TWO NEW PRIESTS ARE ORDAINED FOR COLUMBUS
St. Luke writes in the Book of Acts: “He and I will love him and reveal myself is the one who loves me. And whoever my commandments and observes them realize that I am in my Father and you in me, but you will see me, because I live you orphans; I will come to you. In a day than the disciples were two millennia ago. But faith still looks.”

I think it’s hard-wired as us Christians to seek visual contact with God. Forlorn in nature prior to all creation, God could not have possessed a physical body, since the physical world did not exist as of yet. Nor could the life of spiritual body. How could God manifest Himself to the physical world after creation? It was by His incarnation through Jesus Christ. Jesus was true God and true man, and He walked among us and gave us assurance of God’s love and hope of eternal joy in the presence of God. As Jesus said, “I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.”

And we see Him in the person of the priest standing at the altar, making the Mass. Pope Francis Benedict XVI wrote: “The priest, who acts in the person and name of Christ and representing the Lord, never acts in the name of himself or in his own but, rather, the very Person of the risen Christ, who makes himself present with his truly effective action. He really acts today and brings about what the priest would be incapable of the consecration of the wine and the bread so that they may really be the Lord’s presence, the absolution of sins. The Lord makes his own action present in the person who carries out these gestures.”

This week, two more dioceses of Columbus were ordained to the priesthood. You can read about them in this edition of the Catholic Times and try to realize that I am in your Father and you are in me and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him.” (John 14:6-11)

By David Garick, Editor

No wonder that after the Ascension, the disciples continued to look for the sight of Jesus. We still wish to see Him. So how do we see Him? We see Him in the Church, the living body of which Christ is the Head. We see Him in the mystery of the Eucharist, where the real, body, soul, and divinity of Jesus is placed before us to be transformed into our own into our own realities so that He becomes one with us and we with Him. We will be shown at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 29, and from 9 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Friday, May 30, at 200 North 22nd Street. The series continues June 2. All tickets are free to make arrangements.

Funeral Mass for Father Richard J. Pendolphi, 64, priest moderator of Columbus, will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, May 30, at St. Paul Church. Bishop Frederick Campbell will be the principal celebrant. Retired Bishop John Griffin, who will concelebrate, as will priests of the Diocese of Columbus. Father Kevin Lutz will deliver the homily. Burial will follow at St. Charles Cemetery, lockwood. Father Pendolphi was born on Oct. 10, 1949 in New York City to the late Liveo and Jean (Biscontini) Pendolphi and grew up in Brooklyn, N.Y. and Hackettstown, N.J. He earned a bacha...
Did you make a challenging and sacrificial gift to the Sacred Hearts New Church Fund during the past two weeks? If you did, then there are many blessings and thanks already coming your way. As generous donors to so many good causes past two weeks? If you did, then there are many blessings and thanks already coming your way. As generous donors to so many good causes...
**St. Anthony Feast Celebration**

Columbus St. Christopher Church, 1420 Grandview Ave, will host its annual celebration of the Feast of St. Anthony of Padua on Friday, June 13, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Mass at 6 p.m., and food and refreshments in Trinity Elementary School cafeteria.

Columbus university students interested in attending the celebration should contact the church for more information. 阅读自然
St. Pius X Church & School — Reynoldsburg, Ohio Rite of Christian Initiation Director

Mary, the Homemaker of My Soul

BY TIM PUET

 Residents of Mother Angeline McCrocy Manor celebrated National Nursing Home Week in May with a variety of events, all tied to the theme of “Living the Aloha Spirit.”

The week started with a Monday morning Mass in the facility’s chapel, after which the residents and staff were presented with Hawaiian-style flower wreaths and had a special lunch prepared (pic loaded with tropical fruit), which included a shave ice social on Wednesday, and Elvis interpreter Michael Rose provided music at right).

