



DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

CATHOLIC TIMES

A journal of Catholic life in Ohio



DECEMBER 13, 2015
THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT
VOLUME 65:11
WWW.CTONLINE.ORG



**THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
WILL BE CELEBRATED SATURDAY, DEC. 12**

The Editor's Notebook

The Faith Revealed

By David Garick, Editor



As we await the joyful celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord, now just a fortnight away, we do well to think about just how God chooses to manifest his divine love to us. Human logic would seem to suggest that God should choose to reveal himself to the most educated and powerful in society in order to give his message the greatest impact. While he certainly did reveal himself to some influential people, his most important messengers have been very common folk.

During Advent, we hear the foretelling of the coming of the Messiah from John the Baptist. John was a simple man, born of parents who did not have great wealth. He lived an ascetic life in the wilderness, wearing animal pelts and subsisting on locusts and honey. Yet his God-inspired message was so compelling that devout Jews ventured many miles across the wilderness to listen to him and be baptized by him in the Jordan River.

Likewise, Mary, chosen to be the Mother of God, was just a simple girl espoused to a carpenter from Nazareth. From such anonymous beginnings, she has been a source of inspiration and comfort to many generations. It is important to note that the first to share in the miracle of the Incarnation were shepherds from the Bethlehem countryside.

Mary continues to spread her message of love pointing to her Son, Jesus. The church has recognized many instances where Mary has appeared to people on earth long after her assumption into heaven. In all of these cases, she chooses the most common of people to carry her message. We think of the simple peasant girl Bernadette, who encountered Our Lady at the grotto of Lourdes, and the three Por-

tuguese shepherd children who saw Mary at Fatima.

This week, we celebrate Mary's appearance here in North America. The story of Our Lady of Guadalupe is recounted on Page 10. Again, it is important to note that she chose as her messenger Juan Diego, a simple Indian living in the countryside near Mexico City. In canonizing Juan Diego as a saint of the Church, Pope St. John Paul II spoke of God's will to speak through the simple man: "What was Juan Diego like? Why did God look upon him? The Book of Sirach, as we have heard, teaches us that God alone 'is mighty; he is glorified by the humble'" (Sirach 3:20). St. Paul's words, also proclaimed at this celebration, shed light on the divine way of bringing about salvation: "God chose what is low and despised in the world ... so that no human being might boast in the presence of God" (1 Corinthians 1:28,29).

Events such as the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe should remind us that God is constantly reaching out to all of us. We may not see an apparition of Our Lady or be visited by a host of angels out in a field. But God does reach out to each of our hearts with his message of love and redemption. We do not need to be biblical scholars or world leaders to be his emissaries. We need only to have open hearts, such as St. Juan Diego did, to hear the blessed message and to share it. We need not be immaculately conceived like Mary in order to hear God's will for our lives and to answer "be it done to me according to your will." God became flesh and dwelt among us that we might believe and have everlasting life. It is our mission to carry that message.



Holy Year is a reminder to put mercy before judgment, pope says

On a cloudy, damp morning, Pope Francis' voice echoed in the atrium of St. Peter's Basilica: "Open the gates of justice." With five strong thrusts, the pope pushed open the Holy Door, a symbol of God's justice, which he said will always be exercised "in the light of his mercy."

The rite of the opening of the Holy Door was preceded by a Mass with 70,000 pilgrims packed in St. Peter's Square on Tuesday, Dec. 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and the beginning of the extraordinary Holy Year of Mercy.

The Year of Mercy, the pope stressed, is a gift of grace that

allows Christians to experience the joy of encountering the transforming power of grace and rediscovering God's infinite mercy toward sinners.

"How much wrong we do to God and his grace when we speak of sins being punished by his judgment before we speak of their being forgiven by his mercy," he said.

"We have to put mercy before judgment, and in any event God's judgment will always be in the light of his mercy. In passing through the Holy Door, then, may we feel that we ourselves are part of this mystery of love." (Catholic News Service)

San Bernardino bishop urges prayers for unity, healing after shootings

By Mike Nelson
Catholic News Service

Arriving in the late morning Dec. 2 at the San Bernardino, California, diocesan pastoral center for his job in the diocese's Office of Worship, Chris Estrella knew something was very wrong.

"I could see a police blockade of Waterman Avenue, which is where the Inland Regional Center is located," said Estrella, music and liturgy assistant. "That's less than two miles from the pastoral center. Then I saw a lot of law enforcement in the area -- and I needed to use my key to get in the building, which is unusual."

Once at his desk, Estrella turned on his computer and saw the reason for the blockade and increased security: The Inland Regional Center had become a murder scene, with 14 people killed and 17 more wounded.

"At that time, realistically, I felt safe," Estrella, 27, told Catholic News Service on Dec. 3. "But I worried about my family -- my parents, my siblings, including my little brother who attends Our Lady of the Assumption School not that far away. Fortunately they were all safe."

But the pastoral center -- and Catholic schools in the city -- remained on lockdown for several hours until about 2 p.m. "when they began shuffling us out and told us, 'Go home, be with your families,'" Estrella said. The office remained closed on Dec. 3 and was already slated to be closed the following day for first Friday observances.

The Office of Worship canceled a Dec. 3 formation class for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults program at the pastoral center. In a statement, the office expressed its sorrow at the killings and its solidarity in prayer with families and victims of the tragedy, saying, "Let us pray for peace and mutual tolerance, moving forward."

While no additional prayer services had been scheduled as of Dec. 3, Estrella noted that the diocesan Department of Life, Dignity, and Justice had previously scheduled a Dec. 5 evening vigil for victims of violence at Sacred Heart Church in Rancho Cucamonga, in the western portion of the diocese, which includes San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

"I expect we will be remembering the victims of the (Inland Regional Center) at that event," said Estrella, who added that more plans for prayer liturgies and Catholic community outreach would be discussed at a Dec. 7 meeting with diocesan staff, led by San Bernardino Bishop R. Gerald Barnes.

"Like Bishop Barnes said (in a Dec. 2 statement), this is a time for prayer, a time to pray for peace," Estrella said. "I know there are many people all over who are praying for us here in such a terrible time, and I want to extend my thanks to all of them. We don't need any more violence."

Bishop Barnes attended a Dec. 3 candlelight vigil at San Manuel Stadium in San Bernardino to remember those who died in the shooting. During the service, the names of the 14 people who were killed were read aloud.

The bishop, in a tweet sent Dec. 3, said it was a "blessing to come together with leaders of our community tonight" to pray for peace and healing.

In a statement the previous day, Bishop Barnes urged people to pray for unity and healing after the mass shooting.

"For those who lost their lives, we pray for their eternal rest and God's strength to their loved ones left behind; for those who are wounded, we pray for their health and healing," he said.

The bishop called on people to pray for "all of the victims of this horrific incident and their families" and asked for prayers for law enforcement officers who at the time were still "pursuing the suspects in this case."

"Our community of San Bernardino has faced great challenges through the years. Let us come together now in unity to bring light to the darkness of this day," Bishop Barnes said.

The Inland Regional Center is a state-run facility for individuals with developmental disabilities. County health officials were having an employee holiday party when the shootings occurred.

Two armed suspects -- later identified as Syed Farook, 28, and Tashfeen Malik, 27 -- were killed by police four hours later in a shootout about two miles from the center.

Farook, a county environmental inspector, had attended the party and left, returning with Malik, wearing "assault-style clothing" with ammunition at-



tached, according to news reports.

Police and federal agents have not offered a motive for the couple's shootings at the center, which provides housing and work programs and therapy and social services to more than 30,000 people with developmental disabilities. But federal law enforcement officials told *The New York Times* on Dec. 4 that Farook's wife, Malik, had pledged allegiance to the Islamic State in a Facebook posting. The FBI announced Dec. 4 that it is officially investigating the shooting as an act of terrorism.

"Today, yet another American community is reeling from the horror of gun violence," said House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-California, in a Dec. 2 statement.

"As the families of the victims grieve and the survivors focus on healing, the entire American family mourns," she added.

Pelosi noted that gun violence is "a crisis of epidemic proportions in our nation" and said "Congress has a moral responsibility to vote on common-sense measures to prevent the daily agony of gun violence in communities across America. Enough is enough."

Los Angeles Archbishop Jose H. Gomez said in a Dec. 3 statement that it is "hard to understand this kind of violence and the hatred that motivates it. We ask how people can do such things, what is in their hearts? In these times, we need to trust in the providence of God and rely on his mercy."

"Our Christian faith tells us that we

must overcome evil with good and respond to hatred with love. So this is our challenge in the days ahead," he added.

The archbishop said the Archdiocese of Los Angeles mourns with the families and loved ones of victims and prays for healing for the wounded.

"We ask that God give his wisdom and prudence to the public authorities and law enforcement officials who are seeking to make sense of this horrible crime. And we pray for the conversion of hearts that are hardened by hatred," he said.

Philadelphia Archbishop Charles J. Chaput said "each innocent life lost" in the shooting was precious. "Each was intimately connected through family and friendship to many others, who now survive them and bear a burden of unearned suffering," he said.

The archbishop, in a Dec. 3 statement, added, "Pursuing justice in this matter is in the hands of law enforcement. Our task as Christians is to pray for those persons whose lives were ended by the inexcusable cruelty of others."

At least one of the victims of the shooting was Catholic. Damian Meins, 58, was described by a friend to *The Associated Press* as someone who "never strayed far from his church or its teachings."

Meins, who worked in the public health department in San Bernardino and was the father of two girls, attended Notre Dame High School in Riverside, where he met his wife, Trenna, who is principal of Sacred Heart School in Rancho Cucamonga.

"His death has affected our community deeply. He will be missed," Notre Dame's principal said in a message on the school's website.

On the Facebook page of Sacred Heart School, the pastor, Father Benedict Nwachukwu-Udaku, said the parish and school community would be having a special prayer vigil on Dec. 5 to pray for all of the shooting victims.

