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*World Marriage Day*

The Editor's Notebook

Making Valentine's Day Real

By David Garick, Editor



St. Valentine's Day is just around the corner. The great media hype machine has turned the day into the idealized annual "date night." But it is really about a lot more than greeting cards, candy, flowers, jewelry, and fancy restaurants. Did you know that St. Valentine was martyred during the great persecution of the Roman Empire? It is thought that he was arrested and executed by the emperor Claudius II for marrying Christians in defiance of Roman law. Standing up for Christian marriage can be a risky business. But love is far more than hearts and flowers. It is the foundation of our society.

In the church, we recognize this holiday as World Marriage Day. This week, Catholic Times looks at marriage as one of the great Christian vocations. "Vocation" is such an interesting and accurate term to describe marriage. In the purest sense, the word "vocation" is a calling, a life that God has called us to. Just as some are called to Holy Orders or consecrated life, many are called to marriage and family life. But the word "vocation" also is used to refer to an occupation and to work. Anyone who is married knows that it certainly occupies a lot of your attention and is a lot of work.

As St. Paul says in First Corinthians: "An unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord. But a married man is anxious about the things of the world, how he may please his wife, and he is divided." In fairness, St. Paul then points out the same thing concerning women.

Now I have to say I'm not sure that all unmarried folks have quite gotten that concept of focusing totally on God. I'm gauging that partly on beer sales and attendance at area night spots and monster truck rallies. Certainly, if those folks were totally centered on God, vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life would be skyrocketing. And we continue to pray for that.

There is no doubt that marriage can be distracting. But I don't think that it has to be distracting from concern for God. In fact, if you are doing marriage right, I think it brings you a lot closer to God.

What marriage really distracts you from is yourself. When you get married you create a new entity: "Us." That's the hardest thing about adjusting to marriage. It is the realization that life from now on is not about me. It is not about what makes me happy or fulfilled or satisfied. It is about what makes us, the family, a true reflection of God's love.

God is really pretty smart. He looked at me and saw a guy that was never going to get where he needed to be spiritually on his own. Left to my own devices, I was pretty much a slave to my own self-centered Neanderthal tendencies. So he gave me a wife to shape me up. Likewise, my wife has me to toughen her up to deal with the real world, and to kill spiders.

None of this comes easily because neither of us wants to give up our little pet notions and our comfortable little self-centered worlds. But we aren't just individuals any more. We are a team, and so we drive each other crazy for the good of the team. We still have a lot of our old selves inside, but we have allowed each other to have a part in constructing "us." So as we squabble in an effort to hang on to some old piece of self, we end up admitting in frustration that "we deserve each other." And the amazing thing is that in denying our own sense of what makes "me" happy to focus on "us," we are both more satisfied than we have ever been. That's why God put us together, and that's why as a couple we are able to live according to his will so much better than we ever could have done alone.

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BISHOP SALUTES SCOUTS

BY TIM PUET Reporter, Catholic Times

Bishop Frederick Campbell told Boy and Girl Scouts from throughout the Diocese of Columbus that through the virtues they learn and the growth in knowledge they achieve in Scouting, they also are growing in the knowledge of Jesus.

The bishop spoke to Scouts who earned religious awards in 2013 and to their adult leaders on Sunday, Feb. 3, at the annual Scout Day with the Bishop program, sponsored by the diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting, at the Church of the Resurrection in New Albany.

"Every one of us, in each and every one of our unique ways, is called to be a messenger of Christ, and every one of us has a particular mission that God has given us," Bishop Campbell said after the day's midafternoon prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours was recited.

"It isn't necessarily something huge and big that we wait for, but the mission that we all have in common is to know Christ, to live Christ, and to share Christ, so we look at the way that Jesus lives, how he learned. It's amazing to realize that Our Lord Jesus Christ was like every one of you Scouts at one time or another, and even then, he was touched by the light of his Heavenly Father, and that as we grow -- and we never stop growing -- ... we move always closer and closer to that ideal which is in Jesus Christ.

"It is in this that the Scouting program

assists you so strongly, because part of living that life of Christ is learning who you are, what you can do, and what you are called to do. You learn certain virtues -- honesty, honor, godliness. You learn how to speak those words that do good for the other. We learn our capacity, our strengths, and our weaknesses, and we learn how to do this together, for Christ did not call us to our salvation alone.

"He called us into a community, so that cooperation is so very much a part of our life in Christ, and the Scouting program, I think, can be such a great way to that realization. We have to always remember that this is our vocation -- to be with Christ, to live together, to learn how to do that.

"This doesn't mean Scouting can't be fun. I realize from my own experience in Scouting that we had some amazing adventures, some of them because we found we didn't know as much as we thought we did," he said. He recalled a time while he was a Scout in Elmira, N.Y., that he baked a crab apple pie "that closed down the camp for three days" and another instance when 14 Scouts were in a canoe and "we got up to a speed that was unbelievable. We never stopped till we hit the dock."

Following the bishop's reflection and reminiscence, several outstanding Scouts, adult leaders, and Scout units received awards from the diocesan Scout committee.

Four young men and women were presented the Red Sash of Merit, given to Catholic Scouts, usually high school



Deacon Chris Reis and Bishop Frederick Campbell applaud Red Sash of Merit recipients (from left) Sara Crowell, Alec Beickelman, Macray Brown, and Zachary Lingo.



Bishop Campbell with Bronze Pelican award recipients (from left): first row, Deacon Chris Reis, Mike Hall, Kevin O'Brien, Sandy Joseph, Georgia McCoy, and Matthew Montgomery; second row, Nick Linkenhoker, Bob Beasley, Edward Brown, Tony Joseph, Ed Schneider, and Michael Woolery.

students, who demonstrate leadership, accept responsibility, and are active in their troop, community, or parish. They are Sara Crowell of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church and Girl Scout Troop 50194, and Alec Beickelman, Macray Brown, and Zachary Lingo, all of Boy Scout Troop 50, sponsored by Marion St. Mary Church.

Recipients this year of the Bronze Pelican award, which the diocesan Scouting committee presents to individuals who have performed exceptional service to Scouting through their contributions to the spiritual development of Catholic youth, are Deacon Chris Reis, the committee's chaplain, Columbus St. Catharine; Bob Beasley, Powell St. Joan of Arc; Edward Brown, Marion St. Mary; Mike Hall, director of the diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry; Sandy Joseph and Tony Joseph, Columbus St. Andrew; Nick Linkenhoker, Columbus St. Christopher; Georgia McCoy, Columbus Holy Family; Matthew Montgomery, Columbus St. Mary Magdalene; Kevin O'Brien, Columbus St. Elizabeth; Ed Schneider, Gahanna

St. Matthew; and Michael Woolery, Coshocton Sacred Heart.

Four past Bronze Pelican recipients were honored with the St. George award, a national recognition approved by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting for continuing service to Catholic Scouts. They are Father David Schalk, pastor, Columbus Christ the King; Paul Beickelman, Marion St. Mary; Mark Darnell, Lancaster St. Bernadette; and Ed Wiswell, Johnstown Church of the Ascension. One day earlier, Beasley and Wiswell received the Silver Beaver award, the highest honor of the Simon Kenton Council of the Boy Scouts of America, for their overall work with Scouting in central Ohio.

Marilyn Magin of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X received the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton award from the diocesan committee and the National Catholic Committee for Girl Scouts for meritorious service to Catholic young people through the Girl Scouting and Camp Fire programs.

See SCOUT DAY, Page 14



Bishop Campbell and Deacon Reis with (from left) St. George award recipients Mark Darnell, Ed Wiswell, and Paul Beickelman and Marilyn Magin, who received the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton award. Also honored as a St. George award recipient was Father David Schalk.

CT photos by Ken Snow



Front Page photo: A shower of bubbles greets a couple as they leave church after their wedding Mass. The Catholic Church celebrates World Marriage Day on Sunday, Feb. 9.

(CNS photo/Tom Dermody, The Catholic Post, Peoria, Ill.)



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# PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

## Warmth



Did you hear the turtledoves last week? We were challenged to be good listeners and to somehow connect with the poor and needy in our midst. That is the call of the turtledove. We live as humbly and simply as we can, but we also respond with vigorous action and generosity when there is an opportunity to help those who have a real need for help and basic sustenance. Especially when the temperature and wind chill go far below zero, it is difficult to imagine our brothers and sisters in our own community and diocese living out in the cold. For me, I heard the voice of the turtledove, but did not realize what it was until after the fact. Last week, the good people I work with responded to a critical situation at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral. With the sub-zero cold and ongoing weather, the homeless and needy who receive a bagged lunch twice a day at the back door of the cathedral rectory had an even greater need for warm socks, gloves, coats, blankets, coffee, and hot chocolate. Our office gathered all these things from our colleagues who work in the diocesan offices and their families, and a great portion of the need was filled very quickly. I was able to participate, but the fact that the voice of the turtledove and the Holy Spirit had called me did not strike me until I sat down to write. It was nice for me to respond to one of my own practical challenges for a change, without even realizing it.

Since we have a couple of months of cold winter left to endure, I thought I would offer some suggestions for warmth. Here are some ways to stay warm. Some may be more or less attractive to you, but give some of them a try. We need to keep our hearts, minds, and souls warm, and not just our bodies. Read *Lumen Fidei* (The Light of Faith) by Pope Francis. It is a quick read, but you may want to stop and meditate along the way. Here is a quote: "There is an urgent need, then, to see once again that faith is a light, for once the flame of faith dies out, all other lights begin to dim. The light of faith is unique, since it is capable of illuminating every aspect of human existence." That should provide some warmth! Visit with Jesus in your parish Eucharistic chapel for one hour. Pray, but also be still and listen. I can guarantee warmth. Write a note, a letter, or a card to your spouse, child, relative, or friend. Tell them how much they mean to you and how blessed you are because of them. No email is allowed. You will provide the warmth. Bake some cookies and double the recipe. Share half with your family and give the other half to the poor via a community kitchen, outreach, or prison ministry. This one warms up everyone. Check on and visit elderly or handicapped neighbors. Let them know you are thinking about them and want to be sure they are well. The warmth for them may be all too unique. Finally, turn off the television, the wi-fi, and all wireless and electronic devices. Pray the rosary, which only takes about 20 minutes., as a family. Then play a board or card game together. Be warned that this kind of warmth can be contagious.

Our practical challenge this week is to actually do one or two of these items. In all cases, the result is warmth. Come on, you can do at least two of these in one week. And if you do these with love in your heart and a smile on your face, you may even have to turn down your thermostat.

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



## NEWARK GROUP AT MARCH FOR LIFE

A group of 32 young people and adult chaperones from Newark Blessed Sacrament and St. Francis de Sales churches traveled to Washington for the 41st March for Life, arriving on Monday, Jan. 20 and remaining in the capital until after the march on Wednesday, Jan. 22. The group was housed at the Catholic University of America. The Newark marchers are shown in front of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception before the Vigil Mass for Life on Tuesday, Jan. 21. Pictured in front are Father Jonathan Wilson (left), pastor of Blessed Sacrament, and Father Jan Sullivan, pastor of St. Francis de Sales.

Photo courtesy Kate Stickle

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## Seminarians Experience Foundations of the Faith

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the third-year theologians of the Pontifical College Josephinum traveled to Italy for two weeks of pilgrimage and retreat during Christmas break. More than 20 seminarians, a third of whom had never been to the Eternal City, arrived in Rome on Dec. 29 and departed on Jan. 10, with five of the days spent on canonical retreat in Assisi. The retreat is a requirement before seminarians can be ordained to the diaconate.

While in Rome, the seminarians were able to serve Mass for Pope Francis on Jan. 1, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Sixteen seminarians served the Mass and met the pope in the chapel that is home to Michelangelo's *Pieta*.

"Serving Mass for Pope Francis was truly a life-changing event," said seminarian Brian O'Connor of Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton Parish. "During the practice before the liturgy, everyone was a little tense and anxious, but the pope disarmed that anxiety when we met him." O'Connor added that the pope "struck me as just a simple priest preparing to celebrate Mass, whose unassuming humanity was his most obvious trait and certainly what I will remember."

