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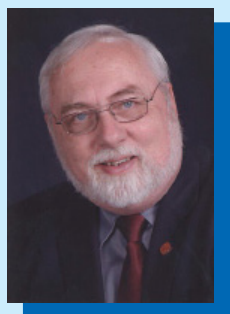


NATIONAL CATHOLIC YOUTH
CONFERENCE ~ 2013

The Editor's Notebook

Celebrating the Faith

By David Garick, Editor



Shout with joy to the LORD, all the earth; break into song; sing praise.

Sing praise to the LORD.

Psalm 98

Anyone who ventured to Indianapolis recently certainly heard the joyful noise emanating from the National Catholic Youth Conference. A large delegation of our own Catholic youth from Columbus was a part of the noisy assembly. And they set a wonderful example for their elders.

Most of us are reluctant to make a lot of noise when it comes to our faith. We can make plenty of noise at Ohio Stadium when the Buckeyes are playing. But when it comes to religion, our secular society has pressured us to keep our faith to ourselves. We go to Mass, maybe even to confession. But we take in the sacrament for ourselves only. Christ told us to be strengthened by the sacraments and to take our faith into the streets and share his love and his saving grace with the world. That is seen as politically incorrect in our modern society. We find it hard to be countercultural ... to make a noise.

That's the great thing about young people. They have an ability to get passionate about what they

believe. They have no problem going against the grain. I went to college in the 1960s and saw plenty of that outspoken youthful exuberance. I may not have agreed with all of it, but it certainly had impact.

Our Catholic youth today have a wonderful facility to echo the call to break the bonds of silence and to proclaim the exciting promises of Christ. They seem to instinctively respond to the urging of St. James to be "doers of the Word and not hearers only." That is evident in the enthusiasm they displayed at the youth conference and the passion with which they received Christ at the Eucharist. These young people did not reluctantly slip into the confessional. They clamored for the opportunity to cleanse their souls in the sacrament of reconciliation. Back home in Columbus, they are among the most reliable servants in acts of mercy to provide food, clothing and other services to the poor, aged, and infirm in our community.

Listen to that joyful noise. Then follow Christ's command to go and do likewise.

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT



POPE CALLS FOR ACTION AGAINST SCANDAL OF HUNGER IN A WORLD OF PLENTY

By Carol Glatz

Catholic News Service

People must stand united against the scandal of hunger while avoiding food waste and irresponsible use of the world's resources, Pope Francis said.

People should "stop thinking that our daily actions do not have an impact on the lives of those who suffer from hunger firsthand," he said Monday, Dec. 9 in a video message launching a global campaign of prayer and action against hunger.

Organized by Caritas Internationalis, the Vatican-based federation of Catholic charities, a global "wave of prayer" began at noon Tuesday, Dec. 10 on the South Pacific island of Samoa and headed west across the world's time zones.

Pope Francis offered his blessing and support for the "One Human Family, Food for All" campaign in a video message released on the eve of the global launch.

With about 1 billion people still suffering from hunger today, "we cannot look the other way and pretend this does not exist," he said.

There is enough food in the world to feed everyone, he said, but only "if there is the will" to respect the "God-given rights of everyone to have access to adequate food."

By sharing in Christian charity with those "who face numerous obstacles," the pope said, "we promote an authentic cooperation with the poor so that, through the fruits of their and our work, they can live a digni-



ty life."

Pope Francis invited all people to act "as one single human family, to give a voice to all of those who suffer silently from hunger, so that this voice becomes a roar which can shake the world."

The Caritas campaign is also a way to invite people to pay attention to their food choices, "which often lead to waste and a poor use of the resources available to us," the pope said.

Caritas Internationalis invited its 164 member organizations and local churches to pray for an end to hunger and malnutrition and act on a local, national, or global level against food waste and in favor of food access and security worldwide.

Caritas is urging Catholics to take a few moments to join the world in praying against hunger and to engage in long-term action through raising awareness, advocacy, charitable work, or other efforts supporting food security.

The right to food is part of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the "Food for All" launch date of Dec. 10 marks the U.N.'s Human Rights Day.

The Caritas campaign is calling on the United Nations to hold a session on the right to food at its 2015 General Assembly and is asking governments to guarantee the right to food in national legislation.

People can contact their local Caritas organization for more information or the campaign's main site at food.caritas.org.

CARDINGTON CHURCH BEGINS RECOVERY

Masses and religious education programs at Cardington Sacred Hearts Church have resumed at a new site as the parish begins recovering from the fire that destroyed the church building early on Thanksgiving Day.

"We are blessed. We are positive and hopeful for new things in this season of Advent," said Father John Bakle, SM, parish administrator. "Parish life continues full steam ahead."

Weekend Masses and Parish School of Religion activities will take place at Cardington-Lincoln Intermediate School on County Road 168, located immediately behind Cardington-Lincoln High School. Masses are at 4:30 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 11:15 a.m. Sunday, with confessions before Mass. PSR classes take place between the two Sunday Masses.

The Cardington-Lincoln school board offered the building to the parish for its temporary use soon after the fire. The building, though just opened in the fall of 2012, was closed for the current school year because of declining enrollment. Five classrooms are being used for the PSR program.

Father Bakle said he received many offers of worship space from churches and business owners, and the school was the site which best fit parish needs.

The hall at Trinity United Methodist Church in Mount Gilead was used for Masses on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, the first Saturday and Sunday after the Nov. 28 fire. Use of the school building began with this past weekend's Masses and PSR program.

Father Bakle, in a letter to parishioners, said the school would be used for parish functions "for the extended future."

"The current arrangements, after all was considered, are the best we could make to accommodate all our needs, much in the time frame and configuration we are used to," he said.

Daily Masses will be celebrated at 8:45 a.m. Monday through Friday and on the first Saturday of the month in the dining room

of the rectory adjacent to the former church building. The rectory was not touched by the fire.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on first Saturdays has been discontinued until the parish has a fittingly reverent and safe space. Pancake breakfasts sponsored by the parish Knights of Columbus on the second Saturday of each month have been canceled until further notice.

The state fire marshal's office said the cause of the fire would be listed as undetermined. Investigators think it may have started in the church's electrical room, but the damage was too great to be certain.

Insurance carried by the Diocese of Columbus on the church building will cover its full reconstruction cost. Father Bakle said the diocese has engaged three architects to propose drawings for a new church. They will meet with a newly named parish rebuilding commission in early January. Groups of parishioners are completing detailed listings of items lost in the fire.

Father Bakle said that as of Tuesday morning, work on clearing the site of the destroyed building was about half-completed. The parish phone system, partially damaged by the fire, has been repaired and is working properly.

Before the fire, the parish was in the midst of a five-year, three-phase renewal plan. The first phase was to have concluded Monday, Dec. 9, with the dedication of a new organ.

Father Bakle said many current and former parishioners, businesses, and other diocesan parishes have sent or offered assistance.

The parish is not planning a rebuilding fund drive, but will accept donations at Sacred Hearts Church Rebuilding Fund, 4680 U.S. Route 42, Cardington OH 43315-9512.

Father Bakle said a record of all such gifts will be kept and donors will receive a record of their contributions for tax purposes early in the new year.



ST. JOHN NEUMANN CHURCH ANNOUNCES MASS OF DEDICATION FOR EXPANDED, BEAUTIFIED CHURCH

Sunbury St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, will dedicate a new 17,559-square-foot expansion during a 7 p.m. Mass on Wednesday, Dec. 18. Bishop Frederick Campbell will be the principal celebrant, assisted by Father David Sizemore, the church's pastor. Many priests and deacons from around the diocese will be attending, as well as seminarians from the Pontifical College Josephinum. Light refreshments will be served immediately after Mass.

Plans for the expanded church were developed a little more than a year ago by M&A Architects of Columbus. Elford, Inc. of Columbus was the contractor. Conrad-Schmitt Studios from Wisconsin prepared the concept of the liturgical space and implemented the design of beautiful murals and artistic painting and stenciling. Henninger's in Cleveland created stained glass to match from a closed parish in Lorain.

Parish volunteers and staff have been preparing for months for the Mass and for Christmas Masses at 4 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and midnight on Christmas Eve and noon on Christmas Day. "We feel blessed to have this great team who is working around the clock so that we can celebrate Christmas in our newly expanded church, which now has such beauty in which to glorify God and additional space to

welcome and evangelize more souls," Father Sizemore said.

Transepts have been added to the church, which was built in 2004 and will now seat more than 1,100 people to accommodate the growing parish. The interior of the church has been transformed to depict the beauty of the Catholic faith. The focal point is Our Lord in the tabernacle on an ornate carved wood altar of repose obtained from Father Kevin Lutz of the Holy Family Jubilee Museum in Columbus.

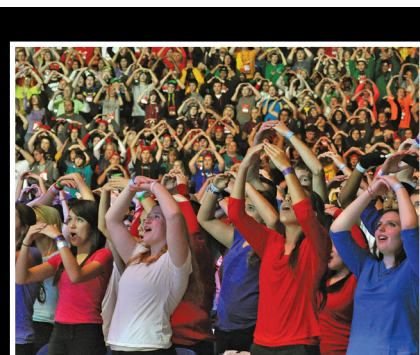
Beautiful stained-glass windows, murals, stations of the cross, and statues feature the lives of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, and the saints. Visitors will be able to learn the story of Christianity through biblical pictures and symbols throughout the fully renovated church. An immersion baptismal font has been added and awaits the parish's largest-

traditional-style windows from a closed parish in Lorain.

The adoration chapel also is part of the expansion project. Adoration in the chapel is from Sunday at noon through Tuesday midnight each week, with the goal of growing adoration throughout each week. The chapel will be blessed as part of the Dec. 18 celebration.



Correction - The time of the Holy Hour on the second Monday of each month at Columbus St. Mary Magdalene Church was incorrectly listed in the Dec. 1 Catholic Times. The Holy Hour takes place immediately following the 8:15 a.m. Mass.



Front Page photo: Teens sing and move to a song in Lucas Oil Stadium on Nov. 21 at the opening session of the National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis. More than 23,000 young people from across the nation took part in the conference.

CNS photo/Natalie Hoefler, The Criterion, Indianapolis



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PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

Bouncer

How did you deal with a recommitment to the real presence of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist this past week? We referred to it as a "simple, private promise." Advent is a perfect time to refocus on the tremendous gift of Our Lord in the Eucharist. He is really and truly present in His Word, in one another, and in the Eucharist. This is one of those very personal ways in which we prepare for the Lord's coming and we make straight the path. And collectively, we breathe life into the Church as the Body of Christ. That is who we are. In reading the discourse on the Bread of Life in the sixth chapter of John's Gospel, we are inspired to be thankful for such a gift that saves us, nourishes us, and brings us life eternal. We then take that inspiration and we act upon it. What a gift! Our hunger for that Bread should grow to be never-ending. The participation in and celebration of the Mass on Sunday grows into the same throughout the week. Weekday Mass is a great way to make Advent a truly special time of preparation.