Crory Manor celebrated National Nursing Home Week in May with a variety of events, all tied to the theme of "Living the Aloha Spirit." The Parish of St. Edward the Confessor, on the 24th of May 2014 joins in the joy of welcoming new members into the Church.

"Aloha" is a term of both greeting and farewell in Hawaii, but it has a deeper cultural significance than that,” said Sister Pauline Ross, O.Carm, McCrocy Manor administrator. “It is mostly a concept of treating each other with kindness and respect, to interact with love and joyful share life. Key concept of the Aloha spirit is the concept of kindness, truthfulness, humility, and patience. We are trying to do that. This is the kind of individual focused approach the Carmelites have practiced for more than 65 years in Columbus and for 83 years since Mother McCrocy founded the order in 1931. It’s a unified effort by nurses, doctors, dentists, social workers, nursing assistants, and other staff members to provide the best and most personalized care for each of our residents.

“Our residential population and our staff are more diverse than we’ve ever been since McCrocy Manor opened in 2005. What we’ve learned from our diversity has enhanced the mutual respect we have for each other as we try to integrate medical and spiritual care in a well-rounded approach,” said the Carmelites have served the Diocese of Columbus since St. Raphael’s and St. Rita’s homes for the aged were opened in 1948 and 1949 respectively. McCrocy Manor was built in 1959 and Broad St. in Columbus to replace those facilities. It provides care for 147 residents in two residential towers, divided into seven neighborhoods of 21 residents each, and has a staff of 250 full- and part-time employees. It consistently scores in the 90s, out of a maximum of 100, in the Ohio Department of Aging’s surveys of nursing home residents and their family members, which take place in alternating years. In addition, it recently received an overall rating of five stars for excellence in care in the annual U.S. News & World Report “Best nursing homes” listing. The report covers nearly 14,000 nursing homes nationwide. This past March, the Ohio Department of Health’s annual survey gave it a “deficiency free” review for health and medical care.

For information about McCrocy Manor or visit its website, www.mangeline-manor.org or call (614) 755-1706.

 mangeline-manor.org

The Parish of St. Edward the Confessor. Granville extends prayerful best wishes to a son of our parish

VINCENT THUYANH NGUYEN

on the occasion of his Priestly Ordination on the 24th of May 2014

The Vietnamese Catholic Community joins in the joy of St. Edward Parish

May God and St. Edward smile upon you and your family

Vincent Thuy Anh Nguyen

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Two New Diocesan Priests are Ordained

By Anne Harkin

As an 11-year-old boy, God planted a notion in Cyrus Moore Haddad’s mind that he should one day become a priest. It wasn’t until his junior year of high school that this notion became more of a possibility.

“My teacher, Mrs. (Dama) Bennett, called me up in front of the class,” said Father Haddad, who was ordained to the priesthood this past Saturday. “At first, I thought it was a joke, but instead, he reached out and grabbed my tie. ‘Have you ever thought about becoming a priest?’ he asked. Well, I was stunned.

‘He didn’t know me from Adam, and yet, inexplicably, he had asked a question so meaningful to me. I answered, ‘I had thought about it, Father, but I decided against it.’ To this, he said, ‘Well, think about it again.’ He then shoved me away and pointed to my seat to indicate that I should sit.”

It was at that moment that he began his discernment toward a life in the priesthood. On Saturday, May 24, he was ordained to the priesthood in front of the class, said Father Haddad, who was ordained to the priesthood this past Saturday. “At first, I thought it was a joke, but instead, he reached out and grabbed my tie. ‘Have you ever thought about becoming a priest?’ he asked. Well, I was stunned. ‘He didn’t know me from Adam, and yet, inexplicably, he had asked a question so meaningful to me. I answered, ‘I had thought about it, Father, but I decided against it.’ To this, he said, ‘Well, think about it again.’

After this interaction, he indeed thought about it, as well as his profession. In 1997, he entered the seminary of the Pontifical College Josephinum instead of going to college to play Division III football. However, once he arrived to the seminary, he found it hard to integrate into the life of a seminarian.

