



DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

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**ZOAR HOLY TRINITY SERVES
NORTHERN TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

The Editor's Notebook

All things being equal, I'll take Vernal over Autumnal

By David Garick, Editor

It occurs on Wednesday Sept. 23. The sun appears to pass across the equator, and day and night is equal in length. This is the Autumnal Equinox, the end of summer and the beginning of fall. Darkness is on the increase. Nights are getting chilly, and soon the days will turn cold as well. I actually found myself looking at snow blowers at Home Depot this weekend.

I know a lot of people love the fall. Yes, it can be a beautiful time of year with the brilliant colored leaves painting a stunning canvas against a bright blue sky in cool, crisp autumn air. That lasts about two weeks, and then all those leaves fall and have to be raked up, and the bare trees stand as dark skeletons against a leaden gray sky.

It's fun to have football season back. And for me, a devout hockey fan, I look forward to the opening of the Blue Jackets' training camp next week and a season full of promise in pursuit of the Stanley Cup. But as much as I enjoy evenings spent watching those games in the warm confines of Nationwide Arena, I am not thrilled with the icy walk through the windy canyons of the Arena District to get to and from the games.

Fall means preparing for some special holidays: Thanksgiving and especially Christmas. I do enjoy all the feasting and fellowship associated with those days. But even as we relish those wonderful times with family and friends, there is the looming desolation of January and February hanging over the celebration.

As much as I dislike the cold and snow that is likely to come, I am probably most depressed by the growing dark-

ness. We are people of light. Light reveals the world to us. Light leads us safely through the world and exposes the dangers that lurk in darkness. Light nourishes our bodies and provides for the growth of plants and animals that serve us with food, clothing, labor, and companionship. Light gives us hope.

As Christians, we are able to take heart in the face of both the annual onset of darkness that the calendar bring upon us and in the very real darkness that the evil in this world casts over us, because through the darkness, we have illumination from the hand of God. The prophet Isaiah foretold it: "The people who walk in darkness will see a great light; Those who live in a dark land, The light will shine on them." St. Matthew announced it: "The people who were sitting in darkness saw a great light, and the people who were sitting in the land and the shadow of death, upon them a light dawned." St. Paul told the Corinthians: "For God, who said, 'Light shall shine out of darkness,' is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ."

We may be driving to and from work in cold and darkness for the next six months, but the Light of Christ gives us hope -- a hope we will realize more fully on March 20, when the sun returns across the equator on the Vernal Equinox bringing with it light and warmth and, one week later, the celebration of the burst of light that is Easter Sunday.



THE MEETING OF FAMILIES COMES TO THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

Many people from central Ohio have made plans to journey to Philadelphia to see Pope Francis at the World Meeting of Families next week, but most of us will not be able to make the trip.

However, the discussion topics and issues from that event are of great importance to all Catholics. So, after the meeting, the discussion will continue here in the Diocese of Columbus.

Bishop Frederick Campbell will travel to four sites in the diocese for a program based on the World Meeting of Families theme, "Love Is Our Mission." His remarks will center on the call to live the joy and mission of marriage and family life.



The series of talks will begin at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 12 at Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. It will be followed by talks at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21 at Newark St. Francis de Sales Church, 40 Granville St.; 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 31 at Chillicothe St. Peter Church, 118 Church St.; and 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10 at Columbus Bishop Ready High School, 707 Salisbury Road.

MASS TO CELEBRATE RELIGIOUS IN DIOCESE

A special Mass to celebrate the contribution and service of men and women in religious communities within the Diocese of Columbus will be celebrated at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 15 at Westerville St. Paul Church, 313 N. State St. Bishop Frederick Campbell will be principal celebrant and homilist.

Immediately following the Mass, a reception and women's vocations fair will take place in

the parish activity center, where members of several religious orders will be available to discuss religious vocations with young women and their families.

This celebration is part of the Catholic Church's Year of Consecrated Life, declared by Pope Francis in October 2014 to promote a special awareness and appreciation of these dedicated men and women and their service to the church.

It can be difficult for Catholics to find a Mass when traveling or when it is not practical to attend their regular parishes. The website www.MassTimes.org makes it much easier to search for a Mass by presenting all the possibilities in a geographical area on one page. It includes Mass schedules for 117,000 churches in 201 nations or territories. The service also is available by phone. The number is (1-858) 207-6277.



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Front Page photo: Zoar Holy Trinity Church, built in 2001 to serve a congregation formed in 1995 by combining three smaller parishes in northern Tuscarawas County. CT file photo by Ken Snow



Cardinal calls for solidarity with Middle East's persecuted Christians

By Mark Pattison
 Catholic News Service

Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington called for solidarity with the persecuted Christians of the Middle East during a prayer service at a Roman Catholic church on Capitol Hill.

The service on Wednesday, Sept. 9 at St. Joseph Church (pictured) took place in conjunction with the In Defense of Christians summit at a hotel within walking distance of the church.

The three-day summit was the second for the organization, which Cardinal Wuerl noted in his reflections during the prayer service.

"All of came together (in 2014) so the people could ... express solidarity with our brothers and sisters," he said, "and bear prayerful witness to the suffering of so many ... especially our Christian brothers and sisters."

This year, Cardinal Wuerl said, "we are gathered in solidarity and witness" again to support the region's Chris-



tians, who face "tragedy" every day. "Much, much needs to be said about what continues to happen in the Middle East," he added.

"After the prayer service, we can walk out and enjoy freedom. So many of our

brothers and sisters cannot do that."

Cardinal Wuerl recalled the beatitudes, as proclaimed in English in sung chant at the prayer service by Melkite Father Nabil Haddad, founder of the Jordanian Interfaith Coexistence Re-

search Center. He particularly noted the blessing for "those who hunger and thirst for righteousness." This phrase describes Christians in today's Middle East, he said.

"We know that we can offer our prayers," he added. "Prayer helps. Prayer is effective."

Cardinal Wuerl suggested praying to Our Lady Help of Christians on behalf of Christians in the Middle East, who face continuous pressure concerning whether to stay in their native homelands in the face of turbulence and war, or to flee to an uncertain future elsewhere in the region, or perhaps on another continent.

"Jesus says 'Let your light be seen, let your light shine,'" Cardinal Wuerl said.

The prayer service featured the Marian hymn *Immaculate Mary*, sung in English and Arabic, and a procession with Marian icons. Elements of Melkite, Maronite, Byzantine, Syriac, Armenian, and Syro-Malabar rites were incorporated into the service.

Columbus Catholics continue their strong support of Christians in the Holy Land

The recent surge of refugees from Syria into Europe has turned the attention of the world to the plight of those who are suffering from the ongoing and escalating animosity, conflict, and violence in the Holy Land. One group that is especially endangered in this tragedy are the Christians who have called this land home ever since their ancestors answered the call to become the first disciples of Christ. At the heart of this region, in Israel and Palestine, Christians once comprised more than 20 percent of the population. While they have not thus far faced the violent attacks currently taking place in Iraq and Syria, they have for many years been under severe economic and political pressure from the dominant Jewish and Muslim populations in that area. Many have been forced to emigrate to Europe and the United States because they no longer could make a life for themselves in places like Bethlehem, Nazareth, and Jerusalem. Today there are barely 150,000 Christians remaining in the place where Our Lord walked, taught, died, and was resurrected to create our Church and ensure our salvation.



Above: Judy and Gene Alfonsi receive the "Defenders of the Holy Land" honor from Father Peter Vasko, OFM. Right: Father Vasko and diocesan priests concelebrate Mass. CT photos by Ken Snow

Ten years ago a group of Catholics from this diocese made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and resolved to be "doers of the word and not hearers only" by taking action to support Holy Land Christians in their effort to stay and build a life for their children in the land that is their heritage.

The group is known as Cradling Christianity. Since 2006, it has raised more than three-quarters of a million dollars in Columbus to provide housing, job opportunities, and education



that enable Christians to remain in the Holy Land.

Its 10th anniversary event, consisting of a Mass and dinner, took place Thursday, Sept. 10, at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School. Father Peter Vasko, OFM, president of the Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land in Jerusalem, presided at the Mass, which was concelebrated by nine priests from the Diocese of Columbus. More than 300 people attended the dinner in the Walter Commons and heard author, ra-

dio commentator, and Catholic apologist Patrick Madrid speak about the importance of Catholics living their faith through action such as the support of our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land.

The event also included the presentation of a special award by Father Vasko. Gene and Judy Alfonsi were honored as "Defenders of the Holy Land" for their outstanding leadership and support of the work of the Franciscans in the Holy Land over many years.

PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

Tissue

How did you do with keeping things in perspective this past week? We can maintain a much lower level of stress if we are able to be realistic about which things are really important. While that helps us personally, it is of greater importance to be a source of comfort and calm for others. We really need to take a step back and evaluate how we handle ourselves if we become a source of stress for others. For me, I know all too well how difficult I can be at home sometimes. The stress I cause for my wife is not necessary, and is even stupid. But I am human and fail regularly. This is where the hard work and effort enter in with marriage. The ongoing forgiveness and renewed positive attitude of humility and sacrifice make it survive and work. The love that perseveres and wins in a good marriage is the same kind of love the world needs. We all work hard on this at home, and we can all work hard in the same way with everyone else.

This column rarely generates any controversy, and I do not typically get many calls or notes regarding the content. I did receive a few after last week's column was published, particularly for my reference to "butchers" at Planned Parenthood, along with saying that abortion is "sport" for them. I was told that these references were a bit harsh. While not trying to be judgmental, I cannot comprehend how anyone of sound mind and heart could perform any type of abortion. Beyond that, the harvesting of body parts puts an exclamation point on terms like "butcher" and "sport." I offer no apologies. Our diocesan shepherd, Bishop Frederick Campbell, can communicate much better than I. He recently issued a statement on Planned Parenthood's selling of fetal tissues. It was published in last week's Catholic Times. It is worth noting the key aspects of his important statement. The following is a portion of his text: "The release of recent videos of Planned Parenthood officials discussing the selling of fetal tissues obtained from abortions has shocked Catholics and all persons of good will. The Catholic Church has long stood as the champion of human life, from conception until natural death. This case makes clear the wisdom of this teaching; the actions of Planned Parenthood reveal the unavoidable result in discounting the fundamental value of life. It is actions such as these that prompt the Holy Father to call for a rejection of our culture's technological and intellectual detachment, and be mindful of the words of Christ in Matthew: 'He will answer them, Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.' It is my sincere wish that all Catholics, as well as people of good will throughout our diocese, give careful consideration to the ultimate consequences of these practices – and consider how they lead us away from Christ and diminish the humanity of each of us."

Our practical challenge this week is to take a few minutes and write to your U.S. senators and congressmen, along with your Ohio state representatives. Let them know how you feel about funding the ghastly practices of Planned Parenthood. Go to www.house.gov and www.senate.gov for the U.S. Congress, and www.ohiohouse.gov and www.ohio-senate.gov for the state Legislature. Ask your relatives and friends to do the same. Finally, support our Catholic hospitals, our local Women's Care Centers, Catholic Social Services' Project Rachel, and Bethesda Healing Ministry. Pray, write, pray, provide support, pray, repeat.

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



ODU Is a Top-Tier University

For the fourth consecutive year, *U.S. News & World Report* has ranked Ohio Dominican University in the top tier of colleges and universities in the Midwest in its 2016 "Best Colleges" list.

U.S. News & World Report analyzes several factors in determining its annual list, including average freshman retention rate, average graduation rate, and student-to-faculty ratio. The magazine also ranked Ohio Dominican as one of the "Best Colleges for Veterans" in the Midwest.

"We are extremely proud that, for the fourth consecutive year, *U.S. News &*

World Report considers Ohio Dominican University one of the best universities in the Midwest," said Dr. Peter Cimboric, ODU president. "We have been tirelessly and carefully researching, designing, and launching new in-demand programs, such as our insurance and risk management program, that not only fill workforce needs, but also give our next generation of students the tools they need to be successful at work and in life. This designation speaks to the outstanding quality of our students, faculty, staff, and alumni."

Healing Mass

The diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal will sponsor a healing Mass at 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20, at Columbus Christ the King Church, 2777 Livingston Ave., celebrated by Father Dean Mathewson, with Father Jim Coleman as concelebrant.