The seminarians were guided on the pilgrimage by three priests from the Josephinum: Father Raymond Enzweiler, Father Jay Harrington, OP, and Father David Monaco, CP. They experienced the history, beauty, and depth of the Catholic faith from St. Peter's Basilica to the catacombs. They prayed at the burial places of St. Peter below the altar of the basilica named for him and of St. Paul at St. Paul's Outside the Walls, where they were guided by Cardinal James Harvey of Milwaukee, rector of the basilica. After saying Mass, he led the seminarians in prayer before St. Paul's remains and on a tour of the basilica and its museum. Cardinal Harvey has a connection to Josephinum seminarian Michael Hartge of Gahanna St. Matthew Church, whose



great-uncle was a priest in Cardinal Harvey's home parish when the cardinal was a child.

"It was a wonderful opportunity to have Mass with Cardinal Harvey," Hartge said. "One particularly moving part of the tour afterwards was gathering as a group in front of the tomb of St. Paul to pray an Our Father with the cardinal, which reminded us that, like St. Paul, Jesus still calls his disciples from all walks of life to preach the Gospel to those who need to hear it."

While on retreat in Assisi, the seminarians walked in the footsteps of St. Francis and St. Clare. Away from the distractions of the Eternal City, the seminarians were able to focus on prayer and their impending ordinations to the diaconate. During the retreat, they were able to go down the mountain and to have Mass in the *Portiuncula*, the chapel rebuilt by St. Francis that was the home of his fledgling order in the 13th century.

Nicola Ventura, a seminarian from Lancaster St. Mary Church, served as acolyte for the Mass. "Being able to serve in the little chapel of St. Francis really brings things into perspective," Ventura said. "He built a small, humble chapel for the worship of the Lord, but with this little chapel, the Lord brings hundreds, if not thousands, of people to encounter him. We do not know how the Lord will use our 'little chapels,' but all we can do is follow after his will."

The group visited the major basilicas of Rome, as well as many other beautiful churches with historical significance and important relics. They traveled to the Papal Archbasilica of St. John Lateran, which houses relics of both John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist. They prayed at the *Scala Sancta*, the steps that led up to the praetorium of Pontius Pilate in Jerusalem, which Jesus Christ stood on during his passion on his way to trial. They toured the chapel at the top of the stairs where Pope Innocent III received St. Francis of Assisi, which houses a relic of the bench on which Jesus sat at the Last Supper. To finish the evening, the seminarians walked down the street to the Basilica of the Holy Cross, which houses the relics of Christ's passion brought back to Rome by St. Helena of Constantinople.

"This was truly a blessing which I will never forget," said seminarian Brian Seiler of the Diocese of Alexandria, La. "From meeting Pope Francis to praying with my brothers in so many holy places, I will treasure these memories for the rest of my life."

**Photo: Pontifical College Josephinum seminarian Michael Hartge shakes hands with Pope Francis following the pope's Jan. 1 Mass at the Vatican, for which Josephinum seminarians were altar servers. Other seminarians pictured are (from left) Tom Gardner, Gabriel Lickeig, and (partially hidden) Brian O'Connor.**

Photo by Fotografia Felici, Rome

## Daughter joined Protestant church; Is the church anti-Islamic?



### QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE  
Catholic News Service

**Q.** I am a lifelong Catholic. My wife was raised Lutheran and converted to the Catholic faith after we were married 35 years ago. We raised our four kids in the Catholic Church.

Our daughter, who is 24, joined a Protestant church about a year ago. She met a young man at church and they recently became engaged. It breaks my heart that she will not be married in the Catholic Church. (I voiced my concerns to her before they became engaged.) My wife is more understanding, since she was raised a Lutheran.

I have to admit that my daughter and her fiance are very involved in their church -- in fact, they lead Bible studies. They made the decision not to live together before being married because of their deep moral convictions.

I grew up during the era when we were taught that the Catholic Church was the only church. So I toss and turn at night and struggle every day with how to show my daughter love and support as she plans her wedding, even though I am hurting inside. I don't want to damage our relationship, nor do anything that would spoil her big day. Any advice would be appreciated. (St. Paul, Minn.)

**A.** Like you, I believe that the Catholic Church is the true church, that for all its human faults it is -- among the Christian religions -- the closest approximation to what Jesus came to establish, and thus (especially because of the sacraments) the most effective way to salvation.

Daily, I thank God that I am a Catholic. Like you, I would be deeply saddened if I had a daughter and she decided to leave the embrace of the Catholic Church.

At the same time, the church acknowledges that there are elements of sanctification and of truth in other religions, including non-Christian ones. That is to say, it is possible that people can reach heaven without being Catholic.

Referencing the Second Vatican Council, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* points out in No. 819 that the word of God and the life of grace can be found in other religions and that "Christ's Spirit uses these churches and

ecclesial communities as means of salvation."

I would forgo, certainly for now, any attempt to talk your daughter out of her religious choice. You've made your feelings known. She is an adult and has made her decision.

If I were you, I would be comforted, even excited, by the fact that she is actively putting her faith to work and that she is living out her moral convictions. I am confident that she is on the path to heaven, so you can peacefully leave the rest in God's hands and sleep soundly while you continue to show your daughter the love and respect for her that you clearly feel.

**Q.** I have been encouraging my sister, a lapsed Catholic, to start going to Mass again, especially now that she has a young son. Recently, she moved and attended a new church close to her home in northern Kentucky. But the priest's sermon, she said, was all about the negative qualities of Islam, with a bit of anti-Mormonism thrown in at the end.

She said that his hateful words caused her to question her Catholic identity further. While we discussed the possibility of her trying a different parish, I'm afraid this will stand as another setback. Her husband is not a Catholic and doesn't understand. What can I say to encourage her that the Catholic Church as a whole is not anti-Islamic? (St. Louis)

**A.** The Second Vatican Council in 1965 said this in *Nostra Aetate*, No. 3: "The church has also a high regard for the Muslims. ... They strive to submit themselves without reserve to the hidden decrees of God. ... Although not acknowledging him as God, they venerate Jesus as a prophet, his Virgin Mother they also honor. ... They highly esteem an upright life and worship God, especially by way of prayer, alms-deeds and fasting."

Fast-forward nearly 50 years and hear Pope Francis in his first apostolic exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*. In No. 253, we read that "our respect for true followers of Islam should lead us to avoid hateful generalizations, for authentic Islam and the proper reading of the Quran are opposed to every form of violence."

Tell your sister that you would give the nod to the council and to the pope over a priest from northern Kentucky, and continue to suggest that she try a different parish.

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at [askfatherdoyle@gmail.com](mailto:askfatherdoyle@gmail.com) and 40 Hopewell St., Albany, N.Y. 12208.



### RESPECT LIFE:

#### One Year at Pickerington Clinic

In early January 2013, a story appeared in the weekly newspaper serving Pickerington about a new medical clinic that would be opening soon on Hill Road. The story described how energy-efficient this clinic would be, with LED lighting and other improvements. On the next page of that same paper, Drs. Mervyn and Melroy Samuel announced the opening of a new branch of their Complete Healthcare for Women clinic at the same Hill Road address.

Several people from St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, located one block from the new clinic, recognized the two doctors as the abortionists that operate an abortion mill with the same name on Cleveland Avenue in Columbus. The parishioners had prayed at that site as part of the 40 Days for Life campaign. They immediately put the word out to the Pickerington community and began praying at the clinic during its scheduled weekday operating hours, as well as on Saturday mornings, to raise community awareness of the clinic's nature.

At a Pickerington City Council meeting, they found out that the clinic is not licensed for abortions at its Pickerington location and that the council was not aware of who the true owners of the clinic were or of their abortion business.

At that time, a group of concerned citizens from several Pickerington churches founded Pick-Life (Pick-Life.com) to coordinate a response to the clinic and the presence of abortionists in the community. Pick-Life's mission is to change hearts and minds and make Pickerington a pro-life community. Since mid-January 2013, people from many churches in and around the community have been praying three days a week at the clinic. They pray during the clinic operating hours of Monday and Tuesday from about 2:30 to 5 p.m., and on Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon, when traffic is heavy on Hill Road.

Prayers work! As a result of the prayers of the community and the actions of City Council, the clinic opening was delayed from January to June. The faithful prayer warriors have been at the clinic for more than a year, except when weather threatens their safety. These committed witnesses come from many churches in the area, including Seton Parish, Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Canal Winchester Pope John XXIII, Reynoldsburg St. Pius X, Gahanna St. Matthew, Columbus St. Patrick, Columbus St. Catharine, Columbus St. Mary, and Sugar Grove St. Joseph, and from many Pickerington-area churches of other Christian denominations.

While these people have been dedicated pro-lifers on the sidewalk, more help is needed. Praying at the clinic for more than 150 days a year takes a lot of people. At this, the one-year mark, Pick-Life is asking for additional volunteers to step up and join its prayer warriors in changing the hearts and minds of all abortion-minded people in Pickerington so it can become a true pro-life community.

Photo: Pick-Life members (from left) Tara Bowie, Becky Tumidolsky, Rosa Crummin, Marty Brotzge, Maureen Cobb, and an unidentified supporter stand up for life in front of the Complete Healthcare for Women clinic in Pickerington. Photo courtesy Edd Chinnock

## TWO ~ SEVEN CHURCH TOURS!

By Father Joshua Wagner

Pastor, Columbus St. Dominic and Holy Rosary-St. John Churches

I am a little sad that Lent is so late this year. I love Lent. It is one of the best seasons of the year for us Catholics that calls us to refocus our lives onto Christ, and especially prepare us for his passion and death and his glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday morning! It is often a great time of spiritual renewal for me as a priest, with missions, pilgrimages, and lots of confessions. It is truly a pilgrimage for the whole Catholic Church here on Earth! I am sad that it is so late this year because that means Easter is later, too!

However, the good thing is that hopefully, by the time Lent is over, this nasty winter will be a distant memory and we will emerge like the groundhog from our homes, hopefully to see the light of the sun. I am sure that getting out will feel great once Lent rolls around!

This Lent, I am happy to give all of you an opportunity to stretch your legs in a local pilgrimage. Last year, during the Year of Faith, I introduced a 500-year old Roman tradition called the Seven Church Tour to Columbus. The tour originally was a walk started by a priest, St. Philip Neri, the so-called "second apostle of Rome," and a good friend of mine with whom I have actually spent time (he was buried behind the school where I learned Italian in Rome). St. Philip was a gregarious fellow who built churches and inspired young people in Rome. This pilgrimage was created by St. Philip to give young people something to do during Carnivale -- or as we know it, Mardi Gras -- so they would not get seduced by all the temptations that festival had (and has!) to offer.

The original Roman Seven Church Tour (which I have done twice, by the way, once alone and another time as a tour guide in seminary) started at St. Peter's Basilica and proceeded to the other major and minor basilicas of Rome, including St. Paul's Outside the Walls; the catacombs of St. Sebastian, where St. Philip had a particular devotion; St. Mary Major; St. John Lateran; which is the cathedral of Rome; San Lorenzo; and his own church of Chiesa Nuova (St. Mary in Vallicella), which he built.

This year, I am bringing this Roman tradition back to Columbus! Instead of walking, we will be meeting in suburban churches, parking our cars, and getting together on a bus to visit the most beautiful

churches within the city limits of Columbus.

This year is a little different, as I am offering two different versions of the Seven Church Tour. The Historic Tour, which was presented last year, includes the seven oldest Catholic churches of downtown Columbus (pictured at left): Holy Cross, St. Patrick, St. Joseph Cathedral, St. Mary in German Village, Holy Family and its Jubilee Museum, St. John the Baptist, and (Holy Rosary-)St. John the Evangelist, one of the churches where I am pastor. This tour sold out in two weeks last year, which is why we are bringing it back. Dates for the tour are Saturday, March 15 and Saturday, March 29.

The other version of the Seven Church Tour is dedicated to Blessed Pope John Paul II, who will be canonized on April 27. At each church, we not only will hear about the history and architecture of each church we visit, but the history and teachings of Pope John Paul II also will be presented at each church. The churches on the Pope John Paul II tour (pictured at right) have been chosen for their unique architectural qualities. We will begin at St. Mary Magdalene to see its mosaics, then proceed to St. Aloysius, St. Francis of Assisi (where we will have lunch), Sacred Heart, St. Catharine (March 8 only, because of scheduling conflicts) Immaculate Conception (April 12 only, also because of scheduling conflicts), and my church of St. Dominic before ending at St. Leo on the south side of Columbus, the highlight of the John Paul II Seven Church Tour. Dates are Saturday, March 8 and Saturday, April 12.