"May all who have been touched by this mayhem know God's presence and God's consolation," he added.

A living rosary for the Meins family was held Dec. 3.

The California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health requested

See SHOOTING, Page 7



Front Page photo:

Our Lady of Guadalupe is perhaps the most culturally important and extensively reproduced Mexican Catholic image. This 19th-century retablo is in the El Paso (Texas) Museum of Art. Image courtesy Wikimedia



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Subscriptions (614) 224-6530 FAX (614) 241-2573
(subscriptions@coldioc.org)

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

PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

Tunics



Third Sunday of Advent: "If anyone has two tunics, he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same" (Luke 3:11). All that we are and all that we have are gifts from our generous God. Our call is to steward them in a responsible manner and return them with increase to the Lord. Today, I recognize one gift that God has graced me with and I try to share that gift with all those with whom I come into contact. At the end of the day, I thank God for giving me that gift.

Third Monday: "Nor will I tell you my authority for acting like this" (Matthew 21:27). Jesus did not engage in discussion that he felt was inappropriate. In this season of goodwill, am I tempted to listen to idle words about other people or to start something that might be seen as gossip? Is that an appropriate way to prepare for the coming of Jesus? Today, I will pay someone a compliment – recognize a gift that God has chosen for them. I will thank God that I receive that gift through them.

Third Tuesday: "For John came to you ... but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him" (Matthew 21:32). One of the challenges for us in our Church and parish life is to be accepting. We might be tempted to hide ourselves in "holy huddles" and be content with "our kind." To live in God's Kingdom means to mix with and accept all. Today, I pray for a heart that is open to all. I become aware of people I find difficult, either individuals or groups. I try to be open to what I can learn from them.

Third Wednesday: "Go back and tell John what you have seen and heard. Happy is the man who does not lose faith in me" (Luke 7:22-23). John the Baptist sends his messengers to find out if Jesus is the one he has been waiting for. After seeing Jesus, they are left with no doubt. We do not physically see Jesus performing miracles; instead, we are asked to have faith and to persevere when we experience difficulties. Today, I ask God for the grace and courage to persevere in my faith, especially during the times when my faith is challenged.

Third Thursday: "A genealogy of Jesus Christ, son of David, son of Abraham" (Matthew 1:1). Today's Gospel reading is the genealogy from Matthew's Gospel. In this way, we are given the family tree of Jesus – and we see that it is made up of a diverse range of characters. There are all kinds of people from different traditions and abilities. We are an integral part of that family – part of the diverse Kingdom of peoples – all created, as Blessed John Henry Newman said, for some "definite service." What are the gifts and talents that God has given me? How am I called to serve God with these gifts? I think of one practical way that I can use one of these gifts for the building of the Kingdom of God today – at home, at work, and in my community.

Third Friday: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God is with us'" (Matthew 1:23). There is just one week before Christmas Day. We are surrounded by images of gifts and may be caught up in last-minute presents and purchases. Our material world sometimes envelops us. Our Christian Faith calls us to be counter-cultural. Today, we might think of the great gift of God – sending His son to be with us. Spend some time today thanking God for the gift of Jesus. Think about how we are viewed by others. How can we be stewards of that Good News? Is there something practical I can do today to spread that news?

Third Saturday: "When his time of service came to an end, he returned home" (Luke 1:23). This short quotation from today's Gospel refers to Zechariah returning home to Elizabeth after the angel appeared to him. However, it also can be seen as being true for our life journey – that when our time of service in this world comes to an end, we return home to God. What service can I do today? How can I prepare for my journey home through service today?

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

ADORATION CHANGES IN COLUMBUS DIOCESE

Several changes have been made in the schedule for Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament listed in the Nov. 29 *Catholic Times* for the parish cluster that includes churches in Chillicothe, Washington Court House, Waverly, and Zaleski.

The revised schedule is:

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

Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne – Exposition: Tues-

days during the school year, 6 to 8 p.m.

Waverly St. Mary – Exposition: First Wednesday, end of 5:30 p.m. Mass to Benediction at 7 p.m.

Zaleski, St. Sylvester – Exposition: First Wednesday, end of 5:30 p.m. Mass to Benediction at 7:00 p.m.

In addition, **Lancaster St. Bernadette Church** has changed its schedule for Exposition. It is now on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

BOSCO BASH SET FOR JAN. 30

Bosco Bash, the diocesan rally for young people in grades six to eight, will take place from 2:30 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30 at Columbus St. Cecelia Church, 434 Norton Road.

The event's theme will be "Unbreakable," featuring Bob Lesnefsky, also known as Catholic rapper "Righteous B," whose motto is "Preach the Gospel at all times; if necessary, use rap."

The rally also will include music by Station 14, time with friends, skits, games, dinner, and evening Mass.

The cost is \$20. To register and learn more, visit www.cdeducation.org/BoscoBash, call the diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at (614) 241-2565, or email srobinso@cdeducation.org or mhall@cdeducation.org.

It can be difficult for Catholics to find a Mass when traveling or when it is not practical to attend their regular parishes. The website www.MassTimes.org makes it much easier to search for a Mass by presenting all the possibilities in a geographical area on one page. It includes Mass schedules for 117,000 churches in 201 nations or territories. The service also is available by phone.

The number is (1-858) 207-6277.

MUSIC DIRECTOR AND ORGANIST

St. Patrick Church, London, Ohio is searching for a part-time music director and organist.

The ideal candidate provides organ accompaniment and directs sung participation of the liturgical assembly through music for the three weekend Masses, Holy Days of Obligation and funeral and wedding liturgies. Leads adult choir and recruits, trains, and directs cantors. Explores the formation of a children's choir and a bell choir. Collaborates with the pastor, and parish and school staff to plan liturgies and special celebrations as needed.

Bachelor's degree in music or extensive experience as a pastoral musician is desired. A thorough knowledge of Roman Catholic rites, and excellent interpersonal and communication skills, are required.

Interested candidates should send resume and salary requirements by January 15, 2016 to:

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- Bilingual: Fluent in English, Conversant in Spanish
- Prior secretarial experience

SUBMIT RESUME AND REFERENCES TO:
Mr. Mike Luis/Business Manager • mrluis46@rroho.com



BISHOP READY MATH AWARD

Columbus Bishop Ready High school senior Andres Walliser-Wejbe was awarded the Honda-OSU Math Medal, along with a \$100 gift card, a certificate, and a plaque for the school. Recipients of the award who are interested in an engineering career may apply for a \$3,000 scholarship at The Ohio State University's college of engineering. Pictured with Walliser-Wejbe are Ready principal Celene Seaman (left) and math department chair Teresa Rehner. Photo courtesy Bishop Ready High School

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Maria Goretti's remains; Is miscarried child in heaven?



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

Q. I understand that the church does not want me to keep the cremated remains of my saintly (in my opinion) great-aunt on a shelf in my family room and that I should consign them instead to a grave or mausoleum niche. Why, then, are the skeletal remains of an acknowledged saint (in this case, Maria Goretti) being toted from diocese to diocese? (I'm sure that she was far more saintly than my great-aunt, but the failure to inter or entomb her reverently puzzles me.) (Columbus)

A. The church's guidelines on cremated remains are grounded in the Catholic belief in the resurrection of the dead and the dignity of the human body as created by God. The appendix to the *Order of Christian Funerals* (No. 417) provides that "the cremated remains should be buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum. ... The practice of scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air or on the ground, or keeping cremated remains in the home of a relative or friend of the deceased are not the reverent disposition that the church requires."

Maria Goretti was an 11-year-old Italian girl who, in the year 1902, was attacked by a 19-year-old neighbor who made sexual advances on her. When she resisted, he stabbed her and she died the following day. She forgave her attacker on her deathbed and has since been heralded as the "patroness of mercy." Her body was buried at a basilica in Nettuno, Italy, south of Rome.

This fall, Maria Goretti's skeletal remains, en-

cased in a wax statue within a glass-sided casket, were displayed in various churches throughout the United States. The Vatican gave permission for this tour in light of the Holy Year of Mercy that begins Dec. 8. Maria Goretti's story highlights the forgiveness that is at the center of the Holy Year of Mercy, and the veneration of her remains is part of the Vatican's effort to assist the faithful in preparing for that celebration.

Q. Many years ago, I suffered a miscarriage in my first trimester. Since then, I have often thought of this child, have grieved greatly over the loss, and have wondered about the ultimate fate of our unborn child. My Catholic values assure me that my baby is with Our Lord, but I would very much appreciate your views on the matter. (Gibbstown, New Jersey)

A. I have complete confidence that your son or daughter is in heaven and that you will one day be with your child in the joy of God's presence. Every person's life is sacred, and that life begins at conception. (The *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, in No. 2319, says, "Every human life, from the moment of conception until death, is sacred because the human person has been willed for its own sake in the image and likeness of the living and holy God.")

Logic prompts me to ask why a loving God would ever cooperate with a man and a woman in creating a child unless that boy or girl were destined for happiness. That logic is validated by the *Catechism*, which suggests (in No. 1261) that we can confidently entrust an unbaptized child to the mercy of the Lord, knowing that God wants all people to be saved and that Jesus said "Let the children come to me."

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

ST. EDWARD BUS TRIP TO COSHOCTON

The Edwardians, a ministry of Granville St. Edward Church for people aged 50 and older, invites diocesan residents to take part in a bus trip to Coshocton that will include stops at a restored 1830 canal town and the oldest and largest flag company in the United States.

The tour will leave the church, 785 Newark-Granville Road, at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 12 and return by 5 p.m.

The day will begin with a stop at the welcome center in historic Roscoe Village, the restored community. From there, trip participants will go to Buehler's Gazette restaurant for lunch of their choice. After lunch, they will watch flags

being made at the Annin Flag Co., followed by a return to Roscoe Village, where there will be time to visit the village crafter's shop; dioramas, maps, and models of the former Ohio canal lock system; and the Medberry Marketplace.

A minimum of 40 people is required for the trip.