It will be preceded by the rosary at 2:30 and praise and worship at 3:00 p.m. Trained prayer teams will be available from 3 to 4 for those desir-

ing personal prayer for healing of spiritual, emotional, or physical needs. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be offered during Mass for those with serious illnesses. Mass will be followed by a fellowship dinner. Those attending are asked to bring a side dish, if possible.

For more information, call (614) 500-8115 or send an email message to info@ccrcolumbus.org

Saint Paul the Apostle Parish DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Saint Paul the Apostle Parish, a 4,000 family Catholic community in Westerville, Ohio (Columbus) is in search of a Development Director. This is a full time salaried position with an excellent benefit package reporting directly to the pastor.

The Development Director is responsible for creating a comprehensive development plan for the parish and school. This individual is accountable for the design and execution of all fundraising and expansion programs including; stewardship, capital campaigns, land use, special gifts, planned giving, identification of new funding sources, and the completion of projects currently in progress.

This individual is also responsible for the creation and implementation of a social media strategy to optimize parish exposure including; marketing, parish website operation, community involvement, evaluation of market trends, and application of new approaches based on those trends.

The qualified individual will have a minimum of a baccalaureate degree, five years of parish and school development experience, and possess strong communication skills; a working knowledge of building construction and graphic design is a plus. This position requires specific knowledge of the Catholic Church and its procedures. This individual must be a practicing Catholic in good standing.

Compensation is open and commensurate with experience.

For more information, please contact; Deacon Dean Racine, Director of Parish Administration at (614) 882-2109. Résumés may be sent with a cover letter by e-mail to deanr@stpacc.org.

ST. FRANCIS CENTER NEEDS FOOD

A report released earlier this month by the U.S. Department of Agriculture says Ohio ranks third-worst in the nation in the percentage of families forced to skip meals or eat less because they don't have the money or resources to put food on their table.

One of the areas in Ohio where the problem of food insecurity is especially acute is Vinton County, the smallest in Ohio in terms of population and one of the poorest in terms of per-capita income. The county is served by the Diocese of Columbus through the St. Francis Center in McArthur.

Center director Lisa Keita is asking for donations of food of any kind, especially vegetables and fruit (canned is better, but fresh items will be gladly accepted), cereal, and pasta sauce. Mone-

tary donations are always appreciated.

Items may be donated to the diocesan Office for Social Concerns at 197 E. Gay St. in Columbus or to the St. Francis Center.

In addition, the center is starting to make plans for its eighth annual Thanksgiving "Turkey Toss," which last year provided a holiday dinner for more than 400 families. This year, Keita is asking that anyone wishing to donate to this event send a check directly to the center.

Checks should be made payable to St. Francis Center, with the word "turkey" in the memo line, and sent to Lisa Keita, St. Francis Center, 108 W. Mill St., McArthur OH 45651. For more information, call (740) 596-5820 or email lkeita04@hotmail.com.

COMMUNITY CARDBOARD CHALLENGE

Columbus St. Andrew School, 4081 Reed Road, in partnership with the Columbus Museum of Art and the PAST Foundation, is sponsoring the 2015 Community Cardboard Challenge, part of the Global Cardboard Challenge, on Saturday, Oct. 10. There is no fee to participate. Events will run from 9 a.m. to noon.

Teachers, students, community members, and museum and PAST staff will post challenges designed to encourage experimentation, build curious minds, and stimulate critical thinking -- or,

in other words, play. Throughout the day, you'll be encouraged to use your best creative thinking to answer those challenges, using cardboard, tape, and other recyclables.

The Global Cardboard Challenge encourages friends, family, co-workers, and community members around the world to come out to play at local events, celebrating the creativity and imagination of kids everywhere. More information is available at <http://imagination.is/our-projects/cardboard-challenge>.



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Students can compete in video contest

The Diocesan Catholic Schools Office and the Missions Office are jointly sponsoring a video competition in which young people of the Diocese of Columbus are being asked to make a video demonstrating how Christ can be brought into the digital world.

The Gospel and mission of the Church are meant to be shared and demonstrated. In the Kingdom of God, justice is to become a reality, where the poor, the sick, the grieving, the disabled, slaves, women, children, widows, orphans, lepers, and immigrants – the least among people – are to be lifted up and to be embraced by God through Christ's followers.

The Gospel is Jesus' vision of a people being sent forth to transform the values and practices of our world; first, in the hearts and minds of his followers, then, through their efforts and influence, in our entire society.

The contest will provide awards of \$500 for first place, \$300 for second place, and \$200 for third place.

Stipulations and criteria for judging include:

- The Missions Office and the Department for Education will judge the videos and award prizes based on how well they portrayed the concepts listed above and on the quality of the video, as well as the amount of hits/likes/views the video created. The judges' decision is final.

- All submitted videos should include the following title frame:

Title: Bringing Christ to the Digital

World, Diocese of Columbus.

Produced by: Name of high school or parish youth group.

Videos submitted for consideration become property of the Missions Office.

Submissions may subsequently be used by the Missions Office to provide and/or enhance evangelization efforts and programs for various audiences around the diocese.

- Submitted videos must be three to five minutes long, recorded on a high-quality video camera or iPad in MPEG format, and submitted on a flash drive.

- For any student who appears or is referred to in the submission, high schools and parish youth groups must obtain a video/photo release form, signed by the student's parent, before submission. Forms must be submitted with the video entry.

- Any entrant who incorporates any intellectual property or material owned by a third party into a submission must not infringe the copyright, trademark, privacy, publicity, or other personal or proprietary rights of any person or entity. Written permission must be obtained and provided on request for all copyrighted materials.

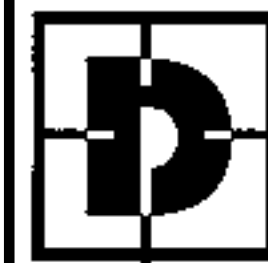
- Hits/views/likes will be counted from Friday, Nov. 20 to Monday, Nov. 30.

- Winners will receive a prize notice via email.

Entries must be submitted no later than Friday, Nov. 20 to Lany Tapay, Diocesan Missions Office, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215.

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Clarifying passage in Scripture; Sen. Rubio and dual worship



QUESTION & ANSWER
by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

It would not be Christian to judge what is in his heart, is there anything unlawful about such “dual worship” -- or, for that matter, about a Catholic who sprinkles his/her worship practices with services at various Protestant churches in addition to Catholic Mass? (Jacksonville, Florida)

A. I have, of course, no personal knowledge of the religious beliefs or practices of Sen. Rubio. Like you, I have read that he often visits Miami's Christ Fellowship, a Southern Baptist congregation, but that he finds his religious home in Catholic parishes in Washington, D.C., and in Florida.

I also understand that he was raised a Catholic as a child in Florida, then became a practicing Mormon when his family moved to Las Vegas and a Catholic again when they returned to Florida. I have read that in 2000, he began to attend the Miami megachurch with his wife and worshipped nowhere else for four years, but he missed receiving the Eucharist and returned once more to regular Catholic worship. (Rubio is quoted by Religious News Service as saying: “I craved, literally, the most Blessed Sacrament, holy Communion, the sacramental point of contact between the Catholic and the liturgy of heaven.”)

In 2012, he explained, “I'm a Roman Catholic. I'm theologically in line with the Roman Catholic Church. I believe in the authority of the church.” But because of the value which he finds in other religions, he and his family often still attend Saturday night worship at Christ Fellowship, and he has particular praise for that congregation's strong preaching and children's programs, he said.

There is a difference between simply drawing value from other religious traditions and actually blending those traditions. The teaching of the Catholic Church does not envision the sort of equal apportionment of time that you suggest by the term “dual worship.”

One's fundamental allegiance must be to one tradition or another, and Sen. Rubio professes that he now finds his spiritual center in Catholicism.

In a 2009 survey, the Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion and Public Life found that one-fifth of American Catholics say they sometimes attend non-Catholic services. That could range, of course, from occasional presence at weddings or funerals to more regular attendance -- such as in the case of an interfaith marriage, where one partner honors his or her Catholic obligation to regular Sunday Mass but also might accompany the spouse to a non-Catholic service.

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

Q. Somewhere in the Scriptures, it quotes Jesus as saying that “my house has many rooms.” I'm wondering what he meant. Does it mean that not all of us in heaven will see God? (Cedar Lake, Indiana)

A. The passage to which you refer comes in John's Gospel (14:2), during Christ's discourse to the apostles at the Last Supper. In the *New American Bible* (which is the version from which our Mass readings are taken), it is translated, “In my Father's house there are many dwelling places.”

The quote is subject to various interpretations, but no scriptural commentator, to my knowledge, takes it to mean that some of those in heaven will not see God.

Most commonly, it is seen as offering reassurance to the apostles that they will eventually be reunited with Christ, even after death. Quite likely, they were worried that Jesus was abandoning them, and he endeavored to comfort them with the knowledge that there was ample room for them in his Father's house, to which he would soon return.

Notice that in the very next verse, Jesus says that he is going to prepare a place for them and that he will come back to take them there.

Q. Sen. Marco Rubio, a Republican presidential candidate, is reportedly a communicant at daily Mass. He also attends worship services at a Protestant “megachurch” on weekends. Though

Men's Luncheon Club Meeting

The Catholic Men's Luncheon Club will continue its fall series on Friday, Oct. 2 with a presentation on “A Solution to the Crisis in the Family: Lessons from the World Meeting of Families” by Dan Thimons, director of the diocesan Marriage & Family Life Office. Thimons will have just returned from Philadelphia and will have experienced Mass with Pope Francis during the weekend before the presentation.

The meeting will follow the 11:45 a.m. Mass at Columbus St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., and will conclude by 1 p.m. No reservations are necessary. A \$10 donation is requested to cover the cost of the lunch and meeting.

For more information on Catholic men's luncheons, visit www.ColumbusCatholicMen.com or contact John Schechter, luncheon club president, at jschechter@sbcglobal.net.

Pray the Rosary



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Record Society Meeting

The Catholic Record Society's next quarterly meeting will take place at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 27 in the atrium on the lower level of Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church, 684 S. 3rd St. The speaker will be the parish's pastor, Father Kevin Lutz, discussing the parish's 150-year history.

The parish was founded in 1865 as the third Catholic church in Columbus and the second for those who spoke German. Known first as *Marienkirche* and later as Grand Old St. Mary's, it has survived the problems of the inner city and today is the heart of the restored German Village area. For more than 50 years, it operated a parish high school, and it still has an elementary school.

Father Lutz, a priest of the diocese since in 1978, has been pastor at St. Mary's since 2013. In 1998, he founded the Jubilee Museum and Cultural Arts Center, which has grown to become the nation's largest repository of Catholic artifacts related to art, liturgy, music, and other forms, in the former Columbus Holy Family School building.

For more information, contact Mike Finn at fcoolavin@aol.com or (614) 268-4166.

Healing Mass

A Mass of Healing and healing service will take place at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 21, in Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St.

Father Michael Lumpe, a cancer survivor, will celebrate the Mass, which will be followed by a healing service, beginning with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and continuing with veneration of relics of the True Cross. The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be available, and everyone present will be able to discuss his or her particular situation with one of several priests present and to receive a prayer of healing. The service will conclude with Benediction.

All persons who seek healing for cancer, all physical illnesses and infirmities, mental and spiritual anxieties, or any other problem are invited, as are family members, caregivers, and medical professionals. For questions, call the cathedral at (614) 224-1295. Healing Masses at the cathedral are celebrated on a bimonthly basis on the third Monday of the month.

Answering God's Call

NEWSPAPER, NEWMAN CENTER HELPED INFLUENCE VOCATION



Sr. Alberta Wilkes, OSF

by Tim Puet

Sister Alberta Wilkes, OSF, who was a Catholic Times staff writer for many years in the 1970s and 1980s, says the newspaper indirectly played a key role in her decision to join the Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity.

“Back in the mid-1970s, I was working in public relations at The Ohio State University and was seriously considering the possibility of entering the religious life,” she said. “I was part of a lay advisory board the paper had at the time. One day, coming downstairs from a board meeting, I got to talking about my interest with a Franciscan sister who was on the elevator with me.

“That conversation set off a chain of events which ultimately resulted in my becoming a Franciscan. It led me to become involved with a Scriptural prayer group the sisters were conducting. That was my first significant experience of working with sisters, and it made me want to learn more about their congregation.

“I went to the sisters' Motherhouse at Stella Niagara, New York, and immediately felt comfortable there. It's not a fancy place, but one that's attractive, yet simple. That simplicity of lifestyle appealed to me, so I applied to be a candidate and joined the congregation. From there, I took my first vows in 1976 and final vows in 1981.

