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**FAIR TRADE COMBINES
SHOPPING, SOCIAL JUSTICE**

The Editor's Notebook

Java Time

By David Garick, Editor



As I sit here in front of my computer, my trusty writing companion is in place on my right-hand side. It is my muse, my morning friend that drags my brain out of its fog and gets the cerebral synapses firing. It lifts my spirits and sharpens my focus on the world around me. It is my cup of steaming hot coffee.

I am not as tuned in to aromas as most people. I don't care at all about aromatherapy, perfumes, scented laundry soap, or anything like that. But the smell of coffee gets through to me. Whether it is when I am grinding the fresh roasted beans, or when the coffeemaker is steaming away with the scent of brewing coffee, or the simple, familiar smell coming from the cup on my desk, it is very comforting.

It is also special to note that while I am enjoying my morning brew, I am making a small but important contribution to aid the lives of struggling people in other parts of the world. For years now, my wife and I have bought Fair Trade certified coffee. As you will read in the story on Page 10, promotion of fair trade products is a big component of the work being done by Catholic Relief Services to raise the standard of living of people in many developing nations.

We have written about Catholic Relief Services many times in these pages. We know a great deal about the work the agency is doing to aid earthquake victims in Haiti and Japan, tsunami survivors in southeast Asia, and drought- and famine-stricken communities in Africa, for example. Catholics here in the Diocese of Columbus have been very generous in supporting its special appeals, and untold thousands of people have benefited from that outpouring of financial support.

The need is not limited to the aftermath of major natural disasters. It is very easy for us to become comfortable here in central Ohio and focus on the myriad issues that directly impact our own lives. But, as followers of Christ, it is important that we also take some time to expand our view to the broader world and the needs of our brothers and sisters in Christ whose everyday reality does not include a well-paying job, climate-controlled home, easy access to transportation, and a grand largesse of foods of every description.

These people in developing nations have a chance to make better lives for themselves. They need our help. Certainly, some of that comes in the form of direct aid providing food, water, and the immediate necessities of life. But the larger need is to help these people build and sustain their own lives.

This issue of *Catholic Times* also addresses how Catholic Relief Serves, with financial and volunteer assistance from people in the Diocese of Columbus, is working to help people in developing nations build a brighter future for themselves.

Each of us can help. We can contribute financially. Many of us can volunteer and reach out directly to give these people a hand up. And we can help them become successful by purchasing Fair Trade products such as coffee, chocolate, fruits, vegetables, handcrafts, and other items, for which the money you spend goes directly to struggling families who now have a reason to hope for a better future. That makes my morning cup of joe taste even better.

Hundreds gather in Washington for Fortnight for Freedom closing Mass

By Sarah Hinds
Catholic News Service

Hundreds gathered at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington on July 4 as the two weeks dedicated by the U.S. bishops to prayer, celebration, and awareness of religious freedom drew to a close.

The event occurred just days after the Supreme Court ruled that closely held companies cannot be required to cover contraceptives and abortion-inducing drugs in employee health plans.

Cardinal Donald Wuerl of Washington was the principal celebrant of the Mass; Archbishop Joseph Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, was the homilist.

In his homily, Archbishop Kurtz, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, reminded Catholics of the theme of this year's fortnight: the freedom to serve.

"People of faith have had a tremendous impact on the fabric of the United States of America," he said. "And (that is) precisely because so many have used the freedom that is ours as a freedom to serve."

The archbishop said this faith-filled service is good for America because thousands of religious communities, Catholic charities, and hospitals have put their faith into action to serve others, allowing the "light of Christ to shine in our world."

Archbishop Kurtz made clear that



threats to religious liberty still exist and that for the sake of faith and charity, this freedom must vigilantly be defended.

"You and I are gathered here today because we know that there are real threats to religious freedom.

We're gathered to pray because of a certain urgency. There are threats throughout the world. (And) this assault on religious freedom is also sadly at our doorstep," he said.

He cited the Little Sisters of the Poor and their ongoing lawsuit against the federal mandate requiring them and most other religious employers to provide contraceptives and abortion-inducing drugs in health care plans for their lay employees.

Archbishop Kurtz said the Little Sisters of the Poor need not and cannot choose between continuing to serve and compromising the convictions of their faith.

"We can't stand by and allow anyone to separate acts of service from the living faith that motivates these acts. And we can't allow anyone to force us to facilitate immoral acts that go against our clearly demonstrated living faith," he said.

Archbishop Kurtz entreated Catholics to continue to pray for the defense of religious freedom. "We seek only to be good citizens: Good citizens of heaven and good citizens of earth. We're free, and we want to be free to serve," he said.



NEW STATUE AT ST. PATRICK CHURCH

A new statue of the parish's patron saint, along with an identification sign, have been installed outside Columbus St. Patrick Church at the corner of Naghten Street and Grant Avenue. The statue and sign were blessed following the noon Mass on Sunday, June 1, by the church's pastor, Father Michael Mary Dosch, OP. The two-and-a-half-ton marble statue was made possible by an anonymous parishioner's donation. The sign, paid for through parishioners' support of the church's capital improvement campaign, replaces a wooden sign blown down in a severe windstorm two years ago.

Columbus Sign Co. installed the statue and sign. The statue soon will be completed with a carved model of St. Patrick Church that will rest in the St. Patrick's right hand. The top half of his crozier will be in his left hand. Additional work to illuminate the sign, statue, flag, and adjacent historical marker will follow.

Photo courtesy St. Patrick Church



POPE BLESSES LOCAL COUPLE

Ebony Culley of Columbus said being blessed and hugged by Pope Francis at the Vatican during her honeymoon was "the best 30 seconds of my life."

Culley and her husband, Alex, were married in January in Rome and attended a general audience with the pope five days after the wedding. "We learned that a special space is set aside for newlywed couples at the audiences and that the pope takes time to bless them after his talk," she said. "We were asked to dress in our wedding clothes, but it was a chilly day, so I wore a jacket over my wedding dress.

"The pope talked with each of the couples individually. He shook hands with my husband, and that made me think 'If you get a handshake, I should get a hug.' So when the pope came to me, I opened my arms and he hugged me."

The couple were married on the 11th anniversary of their first date. Their meeting with the pope came on the six-month anniversary of Ebony Culley's baptism as a Catholic. "My father was a Catholic and my mother was a Baptist, and I was raised a Baptist," she said.

"After I met Alex, he said his grandparents wanted to be sure he married a nice Catholic girl, and I began to go to Columbus St. Ladislav Church with him and his grand-

parents. The more I attended Mass, the more I became interested in its structure and in the teachings of the Catholic Church and its openness to people. I realized this was the church for me, and I went through the RCIA process led by Father Rod Damico at St. Ladislav, who was a wonderful teacher."

The couple became engaged on Ebony's 30th birthday in 2012. "We wanted a big wedding, but we also had a dream of going to Rome for our honeymoon, and we had been saving for it for a long time," she said. "The wedding kept getting bigger and more expensive, and planning it became more stressful. Eventually, we reached a point where we had to choose between it and our dream trip, so we decided to get married in Rome and celebrate our marriage with our friends when we returned."

Ebony is a physical therapist at Mount Carmel New Albany Surgical Hospital. Alex works in data extraction for the Robert Half International staffing agency. They live in Hilliard.

"The pope said he wished us lifelong happiness, love, and a fruitful marriage, and he was very accurate," Ebony said. "I'm pregnant with our first child, due in October. We found out after we came back from the honeymoon. Alex is convinced the pope made this happen with his blessing."



Front Page photo:

The Catholic Relief Services Fair Trade program supports more than a dozen coffee partners who ensure that the farmers who supply them receive a fair price for their crop.

Photo courtesy Catholic Relief Services

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PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

Redskins



Did you enjoy those prayers of thanksgiving the past two weeks? For me, it was a nice change from all the prayers of petition and outright begging that I normally have. I am very happy to get away from constantly asking for something from God, instead asking Him to bless others for whom I am very grateful. Yes, I need to do that much more often. From Saints Peter and Paul all the way to Pope Francis, we are blessed to have solid leadership in our Church. For as weak and sinful as I am, I absolutely need the moral teaching and leadership of the Catholic Church. While I am just as disgusted as you are over any instance of abuse of children by anyone, it does nothing to rationalize or ease the sinfulness I have. I am called to forgive, not judge, and to remain ever vigilant, so as to know what is right and what is not. That vigilance includes being open to teaching, morals, and values that are difficult and often contrary to what we want to hear. It is easy to act upon things that we accept, whether it is positive or a reaction to a negative. It is difficult to act justly and rightly upon things that we find very offensive, or contrary to what makes us feel good. The "miscellaneous" things in our lives are difficult to control. We live as good and faithful Christian stewards when we love and forgive. As Pope Francis teaches, we are sinners, yet we are chosen.