By now, we have all read about Pope Francis and his sharing of his experiences in prior jobs earlier in his life. The one that seems to get the most attention is his position as a "bouncer" in a Buenos Aires night club. Can you imagine getting into trouble there and having a future pope ask you to leave? The conversation might go something like this: "Excuse me, sir, but your behavior is unacceptable, and you must leave." I would probably say something like "What are you going to do about it, Jorge? Go ahead and make me leave!" All joking aside, this story has caused me to reflect on how often we act as bouncers in our own churches and parishes. Our pope has been so humble, loving, embracing, and welcoming that it bothers me greatly that our churches remain so empty. Who is welcome in our churches? Who distracts us? What bothers us? I will admit that I have been ready to bounce many people over the years during Mass. One just looks like he does not belong, or that he is a visitor, or lost, but he just has that non-Catholic "look." I had better keep an eye on him and be sure he does not take Communion. Another one is dressed so immodestly that I cannot keep my eyes off her. Shame on her for distracting me. Yet another one refuses to take her crying baby out to the cry room. Many people keep turning and give her the "evil eye." Someone else comes in late, and the Liturgy of the Word is done. I should tell him that he needs to go to another Mass, as this one does not count for him. The hacker behind me reeks of cigarettes. I spend most of Mass despising her for sitting near me. Finally, there are the doughnut police after Mass. Why do they never replace the good doughnuts? Only the plain ones are left when I get there.

Our practical challenge this week is to stop thinking like a bouncer and try thinking and acting like Pope Francis. How can I worry so much about what others look like and do, when I know how incredibly imperfect I am? What kind of Christian would not welcome and embrace all who seek Jesus Christ? What were Mary and Joseph thinking with all those filthy animals around? Not to mention the shepherds, who were complete strangers and potentially dangerous. No wonder the innkeeper bounced them. Who wants a crying newborn disturbing the clientele? Let us be loving and welcoming this Advent and Christmas and beyond. And pray specially for Pope Francis this Tuesday. His birthday is Tuesday, Dec. 17.

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



JFK Commemoration Mass

The assassination of President John F. Kennedy 50 years ago was commemorated on Sunday, Nov. 24, at a Mass celebrated at Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church by its pastor, Father Joshua Wagner, with Father Clarence Williams, CFP, pastor of Columbus St. James the Less Church, as homilist.

The homily was based on *Lift Every Voice and Sing*, a song frequently described as the "black national anthem," with Father Williams presenting a historical commentary on the parallels between the difficulties faced by the Irish in the United States in the 1800s and the struggles faced by American blacks more recently. The Mass also featured outstanding Gospel music. It can be found by going to <http://fatherwagner.com/JFK>.

Father Williams is a member of the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus, which is promoting a commemoration of President Kennedy's leadership in civil rights and immigration reform as part of the events marking his tragic death, using the anniversary

to acknowledge the role of Catholics in making a difference in a racially troubled and divided society.

"We hope to wake up the echoes of those who were a part of the civil rights movement of the '60s and challenge them to tell their story to a new generation," said Father Kenneth Taylor, president of the caucus and director of the Office of Multiculturalism for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Father Taylor provided a larger context for this effort. "This promotion of commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the assassination begins NBCCC journey to our 50th anniversary as an organization in 2018, which is a result of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.," he said.

"Both of these leaders, one white and the other black, have changed the fabric of our civilization, both at home and abroad. This is just the beginning of our engagement to wake up the echoes of our organization's ethos and contribution to the Catholic Church and society in general."

Cathedral adds earlier Christmas Masses

As an aid to families wishing to attend earlier masses on Christmas Eve, Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., has scheduled Masses

for 4 and 6 p.m., along with the traditional midnight Mass, which will be preceded by an 11 p.m. Cathedral Choir concert.



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CANCER AWARENESS PROGRAM AT BISHOP FLAGET

Students at Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School were engaged in many activities to increase awareness of cancer and the devastating effect that it has on families as part of the school's second annual Dig for the Cure event. As part of the activities, students raised funds for Southern Ohio Survivors, a local organization whose primary purpose is to provide support to families facing life-changing illnesses.

Special events of the week included a "pink" bake sale, a "Walk for the Cure" in which students raised money through walking laps in honor of those who are suffering from cancer, a teacher-student volleyball game, T-shirt sales, and a volleyball serving contest.

Students also decorated the volleyball net with ribbons signifying those in their lives who had been touched by cancer or other illnesses. Students tied a ribbon on the net for all the people for whom they wanted to send out special prayers.

Avery Brown (pictured at right with third-grade classmate Olivia Beatty), a Flaget student whose grandmother has been touched by cancer, spearheaded a "pink pumpkin" campaign to raise funds for SOS. Her vision was to raise \$1,000 through the sales of pumpkins that she and a group of her friends painted and decorated for October. To date, they have raised more than \$1,200. The girls

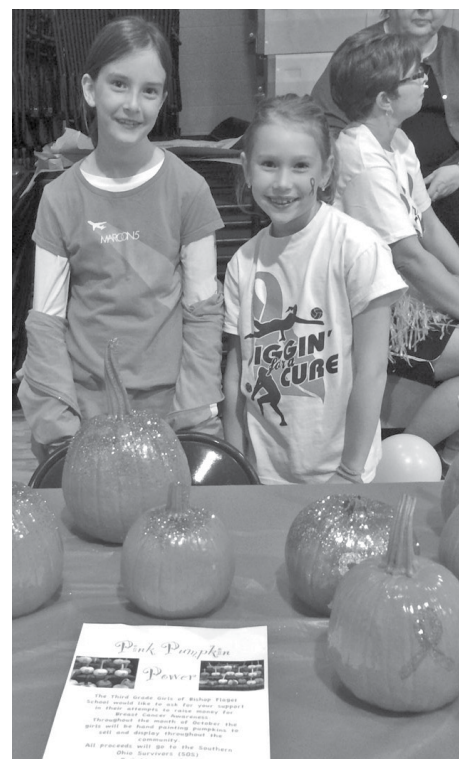


Photo courtesy Bishop Flaget School

painted 140 small pumpkins and sold them at various activities throughout October, including going door to door with a wagon of painted pumpkins.

Altogether, Dig for the Cure raised more than \$2,000. The school intends for this to be an annual event, keeping in line with the school theme "Service: Be a Mirror of God's Love."

OUR LADY OF VICTORY ADVENT AFTERNOON CONCERT

The choir will offer music from many traditions: a beautiful 16th century Advent anthem, rhythmic African and Spanish songs, a lovely arrangement of Silent Night.

Sunday, December 15 at 3:00 p.m.
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Free-will offering
For information, call Carol Ann: 614-348-8822



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EARTH AND SPACE PRESENTATION AT ST. BRENDAN

The Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District gave presentations to sixth- through eighth-grade classes at Hilliard St. Brendan School. All the programs have been correlated with Ohio's new learning standards for earth and space sciences and for life sciences.

Seventh-graders are pictured at a program titled "What's in Our Water?" The concepts of water pollution, watershed, and human impact on the environment were visually demonstrated through an EnviroScape model. Students witnessed how water quality changes when rain and land pollutants mix.

Sixth-graders attended a program

on "A Journey Through the Soil." A painted canvas tent told the story of soil below the surface. This "soil tunnel" depicted soil layers and plant roots. The program discussed the importance of soil, its composition, textures, and properties.

The program for eighth-graders was about "The Sliding Soil." The concept of erosion was demonstrated with a simulator. Students predicted and compared the effects of rain falling on bare soil, mulched soil, and grass. Soil erosion, water quality, landscape alterations, and the difference between permeable and impermeable surfaces also were discussed.

Photo courtesy St. Brendan School

'HOMELESS' MAN SPEAKS TO STUDENTS

John Donahue Grossman spoke at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School recently on the need to help those less fortunate than ourselves. At the start of his talk, Grossman, a nationally known youth minister and workshop and retreat director, was introduced as a homeless man with tremors. After revealing his true identity, Grossman talked about how we judge people every day, reminding students, "Sometimes, our eyes are liars. You can't know someone just by looking at them. There is always something underneath," and "When you have compassion you will act with justice."

Photo courtesy Bishop Watterson HS



BURIAL FACING EAST; MARITAL SEX IN LATER YEARS

Q. I was brought up to believe that a Catholic must be buried facing the east. Is that no longer true, and was it a part of the same law which said that the altar in a Catholic church must face the east? (Bridgeton, N.J.)

A. There is no requirement in church law regarding the position of burial. The only thing that comes close is a reference in the *Roman Ritual* of 1950 (no longer in effect) which said that at the funeral Mass, the coffin was to be placed so that the feet of the deceased should point toward the main altar.

Presuming the church had been constructed so that a priest celebrating Mass would face the east, the deceased at the funeral would face in that same direction.

Although there was no canonical requirement, it was in fact customary for people to be buried facing the east, reflecting the traditional Christian belief that, at the end time, Jesus would return from the east. (An even earlier pagan tradition had the deceased buried facing the east because it was where the sun rose.)

There is no fixed rule, and I know of some cemeteries where a large plot might have a cross in the middle with family members buried in a circular fashion, their heads nearest the cross.



QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Correctly, you suggest that the same values guided the traditional placing of a church's main altar, so that the priest celebrating Mass could face the east. This evoked the Christian expectation as to Christ's return. (See Matthew 24:27: "For just as lightning comes from the east and is seen as far as the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be.")

It also reflected the Jewish tradition, where the synagogue's congregation at worship looks together toward Jerusalem.

Most churches today celebrate Mass with the priest facing the people, across the altar. This highlights the communal dimension of the Eucharist as a meal of believers, while Mass offered with both the priest and congregation facing east emphasizes the sacrificial nature of the Eucharist.

Q. What does the church teach regarding sex in marriage during later adult years? My wife insists that since we are no longer capable of hav-

ing children (Abraham and Sarah we are not), sex is something that should no longer be an important part of our marriage.

But I believe that intimacy is important at any age for a couple to keep a strong and healthy marriage intact. Obviously, much depends on the agreement of both spouses, but could you enlighten me on the church's view? (Davenport, Iowa)

A. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* speaks in No. 2363 of the "twofold end of marriage: the good of the spouses themselves and the transmission of life." When the procreative aspect is no longer possible (you're right: Abraham at 100 and Sarah at 90 would have to be considered as outliers), the unitive aspect remains.

