The Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Patronal feast of the U.S. ~ December 9
The Editor’s Notebook

Second Week of Advent

**Simple Obedience**

By Brenda Deck, Editor

On Thursday, Dec. 12, we celebrate the incredible story of John the Baptist. The Bible tells us that he was born to Zacharias and Elizabeth. At the age of 12, John was taken to the temple to be circumcised. When he was 13, he began to preach and live a life of obedience to God. John was not content to live a life of luxury or comfort. Instead, he chose to follow God’s will and serve Him with all his heart.

The theme of this week is “Simple Obedience.” This concept is important in our lives today. We are often tempted to ignore God’s will and do what we want instead. However, if we want to be happy and fulfilled, we must be willing to obey God’s commandments. Only then will we be able to fulfill our true purpose in life.

**ANNUAL COLLECTION HELPS RETIRED RELIGIOUS**

The annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection will take place this week. Saturday, December 7 and Sunday, December 8, in the Diocese of Columbus. The Catholic Bishops of the United States created this collection to aid their suffering brothers and sisters in religious communities.

The collection is important because it helps to provide for the care of retired religious sisters. Without this collection, many religious sisters would not have the means to live out their lives in peace and dignity.

**CARDINGTON CHURCH PLANS FOR FUTURE AFTER FIRE**

The church was located on U.S. 42, Cardington OH 43315-9512. Donations may be sent to: Sacred Hearts Church Rebuilding Fund, 4680 U.S. Route 42, Cardington, OH 43315-9512. Please visit our website for more details of those events.

**By Tim Puetz**

Sacred Heart Churches was devastated by a fire on Christmas Day, but "what happened wasn’t all bad," said Father Jake Bakle, SM, parish administrator. "We will continue to keep parish life and go on with most of the programs we had before the fire." The church was closed for about a week after the fire, but the parish was able to continue its various activities, including Sunday Masses and other worship services.

The fire was set intentionally and the person who started it was charged with arson.

**CARDINGTON REOPENS AFTER FIRE**

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**SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT**

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By Rick Jeric

**Rejection**

Did you enjoy saying “This” to those who deserve it most this past week? The lending atmosphere might be a good way to get our attention, but hopefully we were able to think those special people in person, or at least live over the telephone. Our holidays have become too much too busy with so many distractions, if we do not allow that to happen.

“OCTOBER BABY” SCREENING

The Columbus Catholic Charismatic Renewal is sponsoring a day of renewal Saturday, Oct. 11 at St. Columba Church, 6607 Sharon Woods Blvd., on Thursday, Dec. 11 at Krakor’s at Desales. Doors open at 4:30.

Day of renewal will begin with registration at 9 a.m. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at 9:30, along with praise and worship until Mass at 10:15, followed by a dracon Jerry Rivas of Columbus Corpus Christi Church on renewal; with concluding with a potluck luncheon.

Our practical challenge this week is to make a simple, private promise. Reconcile your life to the real presence of the Body and Blood of our Lord in the Eucharist. Do not neglect the way they can witness to the sacrament of Reconciliation for their “Yes.” The solemnity is moved to November 1st.

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

**PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP**

The higher learning commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools has approved Ohio Dominican University’s master’s program in medical practice management, which will be launched in January of 2014. ODU’s master of science in medical practice management program will be taught by faculty with vast, diverse professional and academic experience. The program’s courses will take place once a month at the university. Adults will have an opportunity to achieve their degree around their work and family schedules, and students will gain relevant experience through ODU’s strong network of health professionals.

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The presentation is included in a light-hearted video co-produced by the schools that features both professors participating in setting the bet. Cimbolic and Flyday’s presid- ent, Katherine Fraboni Fraboni, preganant wage that the losing school will give their proceeds to the winning school’s local food bank, which also would receive all food donations collected at the game, which was played at Ohio Dominican. The wager also stipulated that the winning university’s president would wear the winning school’s football jersey in a YouTube video.