The Washington, D.C. NFL team has been in the national news a lot lately. They are the Redskins, and the team name has been around for more than 80 years. They can boast two pre-Super Bowl NFL championships and three Super Bowl victories in their history. All the controversy over their name and logo has come to a head this year. The federal government is doing its best to get rid of both. Traditional fans, for the most part, do not agree. No matter which side you might agree with, can the name "Redskins" be completely non-offensive? Does it really matter? Do we make changes for a fraction of the population? Then, there is my beloved Chief Wahoo, the mascot and logo for the Cleveland Indians of Major League Baseball for more than 60 years. I love the Cleveland Indians and Chief Wahoo. Can I honestly say that this is not at all offensive to Native Americans? Should I care? July 14 is the feast of St. Kateri Tekakwitha. She is one of our more recent saints, having been canonized in October 2012. Kateri was born in 1656 to an Algonquin mother and a Mohawk chief. When she was four, her parents died of smallpox. Kateri survived the disease, but it left her face badly scarred and her eyesight very much impaired. She was named Tekakwitha, which means "she who bumps into things." When she was 18, she began instruction in the Catholic Faith in secret. She was baptized, made her first Communion, and made a vow of perpetual virginity. She developed a serious illness, and died just before her 24th birthday.

Our practical challenge over the next two weeks is to consider what things might be most important to us. Chief Wahoo, St. Kateri Tekakwitha, or both? Enjoy professional sports for what they are worth – entertainment. Enjoy our saints for what they are worth – examples of holiness. What are true Redskins? A team logo, or a saint whose final words were simply "Jesus, Mary, I love you." Let us pray for the same strength and witness in our lives.

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



Youth Football Clinic

Youth football coaches from throughout the Diocese of Columbus conducted a free football clinic at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School for children in kindergarten through seventh grade.

The clinic provided an introduction for new players and parents and a fundamental reinforcement for experienced players. About 80 children, as well as 19 coaches, participated in the event, which included a segment on Heads Up tackling, a tackling technique that reduces the risk of injuries and concussions. Dr. Robert Whitehead, team physician for Dublin City Schools, spoke about health and safety and how injuries, including concussions, are being accessed and treated.

Ten high school players from Columbus Bishop Hartley, Bishop Watterson, and St. Charles volunteered to demonstrate techniques discussed at the clinic. Presentations about their playing experience were made by Jack Haley, a linebacker for Watterson; Jack Billman, a receiver for St. Charles; and Jack Zang, a running back for Hartley.

Anyone with questions about parish youth football is invited to contact the parish or school administrator. Every parish in the Columbus area has a team or combines with several parishes to make a team.

Community Service Scholarship Recipient

The winner of the inaugural George M. LaNicca IV community service scholarship is Luke Voegele, a graduate of Columbus St. Andrew School.

He has been involved in many Boy Scout activities and has given his time and talent in assisting other scouts as they work to attain their Eagle rank. In his application essay for the scholarship, he expressed the importance of giving back to his community and the difference one person can make in helping others and in building community. He will attend Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School this fall.

The scholarship was established to award funds to a deserving St. Andrew eighth-grade student who has shown exemplary service to the community in

selfless and creative ways and who will be attending either St. Charles or Columbus Bishop Watterson High School.

The \$500 scholarship was established this year by Mr. and Mrs. George M. LaNicca III in honor of their son, a St. Andrew and Watterson graduate who was dedicated to serving his community. He served lunches at the Open Shelter and created a haunted house in his backyard to raise money for families of the firefighters and police officers who died on Sept. 11, 2001. He gave selflessly of his time to others.

The purpose of the scholarship is to acknowledge and reward the actions of a student who embodies the spirit of service of George M. LaNicca IV and who has made a commitment to serving the community.

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FISHER CATHOLIC WELCOMES NEW PRINCIPAL

Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School will begin the 2014-15 school year with a new principal. Maureen Beck, a 1980 graduate of the school and the mother of two sons who also are Fisher graduates, will return to the school as an administrator. She previously spent 24 years teaching English at Lancaster High School and the past six years as assistant principal at Thomas Ewing Junior High in Lancaster.

Beck became interested in the position after her mother saw a job posting in the Lancaster St. Mary Church bulletin. Her mother encouraged her to apply, but Beck said she wasn't ready to retire from the public school system.

"I began jotting notes about Fisher and

its future, originally with the intent of sharing them with whoever got the position, but the more I thought and the more I wrote, the more it occurred to me that perhaps I should make a run at helping Fisher move into the future in the most positive direction possible," she said. "I had a fantastic experience as a student there. I credit FCHS with my decision to spend my life as an educator. My sons also benefited from the Fisher Catholic experience, and I felt and feel a responsibility to pay it forward and to provide excellent care and education to future generations of Fisher Catholic students."

She said she will work with staff, provide leadership in the classrooms and



the community, and work with students and parents to ensure a top-notch Catholic education is available and affordable. "I will connect with our feeder schools and feeder parishes, extending not only throughout Lancaster, but also to Sugar Grove, Bremen, Logan, Pickerington, Circleville, and more as needed," she said. "I will make every effort to enhance and to celebrate our faith, our education community, and our students. We will continue Fisher's tradition of excellence, both in the classroom and beyond."

Beck said Fisher is the "best kept secret" in Lancaster, and she wants to get the word out. Her "mantra" is "515," a reference to Matthew 5:15, in which people are reminded that their light needs to "shine" and not be kept "under a bushel."

"We all need to be positive and outgoing in what we share about the great things currently going on and already taking shape for the future of Fisher Catholic. I encourage our parents, our faculty, our students, and our community to start watching for '515' to appear very soon on T-shirts, coffee cups, keychains, billboards, and whatever other medium we can tie into to spread the word," she said.

Her goals for her first year are to finish the 2014-15 school year with students who are engaged in enhancing their own futures, a supportive alumni and parent fan base, and a staff who are all actively involved in helping make Fisher Catholic bigger and better. She would like to see Fisher make the news in a positive and consistent manner for community service, public outreach, and academic and athletic accomplishments. She believes enrollment numbers will continue to rise as a result of the school's quality education and quality treatment of people. Additionally, she wants to establish and maintain strong relationships among all the Catholic schools in the area, including Lancaster St. Mary and St. Bernadette, Logan St. John, New Lexington St. Rose, and others.

Beck earned her bachelor's degree at Ohio Dominican University in English and secondary education. She received a master's degree in education from the University of Dayton and a master's in administration from Salem University.

For information on registration and enrollment at Fisher Catholic, contact Dawn Burley at (740) 654-1231, or dburley@cducation.org.

HOLY TRINITY FIELD DAY



Somerset Holy Trinity School's eighth-grade students and teachers traditionally oppose each other in a volleyball match during the school's Field Day. This year, for the first time, the students won, posting decisive victories in all three games. Pictured are (from left): student Mitchell Dowdell; second row, teachers Rena McClain and Sean Bartholic and student Emily Sipes; third row, students Hannah Bowen, Kayla Collins, and Sophia Carpico; fourth row, teachers Jessica Robertson and Mary Hannan, students Kyle Cooperider, Matthew Metzger, Roni Cody, and Lizzie Smith, teacher Colleen Bowen, student Luke Hanson, teachers Mackenzie Bowen and Linda Snider, student Nick Janita, and teacher Morgan Hooper.

Photo courtesy Holy Trinity School

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Read the Bible

FINDING A PRIEST FOR A WEDDING



QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. My fiance and I are planning to get married just three months from now. We were thrilled when our venue recommended a priest as our officiant, as it was very important to my fiance's mother that our marriage be recognized by the church.

But a few days ago, his mother Googled that priest's name and found articles reporting that he had been removed from ministry by the church because he is gay. The faith community where he currently ministers welcomes people of many Christian religions, but the Catholic Church would not consider his marriage ceremony a valid one.

To make things worse, my fiance's mother has told us that she will not acknowledge our marriage or attend the ceremony unless it is a sacrament. (If she doesn't go, I'm sure that she will make sure that the rest of his family does not attend, either.)

I am devastated by her lack of support. Our intention was certainly to have our marriage be valid in the church's eyes. Do you have any suggestions or can you recommend any priests who would be able to officiate? (Central Pennsylvania)

A. Your letter prompts several thoughts on my part, widely scattered. First, I am continually surprised by the growing number of couples for whom the "venue" (i.e., the place of the reception) is the primary focus -- and sometimes the exclusive concern -- when planning their wedding.