Each Seven Church Tour will end with Mass at 4 p.m., thus fulfilling your Sunday obligation, so you can sleep in the next day. (You'll need to!) I know that the nearly 300 who went on last year's tours really enjoyed them, and as I am writing, many of them are signing up for the new tours this year.

I hope you can join us for one of the tours! They will give you a pilgrimage experience without having to pay thousands of dollars for airfare and hotels. That is what St. Philip intended when he began walking through the streets of Rome 500 years ago. I am grateful for his spiritual friendship and his continued inspiration!

If you want to know more about the Seven Church Tour, visit the website [www.SevenChurchTour.com](http://www.SevenChurchTour.com). Costs cover buses, lunches, snacks, and tours.



Holy Cross



Holy Family



Holy Rosary-St. John



St. John the Baptist



St. Joseph Cathedral



St. Mary



St. Patrick



Sacred Heart



St. Catharine



St. Dominic



St. Francis of Assisi



St. Leo



St. Aloysius



St. Mary Magdalene

Answering God's Call

## A PRIESTLY CAREER FULL OF SURPRISES



**Fr. Richard Pendolphi**

by Tim Puet

When he was ordained to the priesthood, Father Richard Pendolphi expected to become an overseas missionary. Instead, he has spent his 37 years as a priest entirely in the United States, but he said his training for the missions has served him well during a career that's taken him in directions he never anticipated while growing up in Brooklyn, N.Y. and New Jersey.

"When you study to become a missionary, you learn about the necessity to adjust to situations for which you had no preparation because you come from a different culture," he said. "I experienced that for a year in the Philippines, where I served with the PIME missionaries as a deacon just before becoming a priest.

"That turned out to be my only foreign mission work. But going from PIME to the diocesan priesthood, from the East Coast to Columbus, and serving at four very different parishes in the Columbus diocese brought their own forms of cultural adjustment. Through all these changes, the people have been good to me wherever I went. I've always loved being a priest and can't believe it's 37 years since my ordination."

Father Pendolphi was ordained on Oct. 9, 1976, in Newton, N.J., where his parents lived at the time. He had been studying with the PIME missionaries since coming to a minor seminary operated by the order in 1963 at age 13, in response to a PIME priest's suggestion during summer camp that he might have a vocation to the priesthood. He continued with the order until 1980, doing youth, vocations, and retreat work in Oakland, N.J., and serving as a vocations director and assistant pastor in the Detroit area.

"I began to discern that perhaps it wasn't intended that I be a missionary and that I should leave PIME," he said. "It was traumatic to do that after 17 years, especially because, although I never doubted my call to the priesthood, I didn't know where to go. Fortunately, an opportunity opened up to teach theology at one of the largest Catholic high schools in the country (Christ the King in Queens, N.Y.), where the principal welcomed me with open arms."

Father Pendolphi spent six years teaching at the school and celebrating Masses, hearing confessions, and performing other priestly functions in the New York metropolitan area. During that time, he stayed in touch with several former members of the PIME order who are now Columbus diocesan priests, including Fathers Paul Noble, James Coleman, and Martin Ralko. They remained in central Ohio after the order, which had operated what is now Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center in Newark as a seminary high school from 1956 to 1990, left the area.

In 1986, Father Pendolphi became associate pastor of Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church. He was accepted as a Columbus diocesan priest by Bishop James Griffin on Feb. 23, 1987.

"It was a real cultural adjustment coming to Columbus," he said. "The people here are very warm, very courteous, and very gregarious, yet with more of a sense of formality and maintaining a distance than I was used to. In New York, you also have deep personal friendships with people, but often with an edge of sarcasm – that 'New York' attitude – that doesn't fly here. But once you know and adapt to the differences and begin to know the people, you appreciate them and enjoy being around them.

"Providentially, my dad had retired around the time I came to Columbus. Since I'm an only child, my parents moved here to live near me, and that also helped. They lived here for the rest of their

lives, until my dad died in 2008 and my mom in 2011."

"Father Carl Claggett was my first pastor at Our Lady, and he couldn't have been more welcoming," Father Pendolphi said. "I stayed there until 1990. One day when I came back from vacation, he said to me, 'How would you like to be a pastor?' I said I would, some day. He said 'How about now?' and told me I had been assigned to St. John Church in Logan.

"I had no idea where Logan was. Going there turned out to be another big adjustment, from the eastern suburbs of Columbus to a small town and a parish that covers the whole county. The people were great, and we got a lot accomplished. We brought back the parish festival, which over three days drew 18,000 people in a town of 6,000. We also kept the parish school going, and it continues to serve the community – a remarkable achievement in a small town with one of the smallest schools in the diocese."

Father Pendolphi stayed in Logan for 12 years, then made another big change in 2002, becoming pastor at Worthington St. Michael. "Going from a small town like Logan to one of the biggest parishes in the diocese, you couldn't have two more different places," he said. "Again, I think my missionary training helped with the adjustment."

During his 10 years at St. Michael's, the parish eliminated a \$385,000 debt, made \$7 million in capital improvements, and today is in sound financial shape. Among those improvements is a new addition which was completed last year and includes an adoration chapel, a preschool area, a food pantry, and meeting rooms. The addition was made necessary with the arrival of members of the Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, from Ann Arbor, Mich. in 2011 to teach in the parish school. This required a former convent which had housed parish offices to be reconverted to its original purpose.

Father Pendolphi was appointed to his current position as priest moderator of Columbus St. Agnes and St. Aloysius churches in September 2012. "Coming here to a much smaller parish was another retooling. As with all my other stops, the people have been wonderful and we get along very well," he said. "I get great help from Father Dennis Stevenson, who's in residence at St. Aloysius. Because of changing demographics that are bringing more Hispanics to the Hilltop neighborhood, we're starting to see some growth in what had been an aging parish, and I'm excited that Deacon George Zimmermann was added to the staff of the two parishes as deacon administrator at the start of the year."

He said one of the most important lessons he has learned from his priesthood is that "my authority as a pastor is an authority of service. When I was a seminarian, I fantasized about the perks I'd have as a priest, but the reality is that you find your real happiness in serving others."

Father Pendolphi often asked himself in seminary whether he wanted to become a priest. He said that just before his ordination as a deacon, God told him, "Rick, all these years you've been asking the wrong question. The right one is 'God, do you want me to be your priest?' Ask that and you'll get my answer. I did. He said 'Yes,' so I said 'Yes.'"

He also said that he would tell any young man considering the priesthood, "Don't sell God short. If you have a calling to the priesthood and say 'Yes' to God, you say 'Yes' to happiness."

## ODU Offers Free Tax Return Preparation Assistance

Ohio Dominican University offers the only fully bilingual tax return preparation service in central Ohio. Accounting students at ODU will provide free income tax return preparation assistance for qualified individuals through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, which offers free tax help to people with low to moderate income (generally \$51,000 and below).

Through this program, ODU accounting students offer assistance with special credits, including the earned income tax credit, child tax credit, and credit for the elderly. The assistance will be offered at ODU's main campus in Erskine Hall rooms 201, 202, and 205.

"ODU's VITA program offers our students an opportunity to share their time and talents with the community, learn good citizenship and community involvement, and live ODU's mission," said Bob Osborne, ODU assistant professor of accounting.

The program begins Saturday, Feb. 22 and will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Saturday and 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday, ending Saturday, April 12. Exceptions to those dates are Wednesday, March 12 and Saturday, March 15.

"We constantly explore ways to enhance and expand our VITA program," Osborne said. "In 2012, we invited students from Columbus Bishop Watterson High School to participate. Last year, we added bilingual services. This year, we are proud to include nine students from ODU's adult and continuing education program."

Since first offering the VITA program in 2007, ODU faculty and students have helped prepare 1,715 tax returns. Last spring, 299 returns were prepared, saving clients about \$76,000 in tax preparation fees. More than \$224,000 in returns were processed in 2013.

The Internal Revenue Service certifies participating accounting students, usually juniors and seniors, as tax preparers. Under the supervision of faculty members who are certified public accountants, students prepare federal, state, city, and school district income tax returns. In addition to free tax return preparation assistance, the program offers free electronic filing.

To make an appointment with an ODU VITA tax preparer, call HandsOn Central Ohio at 211 in Franklin County or (614) 221-2255, and ask to speak with the VITA scheduler.

For additional information, contact Osborne at (614) 251-4261 or osborne@ohiodominican.edu, or Maggie Gilmore, assistant professor of accounting, at (614) 251-4382 or gilmorem@ohiodominican.edu.



## We express our faith in the little things of life

Having grown up in a Catholic family, I'm steeped in ritual and the liturgical calendar. I love Advent with its wreath and candles and anticipation, and Christmas with its joy and light in the dark winter. Lent, with its weeks of refocusing and preparing to embrace the paschal mystery that ends in the glory of Easter, is a part of moving into spring each year. Still, I have to admit to having a particular fondness for Ordinary Time, the liturgical "season" we are currently observing.

It provides a different type of spiritual journey that requires no particular practices, no gifts to buy, no rituals. Some years, when Lent comes quickly on the heels of Epiphany, I feel uneasy. Last year, two weeks of February hadn't passed before Ash Wednesday arrived too soon for me. I prefer a longer stretch of time between putting away Christmas ornaments and getting out the purple cloth that drapes over a small prayer table in the dining room.

It's not that there is nothing special about daily routines and happenings. It's just the opposite. When focus is not on an upcoming holiday or celebration, we can celebrate the ordinary and simple things and discover anew just how full of grace they are. That's often difficult, since the familiar or unassuming can go unnoticed.

Thornton Wilder immortalized just how difficult recognizing the wonder of life is in his play *Our Town*, when Emily asks the stage manager if anyone ever realizes life while they are living it. The stage manager answers, "No," then adds, "Saints and poets maybe ... they do some."

### By Father Patrick Toner

It is only when I consider something to be good for me that my will is moved to achieve it. This applies to acquiring a virtue or to overcoming a vice. Most of our sins are habits that we've fallen into. Every new year, we make resolutions to change one or more of them. Every year, we likely fail to follow through.

Lack of motivation is the cause for our failures to overcome a predominant fault. We start with good intentions, but as we know "the road to Hell is paved with good intention." Our Will is a thousand times more powerful than



**GRACE IN THE MOMENT**

Mary van Balen

Saints and poets. They both take time to be present to the glory of the moment, as simple as it may appear. They recognize the sacred when the rest of us are hurrying by, preoccupied.

Jesus has a preference for the ordinary. He told stories full of seeds sprouting or not, of wedding feasts and wineskins. He wasn't impressed by pretentious prayer practices and held up for our emulation the poor widow who gave her small coins, rather than the wealthy who gave much more. He worked miracles with what was at hand: water and wine, loaves and fishes, dirt and spit.

In Sunday's Gospel reading, Jesus compares his disciples to salt and light, two things so common that we often don't give them much thought. Salt, a humble presence on the shelf that includes more exciting and exotic spices, adds zest and brings out flavors in food we eat every day. Light from a lamp is nothing spectacular. The lamp is small enough to fit under a basket! Jesus didn't tell his followers that they should be like a blazing bonfire. A simple flame will do.

In fact, what we celebrate in the "big" liturgical

seasons is really the infusion of Divine Presence into every aspect of life, no matter how simple. Each day, we are called to "salt" life with the love God has shared with us. We are called to shine the light that dwells within us on those we meet each day. We are called to recognize the Holy Presence in the poor and oppressed and in those we encounter every day. We are called to embrace suffering, as well as joy.

A young man takes a broom from the restaurant where he works and cleans snow from the car of an elderly couple he sees in the parking lot. A woman invites a homeless man in for lunch and coffee after paying him for weeding her garden. A retired teacher helps immigrants learn English. A poet rises early to write each day before heading into his "day job." A daughter holds her elderly father's hand as they sit, quietly in the nursing home, not saying a word. Someone does the grocery shopping. Someone cooks the meals. Someone notices the way the sun shines on the snow. Someone provides shelter for abused women. Someone listens. Someone holds. Someone visits prisons. Someone reads to a child.

The Holy One is recognized in the moment and in others. God is "born" into the world with every act of love and compassion. Jesus transforms the world with each "death" we embrace, and with every new step in life we are courageous enough to take. Ah. Ordinary Time.