Sexual intimacy can be an important part of that loving union, even into old age. The church recognizes this, endorses it, and encourages it. True, the nature of that intimacy and its frequency depend on the agreement of the couple; often, a frank sharing of feelings with a physician or counselor (especially one who shares your moral outlook) can help in this regard.

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

Bishop Ready Hall of Fame luncheon honors inductees from last four years

In a return to a semiannual tradition which had been suspended for the past few years, Columbus Bishop Ready High School sponsored a Hall of Fame luncheon in The Boat House at Confluence Park to honor 15 inductees into the hall from the years 2009 through 2012.

Current Ready students also attended and sat at tables with hall members and their families. Ready junior Mark Gnatowski entertained the group with two songs: "The Music of the Night" from *The Phantom of the Opera* and "Wonderful" from *Wicked*.

Ready graduates have made careers in the worlds of health care, education, the nonprofit sector, service professions, industry, and even the NFL. While new members are announced each year at an all-school assembly, the induction ceremony takes place in odd-numbered years, with all members of the hall invited to attend.

New inductees in attendance this year were Antoine Harri, presented by Matt Wolf; Jim Brochowski, presented by



Heather Breedlove; Mike Graessle, presented by Jim Huntzinger; Mark Schell (posthumous), represented and presented by his daughters Lauren Schell and Lindsay Schell Swartz; Martha Sheridan, presented by Michael Harper; Jim Linard, presented by Doug Stein; and Robert Spears, presented by Bob Ghiloni. Several inductees were not able to be present because of travel and other commit-

ments. Ralph Roberts (deceased), was inducted into the hall as a member of the 2009 group of honorees.

Photo: Columbus Bishop Ready High School recently honored 2009 to 2012 inductees into its hall of fame at a luncheon. Among those attending were (from left): first row, the school's alumni relations director, Michelle Kelly; Jim Linard, Mike Graessle, Ready senior Holland Jones, Mary Lou

Luebbe-Gearhart, Margie Campbell, Joe Lang, Jim Brochowski, Heather Breedlove, Christine Murphy, Sharon Gillivan, Katie Regan Donovan, Lindsay Schell Swartz, Lauren Schell, Martha Sheridan, Ready senior Margie Berkemeyer, and Ready senior Bobbie Menke; second row, Ready junior Mark Gnatowski, Antoine Harris, Ready senior Josh Gantz, Robert Spears, and Ready senior Matt Yoho.

Photo courtesy Bishop Ready High School

Bishop Hartley comes up short in state football finals

By Doug Bean

Bishop Hartley's dreams of winning a second state championship in four years came up short on Saturday in the Ohio High School Athletic Association's Division V final at Massillon's Paul Brown Tiger Stadium.

Coldwater repeatedly turned back Hartley drives and quarterback Brody Hoying scored three touchdowns to give the defending state champion a 24-7 victory in a hard-fought game between two of the state's powerhouse programs.

Hartley had plenty of chances to avenge a 41-16 loss during the regular season to Coldwater (13-2), but continually was thwarted. The key stop came at the start of the fourth quarter after the Hawks, trailing 10-7, had driven from their own 3-yard line to the Coldwater 16.

On second down, after quarterback Jared Brandewie was sacked for an 11-yard loss, a pass intended for Alonzo Saxton into a stiff north wind was intercepted by Hoying, who also plays

defensive back, at the 3. He returned it 36 yards and Coldwater proceeded to drive to a 3-yard run by Hoying that made it 17-7 with 5:26 left.

"That was the turning point," Hartley coach Brad Burchfield said.

After Hartley was stopped on another fourth-down play, Hoying tacked on a 32-yard touchdown run with 2:46 left for the final margin. The state title was the fourth for Coldwater since 2005.

"At the end of the game, we just wanted the kids to feel really proud," Burchfield said. "Of course, the kids were disappointed with the end result, but we really don't like that. We want them to reflect back and remember everything that they were a part of and what they contributed. They represented our school with class and integrity."

How close were the Hawks to winning this game? Four times, Hartley moved the ball inside the Coldwater 30-yard line and couldn't score. On two of those drives, Hartley came up inches short on fourth down. Two other possessions ended with turnovers.

In the first half alone, Hartley advanced to the Coldwater 16-, 23-, and 26-yard lines, but was stopped on fourth down each time.

Hartley had more first downs (17-15), total yards (278-273) and time of possession (27:59-20:04) in the game. And the Hawks never punted. But Coldwater's defense stiffened when its backs were against its goal line.

Hartley went into the locker room trailing 10-0 at halftime, but came out in the third quarter and struck quickly.

On the first play of the second half, Hartley's Jalen Austin forced a Coldwater fumble and the Hawks' Tayron Washington recovered at the Coldwater 45.

Four plays later, Brandewie scored on a 7-yard keeper to make it 10-7. The big play to set up the touchdown was a 30-yard halfback pass from Saxton to Jacob Mercier.

After Hartley stopped Coldwater on the next series, the Hawks lost a fumble at their own 20. But they took the ball right back with a Mercier interception of a halfback pass at their own 3.

Behind the running of senior Sam Mackowiak, Brandewie, and Saxton, Hartley methodically marched 70 yards in 16 plays to get in position for a potential go-ahead score. The Hoying interception ended that threat.

Saxton finished as Hartley's leading rusher, with 75 yards on eight carries, and the team's top tackler, with eight solo stops. Mackowiak, who rushed for more than 2,000 yards during the season, was mostly bottled up by the Coldwater defense and held to 60 yards on 20 carries. Brandewie had 51 yards on 15 carries and completed 4 of 11 passes for 41 yards and the interception.

ADVENT MORNING OF REFLECTION

Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center, 2734 Seminary Road S.E., Newark, will be the site of an Advent morning of reflection facilitated by Sister Janice Bachman, OP, from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 14. The theme will be "Longing for Light in the Darkness."

Advent is a time of waiting, longing, and wondering. Come prepare for

Hoying, the Division V state offensive player of the year and a cousin of former Ohio State quarterback Bobby Hoying, rushed for 145 yards and the three touchdowns.

Hartley finished with a 13-2 record – the only losses to Coldwater.

It was a bitter ending, but another outstanding season for the Hawks and particularly their seniors, who were freshmen when the school won its last state championship in 2010.

Hartley's senior class experienced unprecedented success. In addition to the state title and this year's runner-up finish, the Hawks advanced to the state semifinals last year and the regional final in 2011.

"It was a great run," Burchfield said. "They were 50-5 in four years as a class. They're just awesome kids and a really great group. They really came through and were a lot of fun to be around. We really, really appreciate as coaches that they came into our lives."

The bond that the team built came not only from the wins and losses and the many hours of practice together, but from a faith in each other. Burchfield has fostered a family-type atmosphere and a legacy of success that is passed on from year to year.

During the season before the team meal, the Hawks gather in the school's St. James the Greater Chapel, and five players are assigned to reach Scripture applicable to that week's game.

"It's been a great thing and keeps us spiritually centered," Burchfield said. "What we're doing on the field and in the classroom is one small part of the greater journey, and sometimes we lose sight of that because of the emotion involved and the intensity and the spotlight. And I think that keeps us pointed in the proper direction."

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Answering God's Call

GOD TAKES ME WHERE HE WANTS ME TO BE



Sr. Diane Kozlowski, OP

by Tim Puet

Sister Diane Kozlowski, OP, says she's "a city kid from Cleveland," but for the last eight years, she has been living a farmer's life in her role as program and volunteer manager of the Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center operated by the Dominican Sisters of Peace on the eastern edge of Franklin County.

She coordinates the activities of 35 to 40 adults and about 200 high school students who come to the center as regular or occasional volunteers, organizes frequent educational and spiritual programs for all groups, oversees use of the center by outside groups, and participates in general farm chores as needed.

Her 35 years in ministry with the order and its predecessor, the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs, also have included service as a teacher and a religious educator, all in the Diocese of Columbus except for periods of two years at Marietta in the Steubenville diocese and five years in Kentucky.

Before coming to the rural environment at Shepherd's Corner, she spent eight years in markedly different surroundings in the inner city of Columbus as director of religious education and youth ministry at Holy Rosary-St. John Church.

"I had been feeling it was time to take a different direction and was considering what positions in the order might be available when I got word about an opening at Shepherd's Corner in late 2004," she said. "I didn't have a farm background, but I looked at my experience in working with volunteers and programs at Holy Rosary-St. John and saw the job that was open involved doing a lot of the same things.

"I figured that I could learn the things about the farm I needed to know, so I applied for the position. I've had a few of these kinds of 'I can do this' moments in my religious life. I've found that there are times that God takes me where he wants me to be, and this was one of them. These moments are always a surprise and always a wonderful experience. I grow and I learn a lot, and I bring my gifts to contribute in places where I never imagined I'd be."

The Dominicans' work at Shepherd's Corner is part of a larger ministry of eco-spirituality which the order is practicing throughout the 37 states and eight other nations where it serves. "We believe caring for the earth is an important ministry in today's world if we are going to save what we have for future generations," Sister Diane said. "God is revealed in the natural world. This center is a gift from God, and it's a wonderful place to come find some peace and connection with him."

Sister Diane, 60, is the second-oldest in a family of four girls and three boys. Her older sister is a retired Sister of Notre Dame, living in Cleveland, but Sister Diane says her sibling wasn't an influence in her choice of vocation.

"My sister and I are close, but I had somewhat of a rebel spirit in me when growing up. What my sister chose to do, I'd do the opposite, so I never felt any pull to follow her," she said.

"That all began to change while I was studying elementary education at Ohio Dominican University. I was part of a prayer group there and began to feel God was asking me to look at something different. I talked to the Dominican sisters there about their lives and saw them as women of great strength,

happy and fulfilled. I had a sense I was supposed to look at the religious life, but I didn't want to be a sister because I wanted to be 'normal,' with a marriage and children."

Sister Diane graduated from ODU in 1974 with a degree in elementary education and began teaching at Columbus Holy Spirit School. "Despite my misgivings, I became attracted more and more to the Dominicans because I felt their charisma of preaching the word of God in words and actions fit my spirit," she said. "The initials 'OP' used by all Dominicans after their name stand for 'Order of Preachers.' That describes me because I like to talk a lot and love to teach."

Sister Diane became a candidate for admission to the Dominican order while teaching at Holy Spirit from 1974-76. She was a teacher at Columbus St. James the Less School in the 1976-77 academic year and made her first profession of vows in 1978. She continued teaching at Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas School from 1978-80 and St. Mary School in Marietta from 1980-82, and professed her final vows in 1981. Her last school assignment was at Lancaster St. Mary School from 1982-86.