My view is that a wedding ceremony is above all else a spiritual event: You believe that God had a hand in bringing you together, you want to tell the Lord that you are grateful and ask him to bless your marriage, and you are inviting your friends to pray with you and for you.

So it disappoints me when -- over and over, lately -- I find couples selecting the reception hall first and then "backing into" a church that might be nearby and a priest who might happen to be available.

I'm sorry that the celebrant recommended by your venue is no longer functioning as a Catholic priest. Incidentally, though, he would not have been removed

from ministry simply for being gay. A gay man can be a worthy and effective priest, as long as he is committed to remaining celibate. The same requirement applies to him as to a priest who is heterosexual.

Next, I'm not sure that I agree with your future mother-in-law's stance in not attending the wedding. Having made clear her preference and her principles, perhaps the better course in a situation like this might be to attend the wedding. It would keep the lines of communication open, with the hope that her son might decide to have the marriage blessed by the church at some future date.

Finally, having felt compelled to unload all of that on you, let me see what can I do to help. I appreciate and admire the fact that you and your fiance want to "rescue" the situation and have your marriage recognized by the church, not simply because you want to keep peace in the family, but because you would like to remain eligible to receive the sacraments, especially the Eucharist.

I suggest that you call the Catholic diocese in which the wedding will take place and ask whether it has any suggestions, perhaps the name of a retired priest who might be available for the wedding. One possible complication, I need to point out, is that many dioceses do not normally give permission for a marriage ceremony outside of a church setting.

There are exceptions: I have done several weddings, for example, in "neutral" settings when a Catholic was marrying a Jew and the Jewish family would have felt uncomfortable in the presence of Christian symbols.

Perhaps there is a nearby Catholic church where, in advance of the date you have chosen, you and your fiance could be married before a priest in a quiet and simple exchange of vows. Then you could do the "party part" at your chosen destination, and the priest might be willing to say a prayer of blessing as the meal begins.

Or, if you explain honestly to your diocese that the wedding has long been planned and that you hadn't realized the complexities of having the church recognize the marriage, but want very much to be married in the eyes of the church, the diocese might decide to give permission for a priest to be part of the wedding ceremony at the site you already have selected.

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

SACRED HEART CONGRESS

The third annual diocesan Sacred Heart Congress will take place from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11 at Powell St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road.

Speakers will be Father Michael Gaitley, MIC, director of the Association of Marian Helpers, a nationally known speaker and author on the subjects of the Sacred Heart, Divine Mercy, and Marian consecration; Father Stash Dailey, administrator of Columbus Holy Family Church, spiritual director of Sacred Heart

Columbus, and a national board member of the Men and Missionaries of the Sacred Heart; and Father James Black, pastor of St. Joan of Arc Church.

In addition to talks, the day will include recital of the rosary and the Divine Mercy chaplet and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. There is no cost. A free-will offering will be taken. For more information and to register, go to www.sacredheart-columbus.org.

"The Courage to Be Catholic"

The Defending the Faith Conference at the Franciscan University of Steubenville from Friday, July 25 to Sunday, July 27 will equip Catholics with the knowledge and inspiration they need to bring the teachings of the Church to the world.

With 14 speakers and 19 talks, there will be many opportunities to embrace the conference's theme, "Holy and Heroic: The Courage to Be Catholic."

Conference planners say the focus will be on "how to win souls, not just arguments." Topics will include Islam, Mormonism, the Crusades, atheism, the Christian meaning of marriage, and other apologetics and evangelization talks.

"We are living in a culture marked by hedonism and relativism, and now we are seeing a resurgence in atheism," said John Beaulieu of the university's Christian outreach office. "For Catholics to be able to know and defend the faith, we need not only the grace of the Holy Spirit, but solid teaching and formation. Participants will be taught by some of the best theologians, apologists, and pastors in our Church today."

Featured speakers include Tim Staples, director of apologetics and evangelization at Catholic Answers, who will speak on "Catholics and the Culture War"; Jeff Cavins, author of the Bible study program *The Great Adventure: A Journey Through the Bible*, who will address "From Envy to Contentment: Conquering What Is Not True!" and Dr. Scott Hahn, professor of Biblical theology and the New Evangelization at Franciscan, who will speak on "Saints and Angels: Holy and Heroic Help."

On Sunday morning, Dr. Ian Murphy will give a testimony on his journey to Catholicism in his talk "From Agnostic to Baptist to Catholic: The ABC's of Conversion." Murphy was the head pastor of a Baptist church before entering the Catholic Church in 2004. He is a speaker and staff theologian for the Apostolate for Family Consecration in Bloomingdale.

Other speakers and homilists will include Patrick Madrid, Dr. Paul Crawford, Kimberly Hahn, Dr. Donald Ascii, Father David Meconi, SJ, Dr. Alan Schreck, Bishop Jeffrey Monforton of Steubenville, Father Sean O. Sheridan, TOR, president of Franciscan University, and Dr. Benjamin Wiker.

To register or for more information, go to the Steubenville Conferences website at www.steubenville-conferences.com/adult or call (1-800) 437-8368.



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CLEARING THE AIR AROUND MARIJUANA USE



MAKING SENSE Out of Bioethics

Father Tad Pacholczyk

A June 2014 article in the *New England Journal of Medicine* (NEJM), written by researchers from the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institutes of Health, points out that marijuana is not the harmless drug that many imagine. Rather, it is associated with "substantial adverse effects, some of which have been determined with a high level of confidence."

These negative outcomes include the risk of addiction, symptoms of chronic bronchitis, an elevated incidence of fatal and nonfatal motor vehicle accidents, and diminished lifetime achievement and school performance in cases of long-term use, especially beginning in adolescence. We can add that the decision to use a drug recreationally for the purposes of dissociating ourselves from reality through induced euphoria raises significant moral concerns, and, like all unethical human choices, can be expected to correlate with significant adverse ramifications.

Part of the unethical character of drug abuse flows from the fact that we are treating something good -- namely, our personal, conscious experience -- as if it were an evil to be avoided. Recreational drug users seek to escape or otherwise suppress their lived conscious experience, and instead pursue chemically altered states of mind or drug-induced pseudoexperiences. Any time we act in such a way that we treat something objectively good as if it were an evil by acting directly against it, we act in a disordered and immoral manner.

The decision to pursue inebriation and drunkenness, similarly, is a choice directed against the good of our human conscious experience that raises serious moral concerns. The responsible enjoyment of alcohol, meanwhile, presupposes that a moderate use of the fruit of the vine can aid us in the pursuit of certain aspects of friendship and interaction by stimulating conversation with others, and by diminishing the hesitations that people may have when they interact with each other. The moderate use of alcohol also appears to offer positive physiological effects on health. The notion of the "responsible enjoyment of marijuana and other mind-altering drugs," meanwhile, is a dubious concept, given that the more powerful and varied neurological effects of these substances readily take us across a line into alternate states of mind, detachment from reality, "getting stoned," etc.

Whenever we look at alcohol, marijuana, or other more powerful drugs, additional moral concerns arise because of the risk of addiction, which threatens authentic freedom and constitutes a serious form of human bondage. Alcohol, of course, poses a significant risk of addiction for some people, and the responsible use of alcohol may become nearly impossible for them, necessitating complete abstinence to maintain their freedom. Marijuana,

despite some contentious debates about the matter, similarly has a significant addictive potential, as noted in the NEJM article:

"Approximately nine percent of those who experiment with marijuana will become addicted. ... The number goes up to about one in six among those who start using marijuana as teenagers and to 25 to 50 percent among those who smoke marijuana daily. According to the 2012 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, an estimated 2.7 million people 12 years of age and older met the DSM-IV criteria for dependence on marijuana, and 5.1 million people met the criteria for dependence on any illicit drug (8.6 million met the criteria for dependence on alcohol). ... Indeed, early and regular marijuana use predicts an increased risk of marijuana addiction, which in turn predicts an increased risk of the use of other illicit drugs."

The NEJM article also notes that adults who smoke marijuana regularly during adolescence have decreased neural connectivity (abnormal brain development and fewer fibers) in specific brain regions. Although some experts have disputed a cause-effect relationship for this phenomenon, studies of brain development in animals strongly suggest a causal effect. The authors surmise that the effects of marijuana on brain development may help to explain the association between frequent marijuana use among adolescents and significant declines in IQ, as well as poor academic performance and an increased risk of dropping out of school. These deleterious effects speak to us of the fundamentally unethical character of inhaling, injecting, or otherwise ingesting harmful chemical substances into our bodies.