“I had not developed a relationship with one Lord. I took this to mean that I did not have a vocation to the priesthood. This caused me to leave the seminary before the conclusion of my first year,” he said.

He enrolled at Ohio Dominican University, where he earned a degree in philosophy, while always hoping seminary and the priesthood in the back of his mind. After graduating, he attended the University of Dallas with the intention of earning a doctorate in philosophy. During his time there, he developed a more active prayer life, and the priesthood as a possibility entered his mind once again.

“I realized that I was not actually asking myself the question ‘Should I go back to seminary?’ but I was asking ‘When should I go back to seminary?’” he said.

In the end, Our Lord had planted a notion in an 11-year-old boy’s mind. He nurtured this notion and let it grow so that, without fantastic revelation, it would blossom into a mature and current desire for the priestly vocation. Father Haddad eventually re-enrolled at the Josephinum, where he finished his studies and discernment process.

His years at the PCJ provided many enlightening opportunities, but the experience of prayer in the liturgy had the greatest impact in his development of his relationship with Our Lord.

“Worship is a gift from God, and when carried out reverently, beautifully, and prayerfully, it is our greatest gift to Him, especially the Holy Sacrifice,” Father Haddad said. “This has led me to understand more deeply the impact on my life, forming the person I have become.”

This person is one to be admired and supported as he embraces the next chapter in his life, beginning with his ordination.

By Anne Harkin

As a young boy, Father Vincent Nguyen helped his father, Father Columbus Nguyen, to begin his seminary studies at Columbus Seminary. After graduating, he attended the University of Dallas, where he received his degree in philosophy. Following his ordination, he has been assigned to a parish as a parochial vicar, the position formerly known as associate pastor.

When asked what will happen next, he replied, “I do not know what will happen. I know I am continually called to say this: ‘Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.’”

Photos, from left:

Bishop Frederick Campbell lays his hands on the head of Father Cyrus Haddad, the traditional sign of ordination as a priest, on Saturday, May 24 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.

Bishop Campbell reads from the rites of ordination to Deacons Vinh Nguyen and Haddad at the start of Mass just prior to ordaining them.

Newly ordained Father Nguyen used a portion of the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Bishop Campbell with Father Haddad following their ordination Mass.

Bishop Frederick Campbell, speaking to the two new priests of the Diocese of Columbus moments before their ordination, urged them to set an example by always striving for holiness, leading the people they serve to become holy themselves.

The Catholic Church entrusts the message of the Gospel to priests as a sacred obligation, Bishop Campbell said to Fathers Cyrus Haddad and Vincent Nguyen in his homily at their ordination Mass on Saturday, May 24, at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.

“It is not his personal possession or of his own making,” the bishop said. “He is to proclaim it widely and reverently, beautifully, and prayerfully, it is our great challenge not only for a priest, but for anyone.”

Father Vincent Nguyen

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“Do this with a humble faithfulness and care, for you are servants and guardians of the liturgy and not its masters. In such a faith, you will invoke the people into a deeper participation in the sacraments, from which they will draw a greater willingness to evangelize the world about them,” the bishop said.

Family members and friends of Fathers Haddad and Nguyen filled the cathedral for the two-hour Mass. The rite of ordination began after the reading of the Gospel, with the men being called from the congregation and presented to the bishop by Father Paul Noble, diocesan vocations director, who declared them ready for the priesthood.

Following the bishop’s homily, the men promised obedience to the bishop and his successors and professed themselves in humility on the altar as the congregation chanted the Litany of the Saints. The bishop then laid his hands on the heads of the men in the traditional sign of ordination, with the priests of the diocese who were in attendance then repeating that gesture individually.

This was followed by the bishop’s prayer of ordination, invoking the newly ordained priests with smiles and chuckles, the anointing of their hands, and the sign of peace from each of the priests.