“This is a wonderful and mean- ingful way to conclude an excit- ing moment for both of our out- standing universities. It is a great opportunity to serve those who are most in need,” Cimbolic said. “This wager ensures that regard- less of the outcome of the game, everyone is a winner.”

The donation includes food collected during October by stu- dents involved in ODU’s campus ministry. ODU’s food services partner, Sodexo, matched the contribution of 1,139 pounds of food, to double the universities’

**MEDICAL PRACTICE MANAGEMENT**

**MASTER’S PROGRAM AT ODU**

Ohio Dominican University and The University of Findlay have teamed up to donate 2,278 pounds of food and 10 turkeys to the Mid-Ohio Foodbank this holiday season, fulfilling a wager made between the universities’ presidents on the outcome of their Oct. 17 nationally televised football game on the CBS Sports Network. ODU won the game 41-21.

Dr. Peter Cimbolic, Ohio Do- minican president, presented the winnings to Greg Winslow, vice president for development at the University of Findlay, on Nov. 19, 2014. The donation includes food collected during October by stu- dents involved in ODU’s campus ministry. ODU’s food services partner, Sodexo, matched the contribution of 1,139 pounds of food, to double the universities’

**Couples Retreat**

Sixth and Paul Retreat Center, 2374 Seminary Road S.E., Newark, will host a winter retreat Saturday, Jan. 10 and 11, for couples who wish to explore ways to strengthen their relationship with each other and with God.

“Couples Retreat” is a 2-day, 1-night event designed to provide couples with an opportunity to re-focus and reconnect in the comfort of a weekend retreat away from the distraction of everyday life. The weekend will be dedicated to strengthening couples’ relationship with God, each other, and the world around them.

For more details or to register, visit the center’s website at www.ststephensatinneutown.net and click on the “Couples Retreat” link, or call (740) 492-4263.

**FEDERATION OF MARY**

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FULTON SHEEN A SAINT? CATHOLICS AT A GAY WEDDING?

By Jerid Donohue

Because the holiday season is the time when we reflect on our moral position and those who we revere, Cornerstone Church, led by Comtesse of Hope’s executive director, and his wife co-founded the program after the death of their three-year-old son, Tripoli

Frankfort, Ky. (203-888-6711) – On the third Sunday of December, there will be a ‘Mass of Remembrance’ for those who have lost loved ones in the past year.

The Mass of Remembrance is a Catholic liturgical service for loved ones who have passed away during the previous year. It is an opportunity for those who have experienced the loss of a loved one to come together in prayer and remembrance.

The service will include a reading of names of those who have passed away during the past year, as well as a reflection on the work of God in the life of the deceased. There will also be a moment of silence for those who have passed away during the year.

The Mass of Remembrance is an important opportunity for those who have experienced the loss of a loved one to come together in prayer and remembrance. It is a chance to remember the loved ones who have passed away during the past year, and to find comfort in the knowledge that they are in the presence of God.

If you or someone you know has lost a loved one during the past year, you are welcome to attend the Mass of Remembrance. The service will be held at Cornerstone Church, located at 5999 Columbia Rd., Frankfort, Ky. 40601.

The service will begin at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 15, 2013.
Mary McAllister and Michael Llaneza, who recently were elected to the Columbus Bishop Watterson High School Hall of Fame, were honored at an assembly at the school, as was Father Leo Connolly, who received the Silver Knight Service Award.

McAllister, a member of Ready’s Class of 2008, is a Joyce scholar who graduated summa cum laude from the University of Notre Dame in 2012 and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She has spent the last year as a volunteer at Amate House in Chicago, tutoring students at St. Mary of the Lake Elementary School, where most of the students are African refugees. “This fall, she began her first year at The Ohio State University’s medical school. Llaneza, a 1974 Ready graduate, is the owner-operator of Lanz Printing in Columbus. He has devoted hours to support of his alma mater. Whether it’s meeting a ‘rush’ deadline or attending Ready events, he has always been a proud alumnus and readily acknowledges the positive effect the school continues to have on his life.”