“There wasn't one big inspirational moment that led me to becoming a sister, but a series of events that gradually unfolded as God prepared me for the religious life.”

Sister Alberta grew up on the west side of Cleveland and is the older of two sisters. Her grandparents came to the United States from Lithuania. Her father, Albert, was employed at a refinery. Her mother worked part-time at a department store and served as a Girl Scout leader and in other activities at Cleveland St. Leo Church.

She graduated from Cleveland Holy Name High School and received a bachelor of science degree from Kent State University, majoring in English with a minor in journalism. She taught English and journalism and was yearbook adviser at Parma High School, then came to Columbus for master's degree work at The Ohio State University and went to work in OSU's development office writing and editing for publications. She has remained in central Ohio ever since, except for a period spent at Stella Niagara in formation for becoming a sister.

“I always looked up to the sisters who taught me at St. Leo's and Holy Name,” Sister Alberta said. “They planted a seed of interest in being part of that life, but I wasn't ready. I went on a retreat after college to see if I could discern what I wanted to do, but still couldn't decide, so I began teaching at Parma.”

In Columbus, she attended Mass at the St. Thomas More Newman Center adjacent to the OSU campus. The center and its Paulist priests influenced her decision to become a sister. “I was fed spiritually by what I saw and heard at the center,” she said. “I felt more and more a desire to be of better service to society.

“One of the social workers at the center introduced me to a woman with several needs. Working with her was both satisfying and challenging. It made me want to find an ideal way that would balance service to God and to others with personal growth.

“I visited a religious community, but felt it wasn't quite right for me. One of the Paulists at the Newman Center knew of my journalism background and recommended me for the Times ad-

visory board. Through that involvement, I ended up having the conversation that brought me to the Franciscans.”

Her first year as a candidate for the religious life was spent living with the community of Franciscan sisters at Columbus Our Lady of Victory Church. From there, she went to Buffalo, New York, and Stella Niagara to continue formation as a postulant and a novice.

Just before her first vows, she spent a month with the Catholic Worker community in New York City, meeting its founder, Dorothy Day, who has been honored by the Catholic Church with the title Servant of God and whose candidacy for sainthood was endorsed by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2012.

After taking first vows, Sister Alberta worked at the original St. Ann's Hospital in Columbus, editing its employee newsletter. Longtime Catholic Times editor Mike Collins asked her to come to work for the newspaper in 1977. For most of the next 10 years, her byline was a familiar one on its pages.

She was a Times staff writer from 1977-80, then worked with community activist Bill Faith and others for three years in the early days of the Community Kitchen, which today serves meals six days a week at its original location at Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church and at Columbus St. Dominic Church. While with the Community Kitchen, she also was editor of the newsletter for her province of the Stella Niagara Dominican congregation.

She returned to the newspaper's staff from 1983-87. “My favorite stories with the Times were about social justice topics, especially poverty and peacemaking,” she said. “I was able to travel around the diocese seeing how parishes and individuals were carrying out the diocese's mission of serving those in need. This was a great education.”

She has been involved in social-service activities since 1987, being employed at various times by the Ohio Coalition for the Homeless, Heritage Day Health Centers, Mount Carmel Hospice, and St. Rita's Home for the Aged, and earning a master's degree in social work from OSU.

Today, she is a case manager for the Franklin County Office on Aging. In that position, she assesses applicants for the office's Senior Options in-home services program and manages a case-load of 150 clients, all by phone. She also responds to information requests from the public and refers people to community resources. She is one of eight Franciscans living in the St. Leo Convent in Columbus.

When asked about people who have been significant in her life, she said, “There are too many to single out, but I do want to say that I've had three good prayer directors, all Dominican sisters, who have been very wise women. It's good to have someone to talk to about your day-to-day life, and I would encourage everyone who wants to grow in their faith to do so.

“To anyone interested in the religious life, I would say to get as close to the lived reality of that life as you can. One way of doing so is by becoming an Associate of a particular congregation. It's very life-giving, lets you work closely with the congregation, will deepen your faith, and will help you discern your future. It may make you realize how you can serve God best.”

Go to Church

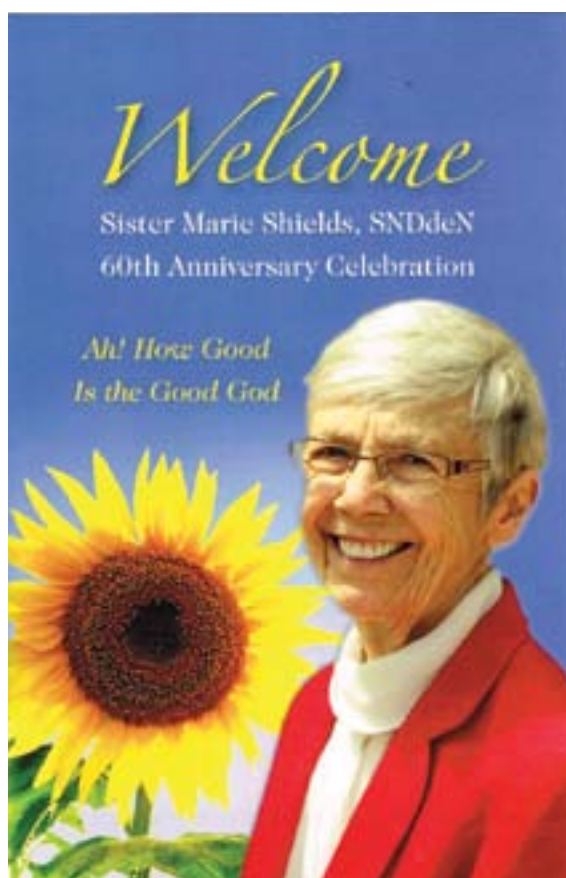
PETER LYNCH AT ST. CHARLES

Investor and philanthropist Peter Lynch met with Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School students to share his thoughts and answer questions on the afternoon of Wednesday, Sept. 9. That night, he spoke to more than 650 guests at a dinner in the Robert C. Walter Student Commons which raised more than \$550,000 for student financial aid for the school. The vision of Walter and his wife, Peggy, initiated the event, which Walter hopes will inaugurate an annual series that will feature intriguing speakers, offering insight into thought-provoking topics while generating funds through the St. Charles Endowment. The event "has introduced St. Charles, with its strong academic and extracurricular offerings and commitment to support the growth of young men, to a broader audience," Walter said. Lynch is vice chairman of Fidelity Management & Research Co. and an advisory board member of the Fidelity Funds. He attained international prominence as portfolio manager of the Fidelity Magellan Fund, developing it into the world's best-performing fund from May 1977 to May 1990 and growing its assets from \$20 million to more than \$14 billion. Today, he focuses much of his time and efforts on philanthropy. He served 25 years as chairman of Boston's Inner City Scholarship Fund, and has helped raise more than \$130 million in partial scholarships for children attending Catholic schools in Boston. Photo courtesy St. Charles Preparatory School



60TH JUBILEE CELEBRATION

Columbus St. Matthias Church celebrated the 60th Jubilee of the final profession of vows by Sister Marie Shields, SNDdeN, on Sunday, Sept. 6 with a Mass in the church and a reception at St. Francis DeSales High School next door. Sister Marie has been a presence in Columbus at St. Christopher, Immaculate Conception, and St. Matthias churches, bringing a wonderful expression of God's goodness. People from all these parishes, her family, sisters from her congregation, and Associates of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur were there to celebrate this joyous event honoring her commitment to God.



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LOVE IS OUR MISSION

A CALL TO LIVE THE JOY AND MISSION OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

<p>Monday, October 12, 7 PM Ohio Dominican University Columbus</p>	<p>Saturday, October 31, 10:30 AM St. Peter Parish Chillicothe</p>
<p>Wednesday, October 21, 7 PM St. Francis DeSales Parish Newark</p>	<p>Tuesday, November 10, 7 PM Bishop Ready High School Columbus</p>

Please join Bishop Campbell for a presentation on the issues and topics discussed at the September World Meeting of Families and answer the call to live the joy and mission of marriage and family life.

Contact the Diocesan Marriage & Family Life Office
(614) 241-2560 or familylife@colsdio.org.

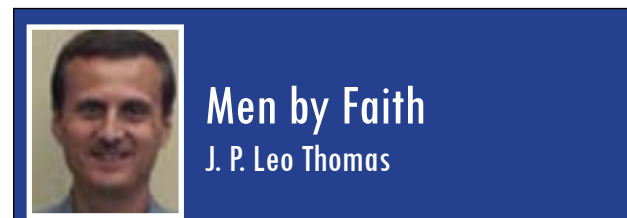


Giving a little, getting a lot

We recently returned from our family vacation. As usual, everybody chose the beach. We loved the sunshine, the ocean, the breeze, and the way the sand felt beneath our feet, of course, until it reached our legs, our arms, our underpants, our clothes – need I go on?

Today, we simply take a shower and wash it all away. But think of days long ago when the apostles trampled through the desert. Sand must have been in the food they ate and in the water they drank. There was no way around it. It was everywhere you looked.

Those men just learned to bear it and knew that with everything, there was good and bad. We go through life with things we must just put up with. The benefits of these things simply outweigh the small inconveniences we must face. If, while enjoying



family and friends, I have to put up with a little granular feeling, then so be it.

St. John Paul II once said, "There is no place for selfishness and no place for fear! Do not be afraid when love makes demands. Do not be afraid when love requires sacrifice. It is in sacrifice we find meaning."

Buying detergent to clean out our swimsuits, \$10;

using a scrub brush to clear away the sand from our shoes, \$5; memories to last a lifetime – priceless.

So when we think of our hardships, remember, when we give just a little to someone who truly needs it, we get so much more in return. That, I believe, is the greatest gift we can give, not only to others, but to ourselves.

May His light shine upon you always, may we come together in helping each other, and may His peace be with you always.

Joseph Thomas is a freelance writer and active in many diocesan and church ministries. He is a member of Gahanna St. Matthew Church. He posts his thoughts online at <http://www.thomspir.wordpress.com>.

Upside-down definitions

By Sister Constance Veit, LSP

Belief in God and objective truth has been sidelined in our society, Cardinal Donald Wuerl of the Archdiocese of Washington recently lamented. Because of this, he said, we live in a culture of "upside-down definitions." I have been reflecting on this notion as we prepare for Respect Life Month in October.

As Catholics, we believe that respect for life is rooted in human dignity. But lately, I've noticed that the definition of dignity is often turned upside-down, especially in our conversations about end-of-life issues.

I looked the word up in Merriam-Webster's online dictionary and found dignity defined as "the state or quality of being worthy of honor or respect." This definition is consistent with Church teaching, which emphasizes that human dignity is the direct result of our being created in the image and likeness of God, and that it is objective and inviolable.

This means human dignity is so sa-

cred that it can never be denied or destroyed. Regardless of an individual's intelligence, abilities, or personal gifts, he or she is equal in dignity to every other human being, and thus worthy of the same honor and respect. This applies to everyone – from the infant in its mother's womb to the frailest centenarian; from the Nobel laureate to the youngster with Down Syndrome who never will be able to hold a job.

I also consulted the hugely popular online *Urban Dictionary*, which demonstrated the profound contradiction in our contemporary understanding of dignity. In this always-current, crowd-sourced reference, dignity is described as self-respect, or pride in oneself. This makes it subjective and hence no longer inviolable. Based on this definition, dignity is a function of how I feel about myself, or what others think of me. It is something I can earn or merit; but it is



also something of which I can be robbed.

This subjective notion of human dignity is driving the debate over assisted suicide and euthanasia. In fact, proponents of physician-assisted suicide often refer to it precisely as "death with dignity." They assert that sickness, disability, and the loss of independence

rob us of our dignity, and that ending our own lives at a moment of our choosing is somehow dignified.

Doesn't true human dignity reside, rather, in assuming our sufferings in union with Christ and accepting the assistance of others as graciously as possible? God has confided each one of us to the love of all. Our dependency is an occasion of grace both for ourselves and for others, and so there is no need to feel humiliated or ashamed in moments of weakness. Perhaps it is when we are sick and our situation seems the most "undignified" that our dignity as

children of God, created in his image and destined for eternal life with him, is most clearly manifest.