The litany of marijuana's adverse health effects raises major doubts about the wisdom of promoting its legalization for recreational purposes. The authors note that the health effects of a drug (whether legal or illegal) are related to its "availability and social acceptability." They conclude, "In this respect, legal drugs (alcohol and tobacco) offer a sobering perspective, accounting for the greatest burden of disease associated with drugs not because they are more dangerous than illegal drugs but because their legal status allows for more widespread exposure," leading to more abuse and more harmful effects. It's critical for us to acknowledge these negative effects rather than seeking, like drug addicts, to dissociate ourselves from this reality.

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, PhD, earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did postdoctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, Massachusetts, and serves as director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.nbccenter.org.

BEARING WITNESS

Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School teacher Colleen Mascarin will attend the Eileen Ludwig Greenland National Bearing Witness Summer Institute from July 20-25 in Washington. During this five-day experience of intensive study, she will be joined by Catholic educators from across the United States to learn skills and gain resources to bring the lessons of anti-Semitism, the Holocaust, and modern-day prejudice to students and the school community.

The coming school year will be her third at DeSales. She teaches contemporary issues, world history, and sociology. Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School



Knights of St. John Convention

Columbus Commanderies 97 and 98 of the Knights of St. John will host the order's international supreme convention from Sunday, July 20 to Saturday, July 26 at the Renaissance Hotel, 50 S. 3rd St., Columbus.

The event will include representatives from many parts of the world, including the Americas, West Africa, England, and Germany.

The Order of the Knights of St. John was officially incorporated on May 6, 1886. Its goal has always been to care for spiritual, social, and physical needs of its members and neighbors.

Over the years, it continued to grow and expanded into Canada, Panama, Ghana, Nigeria, Togo, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Trinidad and Tobago, and England. In 1992, its name was changed to the Order of the Knights of St. John International to reflect that growth.

Its model and patron is St. John the Baptist because of his life as a testament and open witness to the Catholic faith. Today, members of the Knights of St. John International continue to witness their faith in God through Jesus Christ in their daily works of charity in the Church, their community, and their commandery.

Home-Schooling Mothers Retreat

Educating for Heaven will sponsor its annual retreat for Catholic home-schooling mothers from Friday, Aug. 15 at 6:30 p.m. to Saturday, Aug. 16 at 4 p.m. at St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus.

This year's retreat, titled "Behold Your Mother," will include Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Mass, time for reflection, opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and a talk by experienced home-schooling mother Maggie Wright.

For questions or to register, contact Angie Robbins at angie@educatingforheaven.com

Answering God's Call

HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE DISCERN THEIR VOCATION



Father Paul Noble

by Tim Puet

It's obvious that Father Paul Noble enjoys his job as vocations director for the Diocese of Columbus. He describes it as "an enchanted position" and "a privileged spot" because of the chance it gives him to work with young men and women in formation for a religious life.

Father Noble, an educator for much of his life, said that when Bishop Frederick Campbell invited him to become vocations director in 2010 after 11 years as pastor at Gahanna St. Matthew Church, he gladly accepted the opportunity.

"It was consistent with the interest I've always had in helping young people discern their vocation," he said. "I get to see people at the greatest level of their faith. The work has been quite inspiring and a real opportunity to renew my own vocation. To meet on a frequent basis with men hungering to know their vocation and to pursue the priesthood is a real privilege."

Part of Father Noble's job as vocations director is to talk to young men who feel they may have a call from God, but are uncertain whether they will be able to make the commitment necessary for the priesthood. He said he would tell anyone expressing such concerns that "we believe the vocation God has planned for us is where we will find our greatest happiness.

"Rather than fear a thing or try to avoid pursuing it, you should be embracing it," he said. "Watching men who pursue the priesthood, I see a lot of happy people. I would tell a young man who thinks he may be called to be a priest to give it an honest chance and see whether that's where you'll be happiest, or whether God desires you to do something else."

Father Noble, 59, came from a suburban Detroit family of seven children, which included two brothers, both of whom began seminary studies in high school but decided they were not called to religious life. "Neither stayed, so when I went to the seminary at age 14, I knew it would be OK if I came home," he said. "I found the old PIME seminary in Newark (now Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center), to be a very welcoming, comfortable place. After four years there, I was convinced I'd be a priest."

Father Noble said he wanted to be a PIME missionary because the PIME Fathers had a presence in the Detroit area, he had gone to a PIME summer camp, and one of his brothers had attended the PIME high school seminary for a year. He completed his priestly studies at the University of Detroit and the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, and was ordained on May 23, 1981, at PIME's North American headquarters in Detroit by Detroit Auxiliary Bishop Arthur Krawczak.

He was principal and spiritual director at the Newark seminary from 1981-85, then asked Bishop James Griffin for permission to become a priest of the Diocese of Columbus, and was accepted.

"I always wanted to be a missionary, but I never wanted to die in the missions," he said. "I hoped to spend 10 to 15 years overseas, then come back to the United States to do formation work. Looking at what was happening in the church and in my own order in the mid-1980s, it dawned on me that if I were to do that, when I came back, I'd be doing fundraising, rather than formation. That's not what I wanted. Being a diocesan priest has been a better way to fulfill my calling."

His first assignment in the Diocese of Columbus was at

Westerville St. Paul Church in the summer of 1985. "What I remember most from that time was that I was always planning weddings," he said. "We had two or three a weekend, about 85 a year.

"Father (now Msgr.) George Schlegel was pastor there, and in that short time, I learned a lot from him about how to manage a huge parish and let people do what they do best without micromanaging. Other priests who were great models were Father Julio Mariani, rector at the PIME seminary, who's still active at age 85 and recently retired as a missionary in the Philippines, and Father Art McGovern, a University of Detroit teacher who was enthusiastic about both the priesthood and the study of philosophy.

"I also learned a lot from Father (now Msgr.) Bill Dunn. I lived with him at Lancaster St. Mary's, and he has a wonderful knowledge of the history of the diocese. I lived with Msgr. Dave Sorohan at St. Catharine's when I was superintendent of diocesan schools. He previously held that job and gave me lots of insight."

Father Noble became principal at Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School in the fall of 1985, staying there for six years while residing at Lancaster St. Mary Church. "I'm not a fundraiser, but the first challenge there was to generate an endowment to stabilize the school," he said. "By Christmas of that year, we had a \$900,000 endowment fund, which provided both stability and potential for growth. By the time I left, we had more students than when I'd arrived.

"We had a wonderful group of supportive people at Fisher, and I'm very proud of the accomplishments of the graduates I knew. We really tried to make it a truly Catholic school, not just a local academy."


Father Noble, who has a master's degree in education at Ohio State and a doctorate in education administration at Ohio University, became superintendent of diocesan schools in 1991, holding that position until 1998. He was succeeded by his assistant, Lucia McQuaide, who remained superintendent until her retirement on June 30.

"I found that as an administrator, I was involved with lots of policies and programs – all good things – but I was separated from the kind of immediate input I got from students as a principal. I couldn't see the fruit of my labor. The work was valuable, but that separation was a real challenge," he said.

His appointment as associate pastor at St. Matthew allowed him to resume the kind of daily contact he had missed. He became pastor the following year upon the retirement of Msgr. Edward McFarland.

"As at Fisher, I ended up being a fundraiser," he said. "We considered remodeling the church, but a leaking roof and limited room to expand made it more advisable to build a new one," which was dedicated in late 2004, he said.

"At St. Matthew's, I enjoyed being able to serve people in all aspects of their lives – times of crisis and problems, but also of celebration of life and families. The parishioners were supportive and enthusiastic, and I had a wonderful 12 years there before being given the opportunity I have to form young priests."



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Blessed Rain of Grace

I love the words of the Lord proclaimed by Isaiah in Sunday's first reading and find them to be a great source of hope. Perhaps it's the simplicity of the metaphor: Rain and snow and the word of God.

"Just as from the heavens the rain and snow come down and do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful, giving seed to the one who sows and bread to the one who eats, so shall my word be."

Despite countless acres of concrete and asphalt that stretch and tangle around the globe, the majority of rain and snow that falls from the sky lands on ground that can soak it up. The night before writing this column, I heard thunder in the distance. I walked outside, pulled up a lawn chair, and watched towering clouds move quickly across the sky. Leaves rustled, turning bottom-up as the storm blew in.

Potted herbs behind me released wafts of rosemary, basil, oregano, and sage as big, cold drops hit their leaves. Birds hurried to shelter and a rabbit scampered quickly across the lawn and under a bush. Rain came harder and I retreated inside, carrying the smell of summer rain.