Therese of Lisieux once said, “Do not regard your choice as a great challenge not only for a priest, but for anyone.”

To this, he said, ‘Well, think about it again.’ He then shoved me away and pointed to my seat to indicate that I should sit.”

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This person is one to be admired and supported as he embraces the next chapter in his life, beginning with his ordination.
The second Saturday of May was a joyful day at the Pontifical College Josephinum, as the seminary concluded its 115th baccalaureate Mass and commencement exercises. The Class of 2014, consisting of 40 students from 14 dioceses, was awarded degrees and certificates from the college of liberal arts, pre-theology program, or school of theology of the only pontifical seminary outside of Italy.

The Baccalaureate Mass in St. Turibius Chapel was celebrated by Father Kyle Schnippel, a priest of the Diocese of Columbus, and Archbishop Thomas Wenski, who reflected on the Kairos Spirit of the class. He characterized the Class of 2014 as both “talented” and “tactful”, and he noted “It is an honor for me and for all the members of our faculty and staff to serve and to support them on their path of discernment and preparation to be inspired by their stories of vocations and ministries. Each of us, faculty, staff, and seminarians are here, and all share the privilege of being members of the Josephinian family.”

The homily during Mass was given by Father Patrick Schreck, STD, the Josephinum’s rector, who quoted Psalm 115:11, “Those words expressed by the priests are often repeated as the grace of the Easter season,” he said. “They echo the words of the Lord’s love for his people.” In conclusion, Father Schnippel will conclude eight years as president of the Josephinum, as the seminary conducted its 115th commencement exercises on Saturday, May 10. This year, Father Kyle Schnippel, a priest of the Diocese of Columbus, and Father Justin Brunn, vacations director for the Diocese of Tyler, Texas.

The Class of 2014 was comprised of 40 students from 14 dioceses. Eight undergraduate seminar graduates, indicating their successful completion of the pre-theology program. During the commencement exercises, a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy, history, or classical studies was awarded to 21 graduates of the college of liberal arts. Eight undergraduate seminarians earned a bachelor of philosophy degree or a certificate of achievement in philosophical theology and ethical studies. A majority of the college and pre-theology graduates and certificate recipients will continue their vocational discernment as they undertake graduate theological study. Graduates of the school of theology return home to their respective dioceses for ordination to the priesthood this spring. The ordination class of 2014 will join more than 800 ordained alumni who serve the University Church in nearly every state and in 18 other nations.

Among those who offered remarks during commencement was senior class representative Mitchell Brown, a seminarian from the Diocese of Galveston-Houston. “Each Christ has memories of our time at the Josephinum,” but “they are not simply memories, but part of a unique love that is undergoing a profound experience of faith, love, and personal challenges,” he said. Mitchell encouraged his brother seminarians to take care of each other and to carry on the memories of our time here, for in doing so, we will see the work of God in our lives. For me, this can only be done by continuing to pray. We graduate as seminarians in the joy of our time in the Josephinum, but not as seminarians – change is part of our vocation. The Josephinum is a place to become men – so it’s going to be strange not to be doing that. That’s one thing I don’t think I’ll miss.”

Raleigh was hired to work for the diocese by former diocesan bishop and current director of Music Bob Debel, who retired from the diocese in 2014. “I’ve been fortunate throughout my life to be able to be of service in a number of ways,” Raleigh said.

St. Bridget of Kildare Director of Music Position

St. Bridget of Kildare parish in Dublin, Ohio is seeking a full time Director of Music for their large suburban parish of 2,300 families. The candidate will begin this position on September 1, 2014.

The diocese will be in charge of music selection and preparation for the five weekend liturgies, and training and coordination of Cantors, as well as several choral groups that assist at the liturgies. In addition, the director will be responsible for preparation of wedding and funerals liturgies as well as parish special liturgies and Advent and Lenten services. Qualifications include experience as Music Director, bachelor’s degree in music related field, and experience playing the piano and organ during Mass.