The cost is \$22.

Anyone interested may send a check to Linda Woolard, 481 Beacon Road, Newark OH 43055, making the check payable to Woolard.

For more information, call (740) 323-3105 or email lindawoolard@windstream.net.

ST. COLMAN CONCERT

Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne Church, 219 S. North St., will present its 11th annual Advent service of Scripture readings and music at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13.

The service will be in the "lessons and carols" format made familiar by the international broadcasts of the choir of King's College Chapel in Cambridge, England. Music by Palestrina, Praetorius, Ravenscroft, Wood, Handel, Holst, Ord, Britten, Gardener, Manz, and Poston will be featured, with seminarians from the Pontifical College Josephinum as guest readers.

There is no admission fee. A free-will offering will be taken for the parish music program.

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SHOOTING, continued from Page 3

that managers and staff in the state observe a moment of silence for Meins on Dec. 9 at 11 a.m.

Another shooting victim who was Catholic is Bennetta Betbadal, who was born in Iran in 1969. According to a fundraising page set up for her children, she fled to the United States when she was 18 to escape Islamic extremism and the persecution of Christians following the Iranian Revolution. She and her husband, both Catholic, had three children and lived in Rialto.

The day of the shooting, Betbadal, a health inspector, was at the Inland Regional Center to give a presentation.

"She loved her job, her community, and her country," the fundraising page says. "Her greatest love, however, was for her husband, her children, and her large extended family." (*Contributing to this story was Carol Zimmermann in Washington.*)



Answering God's Call

PORTSMOUTH NATIVE CELEBRATING 60 YEARS AS SISTER OF CHARITY



Sister Martha Glockner, SC

by Tim Puet

Sister Martha Glockner, SC, who celebrated her 60th anniversary as a member of the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati earlier this year, says her thoughts of a religious vocation began as she was in bed recovering from a serious illness.

"Before beginning my junior year in high school in 1952, I contracted polio," she said. "This was the year of the last great polio scare, before the Salk and Sabin vaccines (nearly 58,000 people were struck by the disease that year). There seemed to be a polio epidemic every summer and it was the great scourge of young people. Fortunately, I recovered, but in the process of rehabilitation, I began wondering what direction I would take in life and started thinking about the possibility of being a sister.

"Three years later, while attending my mother's alma mater, the College of Mount St. Joseph (now Mount St. Joseph University) in Cincinnati, I became a postulant with the Sisters of Charity. They taught me in college, and my mother's first cousin was a Sister of Charity — Sister John Frances Burns, who was a teacher in Marion and Chillicothe. It seemed like the right thing to do for me, and I've been a member of the community ever since."

Sister Martha, 79, who lives in retirement in Three Rivers, Michigan, professed her first vows on Aug. 15, 1957 and her final vows on the same day five years later. She is a Portsmouth native, but her only period of service in the Diocese of Columbus came from 1988-1995, when she was assistant director of pastoral care at The Ohio State University Hospitals in Columbus.

"At OSU, I served as a hospital chaplain and supervisor of a clinical pastoral education (CPE) program," she said. "In CPE, seminarians, clergy, and laypersons spent 10 to 12 weeks learning about the situations and struggles hospital patients and their families face and how to adapt their ministry to respond to those concerns, mainly through being good listeners and providing a supportive presence in the midst of suffering."

While in Columbus, she received her Association for Clinical Pastoral Education certification in 1991. "This represented the culmination of six-and-a-half years of effort, which included six appearances before regional and national certification committees and writing three theory papers and more than 50 clinical papers," she said.

She began CPE studies in 1983 after more than 20 years as an elementary school, high school, and college teacher. Sister Martha said she changed the emphasis of her ministry because "teaching seemed less and less of a good fit. The 1970s were a very difficult time in higher education, with students protesting and asking more and more questions about God and the church. I felt my sense of call begin to shift to less classroom activity and more work with individuals searching to grow in their relationship with God."

The call to help others in this way led her to Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where she began in-depth experience in CPE from 1983-85, and to St. Mary Hospital in Grand Rapids from 1985-88 before she came to Columbus, where she had lived from 1945 until graduating from the former St. Mary of the Springs Academy in 1954.

She was born in Portsmouth on Sept. 23, 1936, and lived through that city's historic 1937 Ohio River flood. "I was too young to remember anything about the flood, but I know my family lived in a two-story house, with my grandparents on the first floor and my parents on the second," she said. "During the flood, everybody had to live on the second floor

because the first floor was covered by water, and the only way to get around was by rowboat."

Sister Martha is part of a well-known Catholic family in Portsmouth. A cousin, Father David Glockner, is a member of the Glenmary Home Missioners and is pastor of parishes in Vanceburg and Grayson, Kentucky. Another cousin, the late Edward Glockner, was honored by the diocesan Schools Office at the 2009 Celebrating Catholic School Virtues Gala for his support of Catholic education.

She is the oldest child of the late Alexander and Mary (Williams) Glockner and has two brothers, Michael, who lives in Cincinnati, and John, of Westfield, New Jersey. "My father worked for the Internal Revenue Service, and in my early childhood, we moved around a good bit — from Portsmouth, to Ironton, to Marion, and finally to Columbus when I was nine years old," she said.

"Mom was very active in the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women at the state and national level and in Church Women United, the first significant ecumenical group of women. I remember her being part of an Ohio governor's delegation attending a White House conference on well-being for children."

In 1992, Sister Martha received the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice medal from Pope John Paul II, at the recommendation of Bishop James Griffin, for her service to the Catholic Church through teaching and CPE. Many years earlier, her mother had received the same medal from Pope Pius XII, at the recommendation of Bishop Michael Ready.

Sister Martha's first teaching assignment was in 1957-58 at Holy Redeemer School in Kensington, Maryland, where she taught fifth-graders. From 1958-63, she taught math, chemistry, and religion at Holy Trinity High School in Trinidad, Colorado, followed by three years at Cincinnati Seton High School as a teacher of algebra, geometry, and religion.

She received a bachelor of arts degree in general science from the College of Mount St. Joseph in 1960, then interrupted her teaching career to attend Laval University in Quebec City, Canada, where she obtained a bachelor of philosophy degree in 1967 and a licentiate in philosophy in 1969. She taught philosophy from 1971-76 at Mount St. Joseph and from 1976-83 at Aquinas College in Grand Rapids.

She has lived in Three Rivers since 1996, when she came to the Apple Farm retreat center. She also served as one of the supervisors of CPE programs at two area health care centers. She retired in 2005, but remained associated with the centers until 2009. She continues to be a CPR consultant to students and residents of southern Michigan and northern Indiana.

"I live in a beautiful rural setting ... which I find nourishing to my own soul as I continue ministry as a Sister of Charity," she said. Her congregation consists of about 330 sisters, joined in mission by 199 lay Associates. The sisters serve in 27 dioceses in the United States and in Guatemala, Mexico, and the West Indies.

"Sisters in a community like mine are called to address the needs of the people of God, whatever they are, whether they're called to education, health care, social services, or other ministries," she said. "And as the Holy Father reminds us, each one of us, whatever our vocation, is called to respond to the poor and suffering through practicing the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. Since it's a call from God, we need to nourish our relationship with God through prayer, the sacraments, and being attentive to the message of the Church."

Bishop Flaget Techno-Brickrats

Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School's Techno-Brickrats team practices every Friday after school all year long, preparing for one competition a year. This year's event took place in November in Columbus. School Lego Club members, advised by Diane Cryder and Sue Blum, learned how to program Lego robots to run courses and complete tasks designed by the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Lego League. The students worked with the robots on a Lego course to find the best programming to achieve their goals and to complete research specific to topics set by the FIRST Lego League. The theme for this year's competition was "Trash Trek," with students identifying a trash-related problem and finding an innovative way to solve it. Club members designed a trash compactor they named Trashbot 5.0, which would sort different types of food waste, using sensors and a grabber claw to separate the waste. Team members are (from left): first row, Emma Powers, Meryl Haller, Avery Brown, Mikayla Spaulding, and Molly Prochaska; second row, Will Fleck, Davin Pope, Daniel Rourke, Jake Byrd, and Ryan Blum. Photo courtesy Bishop Flaget School



Christmas Party for St. Dominic Children



The Columbus chapter of the University of Dayton Alumni Organization will host its fifth annual Christmas party for the children of Columbus St. Dominic Church from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12 in the multipurpose room of the church, 453 N. 20th St. A scene from last year's party is pictured above. The event includes a visit from Santa Claus, who presents each child with a gift. There also is a donated lunch from area businesses, as well as games, crafts, and a gift room for children to make gifts for the adults in their lives. About 50 children usually attend. More than 70 volunteers help make the event possible.

Photo courtesy Megan Kelly

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Finding Advent meaning in a world of turmoil



GRACE IN THE MOMENT
Mary van Balen

"What does keeping Advent mean for us now, today?" I asked myself after reading a couple of newspaper articles about mass shootings and escalating anger at terrorist attacks. I was still pondering this while making a quick stop at a mall. Lights and hype, along with an unending string of Christmas music, bombarded the senses. On the drive home, Pope Francis' reference to this year's Christmas trappings being a charade came to mind.

Checking the text, I discovered that he opened his homily with "Jesus wept," adding later "... because Jerusalem did not know the way of peace and chose the hostility of hatred, of war." With Christmas coming, the pope said, "... there will be lights, there will be celebrations, trees lit up, even nativity scenes ... all decorated: the world continues to wage war. ... The world has not comprehended the way of peace." The entire world is at war, piecemeal, and the cost is great—a somber message for the coming season of joy and hope.

While terrorism and wars are in the news around the world, they are not the only form of violence. There's also violence against the poor and marginalized when funding for safety-net programs is cut. Civil rights for all are a continuing issue, as is adequate care for those suffering from mental illness. (Many mass shooters suffer from it.)