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Visit van Balen's blog at

<http://www.maryvanbalen.com/the-scallop/>

## Motivate yourself to grow in holiness

our thoughts but our thoughts trump our will power. Our thoughts are easily distracted and we quickly forget about our intentions. Attempting to do too much can also be an obstacle. We need to be focused and committed.

Motivation and determination must come from within. How do you find motivation? For the intellect to empower our will there is a process of discernment. First we must put the matter into context. We must make a judgment about its benefits or consequences. Finally we must use our reason to comprehend the truth of the virtue to be acquired or the fault to be removed

This is a process of meditation where we mull over all aspects of the matter. We pursue that until the result becomes appealing enough for us to act. This is often a case of coming to really know what "we think we know". For example, we know a billion dollars is a lot of money. Of course the government spends it like it isn't much. I recall a politician once said "A million dollars here and a million dollars there and before long you're talking about real money." A billion dollars is one million thousand dollars bills. If you were able to stack them on top of each other, they would reach a height of 666 feet.

Now you really know what a billion dollars is like.

By meditating on the good we wish or the vice we wish to change, we begin to see more clearly what is involved for ourselves and for others. A little change can make a great deal of difference.

No human act is ever performed without motivation. It may be a selfish motive or something more profound. Start with thinking about the love of god. This is the most powerful motive. Once we realize the power of his love, we are empowered to change.

Father Toner is Pastor of Plain City St. Joseph Church.

# WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

The Catholic Church celebrates World Marriage Day each year on the second Sunday in February, which this year is Feb. 9. The day honors husband and wife as the foundation of the family, the basic unit of society. It salutes the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice, and joy in married life.

The idea began in 1981 in Baton Rouge, La., when some Catholic married couples from that area encouraged the mayor, the governor, and the bishop to proclaim Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, as "We Believe in Marriage Day." The success of that event led the couples to present the idea to Worldwide Marriage Encounter, a ministry which has a mission of making good marriages better.

That organization introduced the observance nationwide and changed the date to Sunday. By 1982, 43 governors officially proclaimed the day, and celebrations spread to U.S. military bases in several foreign countries. In 1983, the name was changed to World Marriage Day. Pope John Paul II imparted his apostolic blessing to the celebration in 1993.

The day's symbol shows husband and wife as two candle-like figures joined by a heart, focusing on love as the power that fosters unity within the couple and generates the capacity to be life-giving and inspire others to fruitfulness and unity.

The day's permanent theme is "Love One Another," the commandment given by Jesus in John 15:12. It speaks in a simple, but challenging way of how God wishes us to live.

Parishes in the Diocese of Columbus planning special events this year to mark World Marriage Day include Sunbury St. John Neumann, Delaware St. Mary, Plain City St. Joseph, and Columbus St. Peter.

**St. John Neumann** has honored couples with a special Mass and a dinner-dance annually for more than a decade and will do so again this year. The celebration begins with the 4 p.m. Mass on Saturday, Feb. 8, when couples will renew their vows. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be available in the parish adoration chapel from 5 to 5:30. For the dinner-dance at the parish Faith and Family Center, couples are asked to wear "casual tacky tourist" attire, with the tackiest outfit winning a prize.

**Delaware St. Mary** has a marriage enrichment group known as EMCC - Engaged and Married Couples in Christ. Bibianne Galuzny of EMCC said it will sponsor a Valentine's Day dinner from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, with Msgr. Eugene Morris of the Pontifical College Josephinum as the speaker.

The group also will host a two-night presentation on *The Five Languages of Love* by Gary Chapman at 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 13 and Thursday, March 27, and a talk by Pam Heil, youth minister of Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church, on Gregory Popchak's *Beyond the Birds and the Bees* at 7 p.m. Friday, March 19.

**Plain City St. Joseph** will continue a parish tradition when it recognizes a Couple of the Year for World Marriage Day. Parishioners nominate couples for the honor. The identity of the recipients is a surprise to everyone including the honorees, because the announcement of the couple chosen is made during the Mass that couple attends. It then is made to all parishioners the following weekend. The parish also will ask couples to renew their marriage vows at Masses on Feb. 8 and 9.

The marriage-building parish committee at **Columbus St. Peter** will sponsor a renewal of marriage vows at the church's 9:30 a.m. Mass on Feb. 9, followed by a reception. The committee for the second time is presenting radio talk-show host Dave Ramsey's Fi-



nancial Peace University program for avoiding or eliminating debt. The Spanish version of the program will be offered in the spring. The parish also will present a 12-week DVD series, *The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide*, beginning at the end of this month.

Several times during the year, couples who are in a successful marriage and wish to strengthen their commitment to each other have the chance to take part in a weekend **Marriage Encounter** program. More than five million couples, priests, and religious have taken part in the program since it began in Spain in 1952 as a Catholic marriage renewal activity.

It came to the United States nearly 50 years ago and now is offered in a number of faith expressions. It presents God as a focus for a successful marriage and encourages couples to examine their lives together while sharing their feelings, hopes, disappointments, joys, and frustrations (*See the story about Columbus-area Marriage Encounter registration couple Paul and Marilou Clouse on Page 12*).

Five or six Marriage Encounter programs which are presented in the Catholic faith expression and include Sunday Mass, with a priest as part of the presenting team, take place each year in the Diocese of Columbus. Dates and times for the weekends this year are: Feb. 14-16, St. Therese's Retreat Center, Columbus; April 4-6, Holiday Inn, Worthington; July 18-20, Holiday Inn, Worthington; Aug. 1-3, Westerville St. Paul Church; Sept. 12-14, St. Therese's Retreat Center; and Nov. 14-16, Holiday Inn, Worthington. More information is available at [www.wmccolumbus.org](http://www.wmccolumbus.org).

Another Catholic-based marriage program, known as **Retrouvaille**, has a different focus than Marriage Encounter. It is for couples in troubled marriages and is designed to help them work through their disillusionment, learn to communicate more clearly with each other, and hopefully heal their hurt and pain and rediscover the love they had for each other.

The program is conducted in the Columbus area on three weekends each year, with 12 follow-up sessions, and a chance to continue benefiting from the experience through additional gatherings with Retrouvaille couples after that. Remaining Retrouvaille weekends in Columbus this year are May 2-4 and Oct. 31-Nov. 2, both at St. Therese's Retreat Center. For more information, go to [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org).

# Marriage Programs Offer Solid Foundation

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, Catholic Times

The director of the diocesan Marriage and Family Life Office says an engaged couple should prepare for their married life in the same way they might plan for building a house.

"The first thing any good house needs is a solid foundation so it can withstand the stresses inevitably caused by the effects of time, the changing seasons, and the unexpected things like storms that occur sooner or later, no matter where you may live," Dan Thimons said. "Sometimes a house can look solid, but have a weak foundation. When that happens, it will collapse."

"That analogy also can be drawn for marriage. Without a firm foundation that recognizes its sacramental nature and God's role in a marriage, it may be hard for a couple to survive the personal storms caused by the daily stresses of living and of trying to uphold Catholic values in a world hostile to those values."

This year, the diocese is offering a new **Pre-Cana** marriage preparation program which emphasizes the spiritual and sacramental components of marriage. The program, titled "The Joy-Filled Marriage," will take place on consecutive Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Each day will include six group discussion sessions led mostly by married couples or clergy members, with time at the end of most of the sessions for individual reflection by each couple.

The program for the first day, "God's Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage," is based on Blessed John Paul II's Theology of the Body and examines the theology of marriage and the gift of human sexuality. Titles of the talks are "In the Beginning," "Christ Restores God's Plan," "To What Are You Saying 'I Do?'," "The Joy of Sexual Honesty Before Marriage," "The Joy of Sexual Honesty Within Marriage," and "Benefits of Natural Family Planning." The day will include a lunch break when the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available.

The second day, "Living a Joy-Filled Marriage," offers virtue-based life skills that incorporate sound psychology with Catholic theology to help couples understand and set patterns of thought and behavior that ensure a joy-filled marriage. After an introductory session, subjects include "Discovering Your Marriage Mission," "Communicating Love and Love Styles," "Resolving Conflict," "Managing Your Time, Money, and Energy," and "Intimacy and Prayer." The program again will include a lunch break and will end with a prayer service.

At the service, couples will receive a certificate saying they have completed the program, along with a document titled "The Marriage Action

Plan" that's designed to help couples recognize topics they need to discuss in greater depth, identify shared goals, and list concrete steps to help them build a joy-filled marriage.

The new program replaces the previous diocesan pre-Cana activity, which took place on one Saturday. "That program was very strong in talking about life skills, but had less of a spiritual emphasis," said Thimons, who has been director of the Marriage and Family Life Office for the past year-and-a-half. "We recognize that cultural attitudes toward marriage have shifted and that couples have less understanding that marriage actually is a commitment for life, a mutual relationship that is a permanent partnership open to the blessing of children."

"This new program adds John Paul's Theology of the Body to the discussion and is one of the ways the diocese is responding to John Paul's call for a new evangelization. We recognize it's also the first significant encounter an engaged couple may have with the Catholic Church, providing a wonderful opportunity to invite the couple to a deeper relationship with God and the church," Thimons said.

"All engaged couples want a lifelong, joy-filled marriage, and for the most part, they are very open to hearing what the church has to say on the subject. In many cases, they have seen

so much pain and brokenness in the marriages they are familiar with that they are very willing to listen to Catholic teaching on the sacredness and permanence of marriage and understand the sound reasons behind it."

Thimons said 56 couples have been trained as presenters for the new program, which first was offered last month to 48 engaged couples at Columbus St. Elizabeth Church.

He said the program's first presentation received an overwhelmingly positive response, with 36 of the participating couples rating it as "very good" or "excellent" in a post-event evaluation. In addition, 46 of the couples said they came away from the program feeling better-informed about Catholic teaching on marriage, 45 said they are considering becoming more active in the church, and 40 said the program affected their relationship with God in a positive way.

"Extending the program to a second Saturday allowed the couples to form more of a relationship with the other couples at their respective tables and possibly to stay in touch with each other after the program," Thimons said. "It definitely provided them with a more solid foundation about what marriage is and about the attitudes every couple needs and the adjustments they have to make for a marriage work."

Dates and places for this year's remaining diocesan Pre-Cana programs are: Feb. 8 and 15,

June 14 and 21, July 19 and 26, and Oct. 11 and 18, St. Elizabeth; March 22 and 29, Church of the Resurrection, New Albany; April 12 and 19 and Nov. 15 and 22, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church; May 10 and 17, Columbus St. Cecilia Church; and Aug. 9 and 16, Westerville St. Paul Church.

There is a \$165 fee, and pre-application is required. Applications cannot be accepted at the door or by phone. It is recommended that a couple attend a minimum of four to six months before the scheduled wedding date. Last year, a total of 528 couples took part in the program.

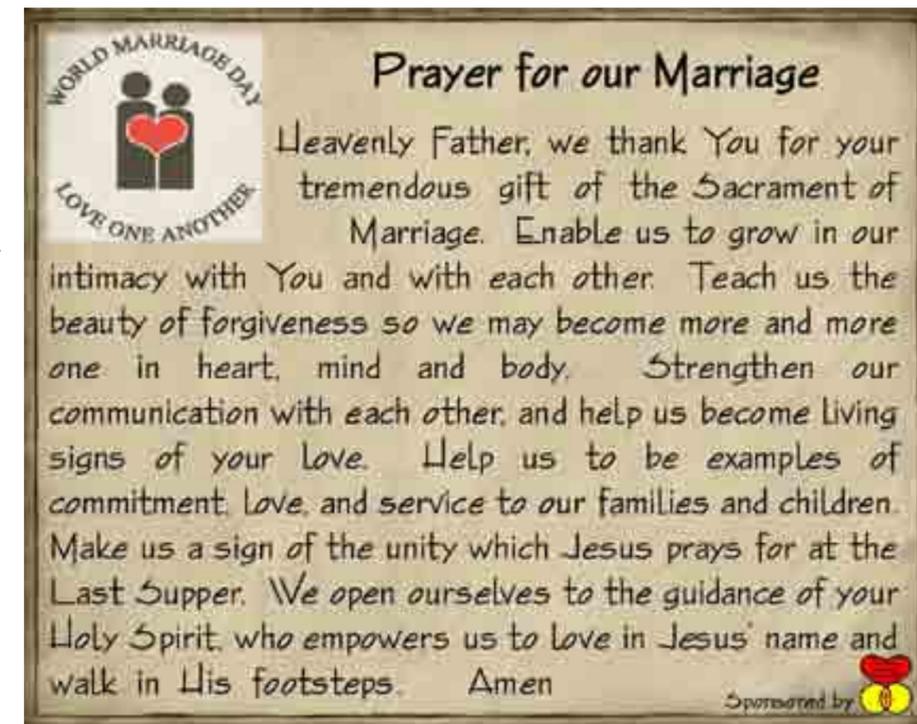
**Engaged Encounter**, another marriage preparation program offered by the diocese, is a weekend experience that allows more concentrated time as a couple for personal reflection and sharing. The program starts on a Friday evening and continues through Sunday at St. Therese's Retreat Center in Columbus and is for a maximum of 20 couples at a time. Dates are Feb. 21-23, March 14-16, June 13-15, and Oct. 17-19.