As Little Sisters of the Poor, we provide hands-on care to the frail elderly and dying. We know only too well that as their bodies begin to fail, the sick often experience symptoms that many people would consider undignified (incontinence, confusion, etc.). But this is just the superficial level. It does not diminish their dignity as human beings.

In fact, so precious and worthy of honor are our residents that when they are dying, we keep a constant vigil at their bedside. These are profoundly sacred moments, for we know that, contrary to human appearances, something awesome and beautiful is happening – a soul is offering itself back to the God who gave it life and who is eager to welcome it in an eternal embrace of merciful love. This is the real definition of death with dignity.

Sister Constance Veit is communications director for the Little Sisters of the Poor in the United States.



Webster's *Third New International Dictionary* defines "perseverance" as "continued or steadfast pursuit or prosecution of an undertaking or aim, in spite of discouragement."

For most of the 20 years since it was formed as a combination of three small parishes in northern Tuscarawas County, Zoar Holy Trinity Church has persevered in pursuit of the goal of having a campus which includes a worship space, a separate social hall, and a rectory.

The hall was built in 2001, and part of it has been used as a worship area since then. The rectory, which was supposed to be the last piece of a three-part plan, was completed ahead of schedule in 2006 to accommodate the physical needs of Father Ed Keck, pastor from 2003-11, who has been paralyzed from the waist down for the past 35 years because of an auto accident. Now, parishioners are ready to complete the project after two decades by

building a church on the parish property.

"About a year ago, we met with Bishop Campbell to discuss our plans for the church," said Mark Capuano, a member of the parish building committee. "Our discussion led us to the conclusion that those plans needed to be cut back to make them more realistic for our location and the size of the parish, and we've done that. We have funds in a closed account ready to be released. By the end of the year, we expect to present a scaled-down plan for the church building to the parish."

"We are financially sound," said Annette Prokop, chairman of the parish finance council. "We have our expenses under control and are moving forward toward the vision of the future we've held onto in the midst of quite a transition during the last four years."

Father Keck retired from active ministry in 2011. He now lives at an assisted-living facility in nearby Canton and occasionally

visits his former parish. Father Ron Aubry, now priest moderator at Columbus St. Agnes and St. Aloysius churches, replaced him and served in Zoar for two years before going on a leave of absence in 2013. At that time, Father Jeff Coning, pastor of New Philadelphia Sacred Heart, was appointed administrator of Holy Trinity, with his title later being changed to pastor. He recently was also appointed pastor at Dennison Immaculate Conception.

During 2013 and 2014, priests from Tanzania who were living in the Diocese of Columbus came to Holy Trinity to offer Sunday Masses and assist Father Coning. Father Jonathan Kathenge, a priest from the Diocese of Kitui in Kenya, moved to Zoar early this year to serve as priest in residence, and was eagerly welcomed.

"The diversity of priests we've had here in the past few years turned out to be a very good experience," said parishioner Beth Houze, the wife of Deacon Lyn Houze, who has served the parish since his ordination in 2001. "It kept the church going, and at the same time, it made us appreciate the Catholic Church's universal nature."

"Father Jonathan's presence this year has been a great blessing," Prokop said. "Now we have a priest here full-time again, plus Father Jeff and Father Ty (Tomson, parochial vicar at the parishes where Father Coning is pastor). So we have three priests to call on."

"For a while, we weren't sure what our future was going to be. Now we feel more of a sense of stability. Offerings have increased, we've built a nest egg, and we're starting the 2015-16 school year moving forward. Looking back, it's been an amazing accomplishment."

The presence of Deacon Houze played a key role in maintaining parish life dur-

A banner describing Zoar Holy Trinity Church's mission and including its goal of having separate buildings for social and worship space.

Story by **TIM PUET**, *Catholic Times Reporter*

THREE PARISHES ARE COMBINED IN ZOAR HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

ing the last two years. "Thank God for Deacon Lyn," said Susan Labish, leader of the Parish School of Religion. "He was the glue who held us together when we weren't sure about our future because of the priest staffing situation. He picked up the burden and became our stability through that uncertain period." In addition to his diaconal role, Deacon Houze has been a full-time caregiver at the Hospice of Tuscarawas County since 2006.

Father Kathenge, in his 12th year as a priest, has been in the United States for eight years. During that time, he became friends with Father Coning. That association led to an invitation by Bishop Frederick Campbell for him to come to the Diocese of Columbus.

"This is the third diocese in which I've served in the United States," Father Kathenge said. "First, I was in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston while obtaining my PhD degree, and served in a parish with 6,000 families. Then I was invited to the Diocese of Richmond, Virginia, where I was at a parish in the Appalachian Mountains which had about 25 families. So I've been at either end of the scale in terms of population. Now I'm here in Ohio at a nice-sized parish with about 270 families."

"No matter what the size of the parish, the key to its success is its ability to support its mission and to effectively spread the Gospel. The people here are doing that, and I can tell that my being here has given them a sense of continuity and confidence as they resume with the plans they've had for so long."

"This church depends very much on volunteers – people who know each other and what their needs are. The people here have that spirit," he said. "This June, we had the parish's first volunteer appreciation dinner, and the biggest problem was getting people to sit still long enough to enjoy it. All the volunteers wanted to volunteer."

Right: Zoar Holy Trinity Church parishioners (from left) Beth Houze and John Wojcicki; Father Jonathan Kathenge, priest in residence; and parishioners Susan Labish, Mark Capuano, Frank Price, and Annette Prokop. Below: The altar in the parish building which serves as a church and a hall. Plans are being made for a separate church building. CT photos by Tim Puet

Holy Trinity has been a parish since 1995, but its history goes back to 1840 and the founding of St. Peter Church, the first Catholic church in Tuscarawas County, in the French Hills area between Strasburg and Bolivar. Mass was not celebrated there on a regular basis after the mid-1860s, but the building remained standing and was restored in the 1950s, becoming a shrine. Vandals burned it down in 1978.

The three parishes which formed Holy Trinity were Bolivar St. Stephen (founded in 1853), Mineral City St. Patrick (1881), and Strasburg St. Aloysius (1910). The Strasburg church property was sold when the parishes were combined in 1995, with the two remaining church buildings used as worship and parish centers until 2001. The Bolivar and Mineral City churches also have been sold. The parish still maintains four cemeteries which were linked to its predecessors.

"Three people were selected from each parish for the first Parish Council at Holy Trinity, and that set the tone for the transformation in a good way," said parishioner Frank Price. "You didn't have

more than one parish than another. There weren't many turf wars. The combination brought together a lot of territory. Once we came together, any problems we had with combining seemed to wash away."

Father Daniel McGinnis was Holy Trinity's first pastor. Soon after the parish merger was completed, he began the building plan which is still unfolding. Price said Father McGinnis' death in October 1996 set the plan back for a while, but it was resumed under the leadership of Father Michael Nimocks, pastor from 1997-03, and its first phase was completed. Father Keck followed him, and the \$1.4 million cost of the current building was paid off during his tenure.

The community of Zoar, where the parish is located, has an interesting history of its own. It was founded in 1817 by Germans escaping religious persecution in their homeland. They formed a communal settlement which lasted for more than 80 years. The town's buildings have been restored, and about 75 families live there today.

It's on the northeast edge of the Diocese



of Columbus, off Interstate 77 between the much-larger communities of Dover, eight miles to the south, and Canton, 15 miles to the north. "We're not Dover, we're not Canton, but we're happy with what we are," Price said. "We're a small church where people have time for one another. You see that after the Saturday and Sunday Masses. People aren't in a hurry to go home, but stay to talk with each other. I've seen big parishes where the building is empty in two minutes because everybody's so anxious to get to their cars and be on their way."

Price said that besides raising funds through major building campaigns and weekly collections, the parish has remained financially sound "one bratwurst at a time" through sales of the sausage product at events sponsored by the Zoar Community Association. These include a harvest festival in early August, a Civil War battle re-enactment this coming Friday to Sunday, Sept. 18 to 20, and a Christmas craft show on the first weekend in December. Other major parish activities are a Monte Carlo night and golf outing on the last weekend in April and a steak dinner in mid-November.

"Zoar and the other nearby towns may be small, but they have plenty of churches," said John Wojcicki, parish liturgy director. He said Holy Trinity combines

with a Lutheran church in Bolivar and United Church of Christ congregations in Bolivar for a combined Vacation Bible School on mid-July evenings. Last year's VBS had about 70 children and 30 volunteers participating.

The theme was "Hometown Nazareth," with the Holy Trinity building, the site of the VBS in two of every three years, turned into a miniature version of the town where Jesus grew up. "It just makes sense to do things this way," Labish said. "Churches tend to have similar VBS themes each year, depending on what's available. With several churches cooperating, you can put on a better program with more people, and it helps promote the ecumenical spirit."

Holy Trinity has weekend Masses at 4:30 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. Sunday, with liturgical music provided mainly by a traditional choir on Saturday and a folk choir on Sunday. An organist and a solo cantor sometimes take the place of one of the groups, especially in the summer.

"It's a balance that satisfies a variety of tastes," Wojcicki said. "We play traditional Catholic music, but we recognize that the contemporary praise music used by many other churches in the community has become very popular, so we also

See **HOLY TRINITY**, Page 12



HOLY TRINITY, *continued from Page 11*

want to offer that." He said that last year, the folk choir played for a back-to-school event hosted in a barn by the Bolivar Lutheran church, providing another example of ecumenical cooperation, and that several area churches combine for an annual Easter cantata. Labish said the PSR program

attracts about 50 students from pre-kindergarten through eighth grade every year. It began this past Sunday, Sept. 13, with a kickoff event featuring breakfast, a talk about Pope Francis, a craft featuring the pope's "five-finger" method of prayer (for loved ones, teachers and healers, leaders, the



Students in Holy Trinity's Parish School of Religion were visited by Canton resident Marissa Dubina and her "Realm of the Reptiles" program.

weak, and oneself), and a talk by Deacon Houze and his wife about their visit this summer to Tanzania.

The PSR also tries to end the year with a major event. This past spring, it hosted the "Realm of the Reptiles" program conducted by Marissa Dubina of Canton. During the Halloween/All Saints Day period, a highlight is a "Trunk or Treat" program in which the children come dressed as saints.

During the PSR class period, an adult faith formation class takes place at the same time. This year, a nursery has been added to make it easier for parents of infant children to attend. The parish also has a Bible study on the second and fourth Thursday of each month, led by Capuano and Doug Dillon. "So far, we have made it through Galatians, Ephesians, and Matthew," Labish said.



The "Hometown Nazareth" Vacation Bible School at Zoar Holy Trinity, an interfaith event sponsored by several area churches. Photos/Holy Trinity Church

The parish also is the home of Knights of Columbus Council 13081, led by Grand Knight Mark Yovanovich. Price said it has about 60 members and supports the general parish fund, PSR and VBS programs, and areawide St. Vincent de

Paul Society activities. Events it sponsors include Lenten fish fries on Fridays, an annual Breakfast with Santa program, and a collection for the Knights' annual statewide Measure Up program for the developmentally disabled.

Little engine that could: Pope coaxes Vatican to open railway to villa

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

Pope Francis' desire for a church whose doors are wide open isn't just a metaphor for encouraging a greater spirit of welcoming.

He also has been giving real orders to Vatican staff to lift the locks on places and spaces that were long closed to the general public -- the latest being the papal summer home in the hilltop town of Castel Gandolfo.

The head of the Vatican museums, Antonio Paolucci, said the pope told him he did not want the rich botanical and architectural treasures of the papal gardens

and villas to be wasted, especially since the pope had no intention of ever spending his summers there because he has "too much to do in Rome."

The pope told him, "Arrange for opening them up" to the public, Paolucci told reporters during an inaugural tour of the new offering on Friday, Sept. 11.

"It took a pope from the end of the world to give us such a beautiful gift," Paolucci said.

The pope's initiative goes even farther by making the summertime papal property more accessible to visitors in Rome. This is being done by linking Vatican City State with the so-called "second Vatican" through a regular train service.

The tiny train station of the smallest nation in the world is now open to ticketed tour goers so anyone can take a specially chartered train that leaves every Saturday for a round trip journey to Castel Gandolfo, just 13 miles away.

Tourists -- taking a regular electric train -- can choose two itineraries and must book ahead online at museivaticani.va.

A full-day ticket for \$45 starts with a two-hour visit to the Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel. After a one-hour walk through the Vatican Gardens, there is a one-hour train ride from Vatican City to Castel Gandolfo, with a one-hour mini-train ride through the pontifical gardens.