The earth itself suffers at the hands of human beings, yet some choose to dismiss the issue of global warming and the investment in new technologies needed to address it. (Did you see the pope's shoes, sitting along with 20,000 others in a public square in Paris during the climate talks there as part of a quiet "march" to

support those working to find ways for governments to respond to this threat?)

The pope is right: The world has not embraced the way of peace. How do we do that? How do we find hope in a dark world?

A friend sent a poem she has been using for Advent reflection: *Annunciation* by Denise Levertov. "Aren't there annunciations/of one sort or another/in most lives?" the poet asks before pondering how we do or do not accept the annunciations that come to us. She writes of Mary, a young girl like other young girls, but called to a "destiny more momentous than any in all of Time." She didn't hesitate to embrace it.

Levertov concludes that whatever we have to offer is enough: "The blessing is not in the treasure/But in the letting go." We are called to give what we have, not to hold it close, but to generously pour it onto the world. We are called to lavish Love on the marginalized who need our care and nurture, much as Jesus needed protection within the womb as he grew.

Levertov's poem reminds me of the loaves-and-fishes story. The young boy freely gave what he had, and Jesus made it enough.

Maybe that's what's Advent's quiet and waiting is

about: avoiding the distractions of orchestrating a "perfect Christmas" and instead giving ourselves time to pay attention to what Grace has been placed in our hearts, not turning from the challenges of sharing it in a dark and often hostile world. Like Mary, we're called to say "Yes, I'll give all that I am."

A poem by Jessica Powers, *In Too Much Light*, considers the Incarnation. The poet sees the Magi following one star and laments her difficulty finding one to follow.

Her revelation is that Faith cries out until her voice fails, proclaiming that in every spot and time, "... there is not any place/ when the sought Word is not."

That's where our hope lies this Advent, when even our pope laments the darkness and choices for war over peace.

It is within, given when the Holiest of Mysteries became one of us, sharing Love and trusting us to share it in our times and places. The hope is discovering that light, not outside us, but in our deepest center. Being selfless with it, giving it away, is embracing the way of peace.

When we discover the divine light within ourselves and within all others in this world—the wounded, the suffering, the marginalized, the fearful, the violent—then we will have found the God we prepare to celebrate during Advent.

Jessica again: "Behold, all places which have light in them/truly are Bethlehem."

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Gahanna St. Matthew School fourth-grade classes sang Christmas carols at the Chalmers P. Wylie Veterans Administration Ambulatory Care Center in Columbus. Photo/St. Matthew School

Our Lady of Guadalupe shouldn't be viewed as just a Mexican tradition

By Chaz Muth
Catholic News Service

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe has been a religious and cultural hallmark for Mexican Catholics for centuries, but the custom received little attention from Anglo Catholics in the United States before the last few decades.

With the growing Latino population in the U.S., the presence of Hispanics has steadily increased in Catholic churches throughout the nation, creating a greater awareness of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the patroness of the Americas.

Catholic scholars say the significance of her feast day, Dec. 12, has risen beyond the Americas with the emergence of the Latin American church on the world stage.

The dark-skinned image of Mary, known as Our Lady of Guadalupe, also has been identified by leaders of the universal Catholic Church as the face of the new evangelization.

The story of how Mary appeared to a poor Aztec Indian in 1531 near present-day Mexico City brought more than six million indigenous people into the Catholic faith within a decade.

The image of Mary dressed in a way Aztecs could relate to her is credited with more than evangelization. It's also an acknowledged factor in the easing of tensions between the native people of that region in the Americas and the European settlers.

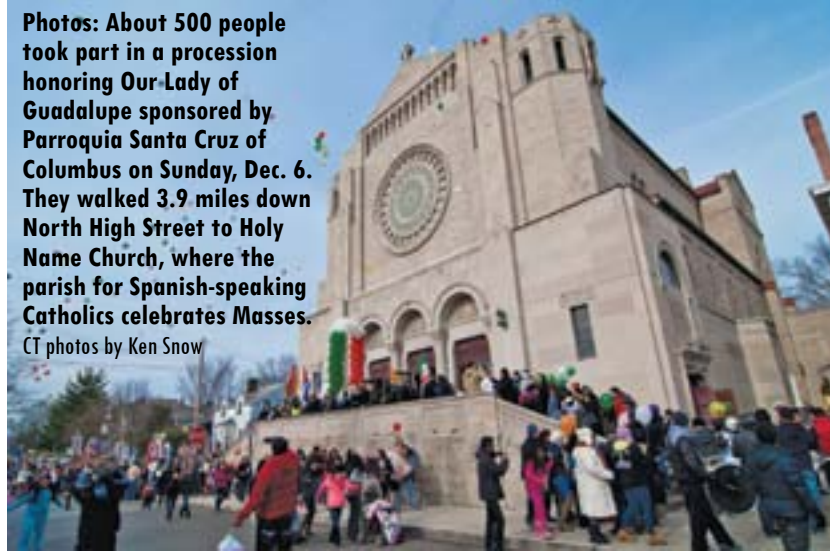
Latinos living in the United States celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with zeal.

Their fervor for the feast day is a great example for Anglo Catholics, attracting more of them to the celebrations, said Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Archbishop Kurtz told Catholic News Service that the Latino presence in the U.S. has helped educate more Anglo Catholics about Our Lady of Guadalupe and that he hopes more people will embrace this part of the Catholic tradition.

"Our Lady of Guadalupe is really

Photos: About 500 people took part in a procession honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe sponsored by Parroquia Santa Cruz of Columbus on Sunday, Dec. 6. They walked 3.9 miles down North High Street to Holy Name Church, where the parish for Spanish-speaking Catholics celebrates Masses.
CT photos by Ken Snow



for everybody, certainly the people of the Americas," and not just Hispanic Catholics, said Bishop Peter F. Christensen of Boise, Idaho, a statewide diocese where Latinos make up the majority of Catholics.

When Mary appeared to St. Juan Diego, the Spaniards and Aztecs in Mexico were on the brink of what scholars believe would have been a brutal war. Many have suggested such a war could have diminished Christianity in the region.

Instead, the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe brought an end to the Aztec worship of stone gods and the practice of human sacrifice, said Father Michael Witzak, an associate professor of liturgical studies at The Catholic University of America.

When the indigenous people embraced Catholicism, the religion of the Spaniards, the two groups discovered a way of living together in relative harmony, Father Witzak said.

"The story is captivating," he told CNS. "That whole image of this 57-year-old Aztec Christian encountering this woman and not wanting to get involved with something he knew would be viewed with great skepticism. Yet (the news) was eventually seen as a miracle that helped spread Christianity throughout the Americas."

It's a story that should enrich the faith of all American Catholics, Archbishop Kurtz said.

Nevertheless, many Anglo Cath-

learn about the story, they are much more open to bringing it into their own faith tradition."

Father Robert C. Irwin, pastor of St. Jerome Church in Jerome, Idaho, said he was unaware of the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe as a boy growing up in the U.S.

What he did know was that his friends with Mexican ancestry often paid homage to an image of Mary that didn't look very much like the paintings of the Mother of God he had been accustomed to viewing during his religious education.

Pope Francis celebrated the feast day at St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City in 2014.

During his homily, the pope said the dark-skinned image of Our Lady of Guadalupe -- traditionally believed to have been miraculously impressed on Juan Diego's cloak -- proclaimed to the indigenous peoples of the Americas "the good news that all its inhabitants shared the dignity of children of God. No more would anyone be a servant, but we are all children of the same Father and brothers and sisters to each other."

Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis have celebrated the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Peter's, signaling to Catholics world-



wide its importance in the universal church, Father Witzak said.

"She's not just the patroness of Mexico, but the patroness of the Americas," he said.

The message from the last two popes is also that Catholics throughout the Americas should draw inspiration from the apparition of 1531, that the Mother of God's appearance in their land was a sign of its significance to God, Father Witzak said.

In his homily on the 2014 feast day, Pope Francis said Mary did not just want to visit the Americas, but that the image on the cloak or *tilma* was a sign "she wanted to remain with them."

Archbishop Kurtz pointed out that the current nations in the Americas didn't exist when Mary appeared before St. Juan Diego, so when he shared her image on his *tilma*, he wasn't just sharing it with the indigenous people in his region. He was sharing it with inhabitants throughout North America and South America.

"Of course, it will always be perhaps especially dear to those families whose roots are in Mexico," he said. "But I have to say their example of fervor and devotion touches the hearts of all of us. We have a great debt of gratitude in faith to the Latino people and, of course, to Our Lady of Guadalupe."



Diocesan Guadalupe Celebrations

Parishes throughout the Diocese of Columbus will be celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with Masses and other events on either the feast day itself or other days through Sunday, Dec. 13.

The feast day is Saturday, Dec. 12, marking the anniversary of the third and final apparition of the Blessed Virgin to St. Juan Diego near Mexico City in 1531.

Some parish programs will include the "Happy Birthday" serenades to Mary that are known as *mananitas*. The schedule for activities throughout the diocese is as follows:

Parroquia Santa Cruz, Columbus – A procession starting at the COTA Park and Ride stop, 4939 N. High St., traveling 3.9 miles down High Street and Patterson Avenue to Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus, occurred this past Sunday, Dec. 6, and was followed by *mananitas*, Mass, and refreshments. *Mananitas* will be sung at the church at 10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, followed by Mass at 11. On the Dec. 12 feast day, there will be recital of the rosary, followed by Mass, at 5:30 p.m. and a fiesta after Mass.

Chillicothe St. Peter – International Christmas dinner and silent auction fundraiser for Chillicothe high school and young adult groups who will be traveling to Cordoba, Mexico, in July 2016 for a mission trip. Event is in conjunction with Our Lady's Outreach Network, which works with the Ross County Latino community.

Columbus Christ the King – Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe daily at 7 p.m. through Dec. 11. *Mananitas* and rosary, 6 a.m. Dec. 12, followed by breakfast at 7. Rosary procession starting at 11:15 a.m. that day at corner of College and Livingston avenues, traveling to church for noon Mass, followed by a re-enactment of the apparition in Spanish and a fiesta at 1 p.m. in All Saints Academy gym.

