lives?

I would like to suggest two ways of doing this. The first is to encounter God each day in his Word. The opening chapters of St. Luke’s Gospel alone are filled with divine-human encounters that can teach us much about trusting in God and being present to others. These encounters begin with the two annunciations – Gabriel’s announcement to Zechariah that his elderly wife would bear a child, and his announcement to Mary that she would become the mother of the Messiah.

In Zechariah, we see what happens when we are too set in our ways, or too

convinced of our own limitations, to believe that God could possibly enter into our lives. In Mary, we witness a very different response. She believes Gabriel’s words and offers herself completely to God in a relationship that will be miraculously fruitful. Then, as Mary sets out in haste to visit her elderly

cousin in the Visitation, the unborn children communicate with each other from their mother’s wombs, and the two women – one young and one old – share the unbridled joy of God’s presence in their lives.

Mary’s Magnificat is followed by silence, but we can assume that Mary helped her elderly relatives prepare for the birth of their child. She would have observed their faithfulness and learned from their experience. As Pope Francis said, “Mary was able to listen to those elderly and amazed parents. She treasured their wisdom, and it proved precious for her in her journey as a woman, as a wife, and as a mother.”

In the Visitation, Mary shows us the second means of growing in the spirituality of encounter. Very simply, we learn to encounter others when we depart from ourselves and reach out to them in their need, when we listen to their hopes and anxieties and appreciate their beauty and gifts. During Advent, Mary shows us the way of openness to both God and neighbor. She shows us the way, as Pope Francis said, “of encounter between the young and the old.”

This Advent, I invite you to honor Our Lord’s coming among us in the Incarnation by striving to practice the gospel of encounter. Begin by skipping just one trip to the mall in order to visit a sick family member or an elderly neighbor in need. Follow Mary’s way to an Advent of joyful, loving encounters!

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

Jubilee Museum is again presenting “Mangers at the Museum”

The Holy Family Jubilee Museum’s annual “Mangers at the Museum” exhibit of about 170 Nativity displays will begin on Nov. 30, the First Sunday of Advent, and be open nearly every day for the next seven weeks, including Christmas Day.

Father Kevin Lutz, founder and director of the museum in the former Columbus Holy Family School at 57 S. Grubb St. in the Franklinton neighborhood, said museum tours will take place at

1 p.m. every day through Sunday, Jan. 18, with additional tours at 11 a.m. each Saturday. The museum will be closed on Christmas Eve, New Year’s Eve, and New Year’s Day.

“We are planning a tour at 1 p.m. on Christmas Day,” Father Lutz said. “There really isn’t a more appropriate day to do it, and it would be a good way for individuals and families to continue their celebration of Jesus’ birth after going to church and enjoying their family gatherings.”

CYSC Dinner Theater

Catholic Youth Summer Camp is sponsoring its annual dinner theater presentation from 6 to 9 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at Villa Milano, 1630 Schrock Road, Columbus.

The program will feature a glimpse into the youth ministry work performed each year at CYSC, featuring stories of individuals and families whose lives have been changed forever because of what they have discovered in camp.

Camp experiences include daily Mass, jet skiing, confession, water tubing, paintball, blobbing, sacred art, go-karts,

archery, zip lines, rock climbing, ropes courses, and mountain boarding, with priests, seminarians, deacons, and ordained sisters and brothers bonding with the young people in attendance. Participants come for adventure, but have a chance to leave with the freedom found only in Jesus.

The dinner theater is appropriate for adults and camper-aged young people. Tickets are \$75 for adults and \$25 for campers, with table sponsorships also available. For more information, email julie@cyssc.com.

The museum’s permanent collection is recognized by the Vatican as the largest collection of diversified Catholic artwork in the United States. It includes the Nativity figures displayed on the Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral lawn in the 1940s, and sets from Ethiopia, Nigeria, Mexico, Honduras, Sweden, and elsewhere.

A highlight is the nation’s largest collection of Fontanini Nativity figures from Italy, which was donated to the museum by Father Carmen Arcuri, a retired priest of the Diocese of Columbus.

“We have Nativity figures as small as a walnut and as large as three feet tall,” Father Lutz said. “Other recent additions to our collection include the windows from the chapel at the old St.

Vincent’s Orphanage in Columbus and three stained-glass windows from a Jesuit retreat house, which were donated by local resident John Haemmerle.”

He also said the family of Father Kenneth Walker, a newly ordained priest murdered in Phoenix this past June, recently donated one of his cassocks to the museum. “We have his holy cards available for museum visitors and for anyone who makes a request in writing for a card,” Father Lutz said. “People have described seeing the cassock as being a very moving experience.”

For information on its upcoming biennial exhibit of sacred art, visit its website at www.jubileemuseum.org or call (614) 221-4323.

YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR

St. Peter Catholic Church is seeking a Youth Ministry Coordinator for its high school-age parishioners (Grades 9 – 12). This is a part-time position (29 hours per week). The Youth Ministry Coordinator may eventually be asked to assume other responsibilities, at which time he or she would be offered full-time employment. The hourly rate of pay for the part-time post is negotiable.