The 135-acre property includes three palaces, the



Gardens at the papal villas in Castel Gandolfo are now open to the public, by order of Pope Francis. CNS photo/Henry Daggett

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Marriage – between a man and a woman – is under attack, Pope Francis says

By Elise Harris, *CNA/EWTN*

Pope Francis told couples to defend God's design for the family as the union of a man and a woman for the procreation of children, and urged them to be merciful to those whose marriages have failed.

Today, "the family – as God wants it, composed of a man and a woman for the good of the spouses and also the generation and education of children – is deformed by powerful contrary projects supported by ideological colonization," the pope said on Thursday, Sept. 10.

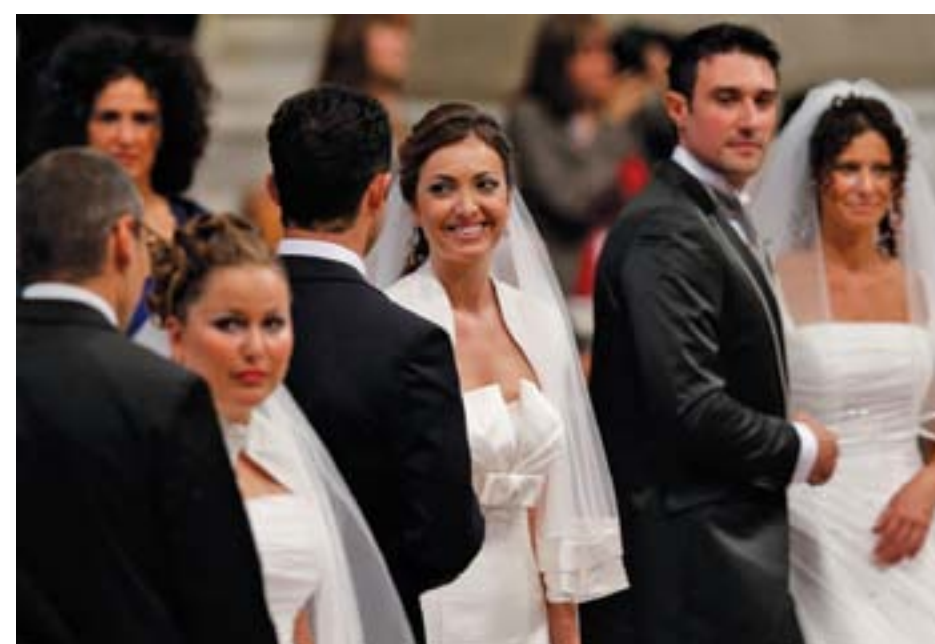
A family which is filled with the presence of God, he said, "speaks for itself of God's love for all men."

The pope asked couples to commit to activities aimed at welcoming, forming, and accompanying young couples before and after marriage.

Francis' address was directed to members of the *Equipos Notre Dame* (Teams of Our Lady, END), who are present in Rome for an international meeting titled "Here I am, Lord, send me."

Founded in France in 1938, END is a lay movement which focuses on married spirituality, using its own methods to help couples live the sacrament of marriage fully amid the challenges married couples face.

In his speech, the pope said Christian couples and families are "in the best position" to announce Jesus to other



families, and to support, strengthen, and encourage them.

The unique joy that the Lord enables families and couples to experience in the intimacy of domestic life, in moments of both joy and suffering, "must be witnessed to, announced and communicated externally, so that others in turn take the same path," he said.

The pope encouraged couples to live the movement's spirituality and commitments in a deep way, saying these allow couples to live their married life confidently, following the path of the Gospel.

Prayer within couples and families is

especially important, he said, explaining that it is "a beautiful and necessary tradition that has always supported the faith and hope of Christians, and unfortunately abandoned in many regions of the world."

Regular dialogue between spouses is also needed, Francis continued, noting that the "need to sit down" often goes against the current of a busy, individualistic world.

He also encouraged the couples to draw close to the increasing number of wounded families who suffer because of either a lack of work, concern for a child, the distance or absence of a fam-

ily member, or a violent environment.

"We must have the courage to enter into contact with these families," he said, adding that this must be done "in a discreet but generous way, materially, humanly or spiritually, in those circumstances where they are vulnerable."

Pope Francis closed by encouraging couples to be instruments of Christ's mercy toward those whose marriages have failed, and stressed that married fidelity is a gift from God.

Mercy has been shown to "every one of us," Francis said. He added that couples who are united and happy can better understand the pain and the suffering caused by betrayal, abandonment, and a lack of love.

"It is necessary, therefore, that you bring your witness and your experience to help Christian communities to discern the real situations in which these people find themselves, to welcome them with their wounds, and to help them to journey in faith and in truth," he said.

"Nor must you forget the unspeakable suffering of the children who experience these painful family situations. You can give a lot to them."

Pope Francis asked those present to pray for the upcoming Synod on the Family, and for all their reflections on the "vital cell of our societies" within the current difficult cultural context.

CNS photo/Paul Haring

Blue Mass held on 9/11 at St. Timothy Church



Bishop Frederick Campbell was the celebrant and homilist on Friday, Sept. 11 for the annual Blue Mass at Columbus St. Timothy Church (right photo).

The Blue Mass is an opportunity to honor and pray for all active, retired, and deceased police, firefighters, and emergency medical services personnel. In addition, it is an occasion to remember the 2,973 people who lost their lives in the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. All active and retired police, fire, and emergency medical services personnel in the greater Columbus area and their families were invited for this special occasion.

In the left photo, honor guards from local safety forces are shown as they walk in procession into the church, flanked by members of the Knights of Columbus.

Photos by Larry Pishitelli



Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle B)

To be 'on the way' with Jesus is to be his disciple



Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

Wisdom 2:12,17-20
James 3:16-4:3
Mark 9:30-37

Wisdom was the last Old Testament book, written as late as 50 BC. Its effects on the New Testament presentation of the words and deeds of Jesus cannot be overstated. The whole dynamic of opposition to Jesus by "unrighteous" scribes and Pharisees is everywhere present.

Such is the case with today's reading and the backdrop it provides, not only in regard to Jesus' prediction of his pending death, but also in the later presentation of the "trial" of Jesus in Mark 14:53-65. Oddly, there it is not the "Pharisees," but the "chief priests and scribes" who are Jesus' opponents. In fact, in Mark, for all the animosity that was written about during the ministry of Jesus between him and the Pharisees, they appear nowhere in the arrest, trial, or crucifixion.

Many of the Fathers of the Church considered this passage from Wisdom a "prophecy" of the passion of Christ. Yet the Wisdom writer was reflecting on past prophets and the less-than-warm reception most of them received, rather than announcing a new "just one" to come. He also is reflecting on contemporaries ("ungodly men") who reason that life is short and therefore, we should enjoy it, with no thought for anything beyond the grave: "Let our might be our law of right, for what is weak proves itself to be useless" (Wisdom 2:11).

Wisdom is directed toward educated Jews, probably living in Alexandria in Egypt. It reflects many of the Hellenistic philosophies which surrounded them, and ultimately argues how far superior Jewish wisdom is

to such folly. If these words are addressed to anyone, they are addressed to Jews being raised in a Greek culture, who remained open to and interested in what Jewish wisdom and belief had to offer. Therefore, the "just one" who is condemned to a shameful death is actually the Jew who embraces Judaism without regard for the consequences, as opposed to a direct prophecy of Christ's passion.

The Gospel presents the second prediction of his death and resurrection which Jesus gives to his disciples, who did not understand what he was saying but were afraid to ask him about it. It is probably intended for the reader to think that they had difficulty identifying Jesus with "the Son of Man." Understanding to whom "Son of Man" referred was difficult, from the time it was used in the apocalyptic Book of Daniel. Yet the disciples remained in the dark throughout Mark, so their failure to understand simply continues that pattern. Their fear to question him was also a theme that runs throughout Mark.

Upon returning to Capernaum, Jesus, once inside the house (whose house?), asks what they were discussing "on the way." That expression is used throughout Mark as a synonym for discipleship. To be "on the way" with Jesus is to be his disciple. Even so, their discussion about who was the greatest among them shows what it meant to NOT be a very good disciple.

The scene is stark and reminds us all of situations in which someone in authority asks a question which puts us on guard. A teacher enters the classroom (of course, knowing every one of her students and their voices) and says "Who said this or that?" Everyone knows who said what, but no one wants to tell. The teacher already knows. The silence is deafening. So, too, the disciples are silent. Rather than fault anyone, Jesus uses the example of a child, who had no rights in the ancient world. Disciples of the Kingdom work by grace, not by rights. We do not earn our way by personal greatness into the Kingdom. It comes by being "the servant of all."

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

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
Ephesians 4:1-7,11-13
Psalm 19:2-5
Matthew 9:9-13

TUESDAY
Ezra 6:7-8,12b,14-20
Psalm 122:1-5
Luke 8:19-21

WEDNESDAY
Ezra 9:5-9
Tobit 13:2-4,7-8 (Ps)
Luke 9:1-6

THURSDAY
Haggai 1:1-8
Psalm 149:1b-6a,9b
Luke 9:7-9

FRIDAY
Haggai 2:1-9
Psalm 43:1-4
Luke 9:18-22

SATURDAY
Zechariah 2:5-9,14-15a
Jeremiah 31:10-12b,13 (Ps)
Luke 9:43b-45

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2015

SUNDAY MASS
10:30 a.m. Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.
Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 7:30 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus, and 10:30 a.m. on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18, Zanesville. Check local cable system for cable channel listing.

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

(Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).
Mass from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 6:30 a.m. on ION TV (AT&T U-verse Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirecTV Channel 305).

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

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

What Happens When A Society Becomes Spiritual, But Not Religious?

Most of us probably have heard people say they are "spiritual, but not religious." Some who say it honestly think they can forge their own way to God instead of following the road map he gave us. They are sadly mistaken.

Others seem to relish the thought of rebelling against the standard norm, if not against God himself. Sociologists have said that some Western nations, such as those in Scandinavia, have become societies where the organized Christian practice of religious faith has all but disappeared. Is America on this road, and what would it mean?

In a nutshell, World War I and World War II actually helped to increase religious faith in the United States, partially because we didn't suffer the carnage that Europe did, but those wars also started most of Europe on a slow, steady descent away from religious practice. While the upheaval of two world wars caused many Americans to turn to God, doubt and skepticism became the norm in Europe. This became hyperaccelerated in the cultural upheaval of the 1960s and early 1970s. It has only been in the last 10 years that the United States has seen a steady decline in the number of people who say they are religious.

What happens when societies go this route? Let's take a look into the past to answer that question. The Roman Empire, with its many pagan deities, was certainly indicative of a culture that wasn't very religious, though it was spiritual. No one doubted the gods in Rome, but while some honored Zeus, others put more



THE TIDE IS TURNING
TOWARD CATHOLICISM
David Hartline

emphasis on Venus or Mercury. It was a "whatever floats your boat" religious mentality. Sound familiar?

While Roman society frowned upon open extramarital affairs, people of means visited brothels as commonly as people today obtain massage therapy or go to spas and salons. Until recently, it was thought that only Roman men engaged in this sort of debauchery, but recent excavations in the old Roman Empire tell us women engaged in the same sort of thing. We know this because of manuscripts and lurid murals that were found during the digging.

The Roman Empire prided itself on how the government took care of people. It proudly boasted that the poor and the elite all could come to the local coliseum to witness the bloody spectacle of gladiatorial combat and animal killings. Alcoholism and suicide rates were high. With all this occurring on a daily basis, is it any wonder that Christianity made such inroads into Roman society?

Today, we are told that religion is practically nonexistent in Scandinavia, but since the government takes

care of everyone, people don't need God. In other words, everyone must be happy and fulfilled in their life's purpose. Yet statistics tell us of rampant alcoholism and a high suicide rate there. Why is this so? Many religiously oriented sociologists tell us that even though the state wishes to quietly, if not openly, take the place of faith, the human conscience can't be fooled. The same thing happened in the old Soviet Union and the former communist East Bloc.

Life without God can literally leave one feeling like a small raft on the high seas, battered by winds and waves while trying to steer toward some unknown destination without the benefit of a map or compass, let alone a GPS system. It takes a toll on the human psyche. The next time you hear people glorify the Roman Empire or a government system that has little use for faith, remind them what the distant and recent past have taught us.