Columbus St. Agnes – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, from end of 9 a.m. chapel Mass Dec. 11 until Benediction at 6:30 p.m. that day, followed immediately by Vigil Mass for the feast. After Mass, there will be a procession around the parish grounds and a fiesta in the social hall.

Columbus St. James the Less – *Mananitas*, 6 a.m. Dec. 12, followed by refreshments. Mass, 6 p.m. Dec. 12, followed by a procession around the outside of the church (weather permitting, otherwise indoors) and a potluck in the school cafeteria, with indigenous Mexican dancing.

Columbus St. Ladislav – Mass, 11 a.m. Dec. 12, in Spanish.



Columbus St. Peter – Dramatization of the apparition in Spanish, followed by recital of the rosary, Mass and confessions, and midnight *mananitas*, 9 p.m. Dec. 11. Celebration of the Midnight Magi, 7 p.m. to midnight Dec. 11, McEwan Center gym. Dramatization of the apparition in English, followed by social gathering with finger food, following 5:30 p.m. Mass Dec. 12.

Columbus St. Stephen – Vigil Mass in Spanish at 10 p.m. Dec. 11, followed by *mananitas* at 11. *Mananitas*, 5 a.m. Dec. 12.

Masses in Spanish, 5:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Dec. 12. Procession starts at 9:30 a.m. Dec. 13 from upper parking lot of church to corner of Sullivant Avenue and Georgesville Road and back, followed by Mass. *Posadas*, which recreate Mary and Joseph's search for a place to stay in Bethlehem, will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. daily from Wednesday, Dec. 16 to Wednesday, Dec. 23.

Columbus St. Thomas – Procession from back entrance of Mann's Trailer Park and Sixth Avenue to church, 10:15 a.m. Dec. 13, followed by bilingual Mass at 11:30, and fiesta in parish center.

Delaware St. Mary – Mass, 6 p.m. Dec. 11.

Dover St. Joseph – Procession, 4:45 a.m. Dec. 12, followed by *mananitas* at 5, Mass at 6, and traditional breakfast. *Posadas*, 7 p.m. daily from Dec. 16 to Thursday, Dec. 24. *Tres Magos* (Three Kings) celebration, Sunday, Jan. 3, beginning with 1:30 p.m. Mass in Spanish, followed by traditional dinner and gifts for the children passed out by the kings following Mass.

Marion St. Mary – *Mananitas* and rosary, with traditional mariachi music, coffee, and doughnuts, 6 a.m. Dec. 12. Procession from Crescent Heights Apartments to church, 11:30 a.m. Dec. 13, followed by traditional dancing at 12:30 p.m., Mass at 1, and dinner and music at 2:30.

Newark St. Francis de Sales – A Mass was celebrated Wednesday, Dec. 9, followed by a fiesta in Johnson Hall.

Sunbury St. John Neumann – Trip to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Des Plaines, Illinois, Dec. 11 and 12. Featured event will be the Guadalupe Torch run, in which participants carry torches to be lit and blessed during a midnight celebration.

West Portsmouth Our Lady of Sorrows – Mass, 12:15 a.m. Dec. 12, followed by *mananitas*.

Westerville St. Paul – Mass, 6 p.m. Dec. 11, followed by dinner from 7 to 9.

Two Women Enter Children of Mary

Two women received habits signifying their entrance into the Children of Mary community and two others professed their first vows at a Mass on Saturday, Nov. 21, the Feast of the Presentation of Mary, at Columbus Holy Family Church.

Pictured are (from left) Sister Jane, who joined the community; Sister Andrea Maria and Sister Katerina Rose, who professed first vows; and Sister Peggy, who also became a member of the community.

Father Stash Dailey celebrated the Mass. He was joined at the altar by Father Joseph Klee and Deacons David Loeffler and Ben Rexroat, while 19 seminarians served and many of the community's friends and family attended.

The Children of Mary is an emerging semi-contemplative movement of faith-

ful women which began in the Diocese of Columbus when Bishop James Griffin consecrated its founder, Mother Margaret Mary in January 2002. It now includes nine professed members and three novices. The new members have begun a two-year period of formation, dedicating themselves to study and prayer and entering more deeply into the religious life and charism of the community. At the end of the period, they will profess their first vows.

The Children of Mary profess five vows—the three evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience, as well as a fourth vow to pray for priests and a fifth vow to work and pray to hasten the Eucharistic reign of Jesus, with his sacred heart enthroned on the altars of the world.

The community's Motherhouse and



adoration chapel are in rural Licking County on 106 wooded acres. With the help of many volunteers, the community is renovating a former child care center in Columbus near Holy Family Church and the Holy Family Soup

Kitchen. The Children of Mary visit the soup kitchen once a week, offering religious instruction, praying, and setting up an adoration chapel. For more information about the community, visit www.childrenofmary.net.

Photo courtesy Children of Mary



WILDERNESS OUTREACH PROGRAM

Wilderness Outreach will be conducting its first father-son mountain wilderness expedition this summer in California. This event is for fathers with sons ages 14 to 17 who are from the Diocese of Columbus. It will take place from Friday, Aug. 5 to Sunday, Aug. 14, 2016, in the Ansel Adams Wilderness area of the Sierra Nevada mountains.

Father William Ferguson of Logan St. John Church will be the chaplain. The expedition will include high-adventure hiking, trail building, the Liturgy of the Hours, and daily Mass.

All adult participants must be Protecting God's Children certified. The cost for the event, not including travel, is \$200 per person. Spots are limited to a total of 12 men and boys. For more information, contact John Bradford at (614) -679-6761 or john@wildernessoutreach.net.

St. Vincent de Paul School in Lego League competition

Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul School's Lego League team finished third at a regional qualifier in Grandview Heights in November, allowing it to advance to district competition in Dublin next month. The team also won the regional robot design award for the second year in a row. Researching, community sharing, presenting, building, strategy analysis, programming, project management, and marketing are a few of the skills the team has learned. Team members include (from left): first row, Henry Sarsfield and Bryan Sabula; second row, coach Dave Sabula, Nathan Lubera, Hayden Lingel, James Frazee, Jackson Mentzer, coach Mary Ann Lingel, Ryan Stewart, and RJ Plasse.

Photo courtesy St. Vincent de Paul School



BISHOP HARTLEY WINS STATE DIVISION IV FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Columbus Bishop Hartley High School won its third state football championship, defeating Steubenville 31-28 for the Division IV title on Saturday, Dec. 5 at Ohio Stadium. The Hawks, who finished with an 11-3 record, won their other titles in 1986 and 2010. This year's appearance in the championship game was Hartley's third in six years, including a runner-up finish in 2013. Team members are (from left): first row, Ben Hawk, Kahlil Dickerson, Rich Jones, Ross Wirthman, Jake Hanson, Ryan Reed, Jared Crosswell, Austin Rawlins, Rian Anderson, Quri Hickman; second row, Jordan Smith, Sean Gilmore, Reese Melton, Vincent Carraker, Tyler Hanson, Jake Grimm, Vashawn Walker, Josiah Rawls, Nick Warrick, Anthony Carfagna; third row, Max Steinecker, Jaden Manley, Cam'Ron Culver, Gene Martin, Thomas Casimir, Mychael Poole, Cody Kirkbride, Jacob McFeeters, Adam Cone, Nick Dawes; fourth row, Anthony Whitney, Gueanel Mirville, Jack Baughman, Jake Ruby, Thomas Carney, Blaine Barringer, Chase Ford, Andrew Heinmiller, Nick Cone, Brandon Wise; fifth row, Thierry Mirville, Michael Hatem, Garrett Tipton, Conor Collins, Nick Onega, Elijah Carter, John Anderson, Alexander Blackmon, Anthony Ladd, Tiandre Clifton; sixth row, Owen Kennedy, Anthony Maciejewski, Joey Shannon, Ethan Amaya, Nathaniel Amaya, Paddy Gilliland, Jesse Foster, Winston Amankawh, James Reese, Zion Collins; seventh row, Ryan Connor, Nate Jackson, Griffin Rathburn, Thomas Babeaux, Jordan Kirkbride, Keegan Moran, Luke McCormak, Evan Costlow, Blake Newsome, Richard Probest; eighth row, Thomas Mayhan, Peyton Collins, Ryan Heuser, Jacob Culbertson, Jacob Miller, Walter Carraker, Elijah Glenn, Jaydyn Davis, Brandon Mitchell, Myles Goliday, Colin Robinson; ninth row, ROW 9: Peyton Underwood, Nemitt Sopraseuth, managers; Rob Ballinger, Chuck Wooten, Woody Underwood, assistant coaches; Brad Burchfield, head coach; Chris Sawyer, Derrek Downard, Eric Selegue, Randy Wooten, assistant coaches; Joey Wooten, manager.



Photo courtesy Bishop Hartley High School

SCOUTS VISIT RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Members of Boy Scout Troop 295 in Upper Arlington who have been visiting regularly with residents of the Forum retirement community are (from left): John Foley; Thomas Richter, assistant senior patrol leader; Angelo D'Orisio; Chris Miller; Danny Edgington, senior patrol leader; Liam McGinn; Brennan O'Brien; Sam Koehler; Aidan McGinn; Doug Edgington, scoutmaster; and Patrick Foley. John Foley, the McGinns, and Danny Edgington, all of Columbus St. Timothy Church, are participating in the Ad Altare Dei emblem program, the oldest of all Boy Scout religious-related activities. Its purpose is to help Catholic Scouts develop a fully Christian way of life in the faith community by learning about the seven sacraments and discussing their effects. The Scouts taking part in intergenerational relationships have learned that the people they visit appreciate how the boys are helping them keep in touch with technological advances. The visits also are helping Scouts make connections with role models and learn about World War II and other events of the recent past from a perspective that goes beyond a history book.