Eventually, water that isn't sucked up by vegetation or that isn't trapped deep below the surface returns to the air – the great water cycle we all studied in grade-school science class. The moisture doesn't disappear. It just changes form for a while until conditions are right, and after gathering in clouds, it drops to the earth once again.

"So shall my word be" says the Lord. "My word that goes forth from my mouth; my word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for

which I sent it."

I think of Jesus, the Word of God, who came and accomplished his mission. Saturated with the One who sent him, he could not help but reveal the Holy Mystery. Jesus lived life in accordance with God's will: To love unconditionally, loving all and calling them to share in Divine life, as he did. Jesus, the Word of God from before all time, came and watered our souls with Love so they could be fruitful.

God's word also falls into our selves through words of Scripture. As we listen to readings at Mass or ponder them at home, the Truth makes the soil of our hearts fertile, able to bring forth God's life and love into our daily lives and into the world.

We also are God's word, a bit of Mystery spoken into flesh sent with purpose. Sometimes I find myself wondering what my purpose is at the moment. I'm a mother, daughter, sister, and aunt. I've been a teacher, author, and social worker. Still I wonder: What is the word that I am given to speak in the world today? What am I to do that will "achieve the end for which" I am sent into this "now"?

Sometimes God's purpose for us seems clear. Perhaps it is parenting. Or times when we comfort the sick or serve those in our family or circle of friends who need help. Sometimes, we may be part of something much bigger than ourselves that makes a visible difference in the world. As I write, we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of President Lyndon B. Johnson signing the

My Elevator Pitch for Christianity

Given time in an elevator with a stranger who questioned your Christianity, what would you say?

I have a marketing background, and I can't help but be fascinated by this question on a number of levels. On the one hand, I'm leery of "selling" Christianity. I hate having things shoved at me, whether it's faith or shoes.

And yet, on a practical level, I can't help but be sold on some things. My nieces and daughters have influenced my fashion sense in ways both hilarious and interesting. I wear headbands I never would have noticed before, I wear clothes I didn't know looked good, and I pair colors together in ways I never would have thought of. (In my defense, I'm a hopeless fashion idiot and a tried-and-true tomboy.)

What sold me on these things wasn't a pitch. In fact, it was an example. It was practical application. It was a desire to try out something new.

If I was in an elevator and was asked about my Christianity and had the guts to answer honestly, I know just what I'd say (unless the Spirit had other plans, I guess).

It heals me.

At every Mass, I find myself kneeling, saying "Lord, I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof,

but only say the word and my soul shall be healed" with everyone else, right before the Consecration. Sometimes — often — there are tears, but with or without the tears, I am struck by how very much I need healed.

Healed from my selfishness and my smallness. Healed from my limitations. Healed from the pain I've carried with me, the pain I've gained in the last few hours.

Being healed frees me and allows me to see past my nose to the larger purpose of my life and the lives around me.

So many times, with the problems I face that are larger than I am (and, believe me, it has been a week for that), I realize that it's not my problem anymore. It's God's problem.

That freedom releases me and allows me to look at myself in astonishment. Am I really letting go? (Not as well as I should.) Am I really trusting God? (Not as much as I could.) Am I really buying into the whole kit and caboodle?

When I first converted back to Christianity and to Catholicism, I used to have an image of Old Me meeting New Me. Old Me, that sarcastic know-it-all, would be snide and do a lot of laughing at New Me. New Me would, well, just stand there.



GRACE IN THE MOMENT
Mary van Balen

Civil Rights Act into law.

Those who were part of that effort ... from politicians to civil-rights leaders, to ordinary people who spoke up and refused to give in to the racist world view ... those people were words sent forth from the mouth of God, and they spoke their truth.

Often in ordinary times, we have difficulty recognizing ourselves as God's word spoken into the world. It was easier for me when I worked with abused women. It wasn't so clear as a retail associate. Yet, there I am. There we are. In mundane jobs, in ordinary family circumstances, in places we never expected to be.

Simple. Like rain falling from the sky. We do our jobs. We love. We persevere. And the Civil Rights Act becomes law, or a child learns to read, or a food pantry is stocked, or dinner is prepared, or a lonely soul receives a smile.

I don't know the details of God's plan. I know it is about loving and service. And that his Holy Word and blessed rain of Grace will fall into our hearts and make it come to be.

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Finding Faith in Everyday Life
Sarah Reinhard

My image of that meeting has changed. I can see now, over the distance of almost a decade, that Old Me was mired under a burden of pain, much of it self-inflicted. I realize that Old Me was lashing out and keeping her distance from people as the only way she knew to protect herself from suffering.

I think now that New Me would simply hug Old Me, and I think, too, that they would cry together, long and hard.

Because however healed I am, I still need more. However much the wounds of the past have been bandaged and mended, there continue to be new hurts, new pains, new agonies.

I am no longer stranded amid all that hurt. I have only to say the word, and He will heal me, and heal me, and heal me.

Sarah Reinhard is online at SnoringScholar.com and is the author of *Catholic Family Fun: A Guide for the Adventurous, Overwhelmed, Creative, or Clueless.*



A woman picks coffee beans for one of Catholic Relief Services' Fair Trade partners, who ensure their product agreements with disadvantaged farmers. Photo/Catholic Relief Services

Story by **TIM PUET**, *Catholic Times Reporter*

HIGH QUALITY MERCHANDISE FROM AROUND THE WORLD FOR A FAIR PRICE



Left: Juliet Brago of Ghana holds cocoa pods. Her farm is part of the Kuapa Kokoo Fair Trade cooperative, providing products for the Divine Chocolate company. Photo by Pete Pattison, Divine Chocolate
Right: Women in Madagascar with dyed raffia palm fiber. Coiled raffia in various shades is made into baskets sold through Catholic Relief Services' Work of Human Hands catalog. Photo courtesy SERRV

FAIR TRADE GIVES SHOPPERS CHANCE TO DO GOOD WHILE HELPING OTHERS

Shopping and social justice may not seem to have much in common, but there is a way to do good while purchasing products that taste good and look good.

The Fair Trade program of Catholic Relief Services gives shoppers that opportunity by telling them about items sold by companies which guarantee that the products are of high quality and that the farmers and artisans around the world who produce them receive a fair price and have safe working conditions.

"Fair trade provides every one of us with the opportunity to do justice, simply by changing the way we shop," said Stephanie Rapp, a member of Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church who is a Fair Trade ambassador for CRS and the diocesan Office for Social Concerns.

"It builds right relationships between buyers and sellers and creates a more just marketplace, which is part of God's kingdom and something the Lord desires – in fact, he demands it," Rapp said, quoting Micah 6:8, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

The program specializes in coffee, chocolate, and handcrafts, offering a way of "solidarity shopping" that helps producers

of those items in developing nations and the United States obtain adequate compensation, plan and save for the future, and invest in their own growth. Its goal is to create a market that places as much value on those who produce the food people eat and create the goods they use as it does on the items themselves.

Since it became a part of CRS in 1995, the program has created opportunities for Catholics in the United States to live their faith while supporting their brothers and sisters around the world and honoring core principles of Catholic social teaching through the choices they make as consumers. It's a significant component of the work CRS has been doing for 71 years to alleviate suffering and promote human development for poor and marginalized people around the world.

Fair Trade ambassadors and other volunteers work in parishes and communities to support conscious consumerism and CRS Fair Trade partner projects. Rapp's role as an ambassador allows the diocesan social concerns office to expand on the work it has been doing for the past two decades in educating merchants about the program and helping interested businesses promote local sales of Fair Trade items, particu-

larly coffee.

Fair Trade coffee is available at Starbucks, Giant Eagle, Kroger, Sam's Club, and Trader Joe's stores throughout the diocese and at the Bexley Natural Market; DJ's Daily Grind on West Lane Avenue in Columbus; the Global Gallery in the city's Clintonville neighborhood; the Global Village Collection in Delaware; Celebrate Local at Easton; and Global Gifts in Columbus' Short North. Global Gifts also carries several other Fair Trade items.

Rapp is a social worker employed by The Buckeye Ranch, which provides mental health services for young people. She became aware of the Fair Trade program while being involved with The Salvation Army's efforts to fight human trafficking in central Ohio, a work in which the social concerns office also is actively involved.

She and about 25 other people from across the nation began serving as Fair Trade ambassadors after receiving training at CRS headquarters in Baltimore this spring.