Individual parishes throughout the diocese also offer pre-Cana programs. Thimons said those parishes include the Church of the Resurrection in New Albany, Reynoldsburg St. Pius X, Hilliard St. Brendan, Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare, Sunbury St. John Neumann, the St. Thomas More Newman Center in Columbus, Zanesville St. Nicholas, Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas, and the six parishes in Fairfield and Hocking counties, which are part of the Lancaster Deanery and offer a combined program. Details are available from the individual parishes.

If you are preparing to marry after loss of a spouse because of death or annulment, you may be a candidate for the diocesan **Remarriage Preparation** program addressing issues relevant to engaged couples who previously have been married. The two-hour program will take place at Columbus Immaculate Conception Church on three Thursdays this year: May 1, July 17, and Nov. 6.

Engaged and married couples interested in learning about **Natural Family Planning** may start with attending a free information session offered by the diocese or a parish. These programs typically include a short audiovisual presentation about NFP and an opportunity to ask questions of a couple who practice or teach one of the NFP methods.

Dates and sites are: Friday, March 14 and Sunday July 27, Delaware St. Mary Church; and Saturday, April 5, St. Thomas More Newman Center, Columbus.



## Marriage Encounter strengthens a good relationship

By Paul and Marilou Clouse

The year 2013 was a significant one for us for two reasons. We celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary on Oct. 5, and also in October, we marked the 30th anniversary of our Marriage Encounter weekend.

We began dating during our junior year at the former Columbus Rosary High School and continued our relationship while Marilou was a resident student at Mount Carmel School of Nursing and Paul was a commuter student at Ohio State. We had our ups and downs, but always seemed to stay committed to each other, with each of us writing many letters when Marilou was away on affiliations. Paul proposed in the chapel at Mount Carmel when Marilou graduated, and we were married after Paul graduated from OSU.

In the early years of our marriage, we faced the challenges caused by a new job, new house, and limited finances. The first of our three daughters was born 10 months after our marriage. When our newborn son died 13 months later, each of us handled the situation differently. Paul tried to put it behind him by not talking about it, while Marilou needed to express her feelings. Those different ways

of communicating, along with the addition of two more daughters in three years, caused strains on our new marriage.

Finances became tight and we incurred some debt, but we were fortunate to have Marilou at home with the children during the week, then working on weekends while Paul stayed home. We always did things as a family and continue to celebrate birthdays and holidays together, including our 50th anniversary.

We first learned about Marriage Encounter at the University of Notre Dame during a Christian Family Movement conference we attended with our daughters. One of the presentations was about a growing movement called Marriage Encounter. In the years following, we continued to hear about Marriage Encounter, including an information meeting at our parish at that time, Columbus St. Peter.

The idea remained in the back of our minds, and as we approached our 20th anniversary and our marriage seemed stagnant and complacent, we decided to try a Marriage Encounter weekend. Through the years, we had attended several marriage enrichment programs, but they did not provide lasting benefits for us. Our relationship lost some of its luster. It lacked the excitement and spontaneity

of our courtship and honeymoon period. Talk was about tasks, the kids, finances, etc. — seldom about our needs as a couple.

We drove to the hotel where the weekend was to take place in near-silence. We were both uncomfortable and not sure if this was a good idea. Our apprehension diminished a bit when we were greeted in the parking lot by a cheerful couple offering to assist us with our bags and help us get settled. Inside, we received a warm welcome from the couple who would be presenting our weekend, and the priest, Father Tim O'Neill from Youngstown. We met other couples making the weekend, and we began to feel more comfortable.

The weekend challenged us to look at ourselves, our relationship with each other, and our relationship with our church in a non-threatening way. As the weekend progressed, we had periods of sadness, periods of joy, and many periods of encouragement. By Sunday afternoon, we were tired, but filled with new excitement for each other and for our family. Arriving home, our daughters mentioned our change. Our Marriage Encounter weekend was the most memorable experience, after our wed-

ding and the birth of our daughters.

When the opportunity to be part of the presenting team for a weekend was offered, we judged that we had nothing to offer and would be uncomfortable sharing our lives with others. After more prayer, dialogue, and discussion, we decided to trust that the experience would benefit us and possibly others. This has proven to be one of the best decisions we ever made.

After months of preparing our talks, we presented our first weekend at St. Therese's Retreat Center. The priest was Father Bill Dilgin from New York, who had been active in establishing the Marriage Encounter movement. We presented two or three weekends a year for more than 15 years, which provided us the continuing benefits of a Marriage Encounter weekend and the opportunity to associate with couples who shared our values and supported our relationship.

After 15 years as a presenting couple, we have served as registration couple for the past 15 years, for a total of 30 years of Marriage Encounter involvement. The support opportunities and committed couples available in Marriage Encounter have kept us focused on each other and on God's plan for our marriage.

In October, we celebrated 50 years of marriage by taking our three daughters, their husbands, and our four grandchildren to Disney World. We had polo shirts made for all 12 of us saying "Family ... Life's Great Blessing." And we all wore them to Mass on our anniversary and to our anniversary dinner.

To couples contemplating marriage, we would like to offer the following thoughts:

- Take the time to know each other and share your feelings, hopes, and dreams.
- Be realistic, expect problems, and be patient.
- Marry for the right reason. Make your spouse your best friend and make God part of your daily lives.
- Remember to lean on your sacramental graces.
- Compromise.
- Make your spouse your priority.
- Marriage is not a 50-50 proposition. Husbands and wives both must give 100 percent.

Important concepts we have learned from Marriage Encounter include:

- Share feelings, not just thoughts
- Communicate on important topics.
- Share your feelings in writing.
- Realize that God has a plan for your marriage that is different than the world's plan.
- Become active in your faith community.

next series of classes will be offered on March 15, April 12, and May 10, all Saturdays, at West Jefferson Ss. Simon and Jude Church.

There are other NFP methods, but classes in those are not coordinated by the diocese. The Marriage and Family Life Office has information on people who are practitioners of those methods and how to contact them.

The office also provides and encourages educational opportunities on the meaning and mystery of marriage throughout the various stages of life. For more information on these programs and on all the events listed above other than individual parish pre-Cana programs, call (614) 241-2560, send an email message to [familylife@colsdio.org](mailto:familylife@colsdio.org), or go to [www.familylife.coldsdioc.org](http://www.familylife.coldsdioc.org).

Pope Francis has indicated his desire to address the pastoral needs and challenges facing married couples and families in the world today by calling a synod of bishops to meet in October to discuss family life. A synod is not an ecumenical council, which includes all the world's bishops, but is defined in

canon law as "a group of bishops who have been chosen from different regions of the world and meet together at fixed times to foster closer unity between the Roman Pontiff and bishops ... and to consider questions pertaining to the activity of the Church in the world."

In preparation, the Vatican at the end of 2013 asked dioceses around the world to respond to a questionnaire on the state of marriage and family life within their boundaries. The questionnaire asks how effective pastoral and educational programs have been in promoting church teachings concerning marriage and the family.

In the Diocese of Columbus, the diocesan presbyteral and pastoral councils have been working with Bishop Frederick Campbell on a response to the questionnaire. The response will be sent to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington. The USCCB will use responses from dioceses around the nation to produce a final document that will be sent to the Vatican. Other nations also will submit their findings for discussion at the synod.

## Our best hope for ending abortion is by turning our hearts closer to God

By Beth Vanderkooi

Executive Director  
Greater Columbus Right to Life

One year ago, in an address to the American bishops, Pope Benedict XVI said, "At the heart of every culture, whether perceived or not, is a consensus about the nature of reality and the moral good, and thus about the conditions for human flourishing. In America, that consensus, as enshrined in your nation's founding documents, was grounded in a worldview shaped not only by faith but a commitment to certain ethical principles deriving from nature and nature's God. Today that consensus has eroded significantly in the face of powerful new cultural currents which are not only directly opposed to core moral teachings of the Judeo-Christian tradition, but increasingly hostile to Christianity as such."

To say that the American consensus on the nature of reality, the moral good, and the conditions for human flourishing has "eroded" is a bit of an understatement, but what a profound statement on today's American culture. Modern radical secularism has elevated personal liberty, devoid of the constraints of enduring moral truth, to a degree that would make the nation's founders nervous. The results are devastating. Today, our hearts ache at the loss of more than 56 million unborn children who have been condemned to death by abortion in the United States since 1973. In central Ohio, the toll has been more

than 85,000 since 2000 alone.

Catholic teaching recognizes the inherent value of all human life - a moral truth bound by reality - and acknowledges that we are each made in the image and likeness of God. Thus, we not only defend the sanctity of all human life in all forms and at all stages, but we celebrate it as well. Regardless of age, mental acuity, capability, race, gender, or national origin, we have intrinsic value. This value lies not in our perfection, but in the fact that we are made in the image of the One who is perfection. Likewise, while we may struggle with suffering, at its core suffering exposes us to the reality of sin. As St. Thomas Aquinas said, "the evils which bear us down here drive us to go to God."

Abortion is a great moral evil and the cause of much suffering. It violates the natural law that has been written on the hearts of mankind since our creation. Our hope lies not in wringing our hands together and bemoaning the cultural shift that brought us to this time in human history, but in turning our hearts closer to God, living according to the truth, and taking back our culture one person at a time. We need to rebuild a consensus that there is a fundamental ethical framework that points to a moral truth necessary for human flourishing. We are called, in the words of St. Luke, to "shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace."

On this 41st anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's *Roe vs. Wade* decision, let us resolve to open our hearts to God and set our wills not to shifting cultural norms, but to the enduring truths of our creation.

In the marriage case styled STRAYER - LARK, 7/14, the Tribunal of the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio, is currently unaware of the present address of VERONICA LEE LARK. The Tribunal herewith informs her of the case and invites her to contact REV MSGR JAMES L T RUEFF, MA, JD, JCL, Presiding and sole Judge, no later than 14 FEBRUARY 2014. Phone: 614-241-2500. Anyone who knows of the whereabouts of VERONICA LEE LARK is herewith asked to make this Citation known to her or to inform the Tribunal of her current address. Given this 02 day of FEBRUARY, 2014. REV MSGR JAMES L T RUEFF, MA, JD, JCL, Presiding Judge.

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## Catholic identity must be clear, uncompromising, pope tells university

By Carol Glatz

Catholic News Service

Catholic universities must give "uncompromising" and "unambiguous" witness to church teaching and defend themselves from all efforts to dilute their Catholic identity, Pope Francis said.

Catholic universities, "by their very nature, are committed to demonstrating the harmony of faith and reason and the relevance of the Christian message for a full and authentically human life," he said in an audience with members of the board of trustees of the University of Notre Dame and other officials.

The pope met on Jan. 30 with about 130 people representing the Indiana-based Catholic university who were in Rome for the inauguration of the university's new Rome center.

Speaking in Italian, Pope Francis praised Notre Dame, saying it "has made an outstanding contribution to the church in your country through its commitment to the religious education of the young and to serious scholarship inspired by confidence in the harmony of faith and reason in the pursuit of truth and virtue."

He said the institution's original vision, guided by its religious founders of the Congregation of Holy Cross, "remains, in the changed circumstances of the 21st century, central to the university's distinctive identity and its service to the church and American society."