Photo courtesy Beth Edgington



GRANVILLE EDWARDIANS PLANNING BUS TRIP TO COSHOCTON

The Edwardians, a ministry of Granville St. Edward Church for people aged 50 and older, invites diocesan residents to take part in a bus trip to Coshocton that will include stops at a restored 1830 canal town and the oldest and largest flag company in the United States. The tour will leave the

church, 785 Newark-Granville Road, at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 12 and return by 5 p.m.

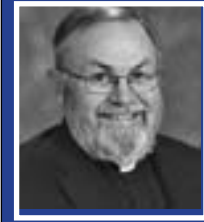
The day will begin with a stop at the welcome center in historic Roscoe Village, the restored community. From there, trip participants will go to Buehler's Gazette restaurant for lunch

of their choice. After lunch, they will watch flags being made at the Annin Flag Co., followed by a return to Roscoe Village, where there will be time to visit the village crafter's shop; dioramas, maps, and models of the former Ohio canal lock system; and the Medberry Marketplace.

A minimum of 40 people is required for the trip. The cost is \$22. Anyone interested may send a check to Linda Woolard, 481 Beacon Road, Newark OH 43055, making the check payable to Woolard. For more information, call (740) 323-3105 or email linda-woolard@windstream.net.

Third Sunday of Advent (Cycle C)

A joyful addition to a gloomy prophecy by Zephaniah



Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

**Zephaniah 3:14-18a;
Philippians 4:4-7;
Luke 3:10-18**

Most of Zephaniah comes before the fall of Jerusalem and destruction of the Temple in 586 BC. The words of joy for this Third Sunday of Advent must have been added later because of their proclamation that the judgment has been removed. The Lord has returned as Israel's true king. It is very difficult to find the joy proclaimed here when the rest of this prophet's writings describe the evils of the proud city Jerusalem, whose ruin the Lord will bring about.

Indeed, this is the prophet who speaks of the "day of the Lord" in stark terms: "A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and desolation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of thick black clouds, a day of trumpet blasts and battle cries against fortified cities ..." (Zephaniah 1:15-16).

Perhaps one could say that with the destruction of Jerusalem and its leaders, the way is paved for the Lord to become king, in place of those who had failed. If one reads what is found earlier in chapter 3, one sees clearly how out of place the cries of joy seem here, unless it was the work of a later scribe, which sometimes happened. Clearly, the reading is meant to underscore the theme of joy which is central to the Third Sunday of Advent.

The Gospel returns to the work of John the Baptist, as various people come to John asking him what they should do in response to his call for a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. There is a sure, certain comfort in seeking advice from a fellow trav-

eler like John, although he already had been identified by Luke as called by God ("... the word of God came to John ...") so that John wasn't just any old body. John had the unique role of paving the way for the "One mightier than I" who is coming.

The crowds of people come to John; so too the tax collectors; so too soldiers (probably not Roman). They all ask what they should do in light of his preaching. His message was plain enough that the people realized it called upon them to actually **do** something after it. Each group was told to strengthen its social responsibility with and for the neighbor in some way. John does not say to go and offer sacrifice in the Temple. Like Jesus, his focus is on how we relate with our neighbor.

The people's wondering about whether John might be the Christ leads John to describe his own understanding that one mightier than he is coming. John considered himself unworthy before this one who is coming. We are hard-pressed to say whether John had Jesus in mind, or some otherwise as-yet-unknown figure.

This is likely a case of Luke arranging the dialogue so that John testifies directly about Jesus before he arrives on the scene, much like Luke arranged the Infancy Narrative to show John was first in both the birth announcement and the birth.

Finally, one of the most comforting passages from Paul comes as he nears the end of the Philippians letter: "Rejoice in the Lord always ... I will say it again, 'Rejoice!' ... The Lord is near." Paul says, "Have no anxiety at all, but in everything ... make your requests known to God." Most importantly, Paul writes, "Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." For those called to preach the mercy of God in Christ, which is what brings about the peace of God, we can never tire of proclaiming Paul's words here: "Rejoice!"

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

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
Numbers 24:2-7,15-17a
Psalm 25:4-5b,6,7bc,8-9
Matthew 21:23-27

TUESDAY
Zephaniah 3:1-2,9-13
Psalm 34:2-3,6-7,17-19,23
Matthew 21:28-32

WEDNESDAY
Isaiah 45:6b-8,18,21b-25
Psalm 85:9ab,10-14
Luke 7:18b-23

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

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

SATURDAY
Judges 13:2-7,24-25a
Psalm 71:3-4a,5-6b,16-17
Luke 1:5-25

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF DECEMBER 13, 2015

SUNDAY MASS

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

Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 7:30 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus, and 10:30 a.m. on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18, Zanesville. Check local cable system for 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 the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 6:30 a.m. on ION TV (AT&T U-verse Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirecTV Channel 305).

DAILY MASS

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

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

Why Advent Is So Important, Even in the Year 2015

Advent is of great importance in the modern age, because it gives us the hindsight that people 2,000 years ago did not have. In essence, it is like watching a favorite movie, or perhaps watching your team's big-game victory again and again.

The more one views the same event, the more one notices subtle nuances or turning points which help determine the outcome. In a similar way, Advent gives us the luxury of preparing for the Son of God while knowing what is coming.

What does all this mean to us today? Our relatives of, say, 100 years ago and our more distant ancestors occupied most of their waking moments in December preparing for the coming of baby Jesus on Christmas Day.

They prayed, they went to Mass and confession, and they generally tried to help others, in addition to making their modest homes look more seasonal while going about their daily business of work and food preparation.

Fast forward to today and note how many believing Christians obsess over getting the right gifts, completing key work projects before the end of the year, passing school exams, and preparing for holiday travel. Sadly, it leaves little time for prayer, confession, and Mass attendance.

With all of our possessions, modern methods of transportation, and electronic devices, do you think we are really happier than our distant relatives and ancestors were? Why is that, and can we do anything about it? I am sure we know the answer to



THE TIDE IS TURNING
TOWARD CATHOLICISM
David Hartline

these questions.

Sadly, it takes tragedies and threats for us to take our faith seriously. As we watch and read about the recent events in Paris and San Bernardino, California, we realize there are people and movements that hate the light and violently rebel against the words of Christ.

Some in the world try to sugar-coat the threat, and even place some of the blame on Christians. Yet common sense should tell us that Christ warned us about such movements. If those assembled against us are so fixated against what we believe, shouldn't we at least take what we believe more seriously?

An example of how people of different faiths can overcome their differences occurred almost 800 years ago, in 1219, and involved St. Francis of Assisi and Sultan al Malik al Kamal, leader of Egyptian Muslims, during the time of the Fifth Crusade. The sultan had heard of the amazing faith of St. Francis and invited Francis to meet him, thinking there was no way Francis would have that kind of courage.

Soon after issuing the invitation, the sultan was stunned to learn that St. Francis was on his way

World Meeting of Families: Going Forward



way, the pope asked family members to focus on doing the little things with great love.

In other words, families don't need a new, flashy program, or 10 steps to success; rather, families just need to be together. One of the primary places where a family "becomes what it is" is around the family dinner table. If families simply ate together on a regular basis, sharing stories and memories together, the culture would be transformed! This is not a "nice idea" that we can think about or put off until "we have the time." This is something to actively implement now, making fam-

By Dan Thimons

Director, Diocesan Office of Marriage & Family Life

Where do we go from here? How do we practically bring the joy and hope experienced in Philadelphia at the World Meeting of Families and share that with families here in central Ohio?

First, I propose that we reflect on the words of Pope Francis at the Festival of Families. Our Holy Father asked families to build a society of goodness, truth, and beauty. In fact, he used those words — "truth, goodness, and beauty" — eight times in his short Saturday-night reflection at the festival.

Very simply, Pope Francis is calling all families, as Pope St. John Paul II did, to "become what you are!" He is calling families to relearn what it means to be human, which necessarily means living in relation with others. At his Sunday Mass on the Benjamin Franklin Park-

ily meals a priority and sticking with it.

Another way for a family to "become what it is" is by celebrating Sunday as the Lord's Day. For six days, we live a life of continual busyness. God desires that we simply relax and enjoy His gift of life. Sunday is meant to be not only a day for going to Mass as a family, but also a day of rest, away from the hustle and bustle of life. Sunday is a day to put away cell phones and devices, to put aside work, shopping, and driving the kids to sports games and practices, and simply live in the beauty and the joy God wants to give us. Every Sunday should be a taste of the joy of heaven. Again, this is not a "nice idea." It requires an intentional choice and definitive decision on our part to devote Sunday to the Lord.

A third way for families to "become what you are" is for parents to educate their children in truth, goodness, and

and sharing the news of Christ with his assembled guards. The saint and the sultan had a very direct, but friendly meeting in which Francis shared the Gospel. The sultan later said he had never met a Christian or a Muslim who was so persuasive.

We can learn a lot from this meeting concerning the way in which friendly but direct dialogue can lead to respect from those who may not share our faith. This is the kind of friendliness and passion that was the hallmark of Catholics until the modern age led us to be sheepish about what we believe, lest we be made fun of by the modern world.

Our possessions, conveniences, and technological devices apparently aren't making us any safer, and they aren't going to save our souls. It's not really that complicated. We know what we need to do to become better people, but why don't we? Perhaps it is because we don't want to take a closer look at ourselves. since we might not like what we see.

Christ came to save all of us sinners, and the quicker we acknowledge our faults and failings, the quicker we can become the sort of people God intended us to be. God made us all to be holy people, possessing unique gifts and talents. Sometimes we get lost along the way, but during Advent, news of the coming babe in the manger can help all of us get back on track.

Hartline is the author of "The Tide is Turning Toward Catholicism," founder of the Catholicreport.org and a former teacher and administrator for the diocese.

beauty. This could simply be preparing a delicious meal together, listening to a symphony, or enjoying good art. This could mean a walk through nature, or visiting an elderly grandparent.