"My work with survivors of human trafficking showed me the injustices that are taking place throughout the world, leading to the exploitation of people and forced labor," Rapp said. "I learned that when people are treated justly and trade is fair, they are less likely to live in poverty, and thus less vulnerable to being taken advantage of. I was shocked that my purchases could make a significant difference in someone's life."

Rapp is getting in touch with the diocese's 13 deaneries and with parishes to let them know of her availability to discuss the Fair Trade program and her interest in helping them set up Fair Trade sales and events. "I want to reach out to all age groups with resources explaining how they can help promote Fair Trade activities," she said.

"It's something everyone from schoolchildren to senior citizens' groups can be involved in. Fair Trade products are for all ages – coffee in particular for adults, but everyone likes chocolate or a nice handcrafted item."

Rapp has listed 10 ways for Catholics to promote Fair Trade activities, including offering adult faith formation programs on Catholic social teaching; switching to Fair Trade coffee for all programs; encouraging ethical consumerism among



Left: A display of Fair Trade coffee and other items. Right: Women in Bangladesh work on crafts.



Photos courtesy Catholic Relief Services

parishioners; hosting a Fair Trade sale; including lessons and games about fair trade in Parish School of Religion activities; discussing fair trade at Life Teen programs; hosting a movie screening about fair trade; participating in the annual CRS Rice Bowl program during Lent; hosting a night for selling Fair Trade coffee and chocolate; and sharing Fair Trade information with others.

Besides the products promoted by CRS, a number of items, including fruits and vegetables, seafood, packaged foods, flowers and plants, and apparel and home goods also are part of the Fair Trade program. All contain the Fair Trade Certified logo, regulated by Fair Trade USA, a nongovernmental organization which ensures that all products in the United States bearing the logo are traded in compliance with Fair Trade standards. A list of Fair Trade items is available at www.fairtradeusa.org.

"There's another way to promote the goal of fair prices for small farms here in the United States, and that's by patronizing local farmers markets and businesses," Rapp said. "You know what's available there comes from somewhere close to home, and you often get to talk to the person who produced what you're buying."

There are a number of farmers markets in area communities during the growing season. The Dominican Sisters of Peace operate a market from 9 a.m. to noon on the fourth Saturday of the month as part of

their Shepherd's Corner farm and ecology center at 987 N. Waggoner Road in Blacklick. Sister Diane Kozlowski, OP, program and volunteer manager for the center, said the stand always has a selection of tasty, just-picked organic food, plus items such as maple syrup from its trees, and the farm's Bee Smooth hand cream. A list of all farmers markets in Ohio may be found at www.ohioproud.org.

CRS said almost \$3 million worth of products were sold in 2012 through its Fair Trade program. More information about the program is available on its website, www.crsfairtrade.org.

CRS partners with brands of Fair Trade products, including Divine Chocolate and Equal Exchange Chocolate, as well as coffee sold by 15 retailers nationwide. The closest of those businesses to Ohio is Higher Grounds Trading Co. of Traverse City, Mich.

Many beautiful, one-of-a-kind craft items are available on the site through the Work of Human Hands catalog, a joint effort whose creation in 1995 by CRS and SERRV (Sales Exchange for Refugee Rehabilitation and Vocation) International marked the start of CRS' Fair Trade efforts. SERRV has been involved with following Fair Trade standards in marketing quality handcrafts for 65 years.

"The prices of these items are reasonable, but there's a plus to buying Fair Trade goods because part of the cost is a social premium that goes back to the community,

to be invested in various improvements," Rapp said.

"Consistent Fair Trade purchases over a period of time can lift whole communities out of poverty and give them a better opportunity to determine their own destiny. In addition, when people purchase Fair Trade products through CRS, the agency gets a portion of the proceeds, so your purchase using the CRS website also helps the Church's relief efforts worldwide."

The social concerns office conducts a sale of Work of Human Hands items every year during the Christmas season at the diocesan office building. It also has worked with individual parishes which have sponsored similar efforts. These are most popular at Christmastime, but can take place at any time of year. Fair Trade items also are used as door prizes as Office for Social Concerns events.

For more information about Fair Trade programs and how you or your parish can get involved, contact Erin Cordle of the social concerns office at ecordle@colsdio.org or Rapp at Stephanie.rapp15@gmail.com.

"When we buy Fair Trade products, we respect human dignity, promote the common good, advance economic justice, empower others, and stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters throughout the world," Rapp said. "In essence, we live out our Catholic values. What does fair trade have to do with being Catholic? Everything!"

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)

Parables tell of God's kingdom, but do not define it



Father Lawrence L. Hummer

July 13
Isaiah 55:10-11;
Romans 8:18-23;
Matthew 13:1-23

The Old Testament view of the heavens included the idea that all the moisture that came down to earth was located above the firmament. The firmament was like a vaulted dome that protected the earth from the waters above. The Lord could release what was needed in due season to water the earth, or in winter to provide snow to beautify the earth. It probably was thinking along these lines that led to the *Roman Missal's* Eucharistic Prayer II, which mentions "sending down your Spirit like the dewfall."

The Lord was thought to live above the firmament and above the waters, and Isaiah seized upon the imagery to capture the process of sending the divine word to the earth. Like the rain and the snow that fertilize the earth, so, too, the word of the Lord has a purpose to accomplish and will not return to the Lord until it has been accomplished. The purpose of the word sent was to "Let the wicked forsake their way and sinners their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord to find mercy" (Isaiah 55:7).

Beginning today and for the following two Sundays, the Gospel reading will be from the parable chapter of Matthew 13. The parables all reflect in some way aspects of the kingdom of heaven, which Jesus has been announcing since the opening of his public ministry.

The most common form of Jesus' teaching comes in the form of parables. They are generally short and to the point and require the reader or listener to draw a

conclusion. Occasionally, an explanation is provided in the Gospels. Most of the explanations are done by the individual evangelist rather than by Jesus. It is important to understand that the parables do not define the kingdom, because the kingdom remains a mystery, which defies proper description. That does not make the kingdom any less real – just impossible to define or describe.

In Sunday's parable about a sower, he sows either on a pathway, on the rocks, among thorns, or into good soil. This is a good description of the kind of soil in Palestine of the day. The injunction "Whoever has ears ought to hear" requires audience participation. We have to think about the parable and draw conclusions. It is important for own understanding that we first ponder the meaning of this parable without any explanation. That is probably what Jesus did originally.

The quotation from Isaiah ("You shall indeed hear but not understand ...") is Isaiah 6:9-10, which is no doubt added by Matthew as yet another example of a "fulfillment citation," one of Matthew's favorite literary devices (citing an Old Testament passage, especially the Prophets, to prove the fulfillment of the passage in the teaching and actions of Jesus).

The explanation of the parable given is probably courtesy of Matthew (or of Matthew's source), not of Jesus. The huge return on what is sown into good soils (thirty, sixty, or a hundredfold) is, according to many commentators, a sign of the abundance that is expected in the period of the Messiah.

The great German scholar Joachim Jeremias suggests that the likely original meaning of the parable of the sower is about the end time, not some kind of exhortation for us to produce fruit or to be productive soil, or to keep the faith among the adversities of life that we face. Jeremias argues that this is a "parable of assurance," noting that the kingdom will come inevitably because it is of God and is therefore assured (*The Message of the Parables of Jesus*, pages 146-150).

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

Table of Plenty project at Youth for Justice summit

Members of the eighth-grade class of Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul School made an online presentation explaining the details of their Table of Plenty project as their entry in the 2014 Youth for Justice Virtual Summit sponsored by the Ohio Center for Law Related Education (OCLRE).

The talk by Shannon Powers, Kelsey Plasse, and Camille Fitzsimmons, accompanied by their adviser, Beth Robinson, combined a power-point presentation with photographic slides, posters, and exhibits explaining the project's goals and how they were accomplished.

The project was a joint effort by the school, Hope Now, Habitat for Humanity, the Knights of Columbus,

and the St. Vincent de Paul Society to build tables and accessories for six disadvantaged families and for individuals in the Knox County area during the Christmas season.

The school's eighth-grade class built and painted the tables. Students from other classes made centerpieces, placemats, and table runners, as well as additional gifts such as games and puzzles.

The Youth for Justice Summit is one of several annual projects sponsored by OCLRE. Its other programs include moot court, mock trial, Project Citizen, and We the People projects for high-school and middle-school students.