She spent five years as director of religious education and youth ministry at Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Danville, Ky. before returning in 1992 to the Diocese of Columbus, where she has lived ever since. From 1992-96, she was with the diocesan Department of Religious Education as director of its religion teacher certification program and served as a consultant to schools and parishes in downtown Columbus and the western part of the diocese. She then went to Holy Rosary-St. John and Shepherd's Corner.

Although she works at the farm, she lives with Sister Barbara Loli, OP, near Mount Carmel East Hospital in Columbus, and is part of a prayer group with Sister Adrienne Colson, OP, and Sister Jeremy Lawlor, OP. She said she anticipates leaving Shepherd's Corner at some point for another type of service, but hasn't thought about what form it will take.

"At some point, my body won't be able to respond the way it does now," she said. "At that time, I know it will be time to go in another direction, and that God will make it known to me."

She said young women who, like her, may feel a calling to the religious life but may be reluctant to take that step should give it strong consideration. "Every life is a life committed to God in some way," she said. "I am part of a community of sisters who care for each other in a unique way and live out our vows, and I find it to be a very gifted life.

"Even at my final profession, I still had a bit of uncertainty, but at that point, I felt that God was telling me, 'If you promise to serve me, I'll provide what you need,' and he has," she said.

"As sisters, we provide a witness to the kingdom of God that we are a family, even though we're not related by blood. We show we can live simply, come together and make our decisions together.

"If someone asks 'Are you happy as a sister?', I can truly say 'Yes, I am.' You do give up a lot in one sense in terms of a family life, but I have so many people who are gifts in my life, who love me and are loved, that I've gained more than I've lost."

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WE WAIT BECAUSE WE HAVE HOPE

Advent is a time of waiting: Waiting for Christmas and waiting for God to gather us all into the new life of resurrection.

The past few months have given me a new perspective on waiting. I had full knee replacement surgery and have spent time waiting for healing and for pain to fade. It has. Waiting for the knee to move without stiffness and effort. That's coming, a bit at a time. I was prepared for the work required to help move through the physical challenges, even if it sometimes seem slow. This is active waiting, not sitting around until all is well, but doing the hard work of therapy, incorporating new exercises and routines into life. I expected that once on the mend, the trajectory would move consistently in one direction: better. The reality has been more like a roller coaster ride, with ups and downs, and plateaus

GRACE IN THE MOMENT
Mary van Balen

thrown in now and again.

What I was not prepared for was the mental and spiritual challenges that came with the experience. Fighting depression and discouragement has been as important as doing heel slides. Someone told me that the drugs used during surgery and later to keep pain at bay contribute to the mental stress. Moving through this part of healing requires as much work as keeping the knee limber.

As I move through this personal time of waiting, I find myself pondering the meaning of waiting in general. Why do we continue to wait when outcomes are not what we expect? What do we wait for when reality of day-to-day life is difficult or, as it is for many people on this earth, overwhelming?

We wait because we have hope. There's no sense in waiting without it. We hope because we have memories of something good. Of someone trustworthy who kept a promise. You can't hope for something unless you trust you are going to get it. Those people who first enable us to trust may well be our mother and father. If that's not the case, they could be a brother or sister, a teacher, or a friend.

I wondered about young Mary, who accepted God's invitation to become the mother of God. Mary, who waited for nine months as her child grew within her womb and who trusted in the promise spoken by the angel: He will be great. He will be given the throne of David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever. He will be called holy, the Son of God.

She knew the prophecies. What was she expecting? How did she imagine the promises would be accomplished? She worried when he stayed behind in Jerusalem to sit and talk with the teachers in the temple. Was she surprised when he became an itinerant preacher or when he raised the ire of powerful religious and political leaders?

As his life unfolded, hers did, too. She listened and watched, prayed and pondered. Not knowing how it would all turn out, she went on living and trusting that God is faithful, even as she stood at the foot of the cross. Her people had endured much suffering. They had a lot of practice waiting.

One of the Hebrew words we translate as "wait" has as its root a word meaning, "to bind together," as in twisting. You twist everything good in your life together, making a cord out of all the strands you can gather. And you hold on.

Mary held on. She gathered strands not only from her life, but also from generations of those who had gone before. The Hebrews suffered in Egypt and the desert, but they arrived at the Promised Land. With the Psalmist, she could say, "I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry." (Psalm 40) or "I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope. ... O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is plenteous redemption." (Psalm 130)

I'm glad Mary and her people are part of my story. As a Christian, I add their strands to those gathered from my own life. I draw strands from my family's stories and faith. Together, our cord is strong. As we work to do our part in bringing Christ into this world, we also wait. We are able to wait because, in the end, we are one family and we hope for one thing: The fulfillment of God's promise of Love and Life.

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National Catholic Youth Conference ~ 2013

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, Catholic Times

Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis is filled with thousands of people cheering for the NFL's Colts on many fall Sunday afternoons. It has been the site for a Super Bowl, an NCAA basketball Final Four, this past weekend's Big Ten football championship game, and several arena rock concerts. But on the weekend before Thanksgiving, it was rocked in a different way by fans cheering for a different purpose.

The cheers were for Jesus and the Catholic Church, and they came from 23,000 young people taking part in the National Catholic Youth Conference, which takes place every other year and has become the nation's largest regularly scheduled Catholic event.

"The energy level at the NCYC was off the charts," said Mike Hall, director of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry for the Diocese of Columbus, who was part of a group of about 260 young people and 90 adults from the diocese attending the conference from Thursday, Nov. 21 to Saturday, Nov. 23.

"The very loud and energetic crowd sang, cheered, screamed, and danced, all in the name of their Savior, to express

their faith and excitement about what it means to be Catholic," he said. "I was really impressed in how the teens waited for every opportunity to rush the floor (in an orderly and safe way) and gather as close as possible to the stage to sing along and dance to the very eclectic and exciting musical lineup" at the four general sessions and the Saturday evening Mass that took place in the stadium.

"Even at the closing Mass, the teens moved onto the floor so they could high-five the priests and bishops as the Mass ended," he said. "The bishops and priests loved it. The young people seemed to especially bond with the bishops at this NCYC."

Caroline Robinson of Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne Church described the conference as a "huge, Catholic, hand-raising, crowd-clapping, happy event" that every young Catholic should attend if given the chance.

Other young people from the diocese had similar responses when asked by the *Catholic Times* about their impressions of the event. "I was astounded by how well put together it was and how many other young people really care about the Catholic Church," said Jake Mogan of Circleville St. Joseph Church. "It really caught me off-guard."

"It was really amazing to be among 23,000 of my new best friends," said Pili McCloy of Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes Church. "It felt a little intimidating at first, but people were so welcoming. In the midst of this big crowd, we were praying together and holding hands, and I felt a sense of true peace."

"My first impression was 'Wow!' and I kept saying that throughout the whole event," said Palesa Carle of Columbus St. Thomas Church. "At first, I was scared because of the hugeness of it all, but then I got excited and fell in love with it, realizing that people all over the country have the same values."

Besides the major events in the stadium, the three-day event featured workshops, Eucharistic adoration, and a theme park filled with activities and service opportunities inside the Indiana Convention Center, which is adjacent to the stadium. There also was a wondrous, widespread wearing of crazy hats and T-shirts and trading of pins and other items by conference participants.

"We brought back a Bigfoot," said Samantha Butterbaugh of Circleville. "One of the members of our youth group traded a sweater for a Sasquatch doll. We had fun with him all weekend, and the fun will continue," with the group planning to



Clockwise: (1) Youths from Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help; (2) Priests (in white) in procession at Lucas Oil Stadium; (3) Tim Regrut (left in red) and Nicholas Hoffman of Resurrection, New Albany; (4) Reynoldsburg St. Pius youth minister Judie Bryant. Photos/Diocesan Youth & Young Adult Ministry

use the doll as a mascot and bring him to future activities.

Firefighter hats and cowboy hats were among the other souvenirs the local NCYC participants brought back to the diocese. Carle said foam ice cream cone hats were much in demand, but she wasn't able to obtain one of those. She did get plenty of hugs, though, in response to a "Free Hugs" sign she, like many others in the crowd, wore as part of the conference spirit.

Carle and McCloy both said one of the highlights of the weekend was the 90-minute XLT program on Saturday afternoon in the convention center. XLT stands for "exalt" and begins with praise and worship music, followed by a speaker sharing his or her faith experience, and ending with Eucharistic adoration. "You don't think you could get a feeling of being one with God in the midst of this big event, but that's what I felt during adoration," Carle said.

More than 80 speakers conducted workshops during the three days. Robinson said the talk which stood out for her was by Leah Darrow, who gave up a career as a top New York model when she realized it was making her feel spiritually empty.

Darrow, who also was a speaker at the 2012 Columbus Catholic Women's Conference, "made it clear that her life wasn't always perfect, even when it was considered so by the standards of

the world," Robinson said. "She helped me to realize that just because the world considers you beautiful and perfect doesn't necessarily mean that Jesus views you that way. It was just very touching and amazing to hear that from someone who has experienced so much worldly drama in her life."

McCloy said she was especially affected by a program titled "Gleeful or Lethal?" with Father Jonathan Meyer, who is the pastor of three churches in southeast Indiana and the track coach at the public high school in his hometown.

"Father Meyer started off dancing with everyone. That surprised me because that's not the usual image of a priest to be so open and having fun," she said. "Then he got serious and talked about celibacy and how a priest is married to the church, and about how popular songs and TV programs like *Glee* target youth with the idea that pleasure without rules brings happiness, yet our faith says it's really the way to a slow death. He said this is why so many feel lonely, and that the only way to true happiness is through Christ. There were only about 200 kids at his workshop, and I wish there had been more."

Mogan, like McCloy, said he came back with a more positive view of the priesthood as a result of one of the talks. In his case, it was an all-male program titled "Thuggin' for Jesus: Ain't Got Time to Sag" by Father Tony Ricard of



New Orleans.

"I've thought about the priesthood for a while, but I've been kind of iffy about it because I just didn't think it would be that much fun, and also because I know I'm affected by the material stuff I have," he said. "Father Tony came in wearing a pair of Air Jordans, talking street talk, saying how he works with kids in schools and on the streets and he's the chaplain for the New Orleans Saints. He made me think I could be like him," he said.

The heart of Father Ricard's message was that "some men are holy, while others are just plain thugs," and that the Catholic Church is for all men. "It stayed with me, and I think it's changing how I look at my stuff," he said. "I don't know what I'm going to do with my life, but what Father Tony said is making me think more positively about at least the idea of being a priest."

The Columbus delegation included Father David Sizemore, pastor of Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, and Father Charles Klinger, pastor of Westerville St. Paul Church.