Candidates are asked to submit their qualifications by July 15, 2014 to: Attn: Director of Music Search St. Bridget of Kildare Church, 7117 Avery Road, Dublin, Ohio 43017 Salary and diocesan benefits are commensurate with experience.
The Ascension marks the end of the appearances and sightings of the risen Jesus by the apostles (excluding Saul/Paul's conversion experience at 9). If the heavens were filled with the Lord's glory at the birth of Jesus (Luke 2:9-14), marks the ascension as an angel to the shepherds, now the risen Jesus ascends into heaven to bridge the gap between earth and heaven. Two men dressed in white robes announce to the apostles, now the risen Jesus ascends into heaven to sightings of the risen Jesus by the apostles (excluding does not mention a departure, but he does mention the departure takes place year comes from Matthew. In Matthew's Gospel, the into heaven is the Gospel for today's feast, which this with his Gospel.

Baptist, whose birth was announced before the birth scene at the end of the Gospel, to connect with what in and around Jerusalem. Luke has a different view of the that he was raised from the dead, and he is trying to go, and there they see him in Sunday's Gospel. The mountain to which they went might have been the mountain of the Transfiguration account in Matthew 17, but there is no way to verify that, other than that it was in Galilee. Others think it was the mountain of the great sermon. The faith they have ("they worshiped him"). mixed with doubt, probably reflects the disciples' experience throughout the宗之 ministry.

In the end, we cannot say for certain what happened in Galilee to mark this feast of the Ascension. It is at some point the risen Christ appeared to the apostles and other witnesses. In Acts, the disciples relied on the Holy Spirit of Jesus to guide them in proclaiming the gospel to all nations, as we witness today.

Father Hummer: pastor at Chillicothe St. Mary Church, may be reached at hummerl@stmarychilli- corc.com.

Father Lawrence L. Hummer

Bishop Hartley, Waterson vatselikondaren

Evon Fawney and Nicole Welden are the vatselikons for this year's graduating class at Columbus Bishop Hartley High School. Allison Wilson is the salutatorian. The school will be formally announce the homecoming on the May 18GameState at the Catholic Diocese of Columbus, which featured the names of vatselikons and vatselikon lutanatrons at other diocese- high schools, went to press.

In addition, Columbus Bishop Waterson High School has added Emily Aman to its previously pub- ICAN gen list of vatselikons.
LEITE, Joann L., 76, May 16
St. Paul Church, Westerville

HOSKEY, Mary A., 90, formerly of Columbus,

HINES, John G., 74, May 14
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

GALMISH, Cyril M., 82, May 11
May 13
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

SPADA, Donald P., 85, May 15

SIDNER, Linda J., 61, May 16
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

NOWAK, Nichola V., 65, May 11
St. Peter Church, Canton

NIST, Walter L., 89, of Columbus, May 7
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

Sister Bettina Mollica, OP
Funeral Mass for Sister Bettina Mollica, OP, 74, who died Friday, May 16, was held Tuesday, May 20, in the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Adrian, Mich. Burial was in the same cemetery.

She was born in Manheim to the late John and Willa (Hoeft) Mollica. She is a graduate of Manfield St. Peter High School and received a bachelor of arts degree in history from St. Francis College in Pennsylvania and a master’s degree in American history from Wayne State University in Detroit and an on-going formation from Dominican University.

Beverly D. May
May 13
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

She was preceded in death by her parents, Fred and Sue Rutherford; and Lewis, and a sister, Antonia Reese.

Sister Bettina Mollica, OP was going formation from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh.

Funeral Mass for Beverlee D. May, 56, who died Monday, May 1, was held Friday, May 23, at 9 a.m. at St. Matthew Church. Burial was at the National Cemetery.

She was born and raised in Columbus and received a master’s degree in education from Ohio Dominican University.