Father Connolly, pastor of Columbus St. Cecilia Church, is a faithful Ready supporter who, in the words of principal Celene Seamen, “never is too busy, always has the time, and provides a wealth of spiritual knowledge and a generous spirit” in his dealings with Ready. “I can always count on Father to come through, whether it’s as a celebrant or concelebrant at our liturgies, for confession for our students, or as a sounding board when I need an objective opinion,” she said.

Bishop Watterson Signees

Four Columbus Bishop Watterson High School students recently announced their intent to play sports in college. They are (from left): first row, Madeline Grubbe, swimming; Tori Dietrich, tennis; Xavier; second row, Scott Carter, baseball; Adrian; Lauren Frilling, volleyball, Xavier. Photo courtesy Bishop Watterson High School

ST. BRENDAN HISTORY TRIP

New Lexington St. Rose School is making an effort to recognize newborns in the Perry County Consortium. Whenever word is received about a newborn, the school will send a pink St. Rose of Lima pin and card recognizing the event.

Teacher Jonathan Hedges is coordinating the activity, with the help of Beth Fondale in the consortium office and Teresa Hedges in the school office. Financial support for the project is being provided by the Home and School Association, whose president, Terri Smith. Parents of newborns are urged to call the consortium office.

Pictured with the first batch of bears is sixth-grader the consortium office. is Jessica Muncy. Parents of newborns are urged to call the activity, with the help of Ruth Fon-

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Bishop Ready Honors New Hall of Fame Members and Service Award Winner

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The Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary is one of the great mysteries that the Church teaches but that has been debated and debated throughout the ages. This mystery is about the work of the Holy Spirit and about Jesus Christ and his plan for the salvation of the world. The Immaculate Conception is about the Virgin Mary being conceived without sin.

The Immaculate Conception is a mystery because the Church has taught for many centuries that Mary was conceived without sin from the moment she was conceived. The Church has also taught that the body of Jesus Christ was sinless, but that's how they began. When the angel Gabriel appeared to her, Mary was to be the son of God, she had to be sinless, but that's how they began.

The Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary is logical on the one hand, emphasizing Mary as the new Eve, and they are our first parents in grace. Both sets of parents are intrinsic in the garden of Eden.

The Immaculate Conception is a mystery because the Church understands that while the Church has taught for many centuries that Mary was conceived without sin, it was not possible in God's providence for her to continue to be sinless after she conceived Jesus Christ. She could not fulfill the task given to her for salvation.

It took a relatively long time for the Church to accept the Immaculate Conception. It is not to be confused with the virgins of the Old Testament. The Immaculate Conception was celebrated in the Eastern Church and in the Western Church in the 13th century.

The largest Catholic church in the United States is the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. It was founded in 1859, and its cornerstone was laid in 1920, but it took nearly 40 years to finish because of the Depression and World War II. The basilica is one of thousands of basilicas throughout the world.

Four years later, after what might be said to be her personal stamp of approval for a church as well as for her son as well as for her as the Mother of God, she received that benefit without sin.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: LOGICAL, YET A MYSTERY

BY TIM PUET

The Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary in 1854, when Pope Pius IX issued a decree saying that the Virgin Mary was conceived without sin, Mary remained a virgin.

The Church has always held that Mary, in advance, received the fullness of grace which Christ gained for us on the cross," said Msgr. Morris, director of sacred liturgy for the college of liberal arts and the school of theology at the University of St. Thomas. "All of mankind, even all the nation of Israel, was then, by her sinless nature, trinity, born with divine and human nature, son of god and son of Mary. At the same time, it is a mystery why out of everyone in human history, God chose this young woman and the Holy Land of 2,000 years ago to beste for this mystery. The Immaculate Conception is an unworkable mystery because the Church has worked to become a mystery. At the time of the vestal to fulfill the plan God had for her.

"He had to bring about her conception in such a way that it is child of hers was to be the son of the God, she had to be blameless. She is the mother of God, though she was conceived by our Lord, she is not the same as the Virgin Mary. The Immaculate Conception is a mystery because the Church has taught for many centuries that Mary was conceived without sin.