Catholic identity and missionary discipleship are critical, the pope said, and need to be evident in the way Catholics live and in the workings of all Catholic institutions.

Catholic universities play a special

role in being faithful missionaries of the Gospel because of their commitment to showing the compatibility of faith and reason and showing how the Christian message offers people a fuller, more authentic human life, he said.

"Essential in this regard is the uncompromising witness of Catholic universities to the church's moral teaching, and the defense of her freedom, precisely in and through her institutions, to uphold that teaching as authoritatively proclaimed by the magisterium of her pastors," he said.

"It is my hope that the University of Notre Dame will continue to offer unambiguous testimony to this aspect of its foundational Catholic identity, especially in the face of efforts, from whatever quarter, to dilute that indispensable witness," he said.

The pope then looked up from his prepared text and told his audience in Italian, "This is important: Your own identity -- as it was intended from the beginning -- to defend it, preserve it, carry it forward," he said.

In the homily at Mass in the chapel of his residence that morning, Pope Francis focused on the importance of humility and fidelity to the church and its teaching.

"The first fruit of baptism is to make you belong to the church, to the people of God," he said, according to Vatican Radio.

That's why it is "absurd" to imagine a Christian who loves Christ but doesn't love, listen to or stay close to his church, he said.

People who follow the Gospel their own way without the church are living "a fantasy, an absurd dichotomy," he said.

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## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)

## The Church must radiate Christ to the world



Father  
Lawrence L. Hummer

Isaiah 58:7-10  
1 Corinthians 2:1-5  
Matthew 5:13-16

The basic creed of both the Old and the New Testaments is found in the first reading from Isaiah: "Share your bread with the hungry, shelter the oppressed and the homeless; clothe the naked when you see them, and do not turn your back on your own." These acts of mercy Christians share with Jews as obligations incumbent upon us all.

This command of the Lord actually begins with Isaiah 58:6, which reads, "This is the fast I desire: releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs of the yoke; setting free the oppressed, breaking off every yoke." Matthew bases the entire judgment in Matthew 25 on how well or badly we carry out these commands.

Many are the excuses we make for why we don't do this or that. Come the judgment, those excuses are going to seem fragile. The judgment, whatever else it will be, is not going to be a negotiation between us and the Lord. Our individual records will do all the talking.

Salt that has lost its taste is like those who have heard the Word, but have not acted on what they have heard. We cannot be recognized as Christians unless we do what Christians are supposed to do. We so often find ourselves in conflict with the teachings of Christ, and then we have the arrogance to deny Christ by clinging to our own attitudes rather than Christ's.

Paul remarks on this in the second reading when he speaks of his own ministry among the Corinthians. He

resolved to rely only on Christ, and a crucified Christ at that! God's power emerges from human weakness, but, of course, our society is never satisfied with weakness. We are all about strength and power and those who have it or who seek it.

In the continuation of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus tells the disciples, "You are the light of the world." If Christians are really the light of the world, they must allow others to see clearly, as any light would do. A light can also be a warming item, like a lamp. The reason the Christian is to allow his light to shine brightly is so that people will see our good deeds, that they will glorify God.

It may be helpful to point out that each time "you" is used in these verses in Greek, it is in the second person plural. That means those who make up the Body of Christ – not the individual members by themselves – are the light of the world. That also means the Church must radiate Christ to the world if people are to glorify God by seeing the Church's good deeds.

The individual members have their role to play within the body, but the individuals must remember that they are part of the action of the body as a whole. If the actions or attitudes of the individuals within the body vary too much from the actions or attitude of the body as a whole, then the light we are called to be begins to dim and eventually dies out.

Individual members of the body really have to ask themselves from time to time how their own attitudes and behavior reflect an awareness of our common calling to be "the light of the world." Does not our insensitivity to people different from ourselves increase the darkness, rather than brighten the light? If our good deeds allow God to be glorified, does silence in the face of evil qualify as a good deed? The Gospel requires much of us every day.

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

## SCOUT DAY, continued from Page 3

For the third consecutive year and fifth time in the last six years, Troop 50 was honored as the Bishop's Troop for combining active participation in religious activities with service to the community and to Scouting. Troop 295, from Columbus St. Timothy, received a certificate of merit.

The bishop also recognized about 100 Scouts who earned various religious emblems related to Scouting.

These include the Light of Christ and Parvuli Dei medals for Cub Scouts; the Ad Altare Dei medal for Boy Scouts; and the Family of God, I Live My Faith, and Marian medals for Girl Scouts and Camp Fire members. All these emblem programs are sanctioned by the national Scouting organizations.

The committee sponsors the annual Catholic Scout Camporee, which will take place from Friday, May 16, to Sunday, May 18, at Somerset St. Joseph Church. In addition, it conducts the locally based St. Tarcisius, International Awareness, Santa Maria, and Founders of Faith in Ohio programs, which examine various aspects of the faith, and it offers uniform patches for completion of activities related to the rosary and to 16 men and women who are saints or have been declared "blessed" or "venerable" by the church and have connections with the Americas.

More information on Catholic Scouting programs is available at the committee's website, [www.cdeducation.org/oym/dccs](http://www.cdeducation.org/oym/dccs).

## The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY  
1 Kings 8:1-7,9-13  
Psalm 132:6-10  
Mark 6:53-56

TUESDAY  
1 Kings 8:22-23,27-30  
Psalm 84:3-5,10-11  
Mark 7:1-13

WEDNESDAY  
1 Kings 10:1-10  
Psalm 37:5-6,30-31,39-40  
Mark 7:14-23

THURSDAY  
1 Kings 11:4-13  
Psalm 106:3-4,35-37,40  
Mark 7:24-30

FRIDAY  
1 Kings 11:29-32;12:19  
Psalm 81:10-15  
Mark 7:31-36

SATURDAY  
1 Kings 12:26-32;13:33-34  
Psalm 106:6-7,19-22  
Mark 8:1-10

## DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 9, 2014

## SUNDAY MASS

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

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

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

(Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).

Mass from Kenton Immaculate Conception Church at 10 a.m. on Time Warner Cable Channel 6 (Hardin County).

Mass from Portsmouth St. Mary Church at noon on Time Warner Channel 24 in Scioto County.

## DAILY MASS

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

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

## The Fine Line



THE TIDE IS TURNING  
TOWARD CATHOLICISM  
David Hartline

Pope Francis has certainly given us a lot to think about so far in his pontificate. Our new Holy Father is optimistic and certainly seems to smile a great deal. He talks a great deal about bringing people into the Church, especially the poor and the marginalized. He also talks a great deal about avoiding the snares of the devil. As a matter of fact, papal watchers in Italy can't remember a pope within anyone's memory who has talked more about the devil than Pope Francis has. In a way, Pope Francis is telling us to walk a fine line.

We all know people who are too optimistic, seeing life through rose-colored glasses 24/7. We also know people who think the devil is under every rock and the sky seems to be falling 24/7. The Holy Father seems to be telling us to know where to draw the line.

Perhaps most pertinent to our daily lives are the people we know and meet on a daily basis who greatly influence us. The folks mentioned above may be somewhat of an extreme. It is the people in our family, those we call friends, and those we work with on a daily basis who have the greatest impact on us and the society in which we live.

When we think about it, do we let others influence us and do we have any influence on others? Obviously, you can only influence others if they let you, but you can give them a reason to want to be influenced by you. Do we stand up for our faith when it is subtly

attacked, or are we experts at biting our tongues? We don't have to get into a knock-down, drag-out fight anytime someone speaks unkindly of the Church, but it would do us well to remember the words of Jesus: "Whoever acknowledges me before others on earth, I will acknowledge you before my Father in heaven. Whoever doesn't acknowledge me before others on earth, I will disown before my Father in heaven" (Matthew 10:32-33).

This doesn't have to do only with family or friends disparaging the Church, or even the actions of Jesus. It also has to do with our responsibilities of helping those in need, the poor, the marginalized, the unborn, etc. Jesus made it clear that he was the Son of God, the Alpha and Omega (the beginning and the end). Church scholars believe he made such bold pronouncements so as not to be confused with the panoply of religious teachers and prophets who walked the earth in and around his time.

The miracles of Jesus had a twofold message: to relieve the suffering of those afflicted and show God's mercy, and to show the power of Jesus, for mere teachers could not perform such miracles. Like Pope Francis, Jesus spoke often of the devil. As a matter of fact, Jesus spoke more of hell than of heaven, which probably meant he wanted us to avoid hell at all costs. Parents will be familiar with lecturing their children about the costs of dangerous activity, lest it lead to something awful.

All too often in our modern world, we are told that evil and hell really doesn't exist, that Jesus was just curing people of epilepsy when he cast out devils. Please remind those who engage in such nonsense that the Son of God certainly knew the difference between those who were experiencing an epileptic seizure and those possessed with some sort of evil spirit. Again, as Pope Francis has reminded us, we need to know the fine line. Perhaps in the weeks leading up to Lent, we need to know that line as it revolves around our faith and our lack thereof. There's no better time than the present to figure it out. As indicated in the Hail Mary, the two most important times in our life are "now and the hour of our death."

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

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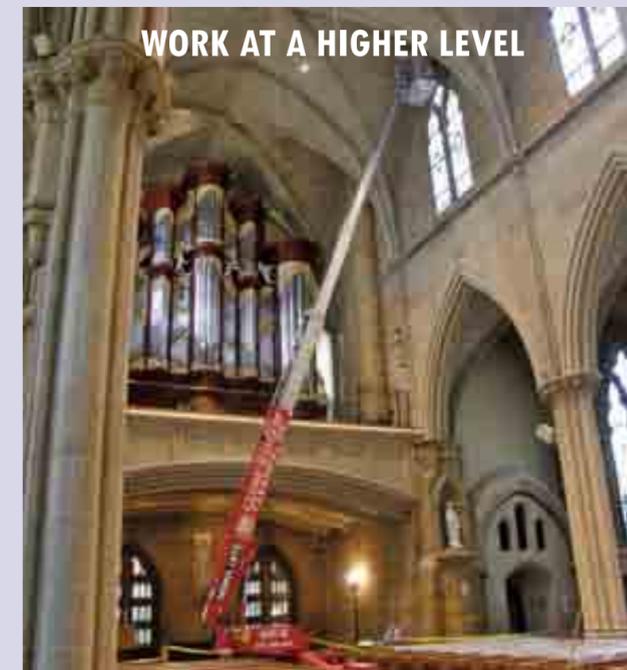
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## WORK AT A HIGHER LEVEL



Maintaining a 135-year-old Gothic cathedral can be a real challenge. One of the largest indoor cranes in the Midwest was recently brought in to St. Joseph Cathedral so workmen could inspect and repair the ceiling arches 90 feet above the floor. It is part of an ongoing structural review of the mother church of the diocese.