Father Klinger "commented on how inspired he was by the number of teens who participated in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and how he felt that the confessions he heard were some of the most meaningful and spiritually touching experiences he has been a part of in a long time," Hall said. "He also spoke about one of the bishops who sat in Reconciliation for several hours straight ministering to long lines of teens."

The number of young people wanting to receive the sacrament even surprised conference organizers. "The highlight of Saturday was discovering that the line for reconciliation was so very long that the set-up was not going to serve all those seeking the sacrament," said Kay Scoville, youth ministry director for the host archdiocese.

"So, moving into a 'triage mode' for all these souls looking for healing, we set up four additional locations for young people to receive the sacrament and began recruiting any available priest to assist.

See NCYC, Page 12



NCYC, continued from Page 11

“At one time, we most likely had 75 priests offering the sacrament, and the lines were as long as what you would see at Wal-Mart on Black Friday.”

The master of ceremonies for all the conference’s major events, Jesse Manibusan, will be the featured musician at the Columbus diocesan youth rally on Saturday and Sunday, March 8 and 9, at Westerville St. Paul Church. Mogan said he and the rest of the Circleville group are eager to see him again and bought his smiley-face T-shirts to help promote the event.

The conference’s theme gave a Catholic twist to the Stevie Wonder song “Signed, Sealed, Delivered.” In this case, it meant “Signed by the waters of baptism. Sealed by the Holy Spirit. Delivered from death into life.”

This was the 16th NCYC since 1983. It’s designed for middle- and high-school students, and its success led this year to a similar program for college students at the same time and place. The 2011 NCYC also was in Indianapolis, which again will be the site for the two conferences in 2015 and is likely to retain that distinction because of its central location and the availability of a downtown indoor football stadium and a convention center next door. The 2007 youth conference was in Columbus and filled Nationwide Arena with 20,000 people for all its major sessions.

(Material from The Criterion, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, through Catholic News Service was included in this story.)

Faith forms bedrock of who they are

By John Shaughnessy
Catholic News Service

In one moment, the hope for the future U.S. Catholic Church could be seen in the eyes and the hands of Sarah Bishop and Carmen Miller.

That moment occurred as 23,000 youths from across the country met in Indianapolis for the National Catholic Youth Conference from Nov. 21 to 23.

As the action in the theme park whirled around them, they kept their focus on the face of Christ -- the face they had helped shape from their small part of the 2,000 pounds of clay that event organizers had set up for the youths to create images of their faith.

Strangers to each other until just hours before, Bishop and Miller worked side by side, using sculpting tools to create the crown of thorns for Christ’s head. Then they sculpted his beard, his eyes, and his facial features.

As they added the final touches to Christ’s face, they each also shared how God had touched their lives in the past year -- a year marked by heartbreak for Bishop, 17, of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in New Albany, Ind.

“My faith means everything to me,” she said. “I’ve always loved everything in my faith. And I’ve always looked toward it in the tough times of my life. For a while earlier this year, I drew back from my faith when my father



Above: The entire NCYC delegation from the Diocese of Columbus in a hotel lobby. Bottom: Meredith Cox of Columbus St. Christopher Church. Photos courtesy Diocesan Youth & Young Adult Ministry

died in February. I was mad at God, asking him why he would take my best friend.

“Then all these other good things happened,” she said. “I was able to come here. I was accepted into a good college. I’ve learned that God always has my back, even if it’s a different solution from what I wanted.”

Miller looked at her new friend and nodded sympathetically. Even though she is from the same parish as Bishop, they had never met before they became roommates during the conference.

“My faith is what I lean on,” said Miller, 17. “If I didn’t have my faith, I don’t know what I’d do.”

The embrace of faith echoed loudly during the large, general meetings of the youth conference when the 23,000 participants came together at Lucas Oil Stadium for sessions that mixed music, faith, stories, and celebration. Still, the depth and the essence of faith came through louder and more profoundly in the quiet moments when individual

See NCYC, Page 14



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Lessons and Carols

Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne Church, 219 S. North St., will conduct its annual festival of lessons and carols at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15.

This service derives from models at King’s and St. John’s colleges in Cambridge, England. It consists of a series of readings from the Bible which focus on the coming of Jesus as Messiah, from the prophecies of the Old Testament to the Annunciation by the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary and the ultimate coming of the Kingdom of God.

The readers will be seminarians from the Pontifical College Josephinum. The readings alternate with appropriate carols by the St. Colman choir and congregational hymns as the service unfolds the story of Christmas and beyond. The choir will feature music by Palestrina, Praetorius, Bach, Ravenscroft, Ord, Hadley, Howells, Rutter, Joubert, Vaughan Williams, and Poston.

There is no admission charge. A free-will offering for the support of the St. Colman music program will be taken.



THE SHAMROCK TIMES

A STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT ST. CATHARINE, MADE ITS DEBUT ON NOV. 13

The newspaper was written and produced by the Newspaper Club, one of three after-school enrichment programs that began this fall. In this first session, students also were offered opportunities in physical fitness & movement and LEGO building.

Each program filled up in a matter of days. As a result of the huge interest and the success of these programs, more enrichment opportunities are planned for the remainder of the school year and beyond. “Instead of running out the doors the minute the school bell rings, more than 70 students are gladly staying after school to learn, ex-

plore, move and create,” said principal Janet Weisner. “We are blessed with wonderful parent and staff support for these enrichment programs, and I am excited to see more offerings in the future.”

Heidi Samuel, a St. Catharine parent and the volunteer facilitator of the Newspaper Club, cannot say enough positive things about the students and the process.

“Every student in the club has shown enthusiasm and is offering a contribution to the very first edition of the school newspaper.” Samuel said.

“I have really let them define the content and run with their ideas,

and I think what they’ve come up with is fantastic.”

Photo Cutline: Students participating in the Newspaper Club at Columbus St. Catharine School are (from left): first row, Ellie Tanner, Ella Coakley, Caitlin Abel, Emily Moore, Colleen Sweeney, Maggie Agra, Zach Adams, and Tony Thivener; second row, Aiva Smith, Greta Bedell, Evan Vautour, Blayne Birhanzi, Ray Duffy, Mac Van Buren, Emily Schweitzer, and Megan Diehl. Club members not pictured are Simon Sybert, Anne Hofherr, Kieran McJoynt-Griffith, Ryan Hawk, and Sam Lawler.

Photo courtesy St. Catharine School

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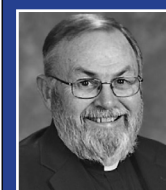
December 24 ~ Christmas Eve
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4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. are new Mass times
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December 25 ~ Christmas Day
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Third Sunday of Advent (Cycle A)

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Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

**Isaiah 35:1-6a,10 James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11**

For the third week in a row, an Isaiah passage speaks of Mount Zion as a place of restoration and hope for exiles. This time, the desert will undergo a creative restoration and redemption by the hand of the Lord. The redemption will include the forgotten and the infirm. The blind, the deaf, the lame, and the mute all together represent the forsaken in Israel whom the Lord will redeem (“ransom”). Their joy and gladness will cause all sorrow and mourning to flee.

The theme of joy is the focus of the Third Sunday of Advent (*Gaudete*, Latin for “rejoice,” Sunday). The Church rejoices that the Lord is present with us to do all these good things which the prophet Isaiah envisioned.

Appropriately, we have a Gospel account reflecting John the Baptist’s concern about whether Jesus is “the one who is to come, or should we look for another?” Jesus points to the works he has done thus far in the Gospel and tells his listeners to report what they see and hear to John.

So far in Matthew, Jesus has cleansed a leper, cured the centurion’s paralyzed servant, cured many sick people, exorcised many demon-possessed people, restored life to an official’s daughter, healed two blind men of their affliction, and healed a mute person by restoring his speech. Additionally, he has preached the Gospel throughout the towns and villages of Galilee.

This enables Jesus to answer the Baptist’s disciples as he does. It also indicates how the evangelists saw in Jesus

the fulfillment of prophetic visions, like that of Isaiah in the first reading. This means that they saw Jesus (“the one who is to come”) in a dramatic new way. He is not only the one about whom the prophets spoke, but is one who acted as only God could act. Moreover, the healings Jesus performed were always looked at as an affirmation of his teaching.

If he could teach in this way, then his healings and exorcisms supported and validated his teachings. On the other hand, if he could heal people as he did, then it supported and validated the authority of his teaching as coming from God. The disciples of John and the Baptist himself would have to consider these things.

This then leads Jesus (and Matthew) to reflect on the importance of the Baptist himself. We note that Jesus addresses the crowds, not the disciples of John. Jesus (or Matthew) combines Exodus 23:20 and Malachi 3:1 in describing who John is: “This is the one about whom it is written: ‘Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you.’”

In Hebrew, the wording is slightly different in Exodus and in Malachi about the sending of the servant, but the sense is the same. In both passages, the Lord is sending a messenger. In Malachi, “my messenger is sent to prepare a way before me.” Matthew has made the verse work so that John has been sent to prepare the way for Jesus.

Here, Matthew uses a literary device called “fulfillment citation.” That means Matthew finds Old Testament passages to underscore what he writes about Jesus. Here he interprets John’s relationship with Jesus as a forerunner, who had been prophesied in the Old Testament. This relationship between John and Jesus was hotly debated in the first century. John himself was also likely confused about Jesus. Thus we have a real first-century question about Jesus, which Matthew answers by using Old Testament citations to underscore that Jesus really is doing the “works of the Messiah.”

Father Hummer is at hummerl@stmarychillicothe.com.

NCYC, continued from Page 12

youths talked about their faith.

In one moment, Anthony Washington Jr. smiled and laughed with his friends from New All Saints Parish in Baltimore as he had his picture taken with a lifesize cardboard image of retired Pope Benedict XVI. In the next moment, the 17-year-old turned serious as he talked about his faith.

“It’s how I live my life, from the smallest choices to the biggest choices,” said Washington, who wore a T-shirt emblazoned with this verse from Psalm 127: “Children are a gift from the Lord. They are a real blessing.”

He looked around the Indiana Convention Center swelling with people his age and noted, “It’s a good feeling to be part of all these people who feel the same way about our faith. I’ve never been to anything like it.”

Alli Kiss had the same feeling as she sat at a craft table, shaping a cross from a small piece of reddish-brown clay.

“It’s eye-opening to see how big the church is,” said Kiss, part of a group from the Diocese of Charleston, S.C. “It’s not just our parish. It’s not just our diocese. People are coming together from all over the country for one sole purpose -- to celebrate Jesus Christ and grow deeper in faith.”

She paused before adding, “My faith means everything to me. I would be nowhere without Christ in my life. We should all live our lives serving God on earth and trying to get to heaven.”