One area in which parents often neglect to educate their children involves passing on the beautiful virtue of chastity. Many parents feel incapable of this task, and yet the Church teaches this is a duty that is proper to mothers and fathers, who are never able to completely delegate this to others. For this noble task, we all can seek to more fully educate ourselves on the truth, goodness, and beauty of our creation as male or female, as well as the call from God to make a complete gift of self, either in marriage or through the priesthood or consecrated life.

I will discuss a second proposal for strengthening families in next week's column.

Christmas Care Donationstions

Lancaster St. Bernadette School students filled two tables to overflowing with donations for Christmas Care packages for local servicemen and women. Students and parents donated food, snacks, toiletries, and entertainment items, such as puzzle books and games. With the help of the Blue Star Mothers, boxes were packed and shipped to military personnel from the Lancaster area who cannot be home for Christmas. Also included in the packages were patriotic artwork and essays from recent writing and coloring contests among students. Photo courtesy St. Bernadette School



Pray for our dead

BRUNE, Mary C., 92, Dec. 5
St. Mark Church, Lancaster

BURTYK, John P., 77, Dec. 3
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

COLEMAN, Diana R., 57, Nov. 29
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

DORNEY, Gregory M., 68, Nov. 30
St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

HARMON, Kathleen M., 50, Dec. 1
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

HILL, Bessie L., 68, Dec. 3
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

HUF, Dr. Donn R., 83, Dec. 2
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

MITCHELL, Natalina A., 88, Dec. 4
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

MOSELY, Gloria, 80, Nov. 28
St. Joseph Church, Dover

NOLAN, Margaret I., 86, Nov. 21
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

NUTINI, Helen E., 91, Dec. 5
Holy Family Church, Columbus

POLT, David A., 55, Nov. 27
St. Aloysius Church, Columbus

SGANDURRA, Charles A., 84, Dec. 4
St. Anthony Church, Columbus

SIMONDS, Patricia M., 78, Nov. 27
St. Michael Church, Worthington

THEADO, Walter C., 90, Nov. 30
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

WAS, Joseph E., 88, Nov. 20
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

Sr. Mary Ann Schutz, OSF

Funeral Mass for Sister Mary Ann Schutz, OSF, 85, who died Saturday, Nov. 28, was held Thursday, Dec. 3, at the chapel of the Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity in Stella Niagara, New York. Burial was in the sisters' cemetery.

She was born March 12, 1930, in Buffalo, New York, to the late Raymond and Helen (Brown) Schutz, was a 1948 graduate of Mount St. Joseph Academy in Buffalo, and received a bachelor of science degree in education in 1961 from Rosary Hill College (now Daemen College) in Amherst, New York.

She became a member of the Stella Niagara Franciscans on Sept. 4, 1949, made her first vows on Aug. 18, 1952, taking the name Sister M. Timothy, and professed perpetual vows on Aug. 18, 1955.

In the Diocese of Columbus, she was a teacher at Columbus Sacred Heart (1958-62) and Columbus Holy Rosary (1962-63) schools. She also served in the dioceses of Buffalo and Trenton, New Jersey. She retired in 2007 and became a resident of the Stella Niagara Health Center in 2014.

She is survived by a sister, Marjorie (Ronald) Ahrens.

Jane E. Sherrard

A prayer service for Jane E. Sherrard, 90, who died Saturday, Dec. 5, was held Tuesday, Dec. 8 at the Schoedinger North Chapel in Columbus. Burial was at Northlawn Memory Gardens, Westerville.

She was a retired employee of Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School and was a member of Colum-

bus St. Matthias Church for 50 years.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James, and brother, James Douglas. Survivors include daughters, Pamela (Michael) Hickey and Teresa (Richard) Kovacsik; sisters, Rita Burgess and Margaret Pratt; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Submit Obituaries to
tpuet@colsdio.org

Christmas Cards for Rehabilitation Center



The three kindergarten classes and two sixth-grade classes at Reynoldsburg St. Pius X School teamed up to make Christmas cards, which were delivered to the Pickerington Rehabilitation Center by the Respect Life committee of Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton Parish.

Photo courtesy St. Pius X School

St. Dominic Concert

The annual holiday concert of the traditional choir of Columbus St. Dominic Church will take place at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13. The church is at 453 N. 20th St. The concert will include selections from the Joyful Inspiration Dance Ministry. For more information, call (614) 252-5926.



START YOUR DAY A BETTER WAY!

AM 820 CATHOLIC RADIO

DECEMBER

10, THURSDAY

Deadline for St. Luke March for Life Trip Signup
Deadline for signup for Danville St. Luke Church trip to March for Life in Washington from Jan. 20 to 23. Cost includes bus ride, three-night motel stay, and tour of Washington. **740-599-6362 or 740-398-9710**

Cenacle at Holy Name
6 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayers in the Cenacle format of the Marian Movement of Priests.

Holy Hour of Reparation at Columbus Sacred Heart
7 to 8 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour following Holy Hour of Reparation prayer format, concluding with Benediction and social period. **614-372-5249**

Catholic Movie Night at St. John Neumann
7 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. Second of three Advent Catholic movie nights. Feature: "A Man for All Seasons," about St. Thomas More's steadfast defense of Catholicism in the court of King Henry VIII. **740-965-1358**

Theology on Tap Meeting
7 to 9 p.m., El Vaquero Restaurant, 3230 Olentangy River Road, Columbus. Meeting of Theology on Tap discussion and social group for young Catholics. Topic: "Mariology" with Father Antonio Carvalho, administrator pro tem of Columbus Holy Name, Sacred Heart, St. John the Baptist, and Santa Cruz churches.

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

Morning of Reflection at Sts. Peter and Paul Center
9 a.m. to noon, Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center, 2734 Seminary Road S.E., Newark. Advent morning of reflection with Sister Louis Mary Passeri, OP. Theme: "Waiting in Darkness." **740-928-4246**

Children's Christmas Party at St. John Neumann
10 a.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. Children's Christmas party sponsored by parish men's club, with children bringing food for Big Walnut Friends Who Share. **740-965-1358**

St. John Chrysostom Christmas Cookie Sale
10 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church, 5858 Cleveland Ave., Columbus. 11th annual sale of Christmas cookies, baked goods, and gifts.

Ohio Dominican Fall Commencement
11 a.m., Alumni Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. University's fall commencement. Speaker: Robert L. Dawes, co-founder of Bob-Boyd auto dealerships. **614-251-4453**

Anointing of the Sick at St. Elizabeth
After 5:30 p.m. Mass, St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Anointing of the Sick for all who desire it. **614-891-0150**

Candlelight Tour of Downtown Lancaster Churches
St. Mary Church, 132 S. High St., Lancaster, is last stop in Fairfield Heritage Association "Celebrate With Song" tour of six downtown Lancaster churches, starting at 6 p.m. Cost \$10, \$3 for children under 12.

11, FRIDAY

Church Tour in Portsmouth
6 to 8 p.m., Scioto County Courthouse, 602 7th St., Portsmouth. Annual holiday tour of churches in Boneyfiddle

'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@colsdio.org

H A P P E N I N G S

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**

Bishop Watterson Presents 'A Christmas Carol'
7:30 p.m., Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road, Columbus. School theater department presents "A Christmas Carol -- A Ghost Story of Christmas." **614-268-8671**

12, SATURDAY

Advent Lessons and Carols at Newark St. Francis
5 p.m., St. Francis de Sales Church, 40 Granville St., Newark. Concert of Advent lessons and carols. **740-345-9874**

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**

Evening Prayer, Exposition, Benediction at St. Elizabeth
5:30 to 7 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Evening Prayer, followed by Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. **614-891-0150**

Lessons and Carols at Dover St. Joseph
6 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 613 N. Tuscarawas Ave., Dover. Advent and Christmas lessons and carols, with choirs from other area churches joining parish choir. **330-364-6661**

Advent Lessons and Carols at Columbus St. Patrick
7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Advent lessons and carols program. **614-224-9522**

Christmas Play at St. John Neumann
7 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. Christmas play "Meet Me at the Manger" with kindergarten through fifth-grade students.

Christmas Cantata at St. Mark
7 p.m., St. Mark Church, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Eighth annual Christmas cantata, "Let There Be Christmas."

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

Compline at Cathedral
9 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Chanting of Compline. **614-241-2526**

13, SUNDAY

Exposition at Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel
9:15 to 10:15 a.m., Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 5133 Walnut Road S.E., Buckeye Lake. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Sunday during Advent. **740-928-3266**

Anointing of the Sick at St. Elizabeth
After 9 and 11 a.m. Masses, St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Anointing of the Sick for all who desire it. **614-891-0150**

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education
10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Discussion on the book "Walking With Mary" by Edward Sri.

Opening of Holy Door at Cathedral
10:30 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bishop Frederick Campbell breaks the seal to open the cathedral's Holy Door for the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

Kateri Prayer Circle at St. Mark
1 p.m., Aranda Center, St. Mark Church, 324 Gay St., Lan-

caster. Kateri Prayer Circle meeting to honor St. Kateri Tekakwitha and promote Native Catholic spirituality. **740-756-7008**

Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic Meeting
1:30 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Meeting of St. Catherine of Siena chapter, Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic.

St. Margaret of Cortona Choir at de Porres Center
2:30 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus. Christmas concert featuring the Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church choir. **614-416-1910**

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

Lessons and Carols at St. Colman of Cloyne
3 p.m., St. Colman of Cloyne Church, 219 S. North St., Washington Court House. 11th annual service of lessons and carols for Advent, with Pontifical College Josephinum seminarians as guest readers. **740-335-5000**

Advent and Christmas Concert at Our Lady of Victory
3 p.m., Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. Concert featuring Advent and Christmas music from various traditions and styles, with parish choir and an orchestra. **614-488-2428**

St. Dominic Holiday Concert
4 p.m., St. Dominic Church, 453 N. 20th St., Columbus. Parish traditional choir's annual holiday concert, with selections from Joyful Inspiration dance ministry.