Minimally, an applicant must:

- Be a practicing Roman Catholic with knowledge of the Faith and living in accordance with the moral precepts of the Church.
- Be fully compliant with safe environment/child protection policies in effect and required.
- Be at least 21 years of age.
- Have a 4-year college degree. Especially attractive are Religious Education, Religious Studies, Theology, Youth Ministry, and other such focused majors.
- Be a “team player,” energetic, and hard-working.
- Be visionary — able to “think outside the box.”
- Be a community mobilizer with strong recruiting and marketing abilities.
- Have computer graphics, writing, and editing skills.
- Have leadership strengths.
- Have experience in Youth Ministry.

The Youth Ministry Program is a department within the Parish School of Religion (PSR). The Youth Ministry Coordinator reports to the Director of PSR. A focus on the family as a necessary context for affirming youth in their Catholic life is a foundational principle at St. Peter. The Youth Ministry Program is a catechetical one, with a focus on teaching the core content of the Catholic faith. The study of Sacred Scripture, the Church, the sacraments, and the principles of Christian morality characterize the catechesis of adolescents. The purpose of the Youth Program is to form the young to become faithful to, and active practitioners of, Roman Catholicism all their adult lives. The Youth Ministry Coordinator is to actively promote weekly Mass attendance; to introduce adolescents to other liturgical prayer forms and devotional expressions; and to offer a variety of service and fellowship opportunities for high school-age children to apply their knowledge of the Faith in Corporal Works of Mercy and Diocesan-sponsored activities.

Send resumes and references to:

Mrs. Maureen Luis/Director of PSR

St. Peter Catholic Church • 6899 Smoky Row Road • Columbus, Ohio 43235
maluis@rrohio.com

Marion Boy Scout Troop 50 Studies the Rosary in a Brand-New Way!

Marion St. Mary Church’s Boy Scout Troop 50 spent Friday and Saturday, Nov. 7 and 8, studying and learning how to pray the Rosary. The Scouts took part in a 24-hour program which the troop and its leaders developed during the past year and named after St. Dominic. They learned why Catholics pray the Rosary and how teens can increase their spirituality by paying homage to Mary, the Mother of Jesus, through its prayers.

The St. Dominic program was developed for several reasons. Adult leader Michael Galyk said, “We felt there was a need to help Catholic teens to dig deeper into praying the Rosary and to gain a fuller understanding of something faithful Catholics have done for hundreds of years.”

Galyk, along with adult leaders Michael Watson, Leonard Janchar, Lori Stevenson and Paul Beickelman, and Eagle Scout Alec Beickelman developed the program with the hopes of bringing it to Catholic young people in the Diocese of Columbus and beyond.

“Troop 50 has had a long history of creation, implementation, and participation in many Catholic Scouting events,” Watson said. “This will be another option for Boy and Girl Scout troops, Venturing crews, Life Teen, and other Catholic youth groups.”

The program includes Bible study, creative activities, and plenty of teen-focused fellowship. The troop is planning on rolling out the St. Dominic medal program to the Catholic community in the fall of 2015.

To learn how to be part of this new and innovative program, contact Troop 50 at jpprod12@aol.com.

Photo: Participants in the inaugural St. Dominic medal program at Marion St. Mary Church for Catholic Scouts



were (from left): first row, Keith Eastman, Macray Brown, Father Thomas Buffer, St. Mary pastor; Michael McLernon, Alec Beickelman, and Benjamin Waldo; second row, Michael Galyk, Michael Watson, Leonard Janchar, and Paul Beickelman. Photo courtesy Boy Scout Troop 50

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First Sunday of Advent (Cycle B)

The Lord allows us to walk with him or to wander



Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

Isaiah 63:16b-17,19b;64:2-7

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Mark 13:33-37

The Isaiah reading is part of what is technically called a “community lamentation” in which the whole nation accepts the present situation of distress, understanding it as a punishment for Israel’s many sins. The situation is the Babylonian Exile. This is followed by an appeal for help in the Israelites’ dire circumstances: “Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down ... while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for. ...”

The prophet boldly suggests that the Lord is involved in the nation’s sin. “Why do you let us wander, O Lord, from your ways and harden our hearts so that we fear you not?” Here the nation blames God for giving it the freedom to wander away. Yet the Lord did not want robots, trained to always do what is right. The Lord gave us freedom either to walk in the ways of righteousness or to wander. Blaming God for how we were made is the height of arrogance, but we do it often.

In this lamentation, the people constantly remind the Lord of their suffering, while all the time admitting “We have done it, we have sinned, we know that, but You are our Father, O Lord, so how can you leave us in this rotten situation? But you, O Lord, are the potter; we are the clay. You have molded us.” Following this reminder is another appeal for the Lord to act on the nation’s behalf.

This lamentation is unusual for this part of Isaiah. Generally, Isaiah 40:1-66:24 is hopeful and filled with promises of restoration from exile and the prom-

ise of release from captivity. This lamentation, therefore, would be expected immediately during and after the events that led to Judah’s collapse rather than following a passage in which the Prophet had shouted, “No more will people call you ‘Forsaken’ or your land ‘Desolate.’ You shall be called ‘My Delight’ and your land ‘Espoused’” (Isaiah 62:4; see the readings for Christmas Eve).