# Pray for our dead

**BENJAMIN, John, 94, Jan. 23**  
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

**BERENS, Helen C., 98, Jan. 31**  
St. Mark Church, Lancaster

**BOLIN, Joan, 81, Jan. 27**  
Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Marysville

**BROWN, Helen, 91, Jan. 27**  
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

**BURKART, Janet E., 82, Jan. 30**  
Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus

**CAPOBIANCO, Joseph, 67, Jan. 29**  
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

**CAPOCCIA, Carmel E., 89, Jan. 26**  
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

**COLE, Irene J., 89, of Columbus, Feb. 2**  
Holy Family Church, Poland, Ohio

**CORKREAN, Evelyn L., 88, Jan. 29**  
Our Lady of Peace Church, Columbus

**FEDELE, Josephine A., 81, Jan. 26**  
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

**FOSTER, Carol A., 55, Feb. 1**  
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

**FURR, Don A., Jan. 28**  
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

**GATES, Marjorie, 90, Jan. 29**  
St. James the Less Church, Columbus

**GUNLOCK, Wendell D., 94, Feb. 1**  
St. Peter Church, Chillicothe

**HARTUNG, Margaret, 27, of Columbus, Jan. 26**  
Our Lady of the Visitation Church, Cincinnati

**HEATH, Marian E., 87, Jan. 24**  
St. Patrick Church, London

**KRYSZTOFIK, Mossie L., 93, Feb. 1**  
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

**KUHN, Marion S., 67, Jan. 24**  
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

**LAYMAN, Richard F., 85, Feb. 1**  
St. Bernadette Church, Lancaster

**LEWIS, Catherine I., 87, Jan. 29**  
Our Lady of Peace Church, Columbus

**LOVEDAY, Margaret J. "Jane," 94, Jan. 27**  
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

**MCDONALD, Joseph J. Jr., 88, Jan. 26**  
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

**MILARCHIK, Mary, 93, Jan. 8**  
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

**MILLER, Bob, 87, Jan. 22**  
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

**MILLER, John, 88, Jan. 31**  
St. Mary Church, Chillicothe

**O'CONNOR, Margaret, 98, Jan. 31**  
St. Patrick Church, Columbus

**PERKO, Opal, 96, Jan. 5**  
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

**PUMMELL, Jennifer, 38, Jan. 28**  
Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Marysville

**PYLE, Carl E. "Eddie," 90, Jan. 28**  
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

**RAPHAEL, Anthony T. II, 51, Jan. 29**  
Our Lady of Peace Church, Columbus

**ROOKER, Ronald H., 79, Jan. 28**  
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

**RYAN, Clara J. "Jo," 82, Feb. 1**  
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

**SALTSMAN, Margaret "Jean," 94, Jan. 17**  
St. Mary Church, Portsmouth

**SCHARLOTT, William L. "Red," 82, Jan. 27**  
St. Francis of Assisi Church, Columbus

**SCHMELZER, Frank, 80, Jan. 26**  
St. Mary Church, Bremen

**SHANKS, Doris S., 77, Jan. 29**  
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

**SIMMONS, Jane A., 93, Jan. 27**  
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

**SLAUGHTER, Rose A., 70, Jan. 29**  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

**STORRIE, Lena, 89, Jan. 26**  
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

**SWEETMAN, William, 76, Feb. 2**  
St. Stephen Church, Columbus

**WALSH, Chales "Jim," 71, Jan. 27**  
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

**YOUNGER, James D. Jr., 73, Jan. 28**  
St. Mary Church, Columbus

## John W. Guappone

Funeral Mass for John W. Guappone, 23, who died Wednesday, Jan. 29, was held Saturday, Feb. 1, at St. George Church in Lisbon. Burial was at St. Paul Cemetery, Dungannon.

He was born Dec. 21, 1990, in Alliance to Eric and Natalie (Peterson) Guappone. He was a 2009 graduate of United Local High School in Hanoverton and had attended Otterbein College, where he played soccer.

He was a carpenter who worked beside his father at their construction business, Woodworx, in the Lisbon area, and was a member of the Knights of Columbus; the National Rifle Association, and the Sons of the American Legion, and an alumnus of Buckeye Boys State.

He is survived by his parents; brother, Jeremiah, a Columbus diocesan seminarian attending the Pontifical College Josephinum; and sister, Emily.

## Concert at Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes

Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 1033 W. 5th St., will host the fifth event in its free concert series at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9. The concert, titled "Voice, Brass, and Harp" will feature tenor Jaron Legrain, who will sing sacred music and opera favorites.

Joining him will be Jenna McBride on the French horn and James Predovich on the harp. Both members of the duo, known as JplaysH, are graduates of the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. The duo's website is [www.jplaysHduo.com](http://www.jplaysHduo.com). For information, call (937) 644-6020.

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<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	The Catholic Doctors with Drs. Parker and Turek	Bishop Frederick Campbell
<b>THURSDAY</b>	Msgr. Eugene Morris	Raising Saints with Katy Wyatt
<b>FRIDAY</b>	Treasures of Our Faith with Local Priests	Foundations in Faith with Msgr. Frank Lane

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## FEBRUARY

### 6, THURSDAY

#### 'Digital Danger' Talk at St. Andrew

7 to 8:30 p.m., Bryce Eck Center, 3880 Reed Road, Columbus. Columbus St. Andrew School parent speaker series presents talk on "Digital Danger: Keeping Your Kids on Track" with Dr. Tim Conrad and Upper Arlington police officer Don Stanko. **614-205-9430**

### 6-9, THURSDAY-SUNDAY

#### Bishop Hartley Presents 'Spamalot'

7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Shedd Theater, 549 Franklin Ave., Columbus. Columbus Bishop Hartley High School drama department presents "Monty Python's Spamalot." **614-237-5421**

### 7, FRIDAY

#### St. Cecilia Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

St. Cecilia Church, 434 Norton Road, Columbus. Begins after 8:15 a.m. Mass; continues to 5 p.m. Saturday. Monthly Adoration of Blessed Sacrament Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Begins after 9 a.m. Mass; continues through 6 p.m. Holy Hour.

#### Catholic Men's Luncheon Club Meeting

12:15 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Catholic Men's Luncheon Club meeting. Bishop Frederick

All fund-raising events (festivals, bazaars, spaghetti dinners, fish fries, bake sales, pizza/sub sales, candy sales, etc.) will be placed in the "Fund-Raising Guide." An entry into the Guide will be \$18.50 for the first six lines, and \$2.65 for each additional line. For more information, call David Garick at 614-224-5195.

## '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](mailto:tpuet@colsdio.org)

Campbell presents Catholic Man of the Year award to Mike Stickle. Details at [www.columbuscatholicmen.com](http://www.columbuscatholicmen.com).

#### St. John Chrysostom First Friday Sale

4 to 6 p.m., St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church, 5858 Cleveland Ave., Columbus. First Friday sale of pirogi, stuffed cabbage, noodles, baked goods. **614-882-7578**

**Angelic Warfare Confraternity at Columbus St. Patrick** 7 to 9 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Monthly meeting of Angelic Warfare Confraternity, with talk on chastity-related issues followed by Holy Hour. **614-224-9522**

#### All-Night Eucharistic Vigil

Holy Cross Church, 205 S. 5th St., Columbus. 7:30 p.m. Mass; Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; prayer until 11:30 p.m.; private prayer until 7:30 p.m. Saturday.

#### All-Night Exposition at Our Lady of Victory

Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8 p.m. until Mass at 8 a.m. Saturday, sponsored by church's Knights of Columbus council and Columbus Serra Club.

### 8, SATURDAY

#### Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City

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

#### Citywide Prayer Meeting at Church of Our Lady

9 a.m. to noon, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Citywide prayer meeting sponsored by Columbus Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Mass, followed by prayer meeting at 9:45 and fellowship at noon. Theme: "Year of Charisms and Grace for the Church." **614-237-7080**

#### Black Catholic Ministries Memorabilia Fair

10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus. Eighth annual black history collectors and memorabilia fair sponsored by Black Catholic Ministries. **614-228-0024**

**World Marriage Day Dinner-Dance at St. John Neumann Faith and Family Center**, St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. World Marriage Day dinner-dance for married couples. Begins with renewal of vows at 4 p.m. Mass, followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in adoration chapel from 5 to 5:30, and continues with dinner and music. Attire is "casual tacky tourist." \$75 per couple. **740-965-1358**

#### Feast Day Mass and Valentine Potluck at St. Agnes

4:30 p.m., St. Agnes Church, 2364 W. Mound St., Columbus. Mass for the Feast of St. Agnes, followed by valentine potluck in social hall. **614-276-5413**

### 9, SUNDAY

#### St. Agatha Adult Religious Education

9:40 to 10:40 a.m., St. Agatha Church, 1860 Northam Road, Columbus. "Religious Orders: Where Are they Now and Where Will They Be?" with Father Edmund Hussey. **614-488-1971**

#### St. Christopher Adult Religious Education

10 to 11:15 a.m., St. Christopher Parish Center, 1420 Grandview Ave., Columbus. "Issues and Advocacy: What Does the Church Care About These Days?" with Jerry Freewalt of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns. **614-488-1971**

#### 'Catholicism' Series at St. Pius X

1:30 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. "New Methods," Part 5 of Father Robert

Barron's "Catholicism: The New Evangelization" series. **614-866-2859**

#### College Goal Sunday at Ohio Dominican

2 p.m., Erskine Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. College Goal Sunday, with volunteers helping parents complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. **614-251-4778**

#### Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic Meeting

3 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Meeting of St. Catherine of Siena chapter, Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic, featuring presentation on the sacraments. **Voice, Brass and Harp Concert at Marysville** 3 p.m., Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 1033 W. 5th St., Marysville. Concert featuring tenor Jaron Legrain and French horn and harp duo JplaysH. **937-644-6020**

#### 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**

#### Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter

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

### 10, MONDAY

#### Calix Society Meeting at Columbus St. Patrick

6:30 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Monthly meeting of the Calix Society, an association of Catholic alcoholics. Business meeting followed by 7 p.m. Mass. **614-406-2939**

#### 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. **614-459-2766**

### 11, TUESDAY

#### Serra Club of North Columbus Meeting

Noon, Jessing Center, Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. Serra Club of North Columbus meeting, with Josephinum seminarian Michael Hartge speaking on the seminarians' trip to Rome and participation in Pope Francis' Jan. 1 Mass. Reservations required. **Prayer Group Meeting at St. Mark** 7:30 p.m., St. Raymond Room, St. Mark Center, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Light of Life Prayer Group meeting. **740-653-4919**

### 12, WEDNESDAY

#### Turning Leaves and Tea Leaves

2 to 3:30 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus. Turning Leaves and Tea Leaves book club with Dominican Sisters Marialein Anzenberger and Colleen Gallagher. **614-416-1910**

**Bethesda Healing Ministry 20th Anniversary Dinner** 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Walter Student Commons, St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bethesda Healing Ministry 20th anniversary dinner, with featured speaker Bishop Thomas Olmsted of Phoenix. **614-898-9520**

#### Delaware St. Mary School Open House

7 p.m., St. Mary School, 66 E. William St., Delaware. Open house for parents of prospective preschool students and of students who will be new to the school in 2014-15. **740-362-8961**

### 13, THURSDAY

#### Theology on Tap Meeting

7 to 9 p.m., El Vaquero Restaurant, 3230 Olentangy River Road, Columbus. Monthly meeting of Theology on Tap social group for Catholics 21 and older, with Ohio Dominican University instructor Deb Sabo speaking on the changing role of women in the church from the New Testament to today. **614-390-8653**

#### Josephinum Lecture on Religious Liberty

7 p.m., Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. Lecture on "Religious Liberty and the Human Good" with Dr. Robert George, professor of jurisprudence and director of the James Madison program in American Ideals and Institutions at Princeton University. **614-985-2497**

**Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help at Holy Cross** 7:30 p.m., Holy Cross Church, 204 S. 5th St., Columbus. Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help with Father Ramon Ower, CFIC. **614-513-3682**

### 14-16, FRIDAY-SUNDAY

#### Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend

Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center, 2734 Seminary Road S.E., Newark. Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend, for couples interested in making good marriages better. **740-746-9003**

#### Dominican Sisters 'Come and See' Weekend

Dominican Sisters of Peace Motherhouse, 2320 Airport Drive, Columbus. "Come and See" vocations weekend for single Catholic women ages 18 to 45. **614-216-7688**

### 15, SATURDAY

#### Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City

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

#### Cum Christo Day of Reflection at de Porres Center

9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus. Day of reflection sponsored by Columbus Cum Christo movement. Speakers: the Rev. Scott Marier and Deacon Joe Meyer. Reservation deadline Feb. 7. Register at [www.cumchristo.org](http://www.cumchristo.org).

#### Labyrinth Workshops at Shepherd's Corner

Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Workshops with Dale Sparlin of Mindful Labyrinths on "The Power and Wisdom of Finger Labyrinths" from 1 to 3:30 p.m. and "Bringing Hibernation to Fulfillment" from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Registration deadline Feb. 11. **614-866-4302**

### 16, SUNDAY

#### Blessing of St. Gerard Majella at Holy Family

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

#### St. Agatha Adult Religious Education

9:40 to 10:40 a.m., St. Agatha Church, 1860 Northam Road, Columbus. "The Reform of the Government of the Church" with Father Edmund Hussey. **614-488-1971**

#### St. Christopher Adult Religious Education

10 to 11:15 a.m., St. Christopher Parish Center, 1420 Grandview Ave., Columbus. "Being Catholic (Christian) and Catholic (Universal) in Central Ohio" with Erin Cordle of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns. **614-488-1971**



EXHIBIT

## Portraits of homeless people

The Martin de Porres Center is featuring a collection of portraits of homeless people by Upper Arlington artist Joe Anastasi in an exhibit titled "Art & Soul: An Intimate Portrait."