We can tell ourselves over and over again how smart we are. We can build magnificent structures and fine-tune technology, which in and of itself is a good thing, but if all we do is pat ourselves on the back without acknowledging God's role, we aren't any different from King Nimrod, who built the Tower of Babel. Jesus reminded the faithful again and again that pride comes before the fall. We can't say we weren't warned.

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

Vatican upholds bishop's refusal to allow transsexual to be godparent

By Catholic News Service

The Vatican's doctrinal congregation has upheld a Spanish bishop's refusal to allow a transsexual person to be a godparent.

Bishop Rafael Zornoza Boy of Cadiz and Ceuta said in a written statement that the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says godparents must be "firm believers, able and ready to help the newly baptized ... on the road of Christian life" (No. 1255).

The church teaches that sponsors must live a life of faith that is in keeping with their function as someone who must "seriously assume" responsibility for the development and safeguarding of the grace given at baptism, the bishop said in a statement published on the diocese's website on Tuesday, Sept. 1.

If it is not possible to find a person who has all of "the necessary qualities," the priest can confer the Sacrament of Baptism without godparents, he said.

Given "the confusion" among some of the faithful concerning this decision, the bishop said, he also formally consulted with the Congregation for the Doctrine

of the Faith, which reaffirmed the "impossibility" of allowing an openly transsexual person to be a godparent.

Transsexual behavior represents a public display of an attitude that goes against "the moral requirement to resolve the problem of one's own sexual identity according to the truth of one's own biological sex," the bishop cited the doctrinal congregation as saying.

The congregation said such behavior shows the person does not meet the conditions required for living a life in conformity to the faith, and, as such, cannot be accepted as a godparent.

This position does not reflect an act of discrimination, the doctrinal congregation said, but is "just the recognition of an objective lack of the requirements" necessary for the ecclesial responsibilities of a godparent.

Bishop Zornoza said the church welcomes everyone with charity and mercy, wants to help everyone in his or her own particular situation, and invites all people to take part in a journey of faith without, however, ever "denying the truth it preaches."

Pope Francis has said a person must respect his or her own body, just as he or she must respect all of God's creation.

"The acceptance of our bodies as God's gift is vital for welcoming and accepting the entire world as a gift from the Father and our common home, whereas thinking that we enjoy absolute power over our own bodies turns, often subtly, into thinking that we enjoy absolute power over creation," the pope wrote in his encyclical *Laudato Si'*.

"Learning to accept our body, to care

U.S. church 'stands ready' to help Syrian refugees

The U.S. Catholic Church "stands ready to help" in efforts to assist refugees fleeing war-torn countries in the Middle East, the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said.

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, also said that Catholics in the U.S. and "all people of good will should express openness and welcome to refugees fleeing Syria and elsewhere in order to survive."

The archbishop noted that Catholic Re-

lief Services, the U.S. bishops' overseas relief and development agency, has been providing humanitarian aid to refugees in the Middle East and Europe, while in the United States, "nearly 100 Catholic Charities agencies and hundreds of parishes" assist refugees coming into the nation each year.

Archbishop Kurtz's statement follows Pope Francis' appeal to Catholics in Europe to respond to the needs of refugees entering their nations. (CNS)

Resolution introduced in Congress to call Islamic State atrocities 'genocide'

Members of Congress introduced a resolution on Thursday, Sept. 10 to label the atrocities committed by the Islamic State against Christians and other religious minorities "genocide."

"Christians in Iraq and Syria are hanging on in the face of the Islamic State's barbarous onslaught. This is genocide," said Rep. Jeff Fortenberry (R-Neb.), who helped introduce the resolution. Fortenberry is co-chair of the Religious Minorities in the Middle East Caucus.

"The international community must confront the scandalous silence about their plight. Christians, Yazidis, and other religious minorities have every right to

remain in their ancestral homelands," he said.

Six representatives – three Democrats and three Republicans – introduced the bipartisan resolution. Advocates with the non-partisan group In Defense of Christians met with more than 250 congressional offices on Sept. 10 asking them to support the resolution.

Quoting from the 1948 United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, the document states that the atrocities committed against Christians and other religious minorities in the Middle East meet the convention's definition of genocide. (CNA/EWTN News)

Pray for our dead

ALONSO, Anna, 88, Sept. 5
St. Bernadette Church, Lancaster

ANDERSON, William R., 89, Sept. 6
St. Peter Church, Columbus

ANSEL, Jay D., 83, Sept. 4
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

BAUER, Mary R., 91, Sept. 2
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

BERNHARD, Dennis M., 63, Aug. 1
St. Thomas Church, Columbus

BIERSTEKER, Geraldine, 89, Sept. 12
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

BREEDLOVE, Dorsey, 80, Sept. 2
St. Agnes Church, Columbus

BURCK, Carl F., 87, Aug. 28
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

CONLON, Jule A., 80, Aug. 26
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

CONTE, Fern D., 92, Sept. 11
St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury

CORNELL, Tammy L., 32, Sept. 5
Holy Name Church, Columbus

DeLUCA, Thomas A., 74, of Columbus, Sept. 4
Blessed Trinity Church, Akron

DOBBINS, Carl R., 85, Aug. 23
Holy Trinity Church, Jackson

FORTNER, Donald E., 82, Sept. 4
St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus

GIASI, Johanna B., 73, Sept. 10
St. Elizabeth Church, Columbus

HAGAN, Elsie I., 91, Sept. 12
St. Mary, Mother of God Church, Columbus

HARRISON, Geraldine "Geri," 83, Sept. 7
St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

HOLLAND, Robert, 85, Sept. 4
St. Mary Church, Waverly

JENNINGS, John H., 72, Aug. 30
St. Dominic Church, Columbus

MARICEVICH, Anthony J., 91, Sept. 6
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

OSBORNE, Gerald, 66, Aug. 21
Holy Trinity Church, Jackson

PEASE, Leland P., 83, Sept. 3
St. Stephen Church, Columbus

ROSSETTI, Mary R., 92, Sept. 11
St. John the Baptist Church, Columbus

ROBINSON-BANBURY, Rita J., 95, July 8
St. Vincent de Paul Church, Mount Vernon

SIVINSKI, James J., 87, Sept. 4
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

SOULEN, William R., 86, Sept. 4
St. Peter Church, Columbus

WATREN, Donald L. "Whitey," Sept. 5
St. Peter Church, Columbus

Sister Arthur Wingerter, OSF

Funeral Mass for Sister Arthur Wingerter, OSF, 87, who died Thursday, Sept. 10, was held Monday, Sept. 14, in the chapel of the Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity at Stella Niagara, New York. Burial was in the sisters' cemetery.

She was born Mary Gertrude Wingerter on Oct. 24, 1927, in Buffalo, New York, to the late Leo and Della (Fischer) Wingerter.

She graduated from the Academy of the Sacred Heart in Buffalo in 1945 and received a bachelor of science degree in education from Rosary Hill College (now Daemen College), in Amherst, New York in 1960. She entered the Stella Niagara Franciscans on Sept. 2, 1945, and made her first vows on Aug. 18, 1947 and her final vows on Aug. 18, 1950.

In the Diocese of Columbus, she served as a dining room assistant at New Lexington St. Aloysius Academy (1947-49), a teacher at Columbus Sacred Heart (1955-56), Columbus St. John the Evangelist (1956-57), and New Lexington St. Rose (1964-68) schools, and cadet school principal at St. Aloysius Academy (1968-69). She also taught at schools in the Buffalo area and Charleston, West Virginia. She retired from teaching in 2000 and had lived at the Stella Niagara Health Center since October 2008.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Robert, Arthur, and Elmer; and sisters, Dolores Cobb, Therese Sullivan, and Regina Elberz. She is survived by sisters, Bernadette Wingerter and Rita Smith.

Gomez: Bill lets doctor OK meds for 'express purpose' of killing a person

California's newly passed measure to legalize assisted suicide for the terminally ill "is no way for our government to make policy on a life and death issue that will affect millions of individuals and families," said Los Angeles Archbishop Jose H. Gomez. "I am deeply disturbed by the California Legislature's decision to allow doctors to help their patients kill themselves," he said.

He made the remarks in a statement issued on the night of Friday, Sept. 11, not long after the state Senate approved the bill in a 23-14 vote.

The state Assembly passed the bill two days earlier by a 44-35 margin. It has been sent to Gov. Jerry Brown for his signature, but as of Monday, Sept. 14, he had not indicated whether he will sign it.

According to an Associated Press story, the bill requires that a patient with a terminal disease must be physically capable of taking medication that would end his or her life. It says

that a patient must submit written requests for the medication, that two doctors must approve the request, and that there must be two witnesses.

Archbishop Gomez noted in his statement that in early July, a previous bill to allow doctor-assisted suicide was pulled by its primary sponsors hours before a state Assembly hearing on it. The bill already had passed the state Senate, with votes largely along party lines. But the bill's authors had said it was dead for this year.

However, the Legislature called a special session to deal with a number of issues, including the assisted suicide bill, and "chose to rush this legislation through in less than three weeks, holding only two hearings," Archbishop Gomez said.

He urged that the measure be vetoed and said the legislation, as well as the process by which it was passed, "is not worthy of our great state, which continues to do so much to promote human dignity and equality of access to health care." (*CNS*)



**START YOUR DAY
A BETTER WAY!**

**AM 820
CATHOLIC RADIO**

SEPTEMBER

17, THURSDAY

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

Holy Hour of Reparation at Columbus Sacred Heart
7 to 8 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour following Holy Hour of Reparation prayer format, concluding with Benediction and social period. Prayers for intention of deepened holiness and an increase in the virtue of fortitude for bishops and priests. **614-372-5249**

Pontifical College Josephinum Lecture Series
7 p.m., Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. College's annual lecture series begins with talk by Richard M. Doerflinger of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' secretariat of pro-life activities on "Growing Threats to Pro-Life Americans' Rights of Conscience." **614-885-5585**

Sister Mary Patricia Gallagher's 50th Anniversary
5 p.m., Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3730 Broadway, Grove City. Mass celebrating the 50th anniversary of final profession of vows by Sister Mary Patricia Gallagher, OP, followed by reception. **614-875-3322**

Labyrinth Walk at Shepherd's Corner
7 to 8:30 p.m., Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Labyrinth walk led by staff members Shawn Scott and Nancy Cameron. Theme: "The Balance Point of the Year," marking the autumnal equinox. Suggested donation \$5. Registration deadline Sept. 17. **614-866-4302**

Pro-Life Film at Blessed Sacrament
7 p.m., Blessed Sacrament Church, 394 E. Main St., Newark. Screening of new pro-life film "Life Changes Everything," sponsored by parish Respect Life committee and Greater Columbus Right to Life. Suggested donation \$5. **614-893-5499**

19, SATURDAY

Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City
9 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave., Plain City.

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

H A P P E N I N G S

Saturday Life and Mercy Mass, followed by rosary and confession.

Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur 175th Anniversary
10 a.m., Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. Mass celebrating the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur's 175th anniversary of service in the United States, followed by reception. Reservations required. **513-679-8109**

Martin de Porres Center Fundraiser
2 to 4 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus. Center's third annual fundraiser, "Tea & Company: Tea and Literature," featuring an afternoon tea menu and discussion by Dr. Ann Hall, Ohio Dominican University professor, on the importance of tea in the works of several English writers. Tickets \$35. **614-416-1910**

Sister Mary Patricia Gallagher's 50th Anniversary
5 p.m., Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3730 Broadway, Grove City. Mass celebrating the 50th anniversary of final profession of vows by Sister Mary Patricia Gallagher, OP, followed by reception. **614-875-3322**

Labyrinth Walk at Shepherd's Corner
7 to 8:30 p.m., Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Labyrinth walk led by staff members Shawn Scott and Nancy Cameron. Theme: "The Balance Point of the Year," marking the autumnal equinox. Suggested donation \$5. Registration deadline Sept. 17. **614-866-4302**

Cristo Rey Garden Party Fundraiser
7 to 10:30 p.m., Cristo Rey High School, 400 E. Town St., Columbus. School's annual Garden Party fundraiser, featuring tours of school and of Columbus Topiary Park, food, drinks, and music by the Dwight Lenox Band. Tickets \$125 and up. **614-223-9261**

20, 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**

Kateri Prayer Circle at St. Mark
1 p.m., Aranda Center, St. Mark Church, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Kateri Prayer Circle meeting to honor St. Kateri Tekakwitha and promote Native Catholic spirituality.