This year’s Gospel readings will come frequently from Mark’s Gospel. Sunday’s passage is from what has been called the “apocalyptic discourse,” in which Jesus warns the disciples to stay alert and focused in preparation for the coming of “the Son of Man.”

The whole section attempts to describe the coming of the “one like a Son of Man.” Mark had already noted that no one knew when that day or hour would happen, “neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.” Obviously, none of the disciples knew, but this is a warning to them to keep awake and alert until it happens.

In the beginning of this parable-like saying, Jesus talks about “a man traveling abroad.” It is not until the return that the man is called the “lord of the house.” By all accounts, this is a reference to the return of Christ at the end of the age, which was still expected to happen soon when Mark was written. The season of Advent intensifies our focus on the end-time return of the Lord in glory.

Finally, Paul’s words to the Corinthians continue the lengthy greeting that was part of the letter-writing style of the New Testament and a prayer of thanksgiving. The section for Sunday has the end of the greeting and the prayer of thanks. Grace and peace are standard greetings in Paul’s letters.

The thanksgiving was connected to specific reasons why Paul was grateful to God for the grace (or gift) that was given to them through Christ Jesus. “Speech” (tongues) and knowledge will be mentioned later in the letter in connection with problems Paul has detected in Corinth.

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

Corpus Christi to present talk on Archbishop Sheen

Archbishop Fulton Sheen, best-known as a pioneering religious broadcaster, has been declared a Venerable Servant of God, the first step in the canonization process. His life will be the subject of a talk by Ohio Dominican University history professor Kathleen Riley from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 10, at the Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus.

Archbishop Sheen fashioned a uniquely American Catholic response to the challenges of the 20th century. No other American Catholic of that time surpasses him in terms of his versatility, longevity, and popularity.

Besides being a familiar figure on radio and television from the

1930s to the 1970s, Archbishop Sheen was a professor at Catholic University of America, national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, and bishop of Rochester, New York in the aftermath of the Second Vatican Council.

Riley is the author of the book *Fulton J. Sheen: An American Catholic Response to the Twentieth Century*, and serves on the committee for the cause of Archbishop Sheen’s canonization.

Her presentation will be followed by a simple lunch. Admission is \$5.

Register online at cccenterofpeace.org, by email to corpuschristicenterofpeace@gmail.com, or by phone at (614) 512-3731.

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm 122:1-9
Matthew 8:5-11

TUESDAY
Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:7-8,12-13,17
Luke 10:21-24

WEDNESDAY
Isaiah 25:6-10a
Psalm 23:1-6
Matthew 15:29-37

THURSDAY
Isaiah 26:1-6
Psalm 118:1,8-9,19-21,25-27a
Matthew 7:21,24-27

FRIDAY
Isaiah 29:17-24
Psalm 27:1,4,13-14
Matthew 9:27-31

SATURDAY
Isaiah 30:19-21,23-26
Psalm 147:1-6
Matthew 9:35-10:1,5a,6-8

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30, 2014

SUNDAY MASS

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

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

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Time Warner Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or WOW Channel 378) (Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).

DAILY MASS

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

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

Vatican II and the Berlin Wall

History sometimes displays the happy capacity to arrange anniversaries so that one sheds light on another.

On Nov. 21, 1964, Pope Paul VI solemnly promulgated the Second Vatican Council’s Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, which began by proclaiming Christ the “light of the nations” and is thus known as *Lumen Gentium*. Twenty-five years later, on the night of Nov. 9-10, 1989, the Berlin Wall was breached and the communist project in Europe collapsed, reduced to rubble like the masonry that divided Germany for decades. Fifty years after *Lumen Gentium* and 25 years after the Revolution of 1989, we can see more clearly that Vatican II had something to do with the communist crackup.

Not in the way senior Vatican diplomats imagined, however. In the post-council euphoria, it was thought that Vatican II’s “openness” would help facilitate a “convergence” between East and West such that the Wall, and the postwar division of Europe, would eventually melt away. What actually happened was far more dramatic and illustrates the way in which salvation history, working inside what the world sees as “history,” can bend history in a more humane direction.

Lumen Gentium described the Church as having a sacramental character: the Church is “a sign or



THE CATHOLIC
DIFFERENCE
George Weigel

instrument ... of communion with God and of unity among all men.” That longed-for “unity among all men” is only possible through “communion with God.” It can’t be created by ultramundane, hypersecular modernity; as the great Council theologian, Henri de Lubac, once put it, human beings without God can only organize the world against each other. But whereas many in the West took the council’s call for dialogue and openness as an invitation to modify the Catholic critique of communism, the Polish Church, led by two giants, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński and the young archbishop of Cracow, Karol Wojtyła, read *Lumen Gentium*—and indeed the entirety of Vatican II—as an invitation to press hard for religious freedom and other basic human rights, so that the Church could be the unifying, liberating force that Polish communism manifestly could not be.