The Weekday Bible Readings

7/14-7/19	7/21-7/26
MONDAY Isaiah 1:10-17 Psalm 50:8-9, 16b-17, 21, 23 Matthew 10:34-11:1	MONDAY Micah 6:1-4, 6-8 Psalm 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23 Matthew 12:38-42
TUESDAY Isaiah 7:1-9 Psalm 48:2-8 Matthew 11:20-24	TUESDAY Micah 7:14-15, 18-20 Psalm 85:2-8 John 20:1-2, 11-18
WEDNESDAY Isaiah 10:5-7, 13b-16 Psalm 94:5-10, 14-15 Matthew 11:25-27	WEDNESDAY Jeremiah 1:1, 4-10 Psalm 71:1-4a, 5-6b, 15, 17 Matthew 13:1-9
THURSDAY Isaiah 26:7-9, 12, 16-19 Psalm 102:13-14b, 15-21 Matthew 11:28-30	THURSDAY Jeremiah 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13 Psalm 36:6-7b, 8-11 Matthew 13:10-17
FRIDAY Isaiah 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8 Isaiah 38:10-12, 16 (Ps) Matthew 12:1-8	FRIDAY 2 Corinthians 4:7-15 Psalm 126:1b, 2-6 Matthew 20:20-28
SATURDAY Micah 2:1-5 Psalm 10:1-4, 7-8, 14 Matthew 12:14-21	SATURDAY Jeremiah 7:1-11 Psalm 84:3-6a, 8a, 11 Matthew 13:24-30

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEKS OF JULY 13 AND 20, 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 systems 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).
Mass from Kenton Immaculate Conception Church at 10 a.m. on Time Warner Cable Channel 6 (Hardin County).
Mass from Portsmouth St. Mary Church at noon on Time Warner Channel 24 in Scioto County.

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

We pray Weeks III and IV, Seasonal Proper of the Liturgy of the Hours

Summer Perspective



THE TIDE IS TURNING TOWARD CATHOLICISM David Hartline

Whether you are on vacation while reading this, about to go on vacation, or have just returned from a little time off, we all need to understand what is truly important.

This is the point where we have to put all we learned during Lent and the Easter season into practice. We not only need to take care of our own physical and spiritual needs, but we must assist others in doing the same, especially those near and dear to us.

Yet we probably can't do any of this without a clear head. Sometimes while on vacation, the problems that seem so insurmountable and so nerve wracking lose their sting as we enjoy God's creation, as well as time spent with family and friends. God's beauty, combined with our earthly relationships, can transform our thought process.

There was a reason that Jesus took the Apostles to lofty heights to show them miracles and instruct them in the truths of God's ways. Jesus did the same for those who heard him at gatherings such as the Sermon on the Mount.

Perhaps while we're enjoying ourselves in whatever beautiful location we find ourselves this summer, we will begin to reflect on our blessings and all we hold that's dear to us. Hopefully, this will help us share these blessings with those around us.

Some vacationers may have to settle for the local beauty of a state park, while others may truly be blessed to get to see some of the wonders of the world. In whatever circumstance you find yourself, take advantage of God's beauty, because our Heavenly Father made this beauty for us

to enjoy.

We often don't think of that gift, but when we take the time to enjoy nature, we truly see God's unseen hand.

It is sad how some don't take advantage and enjoy this beauty. I remember once meeting a woman who lived in a big mansion-style home and said she hoped her family could take a vacation that year, because for the last couple of years, her husband couldn't get away from work.

On the other hand, I remember going on a camping and fishing trip to upper Michigan with some of my childhood friends from Marion 15

gentleman said that while they probably didn't have two nickels to rub together, they did have the good sense to get away from it all and enjoy scenery and one another's company.

The woman in the mansion and the elderly campers seemed right out of a modern-day parable. It brought to mind the old saying "You never see a tombstone that says 'I wish I had spent more time at the office.'"

Now we all know that there are some folks who seem on a permanent vacation, and certain nations of the world have gotten into financial trouble because some of their

state employees could retire in their late 40s and early 50s, putting a strain on their nation's budget. However, I think we can all agree that in our part of the world, too many people fail to take advantage of downtime.

Perhaps this summer, we will put everything into perspective and come back not only seeing God's masterful creative hand, but having a clear enough mind to understand the path we are to take in this world.

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

"At the Bandstand"



Fourth- to sixth-grade students at Wellston Sts. Peter and Paul School presented a musical titled "At the Bandstand" for family, friends, and community members. The audience was taken back to the 1950s with a recreation of a classic television show, coupled with songs and dance styles of the era. Dorothy Riepenhoff was director, and the cast and crew included 55 students. Photo courtesy Sts. Peter and Paul School

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BOOK REVIEW

SEVEN BIG MARRIAGE MYTHS

By Christopher & Jennifer Kaczor
Reviewed by Christopher White

In an era in which both cohabitation and divorce are rampant, the dream of marriage refuses to go away. A recent survey from the Pew Foundation revealed that 26 percent of millennials (people aged 18 to 33) are married — compared with 36 percent of Generation X and 48 percent of baby boomers. Yet, despite this unprecedented low, 69 percent of these millennials say they would like to marry.

In their new book, *The Seven Big Myths About Marriage*, Christopher and Jennifer Kaczor offer a fine summation of what marriage is and a how-to guide of navigating its complexities. To achieve this, they focus much of their time and attention on dispelling popular miscon-

ceptions about what marriage isn't.

Essential to their approach to marriage is a wonderfully useful opening chapter on happiness and identity. Why begin a book on marriage with happiness? Many couples have false notions that their spouses will simply fulfill their desires and satisfy that deep longing for happiness that we all experience. The book shows that such a view is shortsighted, as it reduces our understanding of happiness in a way that limits the role of faith and elevates one's spouse to a "hero" level, equivalent or above that of God.

After this introductory chapter, the Kaczors explore many of the false notions of marriage that have dominated discourse on the subject today: that it's simply a recognition of an emotional connection between two persons; that

it's a 50-50 contract; that it's only based on the feelings of love; and that it can be disconnected from the possibility of children. All these conceptions of marriage are wrong-headed and cheapen our understanding of marriage in ways that are both harmful and misleading.

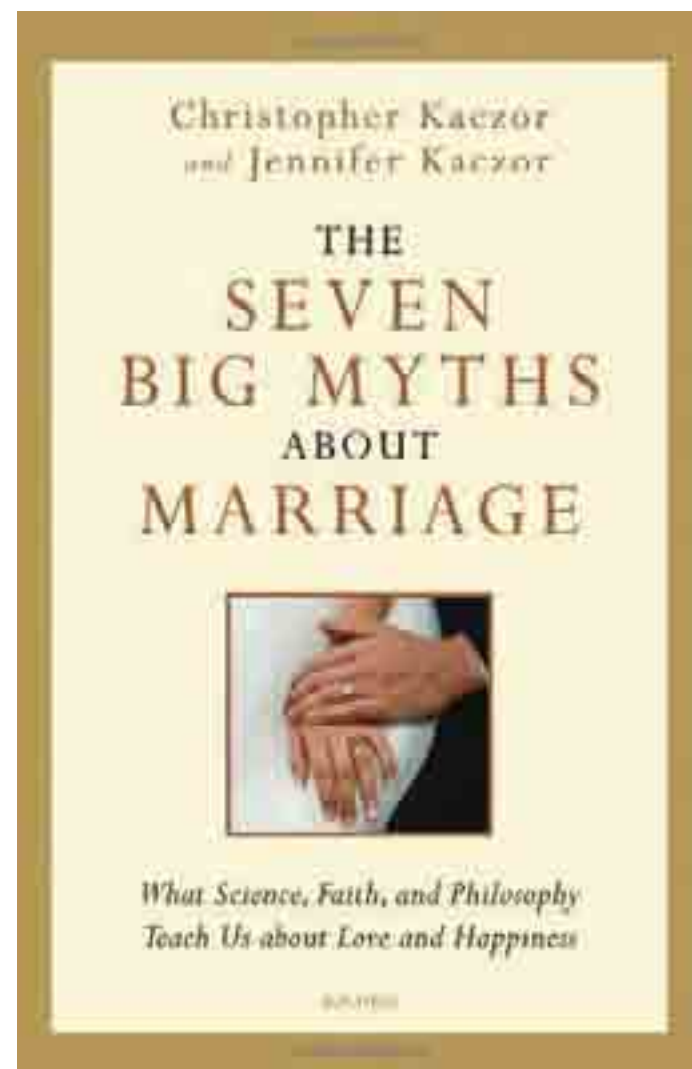
One of the most appealing aspects of this book is that it is written by a couple who openly share with humor and humility the successes and failures of their own marriage. They do not try to hide the fact that

marriage is hard, but they do evidence that it is worthwhile.