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. **740-654-6928**

Lessons and Carols at Columbus St. Patrick
7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Advent lessons and carols program. **614-224-9522**

Advent Reflection Sessions at Corpus Christi
10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Advent reflection sessions led by center coordinator Anita Davidson. Morning and evening programs are identical. **614-512-3731**

Adoration, Evening Prayer at New Philadelphia
5 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 139 3rd St. N.E., New Philadelphia. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, with Sacrament of Reconciliation available, concluding with Evening Prayer at 6:30 on all Advent Mondays. **330-343-6976**

Bethesda Post-Abortion Healing Ministry
6:30 p.m., support group meeting, 2744 Dover Road, Columbus (Christ the King convent, first building west of the church). **614-718-0277, 614-309-2651, 614-309-0157**

Our Lady of Peace Men's Bible Study
7 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus. Bible study of Sunday Scripture readings.

14, MONDAY

Advent Reflection Sessions at Corpus Christi

10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Advent reflection sessions led by center coordinator Anita Davidson. Morning and evening programs are identical. **614-512-3731**

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7 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus. Bible study of Sunday Scripture readings.

15, TUESDAY

Serra Club of North Columbus Meeting
Noon, Run the Race Club, 880 S. Wayne Ave., Columbus. Serra Club of North Columbus meeting, with Rachel Muha speaking about the work of the club and the Brian Muha Foundation. Those attending are asked to bring a board game to donate to the club. Box lunch to be served; reservations required.

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.

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. **740-654-6928**

15-23, TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY

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. Dec. 23 closing celebration at St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., followed by potluck in undercroft.

16, WEDNESDAY

Abortion Recovery Network Group
9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Westerville Area Resource Ministry, 150 Heatherdown Drive, Westerville. Pregnancy Decision Health Center abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program and wants to stay connected. **614-888-8774**

17, THURSDAY

Cenacle at Holy Name
6 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayers in the Cenacle format of the Marian Movement of Priests.

Holy Hour of Reparation at Columbus Sacred Heart
7 to 8 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour following Holy Hour of Reparation prayer format, concluding with Benediction and social period. **614-372-5249**

Catholic Movie Night at St. John Neumann
7 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. Third of three Advent Catholic movie nights. Feature: "Millions," about two young brothers who find a bag of money and try to spend it without telling parents.



EXHIBIT

SADAO WATANABE: The Bible in Japanese print

The Jubilee Museum, 57 S. Grubb St., Columbus, is honored to partner with collector John Kohan of the Sacred Art Pilgrim Collection to bring the exhibition *Sadao Watanabe: The Bible in Japanese Prints* to the museum's Fra Angelico gallery. The show, on view through Sunday, Jan. 3, features 33 prints by Watanabe, an internationally recognized Japanese artist. The meticulously crafted prints depict biblical narratives, beginning with the expulsion of Adam and Eve from Eden and ending with the founding of the Church at Pentecost.

Watanabe (1913-1996) was Japan's foremost Christian artist of the 20th century. Trained as a textile dyer, he adapted a folk art technique for coloring kimonos with hand-cut stencils from the Okinawan Islands to make fine art *kappazuri* (stencil print) images that are Christian in content and Japanese in form. He was part of a folk art movement in the mid-1920s known as *mingei*. Like the Arts and Crafts movement in Britain, the *mingei* movement championed handmade objects. According to philosopher Soetto Yanagi, who founded the movement, the artist-craftsman's mission was to recover "beauty in common things." He attributed the ugliness of modern artifacts to a "loss of faith."

Watanabe dedicated his life to making Bible stories more understandable for the Japanese. His austere figure studies show the influence of medieval European sacred



art, but the settings, dress, and physical gestures of the people in his prints are distinctly Japanese.

When Watanabe had chosen a biblical theme for a new print, he considered the sacred text carefully before mak-



ing his first drawings. He once described his method to a visiting Benedictine abbot: he would read the passage several times, going over the words again and again, then would spend time meditating on the theme. Then, before setting to work, he prayed. Watanabe considered his artmaking to be a form of worship. "As I grow older," he said, "my work becomes less of myself and more of my Lord."

The smaller prints in the exhibition are painted on plain, handmade traditional *kozo* paper (made from mulberry trees) and are known as *washi* prints. The three large prints in the show are *momigami* (wrinkled-paper) prints, in which tinted mulberry paper is crumpled and stretched to create a textured effect. Each image is an original work of art, hand-printed and hand-colored by the artist.

Watanabe's sacred art is collected by major museums and private collectors around the world. In 1964, Lady Bird Johnson, whose husband, Lyndon, was president at the time, chose Watanabe's stencil prints to display in the White House. Today, Watanabe's biblical prints are on display in the Vatican Museums Collection of Modern Religious Art, the Brauer Museum of Art at Valparaiso (Indiana) University, the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, the British Museum, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, and elsewhere.

The exhibition is organized by Dr. Graziella Marchicelli, the Jubilee Museum's director of museum services and special exhibitions. For more information, visit the museum's website at www.jubileemuseum.org or call (614) 600-0054. A suggested donation of \$10 per person is greatly appreciated.

This article includes excerpts from John Kohan's essay "Profound Faith, Profound Beauty: The Life and Art of Sadao Watanabe" from the Christians in the Visual Arts exhibition catalog "Beauty Given by Grace: The Biblical Prints of Sadao Watanabe" ©2012.

CONCERTS

ECUMENICAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT SHRINE

The 44th Carey ecumenical Christmas concert is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 13 at 4:30 p.m. at the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation, 315 Clay St., Carey.

This year's choir is made up of 100 singers from north-west and central Ohio. Music for this year's concert includes traditional melodies and newly composed works. A free-will offering will be collected during the concert to support the ongoing ministry of the choir, and the Shrine cafeteria will be open for dinner following the concert.

Come and prepare yourself for Christ's birth as you listen to the music of Advent and Christmas in the stunning acoustics and majesty of this historic shrine. For more information, call (419) 396-7107 or visit www.olcshrine.com or www.ourladyofconsolationparish.com.

CHOIR CONCERT AT RESURRECTION

Music ministry members of the New Albany Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, will join forces to present a concert titled "A Christmas Celebration" at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18.

The church's active music ministry includes the adult choir, the children's choir, the contemporary folk choir, and the praise choir. All of these choirs are supported by a variety of instrumentalists and led by music director Thom Wyatt and assistant director Abby Porr.

The primary focus of the music ministry is to support worship, but every other year, the various groups of singers and instrumentalists combine to perform a concert of sacred music. This is the seventh such concert at the Church of the Resurrection, and will include seasonal songs from all the choirs, as well as several selections by the combined groups, which consist of more than 200 singers and instrumentalists.



THE HOLY YEAR OF MERCY BEGINS

Pope Francis celebrates the opening Mass of the Holy Year of Mercy in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican on Dec. 8. CNS photo/Paul Haring

People attend Pope Francis' celebration of the opening Mass of the Holy Year of Mercy. CNS photo/Paul Haring



Pope Francis opens the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica to inaugurate the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

CNS photo/Maurizio Brambatti, EPA



Pope Francis raises the Book of the Gospels as he celebrates the opening Mass of the Holy Year of Mercy. CNS photo/Paul Haring

Homeless, poor get star treatment at Vatican movie premiere

By Junno Arocho Esteves

Catholic News Service

The usual fanfare that comes with the world premiere of a movie is pretty standard: the lights and cameras, the celebrities walking down the red carpet, and screaming fans trying to catch a glimpse of their favorite actors.

At the Vatican, however, a movie premiere is not your typical star-studded event.

The world premiere of *Call Me Francesco*, the first movie based on the life of Pope Francis, took place in the Vatican audience hall on Tuesday, Dec. 1. In attendance were people who most of the world may not know, but who are considered celebrities in the eyes of the pope.

“To this exceptional premiere, the Holy Father wished to invite the poor, the homeless, refugees, and the people most in need, together with the volunteers, religious and lay people, who work daily in charity,” a statement from the papal almoner’s office said.

Parishes and charitable associations in Rome were given 7,000 tickets to distribute to the poor so they could attend the premiere at the Vatican. The night also included a concert featuring the Pontifical Swiss Guard’s musical band. The papal almoner’s office said many of the Swiss Guards offered to

play during their free time as a gift to the homeless.

The poor also were offered a brown-bag dinner “donated especially for the occasion by several benefactors.”

Directed by Italian filmmaker Daniele Luchetti, *Call Me Francesco* details the life of Jorge Mario Bergoglio, from his humble beginnings in Buenos Aires, Argentina, to his election to the papacy in 2013.

At the premiere, Luchetti expressed his hope that the movie would be “an emotional moment” in following “the footsteps of a man we admire.” While all the details of the pope’s life are not known, the Italian director said he was optimistic that the film would explain “how he came to be and for what reasons.”

For Argentine actor Rodrigo de la Serna, portraying the young Jorge Mario Bergoglio on the silver screen was a dream come true. “It’s crazy, I never imagined in my life to be here at the Vatican, much less portraying Jorge Mario Bergoglio. It’s a dream!” de la Serna told Catholic News Service. He said seeing how well the movie was received by the 7,000 guests was “something that I will never forget.”

David, one of the thousands of homeless people attending the premiere,



said it was “truly emotional” to see the

path followed by Pope Francis. “His way of being close to the poor, close to people in need and the endless struggle against evil” was particularly moving, he told CNS.

Of the many groups at the premiere, one stood out in the crowd, holding a large colorful banner with the words, “Thank you, Pope Francis!” The banner belonged to a group of refugees from Eritrea who were invited to attend.

A young refugee who wished to remain anonymous told CNS that he was happy to see the film and that the pope’s life showed prayer can be a powerful solution, even in the most difficult circumstances.

Photos: Rodrigo de la Serna (top two photos) and Sergio Hernandez (bottom photo) portray the future Pope Francis in “Call Me Francesco,” the first movie based on his life. CNS photos/Taodue-Film, distributed by Medusa