Wojtyła brought that conviction to Rome with him when he was elected pope in October 1978. Then, on his first pastoral pilgrimage back to his Polish homeland, John Paul II deftly wove together themes from Poland’s Christian history with Vatican II’s call for a re-energized Catholicism intent on converting the world, and in nine days inspired a revolution of conscience rooted in Christ, the light of the nations; Christ, from whom we learn the truth about the

merciful Father and the truth about our humanity; Christ, who is the true liberator because he is, as John Paul styled his first encyclical, *Redemptor Hominis*, the “redeemer of man.”

John Paul II’s revolution of conscience ignited tinder that had been gathering in central and eastern Europe for years—and 10 years later, in November 1989, the Wall came down, demolished by the aroused consciences of men and women who had dared to take the risk of freedom, and who had dared to live in the truth.

Communism would eventually have collapsed of its own implausibility and incompetence. But it might not have collapsed in 1989 without John Paul II’s revolution of conscience. And John Paul’s papacy was made possible, in turn, by Vatican II—not by what Pope Benedict XVI called the “council of the media,” which seemed to deconstruct Catholicism, but by the real council, the council that called the Church to proclaim Christ as “light of the nations” and to convert the world through all the instruments that form the Catholic symphony of truth.

So: no Vatican II, no *Lumen Gentium*; no *Lumen Gentium* and Vatican II, no John Paul II; no John Paul II, no Revolution of 1989.

What the world knows as “history” is really just the surface of things. Beneath that surface, salvation history—God’s liberating providence—is at work, often in hidden ways, but sometimes more clearly. There were two such moments of clarity 50 and 25 years ago. We should recognize and celebrate them today.

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

Visit us at www.ctonline.org

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY POSITION

St. Brigid of Kildare Parish is seeking a full-time coordinator of High School Youth and Young Adult Ministry to organize, implement and enrich the existing ministry for high school aged youth of the parish.

The coordinator will be responsible for directing the parish pastoral ministry to youth, based on *Renewing the Vision: a Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry*, developing the leadership of our *Core Team*, and facilitating the management of our *Bridge Team*, our peer leadership board.

Qualifications: Bachelor’s degree in a related field or certifications in Youth Ministry, knowledge of the Catholic faith and an understanding of youth. Master’s degree preferred. Salary and benefits are commensurate with experience. View the full job description at www.stbrigidofkildare.org.

Please submit qualifications by February 20, 2014 to:

**St. Brigid of Kildare at 7179 Avery Road, Dublin, Ohio 43017,
Attn: High School Youth and Young Adult Ministry Search Committee**

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POSITION

St. Brigid of Kildare Parish is seeking a full-time director of Religious Education to manage the planning, implementation and evaluation of the Religious Education program. The director will be responsible for planning, organizing and scheduling classes, choosing textbooks, preparing the budget, serving on appropriate parish committees, and overseeing the general management of the program. The director also coordinates a parish-based, family-oriented sacramental preparation program for students aged preschool through grade eight.

Qualifications include a Bachelor’s degree in a related field, knowledge of Catholic faith and sacramental preparation. Master’s degree preferred. Salary and benefits are commensurate with experience. View the full job description at www.stbrigidofkildare.org.

Please submit qualifications by February 20, 2014 to:

**St. Brigid of Kildare at 7179 Avery Road, Dublin, Ohio 43017,
Attn: Director of Religious Education Search Committee**

Pray for our dead

BAESMANN, Audrey M., 84, Nov. 17
St. Aloysius Church, Columbus

BAKER, Paul R., 81, Nov. 22
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

BONISOLLI, Bessie, 88, Nov. 13
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

CAMP, James R., 67, Nov. 18
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

CRON, Dennis R., 65, Nov. 22
St. John XXIII Church, Canal Winchester

CROSSEN, Nicholas P., 27, Nov. 14
St. Cecilia Church, Columbus

DiCARLIS, JoAnne, 81, Nov. 20
St. Joseph Church, Circleville

FITCH, Patricia M., 84, Oct. 31
St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury

KINNEY, Vilma, 85, Nov. 18
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

KOBERTZ, Franz J. "Frank," 72, Nov. 18
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

KUSKOWSKI, William A., 85, formerly of Columbus, Nov. 20
St. Frances Cabrini Church, Lebanon, Tenn.

MANTZ, John H., 79, Oct. 8
St. Matthias Church, Columbus

MARLIN, Courtney M., 40, formerly of Upper Arlington, Nov. 15
St. Bernard Church, Scottsdale, Ariz.

MINISTER, Mildred L., 84, Nov. 12
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

O'NEILL, John J., 94, Nov. 16
St. Edward Church, Granville

O'REILLY, David R., 75, Nov. 19
St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

RAGER, Robert B., 78, Nov. 13
St. Leonard Church, Heath

RIEGER, William, 95, Nov. 19
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

ROSE, Mary E., 92, Nov. 22
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

VAN CULIN, Donald K., 86, Nov. 22
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

VITA, Orlando A. "Ollie," 85, Nov. 16
St. Mary Church, Portsmouth

WEINER, Paul, 70, Nov. 12
St. Bernard Church, Corning

WHITE, Robert F., 94, Nov. 22
St. Patrick Church, London

WOODY, Mary E., 84, formerly of Columbus, Nov. 19
Annunciation Church, Baldwin City, Kan.