For more than 20 years, she was a fourth- and fifth-grade teacher at St. Matthew Parish. She was preceded in death by her sister, Sandra Galik. Survivors include her parents, Fred and Sue Rutherford, children, Geoff (Heather) Richmond, Danielle (Donnie) Loy, and Kelly; brother, Mike; and two grandchildren.

Sister Judith Mollica, OP
Funeral for Sister Judith Mollica, OP, 74, who died Friday, May 16, was held Tuesday, May 20, in the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Adrian, Mich. Burial was in the same cemetery.

She was born in Manheim to the late John and Willa (Hoeft) Mollica. She is a graduate of Manfield St. Peter High School and received a bachelor of arts degree in history from St. Francis College in Pennsylvania and a master’s degree in American history from Wayne State University in Detroit and an on-going formation from Dominican University.

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She was preceded in death by her parents, Fred and Sue Rutherford; and Lewis, and a sister, Antonia Reese.

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2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 26. The Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite, popularly known as the traditional Mass, will be offered at the 1962 Mass on Sunday, June 22, the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, and ending in the evening with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and concluding in the evening with Benediction.

Lancaster St. Mary Church, 132 S. High St., will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the consecration of the current church building on Saturday, June 6, with Bishop Frederick Campbell as principal celebrant and other priests of the diocese as concelebrants. A reception will follow in the parish courtyard.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on Sunday, June 26, the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, beginning after the 11:15 a.m. Mass and ending in the evening with Vespers and a Eucharistic procession to the courtyard for Benediction.

The parish picnic will take place on the courtyard after the 11:15 a.m. Mass on Sunday, Sept. 14. The Extraordinary Form of the 1962 Roman Rite, popularly known as the traditional Latin Mass, will be offered at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 26. The Mass will be in celebration of the Kingpash of Christ, on the date when the Feast of Christ the King had been celebrated before being transferred to the last Sunday in Ordinary Time in 1970.

Other sesquicentennial events include the eight-part Bible study: Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother by Dr. Edward Sti on Mondays at 7 p.m. from June 23 to Aug. 18 (with the exception of July 14), as well as church tours and a display of religious goods and vessels connected with the anniversary, which will take place during the summer. More information on the celebration, as it becomes available, will be found on the parish website, www.stmarylancaster.org.

As part of the sesquicentennial celebration, a parish crest has been designed. The Latin text “Assumpta est Maria” at the top in Latin for “Mary is assumed,” professing the dogma of the Assumption, which was defined officially in 1950 but has been held as an article of belief from the Catholic Church’s earliest days. The official name of the Lancaster parish is “St. Mary of the Assumption.”

The crest is in the Marian colors of white and blue. White is a sign of Mary’s perpetual purity, necessary for her to give a human nature to God, and her perpetual virginity, fitting for the woman who served as a vessel for God Incarnate. Blue was commonly used in art to symbolize divinity, so it is fitting that Mary be clothed in blue to symbolize her fidelity to and intimacy with God.

The Mze is also a reference to an ancient title of Mary as Ark of the New Covenant. The original Ark of the Covenant was covered with a blue veil whenever it was being moved among the Jewish people in the Old Testament.

Above the Marian “M” is the center of the shield is a crown with stars and a fleur-de-lis. As Mary is queen of heaven. The fleur-de-lis, a stylized lily, again symbolizes Mary’s purity. The crown and stars are Marian symbols from the Book of Revelation.

The history of St. Mary Church goes back to 1820, making it one of the four oldest churches in the diocese. Parishes in Junction City and Danville also were formed that year, two years after the founding of Ohio’s oldest Catholic church, Somerset St. Joseph.

The first Catholic church in the Fairfield County seat was built by Father Nicholas Young, OP, nephew of Ohio’s first Catholic priest, Father (later Bishop) Edward Fenwick. It was served by Dominicans from Somerset until 1839, when it began to be staffed by priests of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

It has been staffed by diocesan priests ever since, becoming a part of the Diocese of Columbus upon formation of the diocese in 1886.