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It took a relatively long time for the Immaculate Conception to be established. The Feast of the Immaculate Conception was established by Pope Pius IX in 1854, and it is celebrated on December 8. The first Masses were celebrated in the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome in 1531.

In 1643, the king of Spain issued a proclamation placing the Spanish colonies in North and South America under the protection of the Blessed Virgin. Her patronage also was in vogue in the Spanish colonies from the early centuries of the Spanish Empire.

The Western Church adopted it one century later, and it was established in the Eastern Church one century later. The feast of the Immaculate Conception is celebrated in the Eastern Church and in the Western Church in the 13th century.

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About 70 percent of the nation’s col-
lege students cannot find Iran, Iraq, Israel, or Indonesia on a map, and this
lack of knowledge hampers America’s
ability to respond in a global environ-
ment, said Dr. Allan Goodman, presi-
dent of the International Institute of
Education, at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School’s annual Borr-
man award ceremony.

Goodman said foreign language learn-
ing at the lowest level in U.S. esti-
mates and that last year, Harvard
graduated more students with a degree in
a foreign language than the whole of
Europe.

He cited a report on the Council for
Foreign Relations that concluded, “Amari-
a’s foreign language program is especially
weak coupled with a lack of formal
instruction about democracy, values and the
world, limits U.S. citizens’ global
awareness and cultural competence, and
ability to assess situations and re-
Source: Catholic Times
Wilderness Outreach

Wilderness Outreach is sponsoring its annual 20-mile Advent hike from Lake Logan to Ash Cave on Saturday, December 14. It will begin with Morning Prayer at 7 a.m. and conclude by 5 p.m. Those who choose may hike either the first 10 miles or the entire hike.

The vision of such a leader is compared to the ideal personification of creation itself, which is peace and harmony. That makes the difficult possible, not just impossible to attain. In that idealized future, even the sun will rise into Israel’s kingdom, reflecting the meaning of the Second Isaiah. One sees additions like this scattered throughout Isaiah which are attributed to the final editor of Isaiah, as a reminder throughout that Isaiah’s vision was capable of all-land, eternal time and place. Such an editor, who scatters elements of later prophetic writings into the original Isaiah’s work.

Gradually, this vision of peace in the animal world came to be identified with the peace of the Messiah. Isaiah’s prophecies would bring to the many enemies of Israel and to Israel herself. Israel still longing for another leader who would enjoy that same peace. To David, this prophecy is fulfilled in his son Solomon.

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**ST. JOHNS CHRYSTOSYT BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2013**

**11 A.M.**

**St. Andrew’s Catholic School**

**12:30 P.M.**

**St. Andrew Catholic Church**

**Christmas Cookie Sale**

**Saturday, December 7 - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**St. Andrew Catholic Church, 3880 E. 162nd Street**

**Lots of cookies, candy and more!**

**Tickets: 50 cents, 1 for child, 2 for adult**

**Proceeds benefit church’s stained-glass window refurbishing.**

**11:30 A.M.**

**St. Andrew Catholic Church**

**Awakening of the Soil & Te Deum**

After 5 p.m. Mass, at Paulus Church, 350 S. High Street, Columbus.

**Christmas Concert at St. Elizabeth**

7 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 780 Church Ave., Columbus. Annual parish Christmas concert, with choirs and instrumentalists featuring traditional and contemporary music.

**7:30 p.m.**

**Holy Family Church**

**Benediction at St. Philip Church**

7:30 p.m., Holy Family Church, 198 N. High St., Columbus. Monthly 

**9 a.m.**

**Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus.**

**Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King**

9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., St. Therese’s Retreat Center, 5277 E. 5th Avenue.

**9:30 a.m.**

**St. Leo Church, 221 Hanford St., Columbus.**

**Prayer Group Meeting at Columbus St. Patrick Church**

9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Columbus St. Patrick Church, 1525 N. High St.