NFP Class at Dover St. Joseph
1 p.m., Family Life Center, St. Joseph Church, 612 N. Tuscarawas Ave., Dover. First of three Natural Family Planning classes taught by the Couple to Couple League in the symptothermal method. Cost \$140. Other class dates: Oct. 18, Nov. 22. **330-364-6661**

St. Padre Pio Secular Franciscans
1:30 to 5 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 720 Hamlet St., Columbus. Fellowship and ongoing formation followed by adoration and prayer, Liturgy of the Hours, and initial formation with visitors. **614-282-4676**

Christian Bands Concert in Marysville
1:30 to 4 p.m., Catholic Community Center, 1033 W. 5th St., Marysville. Free concert to begin the 2015-16 program year for diocesan youth groups. featuring contemporary Christian bands City of Bright, Carry the Cost, Voices of Reason, and HE not m.e. **937-644-6020**

Healing Mass at Christ the King
4 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus. Healing Mass sponsored by diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal, celebrated by Fathers Dean Mathewson and Jim Coleman, preceded by rosary at 2:30 and praise and worship at 3, and followed by fel-

lowship dinner. Bring side dish if possible. Prayer teams for individual needs available during praise and worship. Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be offered during Mass. **614-500-8115**

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**

St. Margaret of Cortona 'Catholic Conversations' Series
6 to 7:30 p.m., Old Bag of Nails restaurant, 4065 Main St., Hilliard. First talk in monthly "Catholic Conversations" series for anyone 21 and older, sponsored by Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church. Speaker: Mark Huddy, diocesan Office for Social Concerns moderator, or "Social Justice Isn't Left or Right." RSVP to nancywhetstone@gmail.com or julienaporano1@gmail.com.

'Catholics Returning Home' at St. John Neumann
6:30 to 8 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 East State Route 37, Sunbury. First session of four-week "Catholics Returning Home" program for inactive Catholics wishing to become more involved with the church. **740-965-1358**

St. Matthew DivorceCare Support Group Meeting
7 to 9 p.m., St. Gabriel Room, St. Matthew Church, 807 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna. Opening session of DivorceCare support group for anyone dealing with the pain of divorce. Sessions continue weekly through Dec. 20, except for Nov. 29, \$30 fee. **614-575-1507**

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

21, MONDAY

Healing Mass and Service at Cathedral
6:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Healing Mass celebrated by Father Michael Lumpe, followed by healing service including Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Veneration of relic of the True Cross, Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, and Benediction. Priests will be available for personal prayer and discussion of individual needs. **614-224-1295**

22, TUESDAY

Financial Seminar at Ohio Dominican
5 to 6:30 p.m., Rooms 258 and 259, Bishop Griffin Center, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. First of series of financial seminars sponsored by ODU and Education First Credit Union. Topic: "Understanding Credit, Budgeting, and Identity Theft in This Electronic Banking Age." Register via email to pirwitz@ohiodominican.edu.

Prayer Group Meeting at St. Mark
7:30 p.m., St. Raymond Room, St. Mark Center, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Light of Life prayer group meeting. **740-654-6928**

23, WEDNESDAY

Birding Walk at Shepherd's Corner
7 to 9 a.m., Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Walk to identify how many species of birds can be found at the farm, a ministry of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Suggested donation \$5. Registration deadline Sept. 21. **614-866-4302**

24, THURSDAY

'Laudato Si' Study Group at Shepherd's Corner
10 to 11:30 a.m., Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. First meeting of four-week study group discussing Pope Benedict's encyclical "Lau-

dato Si." led by Sisters Rose Ann Van Buren, OP, and Marguerite Chandler, OP. Suggested donation \$3. Registration deadline Sept. 22. **614-866-4302**

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

Holy Hour of Reparation at Columbus Sacred Heart
7 to 8 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour following Holy Hour of Reparation prayer format, concluding with Benediction and social period. Prayers for intention of deepened holiness and an increase in the virtue of fortitude for bishops and priests. **614-372-5249**

Timothy Shriver Talk at Ohio Dominican
7 p.m., Alumni Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Talk by author and activist Timothy Shriver on the impact of people with intellectual disabilities on his life. **614-251-4453**

24-26, THURSDAY-SATURDAY

Three Bags Full Consignment Sale
10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday (selected items half-price Friday night and Saturday), Hartford Fairgrounds, 14028 Fairgrounds Road, Croton. Three Bags Full consignment sale of children's items. Unsold and unclaimed items are donated to Catholic and pro-life charities. **614-561-5300**

25, FRIDAY

Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center Open House
10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Center, a ministry of the Dominican Sisters of Peace, will be open, weather permitting, for tours. **614-866-4302**

26, SATURDAY

Birding Walk at Shepherd's Corner
7 to 9 a.m., Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Walk to identify how many species of birds can be found at the farm, a ministry of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Suggested donation \$5. Registration deadline Sept. 24. **614-866-4302**

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.

'Holiness Revolution' Event at Seton
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, 600 Hill Road N., Pickerington. "Holiness Revolution" event featuring author and speaker Dan DeMatte. Tickets \$20, including a copy of "The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic" and an inspirational journal. **614-833-0482**

27, SUNDAY

Praise Mass at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
11 a.m., Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Praise Mass with upbeat contemporary music. **614-861-1242**

St. John the Evangelist School Reunion
Noon to 3 p.m., Dogwood Shelter, Blendon Woods Metro Park, 4265 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus. Reunion for all classes of Columbus St. John the Evangelist School from 1955 until its closing. Bring a dish to share. **614-864-6862 or 614-235-7465**



BOOK REVIEW

A Catholic Gardener's Almanac

Thought-provoking, inspiring almanac will delight Catholic gardeners

By Nancy L. Roberts
Catholic News Service

A Catholic Gardener's Spiritual Almanac by Margaret Rose Realy. Ave Maria Press (Notre Dame, Indiana, 2015). 277 pages, \$17.95.

Any Catholic who enjoys gardening will find much inspiration, both spiritual and practical, in this original compendium written by Margaret Rose Realy, a master gardener, retreat leader, and Catholic blogger.

Each chapter highlights a particular month's religious themes, traditions, feasts, and special saints, and offers unique gardening lore.

For instance, the author presents June as a month of "transformation and new life," not only for plants, but for Christians given the gift of Christ's love.

Thus during June, we honor saints such as St. Boniface (also known as St. Winfrid), the patron of brewers, and St. Botolph of Ikenhoe, the patron of agricultural workers. And June 29 is the feast of the Solemnity of Ss. Peter and Paul, but did you know that the persecution and martyrdom of these two great saints is traditionally symbolized by the checkered fritillary, a "nodding, blood-red flower"? This is the kind of detail that makes *A Catholic Gardener's Spiritual Almanac* so engaging.

The June chapter closes with several practical tips on early summer gardening, including how to manage rootbound potted plants that you wish to transplant into the garden to fill bare holes left by winter-kill or spring bulbs now gone dormant. For the more ambitious, there's even a detailed plan for how to create a home garden with the theme of the Stations of the Cross.

Realy's suggestions of plants to use for each station are fascinating. For instance, for the "Jesus Is Condemned" station, lamb's ear might be used to symbolize Christ's meekness, or lily of the valley ("Our Lady's tears") could be planted, after the legend that when Mary wept at the plight of her son, this flower sprang from the spot where her tears fell on the ground.

To inspire thoughtful reflection on the 14th station

("Jesus Dies on the Cross"), an appropriate choice might be Jacob's Ladder, the purple wildflower whose form resembles a delicate ladder of greenery. It evokes the ladder, reaching all the way to heaven, that figured in the biblical Jacob's dream. Realy also suggests planting white heliotrope, a flower that symbolizes faithfulness in its leaves' distinctive habit of turning with the sun as it makes its daily journey across the sky.

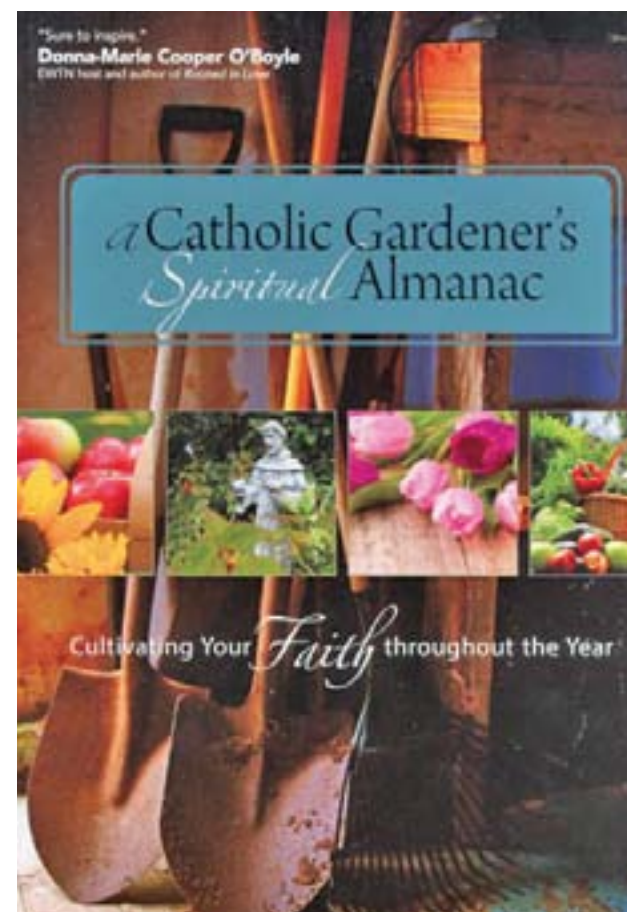
It's not surprising that Realy presents harvesting as the theme for the chapter focusing on September. But her take on this is original. She begins with a consideration of the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows on Sept. 15, noting that "the fruit of Mary's womb, Jesus, was harvested on the cross -- the tree of life." Yet she bore this sorrow with courage and grace, inspiring the author -- and readers -- to prayerful meditation that God might grant us similar fortitude in such circumstances, if we are called upon to endure them.

Among the interesting lore in this chapter is the story of ladybugs, who Realy says were named for Mary and were earlier known as "Our Lady's birds," then as "Lady beetles." A medieval legend tells how millions of the little spotted red beetles seemed to appear in response to a prayer to Mary and destroyed a scourge of aphids that threatened crops. The seven spots of the European variety of the ladybug are said to symbolize Mary's seven sorrows, while their red color echoes her red cloak.

Ten remaining chapters complete this intriguing journey through the months and seasons. Each one offers an original perspective on the intersection of natural and liturgical seasons.

For instance, October's theme is "Preparing for Winter," a time of transition; so Realy's suggested prayer focus for this month includes meditation on accepting inevitable changes in one's life with gratitude and strength. November, the month of "dormancy and rest," is an excellent time to contemplate devotional gardens and shrines to beloved saints such as St. Francis of Assisi, the patron of ecology, and St. Fiacre, the patron of gardens. Here Realy includes a long list of saints and their traditional associated plants.

Among Realy's many captivating suggestions for the faith-filled gardener is the all-white garden, which,



when illuminated at night, perfectly expresses the "light into darkness" theme of Advent or the Feast of the Transfiguration, celebrated in August. Or consider a Marian garden, which she describes as the most popular type of Catholic garden, perhaps with a rose theme (e.g., red roses for Mary's sorrows, white for her joys).

The accompanying description of Marian garden plants evokes this touching old tradition: the tulip is known as Mary's prayer, while balsam is "Mary's herb" and the oxeye daisy is "Mary's star." The blue morning glory is "Our Lady's mantle," while lemon balm is "sweet Mary."

Four appendices enrich this thoughtful and absorbing book. One explains the various liturgical colors, such as white for the Christmas and Easter seasons, red for Pentecost, violet for Advent and Lent, and green for ordinary time.

Another gives instructions for constructing a small meditative labyrinth in your own yard. A third lists daily and monthly devotions of the church, while another gives detailed instructions on how to dispose of sacramentals and consecrated materials, such as weatherworn garden statues.

A Catholic Gardener's Spiritual Almanac is a treasure trove of meditations, storytelling, and practical horticultural advice that will interest anyone, particularly gardeners, who appreciate the natural world as an eloquent manifestation of the divine.

Roberts directs the journalism program at the State University of New York at Albany and has written two books about Dorothy Day and The Catholic Worker.