Among the finest achievements of this book are its arguments that sex cannot be separated from marriage and that reproduction is never an individual project, but must always be viewed as a gift. The final chapter that debunks the idea that "all reproductive choices are equal" is an instructive resource for couples struggling with fertility and those tempted with the allure of reproductive technologies.

The Seven Big Myths About Marriage is not only a must-read for individuals or couples contemplating marriage, but also for couples already married, as it will provide an opportunity for active reflection and assessment. It's also an effective pastoral tool for priests and pastoral staff looking to improve their own training. Christopher and Jennifer Kaczor have provided the Church a valuable resource — and a powerful reminder of the many fruits that marriage can yield.

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The Catholic Foundation Announces Planned Giving Partnership with Five Area High Schools

The Catholic Foundation has announced formal planned giving partnerships with five diocesan high schools — Bishop Hartley, Bishop Ready, and St. Francis DeSales in Columbus, Notre Dame in Portsmouth, and Tuscarawas Central Catholic in New Philadelphia — to enhance current development efforts.

Planned giving is a major gift that comes from a donor's financial or estate planning. Gifts may come from appreciated securities or stock, real estate, a retirement plan, or even cash, but they generally made from outside of one's discretionary income. Some donors are in a position to make the gift during their lifetime, but many do so as a bequest in their will. Planned gifts can offer many benefits to the donor, including tax benefits or the potential for returned income.

The Catholic Foundation will act as a resource to the schools, offering expertise in endowments, planned giving, and bequests. This will allow the schools' development teams to continue to focus on capital campaigns and annual giving, but enable alumni and other donors to consider future gifts and long-term planning for the school.

"The sustainability of our Catholic high schools rests with endowments that cover operations and tuition assistance," said Loren Brown, president and chief executive officer of The Catholic Foundation. "By offering the Foundation's expertise to our schools, we are helping to secure firm financial grounding to ensure a Catholic education is available for future generations of students."

Each partnering school is taking an individualized approach to a planned giving program with the Foundation in order to best fit school needs. Notre Dame is in a position to feature endowments in an upcoming letter to alumni, while Bishop Ready is ready to begin meeting with potential donors who are at the right stage in life to consider a bequest to the school.

The Catholic Foundation will offer behind-the-scenes expertise to all the schools. For instance, the Foundation staff can assist with language

and materials that promote planned giving, co-host information sessions with alumni, and even develop a page within Catholic-Foundation.org to promote and host online giving to the schools' endowments. The Foundation also will administer the endowments. All funds at The Catholic Foundation are invested in alignment with Catholic beliefs and teachings, in accordance with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' guide for socially responsible investments.

The concept of a formal partnership originated when Scott Hartman, business and advancement operations director at DeSales, and Tiffney Hatem, advancement director at Hartley, approached the Foundation about hosting a forum for development teams at area Catholic high schools.

"The forum allowed us to share best practices and ideas with our peers at other schools," Hatem said. "It was a great way to collaborate and brainstorm strategies for reaching our audience."

After the first forum, it became evident that there was an opportunity to approach alumni and other donors about including their alma mater in end-of-life giving.

"Our high schools generally focus on raising money for capital campaigns or promoting an annual fund, and we do that well," Hartman said. "However, we were missing an opportunity to plan ahead for future generations. By partnering with The Catholic Foundation, we are offering our alumni an additional way to remember their school — in this case, with a gift that will last for many generations to come."

The Foundation hopes to collaborate with other diocesan schools to offer similar programs.

"The ultimate mission of The Catholic Foundation is to provide for the long-term needs of the Diocese of Columbus," Brown said. "We look forward to working with Bishop Hartley, Bishop Ready, Notre Dame, St. Francis DeSales, and Tuscarawas Central Catholic, and hopefully other schools, to help provide for their long-term needs as an organization."

ODU Names New Vice President for Advancement

Douglas H. Stein has been appointed as Ohio Dominican University's new vice president for university advancement. Stein will be responsible for achieving Ohio Dominican's strategic fundraising priorities and will lead the university's activities in advancement and alumni relations.



Ohio State University, where he served as development director and executive secretary for The James Foundation, the fundraising arm of The Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute. Stein began his advancement career as assistant to the dean and

development director at Ohio State's college of pharmacy. "We are extremely fortunate to have a seasoned professional such as Doug Stein joining us to lead our advancement operation," said Dr. Peter Cim-bolic, ODU president. "He brings more than three decades' worth of experience in higher education and medical fundraising to the position, and his ties to the central Ohio Catholic and corporate community will position ODU to more effectively identify, cultivate, solicit, and steward donors who believe strongly in our mission and strategic direction."

Stein joins Ohio Dominican from the Mount Carmel Health System Foundation, where he has served as president and executive director since 2008. He was the lead fundraiser for the system's four hospitals, as well as its college of nursing, graduate medical education program, and hospice program. Under his leadership, the foundation realized four consecutive record years in giving for associate and physician appeals, grants, and special events.

Before joining Mount Carmel, Stein was senior director of development at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School. While there, he was the lead fundraiser for the school's \$18 million Campaign for St. Charles. Previously, Stein worked in advancement at The

development director at Ohio State's college of pharmacy.

"I am thrilled that President Cim-bolic has given me this great opportunity to lead Ohio Dominican University's advancement efforts," Stein said. "Under his leadership and with the commitment of its board of trustees, ODU is on track to become one of the region's great Catholic universities. I look forward to working with our alumni and friends in the Columbus community to provide support for Ohio Dominican to fulfill its ambitious strategic goals in the years ahead."

Stein is active in many central Ohio community and Catholic organizations. He has served as a consultant to The Catholic Foundation of the Diocese of Columbus and has shared his fundraising expertise with the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center, the Columbus chapter of St. Paul's Outreach, Over the Rainbow Inc. in Chicago, and Columbus St. Catharine, Columbus St. Andrew, and Gahanna St. Matthew churches, as well as many other service organizations. He holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from Ohio State and pursued postgraduate studies there. He is a parishioner at Gahanna St. Matthew Church.

Scholarship Recipient

Samantha Underwood, a 2014 graduate of Chillicothe High School and 2010 graduate of Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School, has received the Father Charles Griffin Scholarship. The \$500 scholarship is presented annually to Flaget graduates who have excelled in high school and provided service to the community.

Underwood will be attending The Ohio State University in the fall, majoring in anthropological sciences. She graduated 11th in her class of 240 students and had a 4.11 grade-point average.

Photo courtesy Bishop Flaget School



LANCASTER FESTIVAL OPENING NIGHT: SEASON'S GREETINGS

Lancaster Festival Orchestra
Gary Sheldon, conductor

Wednesday, July 16
Lancaster St. Mary Church

A stirring symphonic celebration is in store on Wednesday, July 16 at Lancaster St. Mary Church, 132 S. High St., to commemorate the church's 150th anniversary and the 30th anniversary of the Lancaster Festival. The joyful *Season's Greetings* program will feature "Summer" from Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*, performed by concertmaster Stephanie Sant' Ambrogio; the world premiere orchestration of *Spring* by Vadim Neselovskyi; Wayne Barlow's *The Winter's Past*; and "Fall" from Glazunov's *The Seasons*. Festival poet-in-residence Nicole Sealey will read her own poetry and that of Vivaldi and Shakespeare, and the program will conclude with Robert Schumann's glorious *Spring Symphony*. Beethoven's majestic *Consecration of the House Overture* will offer a fitting tribute to St. Mary Church, which has hosted many memorable festival concerts over the years.

CHILLICOTHE CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION



Chillicothe St. Peter Church conducted its fourth annual Corpus Christi Eucharistic procession on Sunday, June 22. This year's event was organized by seminarian Brett Garland. Carrying the monstrance displaying the Eucharist during the outdoor procession were Father William Hahn, the church's pastor, and (pictured) newly ordained Father Vincent Nguyen. Also present were members of the Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, who will be moving to the parish convent in July. Knights of Columbus Council 15793 escorted the Eucharist and provided light refreshments following the procession. Eucharistic processions are a centuries-old tradition by which Catholics can publicly profess their belief in the presence of Jesus' body, blood, soul, and divinity in the Eucharist.

Photo courtesy St. Peter Church



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Thurs 7/17 6pm-11pm

Chicken Dinner
Band: Sidekicks
Crafts, Rides, Games

Fri 7/18: 6pm - 12am

City BBQ Dinner
Band: Down12
Brutus the Buckeye, Texas Hold 'Em
Tourney 7PM - Big Grand Prize!
Crafts, Rides, Games

Sat 7/19: 5pm-12am

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Paul Clark Party Band
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Ninja Turtles and Spiderman, Photo
Booth, Crafts, Rides, Games

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