**9 a.m.**

**Our Lady of Peace Men’s Bible Study**

9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Men’s Bible Study, 22175 N. High Street, Dublin.

**3 to 4:30 p.m.**

**St. Philip Church**

**1:30 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg.**

**Communal Anointing of the Sick**

Reconciliation, 6 p.m.; Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8 p.m. until midnight.

**12:30 p.m.**

**St. Leo Church, 221 Hanford St., Columbus.**

**Second Sunday of Advent Oblatenes**

3 p.m., St. Leo Church, 221 Hanford St., Columbus. Christening and dedication ceremony, with membership ceremony for members of the Filipino Catholic community.

**6:30 A.M.**

**Catholic Men’s Spiritual Life Community**

**St. Leo Church, 221 Hanford St., Columbus.**

**Tradition of the Church**

Notices for items of Catholic interest must be received at least 12 days before publication.

**Christmas Tour of Newark Churches**

5, THURSDAY-SUNDAY

**Christmas Tour of churches in and around downtown Newark**

This is the last stop of the evening “Sights and Sounds of Christmas Tour” of churches in and around downtown Newark.

**11:30 A.M.**

**St. John the Baptist Church**

**Christmas Concert at St. Elizabeth**

7 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 780 Church Ave., Columbus. Annual parish Christmas concert, with choirs and instrumentalists featuring traditional and contemporary music.

**7:30 p.m.**

**Holy Family Church**

**Benediction at St. Philip Church**

7:30 p.m., Holy Family Church, 198 N. High St., Columbus. Monthly 

**9 a.m.**

**Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus.**

**Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King**

9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., St. Therese’s Retreat Center, 5277 E. 5th Avenue.

**9 a.m.**

**St. Leo Church, 221 Hanford St., Columbus.**

**Prayer Group Meeting at Columbus St. Patrick Church**

9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Columbus St. Patrick Church, 1525 N. High St.

**3 to 4:30 p.m.**

**St. Philip Church**

**1:30 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg.**

**Communal Anointing of the Sick**

Reconciliation, 6 p.m.; Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8 p.m. until midnight.

**12:30 p.m.**

**St. Leo Church, 221 Hanford St., Columbus.**

**Second Sunday of Advent Oblatenes**

3 p.m., St. Leo Church, 221 Hanford St., Columbus. Christening and dedication ceremony, with membership ceremony for members of the Filipino Catholic community.

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The foundation’s mission is to reach out and help children in central Ohio. It provides two annual $2,500 scholarships to incoming Columbus Bishop Watterson High School freshmen. It also provides support for the Christine Wilson Barn Center at Nationwide Children’s Hospital and assists in other efforts to assist families of children dealing with recovery from burns. Overall, the foundation has supported 15 central Ohio organizations, including the Christ Child Society, Bishop Watterson, and Hilliard St. Brendan School, providing more than $550,000.

This year’s concert will be at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 in the Capitol Theater at the Riffe Center, 77 S. High St. The featured performer will be pianist Mark Kung. Christine once was the baby-sitter of the Kung’s three children. He will be joined by master of ceremonies Chuck Strickler, vocalist Willie Groove, and the Chamber Music Connection Orchestra.

For tickets and information, call the foundation at (614) 355-0888 or visit www.NationwideChildrens.org/ChristinesChristmas.
Back to Basics: A Parish Mission

at
Holy Family Church

584 W. Broad Street • Columbus, Ohio
December 9th through the 12th

Father Jordan Turano, OP, a priest of the Order of Preachers (commonly called Dominicans) will guide us on a journey to God. Getting Back to Basics is designed to assist in our quest for happiness and the desire to be loved. Join us for our Parish Mission and start getting back to basics!

7:00 p.m. each evening
Monday, Dec. 9th - God & Relationship
Tuesday, Dec. 10th - God & Suffering
Wednesday, Dec 11th - God & Reconciliation
Thursday, Dec. 12th - Evangelization: Where do we go from here?

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday talks will be followed with the opportunity for Confession. Confessions will continue until last one is heard.