Sister Rita Agnes Masse, OP

Funeral Mass for Sister Rita Agnes Masse, OP, 93, who died Sunday, Nov. 16, was held Saturday, Nov. 22 at the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born February 16, 1921, in Zanesville to the late Frank and Julia (McCabe) Masse. She made her profession of vows as a member of the former Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs on Aug. 14, 1941.

In the Diocese of Columbus, she served as a teacher at Lancaster St. Mary High School (1947-48) and Columbus Bishop Watterson High School (1966-72). She also served as archivist for the Diocese

of Columbus (1973-84), was in community service at the Motherhouse (1989-90), worked at the Mohun Health Care Center (1990-95), was a presenter of the Myers-Briggs personality inventory throughout the United States (1995-2006), and was a volunteer at the Motherhouse (2006-09). She served in a ministry of prayer and presence at the Mohun center from 2009 until her death. In addition, she was a teacher in Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, and the Diocese of Steubenville.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and sisters, Sr. Rita Ann Masse, OP, Patricia Sawyers, Mary Louise, and Marjorie Powell.



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NOVEMBER

29, 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.

30, SUNDAY
Alpine Advent Music at Columbus St. Mary
9 a.m., St. Mary, Mother of God Church, 672 S. 3rd St.,

Columbus. Traditional German-Austrian celebration of Mass for First Sunday of Advent, featuring prelude and postlude by Alphon Gruezie alphon group and singing of "Adventjodler" hymn by parish choir before Mass. **614-445-9668**
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**
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**
Advent Vespers at Plain City St. Joseph
6 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave., Plain City. Service of Vespers to open the Advent season. **614-873-8850**
Vespers at Columbus St. Patrick
7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Sung Vespers for First Sunday of Advent. **614-224-9522**
Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. **706-761-4054**

30-JAN. 18, SUNDAY-SUNDAY
Nativity Exhibition at Holy Family Jubilee Museum
Holy Family Jubilee Museum, 57 S. Grubb St., Columbus. Annual "Mangers at the Museum" exhibit of about 170 Nativity scenes of all sizes. Tours at 1 p.m. every day and 11 a.m. Saturdays. Closed Dec. 24 and 31 and Jan. 1. **614-221-4323**

DECEMBER

1, MONDAY
Adoration, Prayer Service at New Philadelphia
5 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 139 3rd St N.E., New Philadelphia. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and confession, followed by prayer service. **330-343-6976**
Advent Quiet Evening at Corpus Christi
6:30 to 8 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. An evening of quiet reflection as spiritual preparation for the celebration of God coming to be with us at Christmas. **614-512-3731**
Advent Evening of Reflection at St. Pius X
7 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Advent evening of reflection. **614-866-2859**
Malawi Mission Talk at St. Timothy
7:30 p.m., St. Timothy Church, 1088 Thomas Lane, Columbus. Mission talk by George and Molly Cleary on Passion Center for Children in African nation of Malawi, with music by parish choir. Preceded by potluck at 6:30. **614-451-2671**

1-4, MONDAY-THURSDAY
Parish Mission at Columbus St. Patrick
7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Parish mission with Father Jordan Turano, OP. Theme: "AS-SUME Everything." **614-224-9522**

2, 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. **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**

3, WEDNESDAY
Christmas Celebration at Ohio Dominican
5 p.m., Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Christmas celebration with tree lighting, creche blessing, Santa visit, and lessons and carols. **614-251-4453**
Christmas Concert at St. Elizabeth
7 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. An evening of religious and secular music by the parish choirs. **614-891-0150**

4, THURSDAY
Spiritual Day Spa at St. Therese's
9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Spiritual day spa program with Elizabeth and Mark Ficocelli and Father Josh Wagner, pastor of Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John and St. Dominic churches. **614-866-1611**
Exposition of Blessed Sacrament at Lancaster St. Mary
From end of 9 a.m. Mass to 1:45 p.m., St. Mary Church, 132 S. High St., Lancaster. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. **740-653-0997**
Carmelo Cortez at St. James the Less
6 p.m., St. James the Less Church, 1652 Oakland Park Ave., Columbus. Rosary, followed by Mass at 6:30, and healing service with Filipino lay evangelist Carmelo Cortez following Mass. **614-861-4888**

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**
Christmas Tour of Newark Churches
St. Francis de Sales Church, 40 Granville St., Newark, will be the last stop of the evening "Sights and Sounds of Christmas Tour" of churches in and around downtown Newark. **740-345-9874**
Holy Hour of Reparation at Columbus Sacred Heart
7 to 8 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour following Holy Hour of Reparation prayer format, concluding with Benediction and social period. Prayers for intention of deepened holiness and an increase in the virtue of fortitude for bishops and priests. **614-372-5249**

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. Speaker: Father Cyrus Haddad, parochial vicar, Hilliard St. Brendan Church. Details at www.columbuscatholicmen.com.
St. John Chrysostom First Friday Sale
4 to 6 p.m., St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic

Church, 5858 Cleveland Ave., Columbus. First Friday sale of pirogi, stuffed cabbage, noodles, baked goods. **614-882-7578**

All-Night Exposition at Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes
Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 1033 W. 5th St., Marysville. All-night exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, from after 5:15 p.m. Mass Friday to 10 a.m. Saturday, concluding with Benediction. **937-644-6020**

All-Night Eucharistic Vigil at Cathedral
St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad 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.