At the area where Bishop and Miller were sculpting the face of Christ, Dave Gehrich watched their efforts.

An adult volunteer in that area, Gehrich had started the head of Christ before Bishop and Miller asked to take over. Gehrich looked at the two new friends. He looked around at the youths passing by him, some wearing halos, other wearing hats featuring a cow, an upside-down ice cream cone, a piece of corn on the cob, or even a piece of pumpkin pie topped by a dash of whipped cream.

For Gehrich, it was hard not to notice the way the youths embrace a spirit of fun and joy. It was equally hard to overlook the way they embrace their faith.

“You see them and talk to them and it reminds you of the bigger picture -- the continuation of our faith,” said Gehrich, youth minister at St. Maurice Parish near Greensburg, Ind. “When you wonder if the church and the faith are going to continue, this lets you know it will.”

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
Numbers 24:2-7,15-17a
Psalm 25:4-9
Matthew 21:23-27

TUESDAY
Genesis 49:2,8-10
Psalm 72:1-4,7-8,17
Matthew 1:1-17

WEDNESDAY
Jeremiah 23:5-8
Psalm 72:1-2,12-13,18-19
Matthew 1:18-25

THURSDAY
Judges 13:2-7,24-25a
Psalm 71:3-6,16-17
Luke 1:5-25

FRIDAY
Isaiah 7:10-14
Psalm 24:1-6
Luke 1:26-38

SATURDAY
Songs 2:8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18a
Psalm 33:2-3,11-12,20-21
Luke 1:39-45

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF DECEMBER 15, 2013

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

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

Let us now praise famous men

In his 2008 book, *The Faithful: A History of Catholics in America*, Boston College historian James M. O’Toole did a fine job of fleshing out the conventional U.S. Catholic storyline by emphasizing the role prominent laymen and women played in the Catholic experience in these United States. Yet there seemed to be something of a political filter at work in O’Toole’s perceptions, such that only the lamentable Joseph R. McCarthy got a mention among post-World War II Catholic Republicans notable in American public life.

Or to illustrate the point another way: the index to *The Faithful* lacks the following entries: Buckley, William F. Jr.; Clark, William P. Jr.; Flanigan, Peter M.; Haig, Alexander M. Jr.; Hyde, Henry J. This seems not only odd, but not right (no pun intended).

Bill Buckley (died 2008) ranks with Orestes Brownson as one of the most important lay Catholic intellectuals and publicists in American history. Bill Clark, who died in August, was one of Ronald Reagan’s closest confidants, national security adviser during the martial law period in Poland, and a key link in the conversation between Reagan and Pope John Paul II. Al Haig (died 2010) helped hold the government together during the Watergate meltdown. Henry Hyde (died 2007) was arguably the most influential Catholic legislator in the history of the U.S. House of Representatives.

And then there was Peter Magnus Flanigan, of whom the public knew far less than it did of these other giants. Yet Flanigan was an integral part of that group of Catholic World War II veterans who



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE
George Weigel

recast American conservatism, helped effect one of the great political realignments in American history, and made the Republican Party a more comfortable (if not necessarily permanent) home for Catholics who found themselves betrayed by the Democratic Party in its embrace of lifestyle libertinism and neo-isolationism.

It says something about the character of my friend Peter Flanigan that, when his children wanted to throw him a 90th birthday party this past June, Peter insisted that it be a “celebration of ideas,” not of him. So we gathered in Newport, R.I., to honor Peter by thinking with him about the state of the culture and the country. Roger Kimball of the *New Criterion* and I may have thought that we had gotten the proceedings off to a great start by exploring the cultural lava flows beneath the surface of today’s politics. But when Princeton’s Robby George, who couldn’t be with us in person because of illness, nevertheless joined the party by Skype and played Peter two tunes on his banjo, Kimball and I knew we had been well and truly bested.

It was a marvelous evening, made all the more poi-

gnant retrospectively by Peter’s sudden death seven-and-a-half weeks later. The obituaries noted his wartime service as an F-4 Wildcat pilot, his government work, and his business career as managing director of Dillon Read. But it was a *Wall Street Journal* editorial that best captured Peter Flanigan the man, the Catholic, and the citizen:

“Through the bright autumn of his years, Flanigan turned to education philanthropy. His unstinting focus was on giving poor kids better school options. He sat on the board of the Alliance for School Choice and founded Student Sponsor Partners, a privately funded school-voucher program. ... Peter Flanigan used his political skills and personal fortune to put in motion a small movement that has since grown into an army of benefactors working across the U.S. to give the country’s poorest kids an educational break.”

Peter once said that his goal for the children he served by his philanthropy was “educational freedom.” That vision, and the generosity that brought the vision to life, was shaped by Peter’s deep Catholic faith, his confidence in Catholic schools, and his appreciation of Catholic social doctrine—especially the principle of subsidiarity, with its cautions against turning citizens into wards of the state. Having been given much, he gave much in turn.

And although Peter Flanigan will be sorely missed, his memory will be blessed, especially by the kids to whom he gave a chance.

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

WATTERSON FINISHES SECOND IN STATE DIVISION II SOCCER TOURNAMENT



Columbus Bishop Watterson High School’s boys soccer team finished the 2013 season as state runners-up, making it to the Division II state championship game for the first time before losing 2-0 to Richfield Revere. The Eagles finished with a 17-5 record. Team members are (from left): first row, Jared Nation, Paul Mokrzan, Frankie Isabelle, Collin Kabealo, Tommy Geraghty, Michael Gilbert, Jack Heidenthal, Matt Adams, Brad Kanney, Mitch Werner, and Zach Storc; second row, assistant coach Kevin Anderson, assistant coach Alex Brust, head coach Chad Smith, Bryan Luckscheiter, Matt Pardi, Mitch Nation, Michael Guza, Sam Magee, Griffin Maxwell, Teddy Hoying, Michael Harper, Trevor Funk, Anthony Gulla, Nick Rocci, Sam DeCocker, and Sean O’Brien. Photo courtesy Bishop Watterson High School

H A P P E N I N G S

Pray for our Dead

ALLERDING, Helen L., 92, Dec. 4
St. Vincent de Paul Church, Mount Vernon

BRANDT, Kevin, 55, Dec. 3
St. Mary Church, Groveport

CODY, Michael A., 74, Dec. 7
St. Christopher Church, Columbus

DUNICK, Charles J. Jr., 52, Dec. 5
St. Peter Church, Columbus

DURANT, Anthony E., 79, Dec. 5
Pope John XXIII Church, Canal Winchester

FRENCH, Dorothy M., 86, Dec. 3
Ss. Simon and Jude Church, West Jefferson

MERCER, Kelly J., 53, Dec. 6
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

MUNYON, Quininn P., stillborn, Nov. 30
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

PASTOR, Marvin H., 80, Dec. 9
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

RIDENOUR, Roland A., 18, Dec. 4
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

SPECHT, Timothy M., 57, Dec. 5
St. Mary Church, Columbus

SZYMANSKI, Clara, 96, Nov. 19
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

TIETJEN, Joan M., 77, Nov. 25
Our Lady of Peace Church, Columbus

TRAINI, Felix, 92, Dec. 3
St. Anthony Church, Columbus

John “Jack” Knauer

Funeral Mass for John “Jack” Knauer, 62, who died Monday, Dec. 2, was held Friday, Dec. 6 at Columbus St. Catharine Church. Burial was at Glen Rest Memorial Estate, Reynoldsburg.

He was retired after a career as a teacher at St. Catharine School and in the Columbus public schools.

He was a member of the St. Catharine Golden Age Club and the High Lands Golf Club in Pataskala.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John Knauer and Barbara Knauer Hysell.

Survivors include two aunts and several cousins.

Mount Carmel Joins Information Exchange

Mount Carmel Health System has joined the statewide health information exchange known as CiniSync that will allow sharing of patient health information among medical professionals across Ohio.

Through this partnership, hospitals, physicians, clinicians, laboratories, and others involved in patient care share data and communicate electronically.

“Joining this partnership will allow our physicians expanded access to important medical information,” said Claus von Zychlin, the system’s president and chief executive officer.

“Our goal is to streamline the delivery of critical information between providers to improve patient care through increased communication.”

Mount Carmel has been working to develop new ways to add value and improve the delivery of health care in central Ohio. Part of this effort includes an affiliation agreement with The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, which also will be

joining the exchange.

Through the affiliation, which was announced in June, the two organizations are working together to increase access, lower costs, and increase the quality and coordination of care.

“Signing on with CiniSync reflects the dedication Mount Carmel and The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center share for improving communication among healthcare providers,” said Dan Paoletti, chief executive officer of the Ohio Health Information Partnership and CiniSync. “We are excited these organizations are working to expand the exchange of health information.”

Mount Carmel and the OSU medical center join Nationwide Children’s Hospital as the central Ohio hospital systems in the network.

Currently, 132 hospitals in Ohio are contracted with the Ohio Health Information Partnership, the Hilliard-based nonprofit organization that manages the exchange. Thirty-eight hospitals are live on the network.

MANGERS AT THE MUSEUM

The Jubilee Museum and Catholic Cultural Center

57 St. Grubb Street, Columbus, OH 43215

Presenting “Mangers at the Museum” Christmastide Exhibit and Tours

Open weekends through Sunday, January 5, 2014

Saturday exhibit and tours 11:00 - 3:00 PM

Sundays 1 - 4 PM

Closed Christmas Eve

Open Christmas Day at Noon (one tour only)

Closed New Year’s Eve and Day

Weekday tours by request

Suggested donation is \$7, or canned goods and blankets

For more information, please call Linda Hamilton at 614-746-4407 or email jubileemuseum1@gmail.com

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9TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE
SATURDAY, DEC. 14 - 10:00AM - 2:00PM
Lots of cookies, candy and more!

DECEMBER

12, THURSDAY

Day of Renewal at St. Elizabeth
9 a.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Day of renewal sponsored by Columbus Catholic Charismatic Renewal, with confessions and praise and worship at 9:30. Mass at 10:15, talk on “Missionary Zeal” by Deacon Jerry Butts of Columbus Corpus Christi Church, and potluck luncheon. 614-237-7080
Advent Quiet Morning at Corpus Christi Center of Peace
9:15 to 10:30 a.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E.

All fund-raising events (festivals, bazaars, spaghetti dinners, fish fries, bake sales, pizza/sub sales, candy sales, etc.) will be placed in the “Fund-Raising Guide.” An entry into the Guide will be \$18.50 for the first six lines, and \$2.65 for each additional line. For more information, call Deacon Steve DeMers at 614-224-6530 or 800-511-0584.