The original church building served the parish for 20 years. The second church (picted above), on the site of the current rectory, was built in 1848. Its basement began being used as a school in 1847. The entire building was used as a school from the time the current church was completed in 1907, when the first of the two buildings now housing St. Mary School opened.

Pews for the current church began being made in 1854. The stone, brick, and wood used in its construction all came from local sources. Archbishop John Purcell of Cincinnati laid the cornerstone on Aug. 28, 1859, but work on the church came almost to a standstill because of the Civil War.

Archbishop Purcell presided over the church’s dedication on June 5, 1864, assisted by Bishop Joseph Young of Erie, Pennsylvania, the first diocesan pastor of the parish, who served there from 1839 until being consecrated a bishop in 1854.

The church is on the National Register of Historic Places. Extensive renovation of the church, its two school buildings, and rectory took place for the parish’s 175th anniversary in 1995. Updates have continued since then to ensure its structural soundness.

More than 20 priests, including longtime Columbus Auxiliary Bishop Edward Hettinger, and 80 sisters have come from the parish. Its most recently ordained priest is Father Matthew Morris, parish priest at Worthington St. Michael Church, whose ordination took place last year. Deacon Nicola Ventura, a parishioner, anticipates being ordained as a priest next year.

The church’s current spiritual leader, Father Craig Eilerman, has served the parish since 2011 and is the 20th pastor in its history.
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has designated one weekend each year for the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. In the Diocese of Columbus, we will observe it on May 31 and June 1.

The funds collected during this event are distributed to the mission dioceses in the United States. These dioceses are commonly called “Mission Land USA.”

These dioceses cannot continue to exist without the help of Catholics elsewhere. In these areas where the Church is small and fragile, the proceeds of the collection help expand and strengthen its Catholic presence.

Contrary to what many people think, the missions are not only in Africa, Asia, India, and Latin America. The missions are also in the vast wilderness of Alaska, in the deep South, in the Rocky Mountain states, in the Appalachian regions, in the Southwest, in Puerto Rico, in the Virgin Islands such as American Samoa and the Marshalls.

Your support for the collection helps meet faith needs in these areas. The collection has supported religious education, evangelization, youth ministry, seminarian education, and ministry training in these mission dioceses. Helping to satisfy the spiritual needs of our neighbors across the country unites all of us as a Catholic family.

I invite you to respond generously to the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. May the Lord bless us in our efforts to help expand and strengthen the presence of the Church at home.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Rev. Frederick F. Campbell, DD, PhD
Bishop of Columbus

That all may know the unsearchable riches of Christ and be transformed by the light of his face

By Leandro Tapay/ Diocesan Missions Office

Catholics are few and the Church is fragile in many parts of the United States and its territories, especially in Alaska, the Appalachian region, the South, the Southwest, the Rocky Mountain States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin and Marshall Islands. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has designated these areas as “Catholic Home Missions,” popularly known as “Mission Land USA.” The Church in these areas cannot continue to exist without help from elsewhere.

The USCCB has designated one weekend each year for a Catholic Home Missions Collection. In the Diocese of Columbus, this collection will be on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, May 31 and June 1.

This annual appeal is the primary source of funding for grants from the USCCB subcommittee on Catholic home missions. Forty-four percent of dioceses and eparchies in the United States and its territories receive support from the appeal for basic and essential pastoral programs, such as evangelization, training of catechists, education of priests, and training of lay leaders, preserving or strengthening the presence of the Church here at home.

The Ohio dioceses of Steubenville and Youngstown, the Roman Eparchy in Canton, and the Ukrainian Eparchy of Parma all receive grants from the subcommittee.