6, 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.
Morning of Reflection at Sts. Peter and Paul
9 a.m. to noon, Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center, 2734 Seminary Road S.E., Newark. Morning of reflection with Sister Louis Mary Passeri, OP. Theme: "Here Is Your God." **740-928-4246**

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**

Giftmaking Workshop at Shepherd's Corner
1 to 2:30 p.m., Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Workshop for making knotted and beaded jewelry and string art Christmas cards, led by Sisters Diane Kozlowski, OP, and Marguerite Chandler, OP. For anyone 6 and older; children 12 and younger need to be accompanied by an adult. \$15 per person, \$13 for groups of three or more. Registration deadline Dec. 1. **614-866-4302**

Advent Concert at Delaware St. Mary
7 p.m., St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware. Parish and school's annual Advent concert. **740-363-4641**
'A Bethlehem Carol' at St. Joan of Arc
7:30 p.m., St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. 22nd annual performance of "A Bethlehem Carol" children's Christmas musical. **614-761-0905**

6-FEB. 8, SATURDAY-SUNDAY
Sacred Art Exhibition at Holy Family Jubilee Museum
Holy Family Jubilee Museum, 57 S. Grubb St., Columbus. Inaugural biennial exhibition of contemporary sacred art. Theme: "Cain and Abel, Am I My Brother's Keeper?" **614-221-4323**

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



MONDAY-FRIDAY
4PM - 5PM

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CATHOLIC RADIO
AM 820

"THE FASTEST HOUR IN CATHOLIC RADIO!"

ART EXHIBIT

CAIN and ABEL: Am I my brother's keeper?

Holy Family Jubilee Museum hosts sacred art biennial exhibit

In keeping with its mission to evangelize, the Holy Family Jubilee Museum, 57 S. Grubb St., Columbus, has organized its first contemporary sacred art biennial exhibition. The event is a juried exhibition and its theme this year is *Cain and Abel, Am I My Brother's Keeper?* The exhibition will be open from Saturday, Dec. 6 to Sunday, Feb. 8, 2015.

The biennial is designed to bring together contemporary Judeo-Christian artists from a broad range of denominations who have a passion for the visual arts and have made their faith central to their work. With this type of exhibition, the museum hopes to contribute to a greater Judeo-Christian presence in the art world at large.

This year's exhibit is based on the theme from the story of Cain and Abel: "Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. And Abel also brought an offering—fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.

Cain and Abel, by Linus Meldrum



Before the Sacrifice, by Gwyneth Holston

Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted?"

—Genesis 4:3-7

Entries in the competition were judged based on the artists' ability to visually capture the inherent theme of how Cain and Abel dealt with the challenge of making an offering acceptable to the Lord, and the tragic outcome of those efforts.

The juror for the biennial was Dr. James Romaine, associate professor of art history at Nyack College in New York. He is a frequent lecturer on faith and the visual arts and has authored many articles in publications such as *Image: A Journal of the Arts and Religion* and *The Princeton Theological Review*. He is the president and co-founder of the Association of Scholars of Christianity in the History of Art (ASCHA), www.christianityhistoryart.org.

The Jubilee Museum's contemporary juried sacred art biennial was open to artists residing in the United States and overseas. The 25 participating artists represent a broad area of the United States: Texas, Wisconsin, Ohio, South Carolina, Missouri, California, Indiana, New Hampshire, Virginia, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Washington, Colorado, Maine, and New Jersey. Also participating in the exhibition is guest artist and Holocaust survivor Alfred Tibor, internationally celebrated central Ohio sculptor.



A diversity of artistic styles, including realism, expressionism, and abstraction, is represented in the exhibition. Each artist has invited the viewer to acknowledge and contemplate the close bond between art and faith.

All the artwork is for sale, with 20 percent of each sale benefiting the museum's new exhibitions and educational programming.

An opening reception will take place Sunday, Dec. 14, from 2 to 4 p.m. Gourmet coffee, tea, apple cider, and desserts will be served.

The exhibition is being organized by Graziella Marchicelli, PhD, the museum's

director of museum services and special exhibitions.



Cain's Cry, by Cora Smith

Local agencies have gift ideas for those most in need this Christmas

People need your help. They need the basics: food, clothing, and household items. Without your help, many children will go without Christmas gifts this year. Several diocesan organizations offer opportunities to provide that assistance. Here is a list of some of them:

Catholic Social Services (CSS)
197 E. Gay St., Columbus 43215.
Phone: (614) 221-5891.
Website: www.colss.org.

Catholic Social Services strengthens families, guides individuals toward economic stability, provides food, and serves as the extended family for seniors. Its supportive services branch (Attention: Debbie Hilliard) needs gift certificates for \$25 each from either Kroger or Walmart for HOME Choice clients who have transitioned into the community. Its counseling office (Attention: Meredith Adams) needs \$25 or \$50 grocery store gift cards for holiday meals.