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

Stewart Ave., Columbus. Advent quiet morning, featuring reflections on “Preparing for Christmas” by Father Richard Rohr. 614-512-3731

Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass at Delaware St. Mary
5:30 p.m., St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware. Spanish Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, celebrated by Father John Boettcher of the Pontifical College Josephinum, followed by dinner at Beitel Commons. 740-363-4641

Theology on Tap Meeting
7 to 9 p.m., El Vaquero Restaurant, 3230 Olentangy River Road, Columbus. Monthly meeting of Theology on Tap social group for Catholics 21 and older. Topic: “Lights in the Darkness: The Praying Church in Advent” with Emily Strand of Columbus Immaculate Conception Church, 614-390-8653

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help at Holy Cross
7:30 p.m., Holy Cross Church, 204 S. 5th St., Columbus. Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help with Father Ramon Owera, CFC. 614-531-3682

13, FRIDAY

Church Tour in Portsmouth
6 to 8 p.m., Scioto County Courthouse, 602 7th St., Portsmouth. Annual holiday tour of churches in Boneyfiddle historic district, including St. Mary Church. Tours every half-hour. 740-354-4551

Family Festival at St. Joan of Arc
6:30 to 8:30 p.m., St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Annual parish family festival, featuring games, making homemade gifts, service opportunities, and visit from Santa. 614-761-0905

14, SATURDAY

Wilderness Outreach Advent Hike
7 a.m., Lake Logan State Park, Logan. Wilderness Outreach Advent 20-mile hike for men on the Buckeye Trail from Lake Logan to Ash Cave. Participants may hike 10 or 20 miles. Lunch at midday; prayer on the trail. Bring pack with water, snacks, lunches, prayer book, and rosary. 614-679-6761

Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City
9 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave., Plain City. Saturday Life and Mercy Mass, followed by rosary and confession. 614-565-8654

Morning of Reflection at Sts. Peter and Paul Center
9 a.m. to noon, Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center, 2734 Seminary Road S.E., Newark. Advent morning of reflection with Sister Janice Bachman, OP. Theme: “Longing for Light in the Darkness.” 740-928-4246

Cookie Walk for Joseph’s Coat Ministry
9 a.m. to noon, Messiah Lutheran Church, 1200 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Cookie walk, with customers walking between rows of tables and choosing cookies to fill a box. Benefits Joseph’s Coat clothing and furniture ministry of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X, Messiah, and Parkview Presbyterian churches. 614-866-4010
Ohio Dominican Baccalaureate Mass and Graduation
9 a.m., Ohio Dominican University, Columbus. Baccalaureate Mass celebrated by Bishop Frederick Campbell, followed by commencement ceremony at 11. Speakers: Beatrice Wolper and Richard Emens, co-founders of the Conway Center for Family Business. 614-282-4676

Fundraising Dinner for Typhoon Victims at St. Cecilia
4 to 9 p.m., St. Cecilia Church, 434 Norton Road, Columbus. Fundraising dinner for typhoon victims in the Diocese of Borongan in the Philippines, where a parishioner’s cousin is the bishop. 614-878-5353

Rite of Candidacy for Potential Deacons at Cathedral
5:15 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Rite of Candidacy Mass at which Bishop Frederick Campbell accepts petitions from aspirants to become candidates for the diaconate, the second step in a formation process which, if completed, will lead to their ordination in three years. 614-241-4545

Anointing of the Sick at St. Elizabeth
After 5:30 p.m. Mass, St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Administration of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. 614-891-0150

Downtown Church Tour in Logan
6 to 9 p.m., St. John Church, 351 N. Market St., Logan. Parish takes part in annual “Follow the Light” downtown church tour. 740-385-2549

Fairfield Heritage Association Christmas Church Tour
6 p.m., downtown Lancaster. Fairfield Heritage Association’s 35th annual Christmas candlelight tour of churches. Tour starts from two locations and concludes at 7:45 p.m. at St. Mary Church, 132 S. High St., with organ and choral finale. 740-654-9923

Parents Night Out Babysitting at St. Joan of Arc
6 to 10 p.m., St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Parents Night Out babysitting, sponsored by Girl Scouts with adult supervision, to allow parents holiday time of their own. 614-761-0905

‘Christine’s Christmas’ Concert at Riffe Center
7:30 p.m., Capitol Theater, Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts, 77 S. High St., Columbus. Annual “Christine’s Christmas” concert benefiting Christine Wilson Foundation, which provides scholarships to incoming freshmen at Columbus Bishop Watterson Center and benefits several other organizations. 614-355-0888

15, SUNDAY

Deadline for St. Elizabeth Seton March for Life Signup
Deadline for signup for Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton Parish trip to March for Life in Washington on Jan. 21 and 22. Cost includes bus ride, one-night hotel stay and hotel breakfast. 740-927-5099

Anointing of the Sick at St. Elizabeth
After 9 and 11 a.m. Masses, St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Administration of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. 614-891-0150

Blessing of St. Gerard Majella at Holy Family
After 9 and 11 a.m. Masses, Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Blessing of St. Gerard Majella, patron of expectant mothers, for all women who are pregnant or wish to become pregnant. 614-221-1890

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education
10 to 11:15 a.m., St. Christopher Parish Center, 1420 Grandview Ave., Columbus. “An Introduction to the Study of the Old Testament” with Deacon Frank Sullivan. 614-488-1971

Praise Mass at Seton Parish
11:15 a.m., St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, 600 Hill Road N., Pickerington. Praise Mass with contemporary music by parish’s small musical groups. 614-833-0482

St. Padre Pio Secular Franciscans
1:30 to 5 p.m., St. Matthew Church, 807 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna. Fellowship and ongoing formation followed by adoration and prayer, Liturgy of the Hours, and initial formation with visitors. Meet downstairs. Dave Orsborn, OFS 614-282-4676
Festival of Lessons and Carols at St. Colman of Cloyne
3 p.m., St. Colman of Cloyne Church, 219 S. North St., Washington Court House. Festival of lessons and carols, modeled after the similar event in Cambridge, England. 740-335-5000

Advent Afternoon Concert at Our Lady of Victory
3 p.m., Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. Advent concert of music from many lands, including 16th-century Advent anthem and African and Spanish songs. 614-348-8822

Cathedral Music Series
3 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Lessons and carols with cathedral choir and chamber orchestra. 614-241-2526

Carol Festival at Columbus St. Peter
5 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Parish carol festival. Admission: canned food for the poor. 614-889-2221

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

‘October Baby’ Screening at DeSales
5 to 8 p.m., Little Theater, St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, Columbus. Screening of pro-life movie “October Baby,” rated PG-13, sponsored by DeSales Stations for Life and Ohio Right to Life. Free; donations accepted. Registration deadline Dec. 11. 614-783-4711

Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. 706-761-4054

15-23, SUNDAY-MONDAY

Simbang Gabi Celebration at Holy Cross
7:30 p.m., Holy Cross Church, 204 S. 5th St., Columbus. Simbang Gabi, a Filipino Christmas tradition, featuring celebration of Mass for nine consecutive days.

17, TUESDAY

Rosary for Life at St. Joan of Arc
Following 6:15 p.m. Mass, St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Recital of Rosary for Life, sponsored by church’s respect life committee.

Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Musical
6:30 p.m., Memorial Theater, 112 E. High St., Mount Vernon. 16th annual Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul School original Christmas musical. “Christmas in the Trenches,” by school music director John Vining. 740-393-3611

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

18, WEDNESDAY

Rededication Mass and Blessing at St. John Neumann
7 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. Bishop Frederick Campbell rededicates church and blesses its new addition. 614-965-1358

19, THURSDAY

Advent Quiet Morning at Corpus Christi Center of Peace
9:15 to 10:30 a.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Advent quiet morning, featuring reflections on “Preparing for Christmas” by Father Richard Rohr. 614-512-3731

19-23, THURSDAY-MONDAY

Simbang Gabi Celebration at Holy Cross
7:30 p.m., Holy Cross Church, 204 S. 5th St., Columbus. Simbang Gabi, a Filipino Christmas tradition, featuring celebration of Mass for nine consecutive days beginning Dec. 15.

START YOUR DAY A BETTER WAY!

AM 820 CATHOLIC RADIO

BOOK REVIEW

SIMPLE WISDOM

TWO-BOOK SERIES OFFERS POPE FRANCIS' HOMESPUN MESSAGES

By Catholic News Service

The Communications Department of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has released two brief books on *The Simple Wisdom of Pope Francis*.

They are the first books of the pontiff's words since his election in March, and the brief messages "make for easy, daily reading," says a release announcing the books' publication.

The slim volumes -- subtitled *Hold On to Hope* and *The Joy of Evangelization* -- include papal remarks that have garnered worldwide media attention, such as:

✦ "Let us remember that whenever food is thrown out it is as if it were stolen from the table of the poor, from the hungry!"

✦ "To pray for those with whom we are angry is a beautiful step toward that law of love."