Other dioceses that receive such grants include:
- The Diocese of Anchorage, Alaska: It has 29 parishes and mission centers covering 138,000 square miles—mostly rural areas, accessible only by air or by water. Roads are nonexistent or are in poor condition. Few parishes have a resident pastor.
- The Diocese of Baker, Oregon: It has 25 priests who cover 63 parishes and mission centers in 65,000 mountainous square miles.
- The Diocese of Carolinas Islands: It covers one million square miles of open ocean. It serves 135,000 Catholics speaking in four different languages. The 13 priests travel by motorboat or plane among the 100 or so inhabited islands.
- The Diocese of Knoxville, Tennessee: It covers the eastern third of the state, with a Catholic population totaling 2.4 percent, the smallest such percentage in the nation. There are people in eastern Tennessee who have never met a Catholic priest.
- The Diocese of Lexington, Kentucky: It serves 50 counties, 39 of which are in the Appalachian region—one of the most economically depressed areas in the United States. Many of these parishes have a congregation of fewer than 100 parishioners. Parish priests travel as many as 50 miles between churches to minister in 44 parishes and 26 mission stations. Part of this diocese is just across the Ohio River from the Diocese of Columbus.

Missionaries from our diocese serving the mission Church in the United States are Sister Maria Giovanni Paulo dell’Eucharistica, of the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity, serving in the state of Washington; Father Robert Goodyear, of the Missionary Servants of the Holy Trinity, serving in Mississippi; Glenmary Father David Glocner, serving in West Virginia; and Brother David Henley, serving as vocation director for the Glenmary missionary group.

May God grant us grace to do our part to spread the Gospel, that all may know the unsearchable riches of Christ and be transformed in the light of His face.

Holy Week on the Choctaw Reservation

By Father Bob Goodyear, ST
Holy Rosary Indian Mission Philadelphia, Mississippi

I was asked to write something about what I do on the Choctaw Reservation. How does one describe ministering to three churches that require a 98-mile drive to celebrate Mass on Sundays? The reservation is not one large area. It is made up of eight “communities” in several different counties in Mississippi.

On Palm Sunday, a young Choctaw girl received her first holy Communion at St. Therese Mission on the reservation. That evening, I had the wake for a 21-year-old Choctaw man who died of alcohol poisoning. On Monday, I celebrated his funeral Mass at St. Therese. On Tuesday, I celebrated a funeral at St. Catherine Mission in the Conehatta Community for a 38-year-old Choctaw man who died of complications from pneumonia. I had known him since he was a child. On Wednesday, I celebrated another funeral in Conehatta. This one was for an 80-year-old Choctaw woman who died after a long life. I have been taking her Communion for the last two years as the years took a toll on her body.

Celebrating funerals for three Choctaws during the first three days of Holy Week was difficult, especially at a time when we are preparing to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus. We had record rain this month and the grass was out of control, so I spent Thursday afternoon pushing my lawn mower around the church so it would like nice for Easter.

Holy Thursday’s Mass is always special for me, as we remember the Last Supper and Christ’s institution of the priesthood. This month marks the 39th anniversary of my ordination. I’ve spent 23 years on the Choctaw Reservation.

On Good Friday, I visited the nursing home to distribute Communion. There was a new woman who had just come to the home. She has Alzheimer’s, but it seems to have affected her strength more than her mind. She lives about 30 miles from the reservation and had not been able to come to church for some time. She was a blessing, and I knew the Lord had sent me to see her.

I am writing this on Holy Saturday. I spent the morning going over my sermon for tonight and setting up the church for the Easter Vigil service. This afternoon, I met with a young couple for their second marriage preparation class. And this evening, I had the wake for a 19-year-old Choctaw woman who died of alcohol poisoning. On Sunday, I will be driving to each of my three churches to celebrate. We will have an Easter egg hunt, and then Holy Week will be done.

It has been a very busy, very blessed Holy Week on the reservation. I pray it has been so for you as well.