PROMINENT CHINESE CATHOLICS WARN AGAINST OVERREACTION TO CROSS REMOVALS

By Jonathan Luxmoore
Catholic News Service

KONSTANCIN-JEZIORNA, Poland (CNS) -- Prominent Chinese Catholics have warned that a campaign to remove crosses from church buildings could signal wider restrictions on religious freedom, but cautioned Christians not to overreact.

"Whatever those in power do, their first question now is how they can best serve their own interests, rather than socialism or any common purpose," Archbishop Savio Hon Tai-Fai, secretary of the Vatican's Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, told the ninth European Catholic China Colloquium in mid-September.

"In this case too, there's clearly something behind these nasty actions. You don't provoke the anger of the people by burning and ripping down crosses unless you want to achieve something," he said, referring to the removal of crosses from places of worship in Zhejiang province, which is widely believed to be China's most Christian region.

In a Sept. 11 interview with Catholic News Service, Archbishop Hon said Zhejiang's provincial Communist Party boss appeared to have been encouraged by central government figures to conclude that he could further his career by attacking local Christians, at a time when Christianity's rapid expansion is causing official unease.

Father Paul Han, an official of the church's Jinde Charities organization, based in Shijiazhuang, said he also believed government moves were now under way to reduce the "visibility of Christianity" in China. He cautioned against a militant response.

"Having previously been ready to encourage Christianity for its social and moral benefits, the government is becoming scared about its expansion," he said.

"Whether this is now extended into a wider clamp-down could depend on how Christians react. If they resort to violence, this will pour oil on the flames and be used to justify harsher restrictions. There are good people on both sides, but also extremists."

In 2014, local officials began tearing down crosses in the coastal city of Wenzhou, citing building regulations. Since then, they have removed more than 1,200 crosses throughout Zhejiang.

The campaign was protested by China's state-approved Catholic and Protestant associations, as well as by Cardinal John Tong Hon of Hong Kong, who appealed to Communist Party chiefs in Beijing on Aug. 12 to stop the "illegal cross removals" and "return to the right path, placing supreme importance on the constitution."

However, Catholic sources said several churches had been bulldozed and many Christians, including



Protestant pastors, had been arrested for opposing the moves, adding that as many as 4,000 crosses were believed targeted for removal from spires and towers by autumn.

Richard Madsen, director of the University of California-San Diego's Fudan Center in Shanghai, told CNS that the anti-cross campaign signaled the failure of government efforts to contain grass-roots religious practices in China. He said local officials appeared to be resorting to "often inconsistent ad hoc policies" against Christianity.

Father Bruno Lepeu, a French priest from Hong Kong's Holy Spirit Study Center, told CNS that China's current president, Xi Jinping, previously had been Communist Party first secretary in Zhejiang province and had thus clearly known about and approved the anti-cross campaign.

He added that Bishop Paul Meng Qinglu, deputy chairman of the communist-controlled Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association, had been told in March that the government had ordered an end to the campaign, but said the cross removals had continued despite this.

"Christian are clearly being warned not to go too far -- and being reminded the regime is still in charge and can do the same elsewhere," Father Lepeu told CNS on Sept. 12. "Local rulers are often very powerful and look for ways of expressing this power, and the central government allows them to

test reactions and doesn't intervene."

China's Catholic Church is estimated unofficially as having 14 million members. Protestant churches are thought to number at least 50 million.

Sister Teresa Yu, a member of China's Congregation of Missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, described the Zhejiang campaign as a "hurricane," adding that some lay Catholics had wept, prayed, and chained themselves at targeted churches to show they were "ready to die for the cross."

Archbishop Hon told CNS he agreed that Chinese Catholics should be "very careful" not to be provoked into violence while seeking to protect their churches and crosses, adding that the Vatican would urge them to "follow the Holy Spirit" rather than recommending any concrete action.

Father Han said he believed the best reaction was to pray, rather than "resort to violence to counter violence."

"As Christians, we should always be ready to suffer persecution for our faith. This is where wisdom and courage really lie," he told CNS.

"If the government feels the church and its members are doing work for society which complements that of the regime, it will tolerate them. If it can decree they're colluding with imperialists against China, there will be no further negotiation. It's essential the church doesn't give them a pretext for this," he said.



Bishop's Annual Appeal 2015

Diocesan Goal: \$ 6,200,000
Pledged to Date: \$ 7,241,530
Results as of September 8, 2015
**indicates parish has reached goal*

Thank you for your gift to the
 2015 Bishop's Annual Appeal.
 Your generosity supports the ministries, programs
 and services that fulfill the
 Mission of the Catholic Diocese of Columbus.

Church	City	Goal	Pledges	Church	City	Goal	Pledges
Christ the King Church	Columbus	76,787.91	88,495.36 *	St Francis of Assisi Church	Columbus	23,202.17	15,313.00
Church of the Ascension	Johnstown	30,867.37	34,821.37 *	St James the Less Church	Columbus	41,234.90	27,559.00
Church of the Atonement	Crooksville	8,909.67	10,766.00 *	St Joan of Arc Church	Powell	264,810.52	288,844.56 *
Church of the Blessed Sacrament	Newark	59,252.94	30,205.00	St John Church	Logan	34,636.03	45,620.00 *
Church of the Holy Trinity	Zoar	23,510.05	10,480.00	St John Neumann Church	Sunbury	119,449.85	137,113.98 *
Church of the Nativity	Utica	8,007.96	10,120.00 *	St John the Baptist Church	Columbus	14,057.09	13,900.00
Church of the Resurrection	New Albany	188,454.13	146,731.00	St. John XXIII Church	Canal Winchester	50,369.10	50,925.00 *
Comm of Holy Rosary & St John Evangelist	Columbus	14,729.30	10,162.00	St Joseph Cathedral	Columbus	57,300.48	59,775.50 *
Corpus Christi Church	Columbus	13,273.25	5,234.00	St Joseph Church	Circleville	39,090.81	97,657.50 *
Holy Cross Church	Columbus	15,926.89	30,386.25 *	St Joseph Church	Dover	71,138.93	83,504.00 *
Holy Family Church	Columbus	32,299.89	47,348.00 *	St Joseph Church	Plain City	38,603.02	60,041.89 *
Holy Name Church	Columbus	8,647.72	20,910.00 *	St Joseph Church	Somerset	10,801.81	9,760.00
Holy Redeemer Church	Portsmouth	32,604.49	36,606.66 *	St Joseph Church	Sugar Grove	14,240.58	26,765.00 *
Holy Spirit Church	Columbus	48,744.96	136,969.00 *	St Ladislav Church	Columbus	18,799.87	5,260.00
Holy Trinity Church	Jackson	9,425.45	22,465.00 *	St Leonard Church	Heath	23,664.76	30,948.00 *
Holy Trinity Church	Somerset	27,179.74	12,515.00	St Luke Church	Danville	23,757.21	39,250.21 *
Holy Trinity Church	Pond Creek	3,816.96	4,080.00 *	St Margaret of Cortona Church	Columbus	55,000.03	105,913.00 *
Immaculate Conception Church	Columbus	109,836.36	130,402.11 *	St Mark Church	Lancaster	33,043.21	60,248.21 *
Immaculate Conception Church	Dennison	41,323.88	48,595.00 *	St Mary Church	Bremen	13,466.18	22,750.00 *
Immaculate Conception Church	Kenton	16,856.78	22,359.00 *	St Mary Church	Chillicothe	39,546.01	24,980.50
Our Lady of Lourdes Church	Ada	18,499.01	20,440.00 *	St Mary Church	Columbus	53,637.04	71,373.00 *
Our Lady of Lourdes Church	Marysville	60,168.15	90,622.25 *	St Mary Church	Delaware	157,179.89	155,201.06
Our Lady of Lourdes Church	Otway	5,477.05	3,675.00	St Mary Church	Groveport	36,554.74	34,154.73
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church	Buckeye Lake	23,290.18	71,352.18 *	St Mary Church	Marion	75,203.62	76,812.85 *
Our Lady of Peace Church	Columbus	79,150.67	86,832.00 *	St Mary Church	Portsmouth	34,842.05	88,076.33 *
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church	Grove City	145,393.18	255,776.72 *	St Mary Church	Mattingly Settlement	3,864.35	7,648.50 *
Our Lady of Sorrows Church	West Portsmouth	7,546.54	10,535.00 *	St Mary Magdalene Church	Columbus	43,253.93	27,181.68
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal	Columbus	31,769.84	29,897.90	St Mary of the Assumption	Lancaster	106,320.33	173,412.46 *
Our Lady of Victory Church	Columbus	62,927.59	83,320.46 *	St Mary Queen of the Mission Church	Waverly	9,121.68	21,870.00 *
Parroquia Santa Cruz	Columbus	27,836.49	3,727.00	St Matthew the Apostle Church	Gahanna	199,520.74	261,381.80 *
Sacred Heart Church	Columbus	7,609.37	6,890.00	St Matthias Church	Columbus	60,265.86	29,513.00
Sacred Heart Church	Coshocton	42,424.02	34,356.04	St Michael Church	Worthington	115,680.08	132,162.49 *
Sacred Heart Church	New Philadelphia	65,948.07	38,486.00	St Monica Church	New Boston	9,791.92	13,715.00 *
Sacred Hearts Church	Cardington	18,420.21	20,734.00 *	St Nicholas Church	Zanesville	76,096.18	30,789.00
Seton Parish	Pickerington	177,420.21	140,793.00	St Patrick Church	Columbus	95,752.80	123,590.91 *
St Agatha Church	Columbus	113,798.85	106,825.00	St Patrick Church	Junction City	9,809.54	9,295.00
St Agnes Church	Columbus	11,989.10	8,497.00	St Patrick Church	London	34,698.05	99,256.00 *
St Aloysius Church	Columbus	14,405.85	18,603.12 *	St Paul the Apostle Church	Westerville	315,616.44	298,356.34
St Andrew Church	Columbus	185,501.86	187,981.26 *	St Peter Church	Chillicothe	44,448.26	69,149.00 *
St Andrew Kim Taegon Korean Community	Columbus	6,027.16	2,430.00	St Peter Church	Columbus	158,643.83	154,094.68
St Ann Church	Dresden	6,650.85	12,685.00 *	St Peter Church	Millersburg	11,837.65	6,998.00
St Anthony Church	Columbus	55,796.67	61,887.16 *	St Peter in Chains	Wheelersburg	19,038.28	36,690.00 *
St Bernadette Church	Lancaster	45,554.74	45,590.00 *	St Philip the Apostle Church	Columbus	23,252.00	36,073.00 *
St Bernard Church	Corning	6,706.10	9,155.00 *	St Pius X Church	Reynoldsburg	137,060.74	143,124.88 *
St Brendan the Navigator	Hilliard	231,758.21	222,539.58	St Rose of Lima Church	New Lexington	33,305.47	27,095.00
St Brigid of Kildare Church	Dublin	253,109.26	292,629.99 *	St Stephen the Martyr Church	Columbus	25,556.46	29,983.00 *
St Catharine Church	Columbus	96,200.43	208,362.01 *	St Sylvester Church	Zaleski	5,271.35	5,974.00 *
St Cecilia Church	Columbus	98,020.03	87,103.00	St Thomas Aquinas Church	Zanesville	73,166.70	21,021.25
St Christopher Church	Columbus	65,464.26	81,469.37 *	St Thomas More Newman Center	Columbus	0.00	4,915.00
St Colman of Cloyne Church	Washington Court House	24,007.91	29,976.00 *	St Thomas the Apostle Church	Columbus	30,463.36	25,077.36
St Dominic Church	Columbus	22,163.67	26,515.00 *	St Timothy Church	Columbus	62,383.70	67,716.70 *
St Edward the Confessor Church	Granville	86,824.65	233,031.24 *	St Vincent de Paul Church	Mount Vernon	60,574.77	132,110.00 *
St Elizabeth Church	Columbus	52,003.84	44,438.00	Sts Augustine & Gabriel Church	Columbus	7,912.93	6,975.00
St Francis de Sales Church	Newark	102,999.34	111,842.00 *	Sts Peter & Paul Church	Glenmont	3,870.95	750.00
St Francis de Sales Church	Newcomerstown	6,268.26	7,410.00 *	Sts Peter & Paul Church	Wellston	12,681.85	15,495.00 *
				Sts Simon & Jude Church	West Jefferson	35,945.08	40,000.00 *