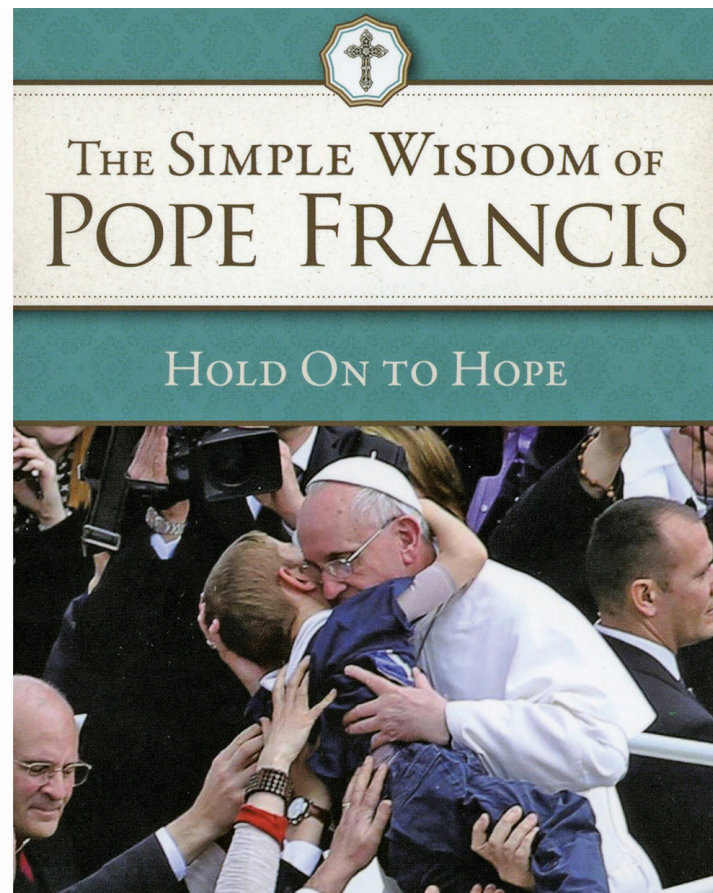
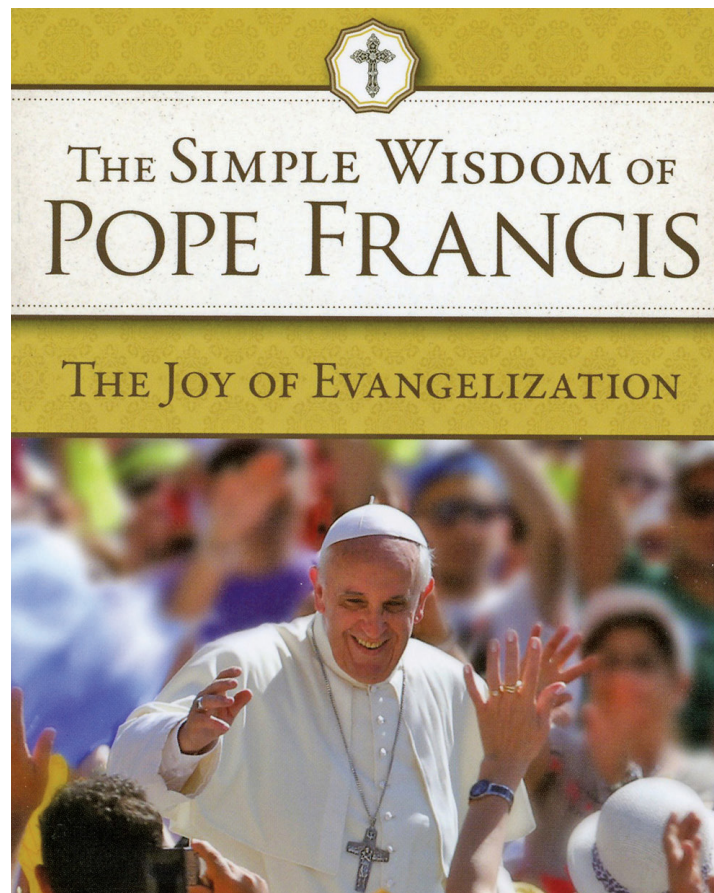
✦ "Never gossip about others, never! So much damage to the church comes from division among Christians, from biases, from narrow interests."

✦ "Behave like Jesus. Always answer with love and with the power of truth."

The series of two books is available for \$11.95 plus shipping, in individual and bulk copies. More information may be found at www.SimpleWisdomSeries.com.

The books are published in English in conjunction with the Vatican publishing house, *Libreria Editrice Vaticana*. The *Hope* volume is 66 pages long, and *Evangelization* 73 pages.

"USCCB is delighted to have the opportunity to launch this collection," said Helen Osman, the U.S. bishops' secretary for communications. "I am amazed at how Pope Francis trans-



lates great theological truths into everyday speech and images.

"His tone and expressions mark a new day in papal teaching," she said. "He reaches everyone and his words go well beyond the Catholic community."

Pope Francis' popularity can be seen in the huge attendance at his appearances in St. Peter's Square, interest from mainstream media, and his visibility in social media, where he has a Twitter account with more than 10 million followers.

A new survey shows "Pope Francis" was the No. 1 proper name most talked about on the Web this year. The finding was reported by the Austin, Texas-based Global Language Moni-

tor, based on results from its annual survey of top terms used during 2013.

In conjunction with their publication, the books will be used as a giveaway for Catholics who participate in a USCCB Facebook effort to have Catholics share how they observe Advent and prepare for Christmas.

At www.facebook.com/usccb, Catholics are being asked, "How do you prepare for Christmas?" and are encouraged to share photos. A copy of the two-book series will be given away daily to a winner chosen at random.

On Christmas Day, the USCCB will give a \$200 gift card for use in its on-line bookstore.

"Advent is a season of preparation, whether it's in prayer, decorating the home, or packing bags for a long trip to visit family. Whatever it is, simply snap a picture and share it with us so we can prepare together," said Matthew Kilmurry, USCCB director of marketing.

To enter the contest, users should visit www.USCCB.org/Advent. The site also features a USCCB interactive Advent calendar packed with daily tips and videos to help people prepare for the celebration of the birth of Christ.

Visitors are urged to stop by each day to "open" the next door to find another thoughtful way to experience Advent with friends and family.



NEWS IN PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



Worshippers light candles in honor of the Virgin of Caacupe at the Caacupe Cathedral, near Asuncion, Paraguay, on Dec. 7. Hundreds of thousands of Catholics from all over Paraguay and bordering nations visited the cathedral to celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Conception. CNS photo/Jorge Adorno, Reuters

A girl holds a candle during a service for former South African President Nelson Mandela at Regina Mundi Catholic Church in Johannesburg on Dec. 8. Pope Francis joined church and government leaders from around the world in crediting Mandela for a steadfast commitment to human rights and dignity. Mandela died on Dec. 5 in Johannesburg. CNS photo/Kevin Coombs, Reuters



People walk into a makeshift chapel in Independence Square in Kiev, Ukraine, on Dec. 9. The square has been the site of massive protests following Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich's announcement of the end of a process to bring Ukraine closer economically and legally to the European Union. CNS photo/Vasily Fedosenko, Reuters

DOMINICAN SISTERS VISIT NIGERIA

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, Catholic Times

The prioress of the Dominican Sisters of Peace says a recent visit to one of the sisters in Nigeria allowed her to sense a little of what people must have felt when Jesus healed them 2,000 years ago.

“Visiting children recovering from rickets is the closest I’m ever likely to come to the Gospel story of Jesus saying ‘Stand up and walk’ to people who were unable to do so,” said Sister Margaret Ormond, OP.

Rickets is a softening and weakening of the bones caused by lack of calcium. Dominican Sister Rita Schwarzenberger, OP, who has been in Nigeria for more than 40 years, knew this situation needed to be addressed. So she enlisted the help of a volunteer group of German doctors to repair bone defects of young people affected by the disease and provide medicine to keep it from returning. Recovery time for rickets patients is usually about two months.

“In eight weeks, children who come for surgery and can barely walk are going to school,” Sister Margaret said. “I especially remember one girl who told me ‘I want to give thanks to God for



giving me the gift of legs. I now get to dance.’ In several cases, children with rickets who were kept hidden by their family because the parents felt a sense of shame have been able to join their peers.”

The rickets clinic is part of a ministry of witness initiated by Sister Rita, which enables more than 400 children to go to school and live a normal life.

Besides seeing Sister Rita’s work firsthand, Sister Margaret also visited what is considered a “daughter congregation” of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. These sisters live in an area of northwestern Nigeria that’s 99 percent Muslim and is officially governed under Islamic sharia law. The sisters are the only Christian religious congregation in the area and daily have to deal with managing potential conflicts and addressing tensions in a hostile environment. They also have to face the possibility of attacks from the Islamic jihadist group Boko Haram, which, though not as strong in Gusau as elsewhere in Nigeria, has staged occasional acts of violence there.

“I asked the sisters whether they think it’s safe where they are and whether they’ve considered leaving,” Sister Margaret said. “Their response was ‘No, we want to remain because we came here to spread the Gospel and work with Catholics and Muslims alike, and that’s why we’ll stay.’ Their work provides an outstanding example of the missionary zeal which contin-

ues to characterize Dominican life as we try to find ways out to reach out to our sisters and brothers wherever we are.”

The Nigerian congregation of Dominican sisters traces its roots to 1956, when three sisters from a congregation based in Great Bend, Kansas, came to Gusau. The Great Bend Dominicans were one of several congregations which combined to form the Dominican Sisters of Peace in 2009. The Nigerian sisters accepted their first postulant in 1973 and became an independent congregation in 1997. The congregation has 82 sisters serving in four Nigerian states and installed Sister Jacinta Nwaohiri, OP, as its new prioress on Oct. 31.

Sister Margaret and Sister Roberta Miller, OP, came to Nigeria from Columbus from Oct. 25 to Nov. 5 to take part in the installation, to visit with Sister Rita, and to oversee the final evaluation of a three-year grant from a U.S.-based foundation.

Sister Roberta is program manager for the grant and said it’s designed to ensure the Nigerian congregation’s long-term sustainability in four areas: health and safety, professional and personal development, congregational management and partnership, and the sisters’ ministry of witness.

“The grant recognizes that the sisters have to be self-reliant and equipped with the spiritual, practical, and intellectual tools they need to continue to be a



witness in a challenging environment,” she said.

The health and safety portion of the grant provided funds and equipment for the digging by hand of four wells to serve the Gusau community, providing disease-free water for consumption and crops. “We take clean water for granted, and seeing the impact these wells had reminded me of how fortunate we are to be able to do so,” Sister Margaret said. “Having these wells was a cause of great celebration. It meant people using them no longer would have to travel for miles to obtain possibly contaminated water and to carry it home.”

The grant also provided mosquito netting and medications to assist in combating malaria and allowed the sisters to receive training in the safe handling of chemicals, defensive driving, and fire safety. “Fire safety is a real problem there,” Sister Roberta said. “The people mostly cook outdoors because they have no electricity, or what they have is limited to what comes from a generator.

“It’s also interesting that every car is required to have a fire extinguisher, but few people are trained in how to use it. Once the sisters were trained, they could train others. Driving is chaotic there, so the safe driving workshop was very helpful. A lot of people have household chemicals that have expired, and the sisters’ training can help them show others what chemicals to get rid of.”

Part of the grant allowed two Dominican sisters to come from the U.S. in 2012 and conduct spirituality and faith workshops to help their Nigerian counterparts develop as women religious through gaining greater knowledge of God and of themselves and their role in the church. The grant also helped the sisters set up a sewing cooperative and secure a storefront to showcase the co-op’s products.

“One of the most important gifts the grant did was to allow the sisters to set up programs encouraging dialogue with Muslims in the area,” Sister Roberta said. “The local emir’s son attended, helping within the Muslim community to validate what the sisters were doing.”

Those programs included a conflict-resolution workshop, which included an exercise where Christians and Muslims told of 10 things they liked about each other and challenged prejudices in both communities. “This was a very practical example combining Dominican zeal and the interreligious spirit. Its success offers hope for true change,” said Sister Margaret, who before becoming prioress was a consultant on leadership among African religious, working in several African nations.

Photos/clockwise from top: Sisters Margaret Ormond, OP, (left) and Roberta Miller, OP; a Dominican priest (in white robes) blesses a new well funded by a grant to the Dominican Sisters of Peace; a Nigerian child shows the effects of rickets. Photos courtesy Dominican Sisters of Peace