CSS Portsmouth Office
2311 Stockham Lane, Portsmouth 45662.
Phone: (740) 353-3185.
Attention: Donna Montavon.

The office is requesting winter coats in sizes 4T-XL, male and female; gloves and hats in child and adult sizes; boys and girls pants and jeans, sizes 8-16; peanut butter, jelly, and canned fruit for holiday food baskets; and Walmart gift cards.

CSS Baskets of Love
422 Main St., Suite 400, Zanesville 43702; 1031 Brice St., Newark 43055.
Phone: (740) 452-5057, extension 102, or (740) 454-9761. Attention: Dave Desender or Debi Smith.

Catholic Social Services and the Muskingum County Center for Seniors are working with area businesses and organizations to provide "baskets of love" to homebound seniors. People who would like to help are asked to place selected items in a small clothes basket or reusable canvas shopping bag, to be delivered by Saturday, Dec. 20.

The baskets should include items such as bath and hand towels, non-skid rugs, phone (calling) cards, "gripper" pens, lined stationery, postage stamps, envelopes, large print books, shampoo and soap, razors, crossword puzzle books, bandages and ointments, mops and sponges, bleach, laundry soap,



fabric softener, stain remover, sugar-free candy, toothbrushes, toothpaste, greeting cards, paper towels, tissues, toilet paper, and baby powder.

Donations may be dropped off at the CSS Zanesville office (address listed above) or the Muskingum County Center for Seniors, 200 Sunrise Center Drive, Zanesville, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays.

JOIN (Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs)
578 E. Main St., Columbus 43215.
Phone: (614) 241-2530. Website: <http://join.coltsdioc.org>.

JOIN responds to people in need with emergency material assistance, serving more than 100 families each day with almost every problem imaginable, from birth to death. It always can use gas cards, food gift cards, gift cards for teenagers (from department stores such as Target and Meijer, bookstores, or stores selling music, games, and movies), basic hygiene items, and monetary donations.

St. Francis Center
108 W. Mill St., McArthur 45651.
Phone: (740) 596-5820. Website: <https://www.facebook.com/StFrancisOutreachCenter>.

The center serves as a Catholic presence in the southeastern part of the Diocese of Columbus, assisting impoverished families in meeting their most basic needs of food and clothing. Needed items include food pantry staples, new toys, clothing, and monetary donations. Volunteers are needed to help pack food and toys on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 13 and 14. Call for details.

St. Stephen's Community House
1500 E. 17th Ave., Columbus 43219.
Phone: (614) 294-6347. Website: www.saintstephensch.org.

St. Stephen's Community House is a hub for advancing self-sufficiency

in the community. It is committed to assisting residents in the Linden neighborhood of Columbus in building community and individual well-being. It assists residents in maximizing their potential through programs and services such as employment, social development, community organization,

education, and child care.

It is looking for food pantry items such as tuna, Hamburger Helper, peanut butter, and canned goods, as well as monetary donations. The St. Stephen's Christmas Cares/Union Shares program will distribute food to registered needy families in the Linden area on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 20 and 21. St. Stephen's also needs volunteers from Friday, Dec. 19 to Tuesday, Dec. 23 to collect and distribute food items. To sign up for a time slot, go to www.SignUpGenius.com/go/9040D48A5A72FAA8-20142/9823714.

St. Vincent Family Center
1490 E. Main St., Columbus 43205.
Phone: (614) 252-0731. Website: www.svfc.org.

The St. Vincent Family Center makes good kids better by providing pediatric behavioral health care within a learning community to change the lives of children and families. Its Adopt-A-Family program provides holiday gifts to families the center serves. Your presents may be the only gifts they receive. For details, go to www.svfc.org/news/holiday-season-adopt-family.

Contact Debra Huff at AdoptAFamily@svfc.org and let her know how many children you would like to support. Once you are matched with a family, you will receive a wish list and further instructions. St. Vincent's asks you to spend \$80 to \$100 per child.

Gifts will be collected at the center from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11 to Saturday, Dec. 13. The center also is asking for food gift cards for families. Volunteers age 18 and older are greatly appreciated.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Phone: (614) 221-3554.

Website: www.vincentianvoice.org.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul provides food, clothing, housing, and spiritual support to people in need. It operates in parishes across the diocese and sponsors a daily lunch line at St. Lawrence Haven in Columbus, a clothing center, and other ministries. Needed items include food, clothing (especially men's hats, gloves, socks, and underwear), and adult's and children's coats, which may be sent to the St. Vincent de Paul Clothing Center at 578 E. Main St. in Columbus (phone 614-241-2569). In addition, monetary donations for your parish St. Vincent de Paul conference are always helpful, especially during the holiday season.

Catholic Charities Christmas Collection

This annual collection allows the diocese to meet a variety of basic needs directly and through diocesan agencies and organizations, including those listed above. You can help share in this important work by generously supporting the Catholic Charities collection this year. Look for the envelope in your parish envelope packet for December.