The show runs through Friday, Feb. 28 with a closing reception from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23. At 3 p.m., Anastasi will speak briefly, telling the story of how he came to paint the portraits and of his friendship with the homeless who agreed to pose for the portraits.

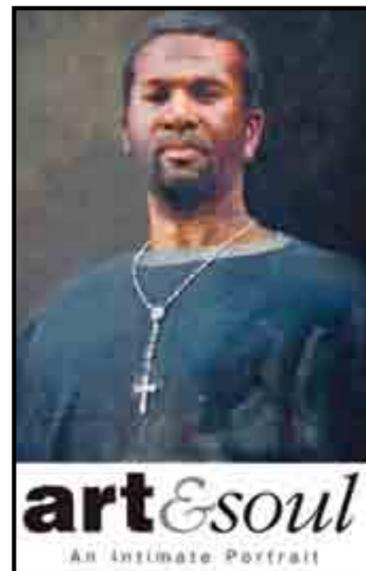
Each visage has its own dramatic story to tell. Anastasi exhibits the paintings to raise money for the St. Vincent de Paul So-

ciety, donating half the proceeds from the sale of each painting.

Admission to the exhibit is free, but donations can be made to the society or to support the arts mission of the de Porres Center. The center has produced a video of Anastasi speaking about his paintings, available only online at [www.martindeporrescenter.net](http://www.martindeporrescenter.net).

At times other than the reception, the gallery is open by appointment only.

The center is located at 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus, and may be reached by phone at (614) 416-1910.



### BOOK REVIEW

## Spiritual Letters

By Sister Wendy Beckett

(Reviewed by Rachel Linner,  
Catholic News Service)

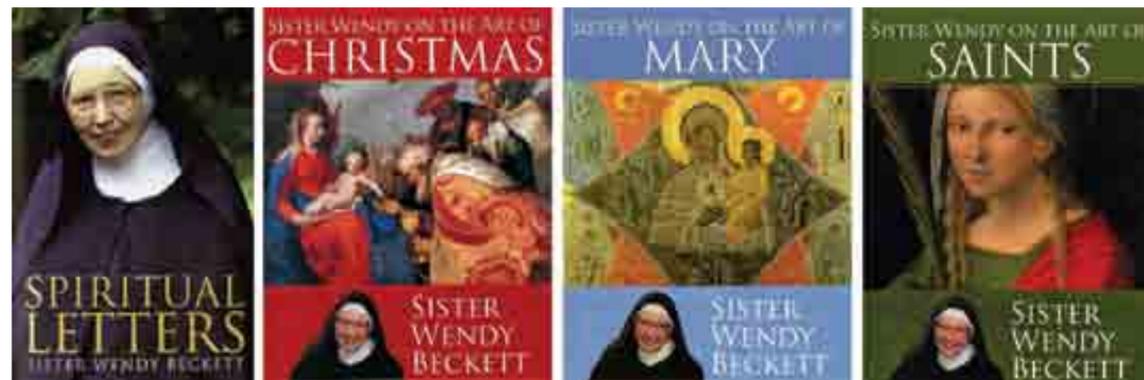
Sister Wendy Beckett, an English hermit, lives under the protection and guidance of the Carmelite nuns at Quidenham in Norfolk, England.

She spends eight hours a day in silent prayer; two hours are devoted to the writing that earns what little money she needs. She first came to prominence in the 1990s, thanks to her participation in a BBC documentary series on art history. Since then, she has written several books, informed by her deep appreciation for and years of serious study about art -- knowledge that is informed by the spiritual depth of her contemplative life.

Sister Wendy's three art books -- on art related to Christmas, Mary, and the saints -- would make wonderful gifts. Each follows a simple format: Sister Wendy comments about 14 works of art on each topic.

These books, reprinted by Franciscan Media, illustrate the companionable pleasure of Sister Wendy's writing, which, although succinct and gentle in tone, conveys a passionate concern that we pay attention.

This is an explicit theme in her appreciation of Giotto's *Wedding at Cana*. "Giotto shows us only one apostle, probably St. Peter, who is awed, almost terrified. Af-



ter this, the apostles knew who Jesus was, but they knew because they noticed. All day Jesus is revealing himself to us, but the circumstances are human. We are distracted by the inessential, and so we miss the whole meaning; we taste the wine, but we do not understand its significance."

Writing about Bloemaert's *The Adoration of the Magi* she notes that the Magi "have taken great trouble, come a long way, made sacrifices, just to find him. He is infinitely close to us, but we cannot find him unless we, too, take trouble and search. Jesus will reveal himself to us exactly to the degree that we want him."

That is, in fact, an apt description of Sister Wendy's life, for she has gone to great trouble to find him. And, as is clear in her *Spiritual Letters*, Jesus has revealed himself to her with extraordinary generosity.

The letters were written over a period of 16 years (1970-1986), after Sister Wendy transferred from the Sisters of Notre Dame

de Namur and began to live her vocation as a hermit, but before she became known as the "art nun." The majority of the letters, about three-fourths of the book, are to her friend Sister Ann. The others are addressed to Carmelites at Quidenham (a novice, a novice formator, and an elderly nun) and to other correspondents.

Sister Wendy responds to Sister Ann's concerns about the challenges and responsibilities she faces in her community, and they frequently discuss artists and authors. The letters contain good practical advice, insightful suggestions, and evidence of their loving friendship.

Most importantly, she offers Sister Ann exquisite spiritual direction -- guidance that is suitable for anyone who is traveling a contemplative path, whether lay or religious. Sister Wendy does not advert to her own prayer life, but these luminous letters attest to the depth of her experiences. "If we choose to believe, we can ignore all the feelings and failures and

fatigues, and simply cleave through thick and thin to Jesus," she writes.

The predominant theme in all the letters, as she reminds Sister Ann, is the need to make a "total surrender to what (God) is doing in you."

She speaks to this frequently when discussing individual paintings, including Greg Tricker's portrait of St. Bernadette (included in the saints book). "The artist has touched her with blue to suggest the constancy with which she thought of Mary. This is a painting of prayer, of that simple, absolute surrender to God that gives God freedom to act."

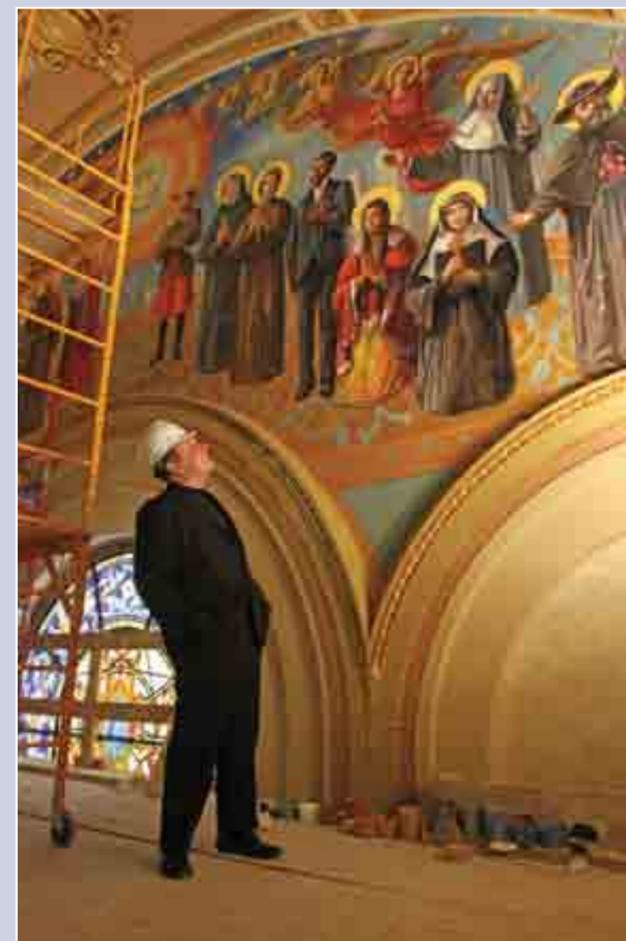
The *Spiritual Letters* make it clear that Sister Wendy, too, has made that "simple, absolute surrender," and that is why everything she writes is informed by the luminosity of God's love that shines through her life.

Linner, a freelance writer and reviewer, has a master's degree in theology from Weston Jesuit School of Theology.

## NEWS IN PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Msgr. Kieran E. Harrington, rector of the Co-Cathedral of St. Joseph in Brooklyn, N.Y., looks at a recently installed mural of American saints and sainthood candidates on Jan. 28. The artwork is a key feature in the restoration of the century-old church, which was elevated to co-cathedral status last year and will be consecrated this spring.

CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz



A man jumps as a friend takes a photo in front of a large drawing of Pope Francis depicting him as a superhero on a wall near the Vatican on Jan. 29. The Argentine pope is shown taking off into the air with his right fist clenched in a classic Superman style.

CNS photo/Alessandro Bianchi, Reuters



A broken glass in a niche where a reliquary with the blood of Blessed John Paul II was located is seen next to a painting of the late pontiff in the church of San Pietro della lenca, near L'Aquila, Italy, on Jan. 28. Thieves reportedly stole a relic of the late pontiff from the country chapel 85 miles east of Rome.

CNS photo/Max Rossi, Reuters



# COLUMBUS CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Psalm 37:4

## DELIGHT YOURSELF IN THE LORD

February 22, 2014 • 8am – 4pm • Ohio State Expo Center, Voinovich Building

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parish \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### # ATTENDING

\_\_\_ \$30 Participant(s)  
 \_\_\_ \$15 Student(s)  
 \_\_\_ \$0 Religious Sister(s)  
 \$\_\_\_\_\_ **Amount Enclosed**

### INDICATE LUNCH #:

\_\_\_ Turkey Sub  
 \_\_\_ Veggie Sub  
 \_\_\_ Veggie Salad  
 \_\_\_ Salad w/ Grilled Chicken  
 \_\_\_ Gluten Free Veggie Salad  
 \_\_\_ Gluten Free Salad w/ Grilled Chicken

**ALSO:** \_\_\_ Gluten free host(s) for Mass



### KIMBERLY HAHN

Well-known speaker and author Kimberly is the wife of Dr. Scott Hahn and mother of six children. With simplicity, grace, and wit, she shares her personal experiences and practical insights on how to apply the truths of our faith to everyday life.



### SR. MIRIAM JAMES

Sr. Miriam is a member of the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity. She graduated from the University of Nevada after receiving a volleyball scholarship and, through a radical conversion, Sr. Miriam heard Jesus call her to be His Bride. She speaks often on healing in Jesus, and the transforming power of authentic love.



### REBECCA DUSSAULT

Rebecca is a 2006 Winter Olympian, wife, and mother. As a talented, young athlete, she was faced with many challenges to her faith and morals. Her skiing career peaked at the 2006 Winter Olympic Games in Italy. With eagerness and zeal she shares what it takes to properly prioritize and order one's life as a Catholic.

Mail registration to Lisa McKeiver, 242 Clark Dr, Circleville OH 43113. Make checks payable to "Columbus Catholic Women's Conference." Tickets emailed or can be pick up at the door on the day of the conference.

Register online at: **ColumbusCatholicWomen.com**

# CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2014 - 8:00 A.M. TO 2:45 P.M.

Voinovich Building, Ohio Expo Center, 717 E. 17th Ave. Columbus, Ohio 43211



### Damen Owens

Dynamic speaker and Executive Director of the Theology of the Body Institute



### Servant of God Fr. Emil Kapaun

d. 1951

Fr. Tony Stephens will share Fr. Kapaun's story of courage and sacrifice as an Army Chaplain



### Fr. William Casey, C.P.M.

Nationally renowned speaker and Superior General of the Congregation of the Fathers of Mercy



### Coach Brad Burchfield

Head Football Coach for the Bishop Hartley Hawks and 2012 Head Coach of the Year

### Mail-in Registration:

# of Men Attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$30= \_\_\_\_\_  
 # of Students \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10= \_\_\_\_\_  
 # of Priests/Deacons/Seminarians \_\_\_\_\_ x \$0  
 Total Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** Scott Williamson, 5107 Canterbury Dr., Powell, Ohio 43065

Box Lunch Included

**Please make checks payable to: Catholic Men's Ministry**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, City, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Online Registration at **www.ColumbusCatholicMen.com**  
**Facebook.com/ColumbusCatholicMen**