Diocesan Office for Social Concerns

197 E. Gay St., Columbus 43215.
Phone: (614) 241-2540. Website: <http://socialconcerns.coltsdioc.org>.

The Office for Social Concerns serves as the central diocesan resource for social justice education and advocacy. Learn more about Catholic teachings on important social issues and act on your faith to make a difference in your community and around the world.

Catholic Relief Services

Catholic Relief Services is the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States. Through the CRS Fair Trade crafts, coffee, and chocolate program, you can help struggling artisans and farmers around the world earn fair wages. The program offers great gift ideas through a catalog which includes nearly 1,500 CRS projects that transform people and communities overseas for the long term. Your gift saves lives and tells your loved one how much you care. More details are available at <http://gifts.crs.org>.

Living Water™

Living Water Shares an Advent Journey

The Columbus band Living Water will be sharing its concert narrative *On a Night Like This* at several central Ohio churches during the Advent season. Using Scripture, narration, and song, *On a Night Like This* is an emotional experience of the Christmas journey.

Viewing the timeless story of the birth of Jesus from the perspective of many – Mary, Joseph, the Innkeeper, even God the Father in Heaven – the concert closes with the knowledge of salvation this Only Son brings and a pledge to honor God's great gift of love in the way we live our lives.

On a Night Like This will be presented six times during Advent. The schedule is:

- **Friday Dec. 12, 7 p.m.**, Wellston Ss. Peter and Paul Church, 227 S. New York Ave.
- **Saturday, Dec. 13, 7 p.m.**, Oxford United Methodist

Church, 14 N. Poplar St., Oxford, Ohio.

- **Tuesday, Dec. 16, 7 p.m.**, Columbus Holy Spirit Church, 4383 E. Broad St.

- **Wednesday, Dec. 17, 7 p.m.**, Peace Lutheran Church, 455 Clark State Road, Gahanna.

- **Friday, Dec. 19, 7:30 p.m.**, New Albany Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road.

- **Sunday, Dec. 21, 5:30 p.m.**, Columbus St. Mary Magdalene Church, 473 S. Roys Ave.

There is no charge for the presentations. A free-will offering will be accepted. The program lasts for an hour and is appropriate for all ages. Consult www.livingwatermusic.org for more information.

Living Water began its unique musical ministry in 2003 and has performed in venues ranging from churches to flatbed trucks, gyms to el-

egant theaters, and the Ohio State Fairgrounds to the Ohio Reformatory for Women. The band's mission is "to assist people on their spiritual journey by providing an emotional encounter with God's Grace."

Living Water has created four previous concert narratives, but this show has its own story. "We already had a concert narrative for the Christmas season titled *In a Different Light*, said Katy Wyatt, Living Water's lead singer and narrator, who is youth minister at the Church of the Resurrection. "It was a lovely story of redemption and the audiences responded strongly to it, but we were concerned that it was the only narrative not based on Scripture."

"We struggled with the Christmas story," added singer and rhythm guitarist Greg Gliebe, "The passages and story



are so familiar, and we wanted to find a presentation that was true to Scripture but had new insights to offer." "We hit a roadblock and we could not move forward," said Thom Wyatt, who plays percussion and keyboards in the band and does vocals.

In a dramatic turn of events in the spring of 2013, cello/bass player Robin Coolidge's wife, Valerie, was rushed to the hospital with a life-threatening medical condition. Through the next weeks when her condition was so tenuous, he was always by her side. In the wee hours of the night when he went home from the hospital, he would post a "Valerie update" for family and friends praying for her re-

covery. People on social media referred to themselves as "Valerie-oholics" waiting to hear the newest post.

"The nightly ritual of writing updates became necessary. ... It gave me a way to decompress, to let the day go; to leave some of the hurt, the exhaustion on the page," he said. "By posting my feelings, the writing provided a measure of peace. The love, prayers, and understanding that flowed from responses meant that folks were there with us in their daily lives."

Eventually, in what Valerie unabashedly celebrates as a miracle, she made a complete recovery. Soon, the other members of the band pointed out Robin's powerful writing talent and encouraged him to tackle the job of writing a Scripture-based concert narrative for the Advent season.

"I hesitated, but realized that this was a call I could not ignore," he said. "After finally finding the approach, Living Water members helped and supported my many drafts and the selection of the appropriate songs." The result is *On a Night Like This*, featuring a variety of music, including two songs from songwriter Sarah Hart of Lancaster.

Living Water hopes *On a Night Like This* will assist all who want their Advent journey to include more than just tinsel, shopping, and the hustle and bustle of secular Christmas. Consult www.livingwatermusic.org for more information.

ALPINE ADVENT

The First Sunday of Advent at Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church, 672 S. 3rd St., will be marked by a traditional German-Austrian celebration of the day, honoring the parish's ethnic heritage and its location in the city's German Village neighborhood.

Parish organist and choir director Bill Antoniak said the 9 a.m. Mass on Sunday, Nov. 30, will include the local group Alphorn Greuzie (pictured), which plays the long-handled wooden instrument known as the alphorn that is distinctive to the Alps region. The group will play the prelude and postlude. Before the opening hymn, the parish choir will sing a work known as the "Adventjodler," which is sung at churches in Austria and Germany on the First Sunday of Advent.

