

The CATHOLIC TIMES

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BASILICA RECEIVES INSIGNIA

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BACK TO SCHOOL

Father Matthew Hoover, pastor at Columbus Immaculate Conception Church, prays in a classroom at the parish school, which is observing its 100th anniversary as diocesan students go back to school, Pages 9-13



CENTER DEDICATION

The rebuilt and expanded Bishop Griffin Resource Center, located next to Christ the King Church on Columbus' east side, opened last week after a dedication ceremony and blessing, Page 21

Father Beseau's term extended as Josephinum rector-president

Father Steven Beseau was appointed to an additional three-year term as rector and president of the Pontifical College Josephinum, the Vatican announced this month in an official decree from the prefect of the Dicastery for the Clergy in Rome, Cardinal Lazzaro You Heung-sik.

Father Beseau, a priest of the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas, who is currently in the fourth year of his original five-year term, will continue to lead the Josephinum through June 2027.

The request for the extension originated from Bishop Earl Fernandes, the seminary's vice chancellor, in consultation with Cardinal-Elect Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States and Josephinum chancellor; Archbishop Joseph Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas; and the seminary's Board of Trustees.

"This happy outcome offers us stability of leadership at a critical time," said Bishop Richard Henning of Providence, Rhode Island, the chair of the Josephinum's board. "We are grateful to Archbishop Naumann for his generosity in allowing Father Beseau to continue, and we congratulate Father Beseau for his excellent leadership and strong commitment to the Josephinum."

Under Father Beseau's leadership, the Josephinum has renewed its formation program, navigated the pandemic and begun the program adaptations required by the sixth edition of the *Program of Priestly Formation*, the new governing document for seminaries in the United States promulgated by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Father Beseau also has led a dedicated, collaborative effort on the part of

Josephinum priests and faculty that has brought about a revised and approved seminary constitution, renewed mission statement, updated strategic plan and new operational plan.

In the latter part of Father Beseau's tenure, the Josephinum has seen the addition of three sending dioceses and religious orders, as well as an overall enrollment increase in each of the past three years. The seminary is preparing to welcome more than 25 new seminarians this fall, bringing enrollment to its highest total since 2019.

"I am honored by the faith and trust placed in me by Cardinal You Heung-sik, Cardinal-Elect Pierre, Bishop Fernandes and the Board of Trustees," Father Beseau said. "I look forward to continuing the work we have accomplished together, to strengthen this great seminary and further ensure its vital mission of forming holy, generous, adaptable and resilient priests for the 21st century."

Before being appointed rector and president of the Josephinum in 2019, Father Beseau spent three years as assistant professor of moral theology at The Athenaeum of Ohio in Cincinnati. He was director/chaplain of the St. Lawrence Catholic Campus Center in Lawrence, Kansas, from 2006 to 2016 after a number of years serving as a parish pastor and high school chaplain in the Kansas City, Kansas, archdiocese.

Ordained in 1995, Father Beseau earned an MDiv and STB from the University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, Illinois, and an STL and STD (both summa cum laude) from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome.

Feast day prayers at St. Dominic Church



In what has become an annual tradition on Aug. 8, the Altar Rosary Society at Columbus St. Dominic Church leads a prayer devotional for its parish namesake and patron, St. Dominic Parish. About 20 parishioners prayed the Divine Mercy Chaplet and scriptural Rosary starting at 3 p.m. Before each decade of the rosary, attendees gave their personal prayer intentions. In addition, the intentions previously gathered from parishioners and the neighborhood were lifted in prayer. The prayer service was followed with light refreshments and the celebration of a parishioner's birthday.

Photo courtesy St. Dominic Church

Deacons meet for convocation

Approximately 100 diocesan deacons gathered for their annual convocation on Saturday, Aug. 12 at the Pontifical College Josephinum along with Bishop Earl Fernandes to discuss various topics about their ministry and to honor deacons celebrating significant anniversaries of their ordination. This year's theme was the Role of the Deacon in the Liturgy. Pictured are (first row from left) Deacon Frank Iannarino, director, Ministry and Life of Deacons; Deacon Pete Peterson (40 years, Zanesville St. Nicholas Church); Deacon Hank Orlik (20 years, Powell St. Joan of Arc Church); Deacon Bart Supino (20 years, Wellston Ss. Peter and Paul Church); (second row from left) Deacon Charles Knight (45 years, Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes Church); Deacon Dan Norris (25 years, Pickerington Seton Parish); Deacon Tom Berg Sr. (40 years, St. Joan of Arc); (third row from left) Deacon Joe Ciaciura (chairman, Diaconal Council); Bishop Fernandes and Deacon Steve Petrill, director of Diaconal Formation.



Photo courtesy Office of Diaconate

Clergy assignments

The Diocese of Columbus announced the following clergy assignments that went into effect on the dates listed below:

Reverend Eugene Joseph, from Parochial Vicar, St. Joseph Cathedral, to service outside the diocese, effective July 18, 2023.

Reverend Fr. David Poliafico, from Pastor, St. Timothy Church, Columbus, to Medical Leave of Absence, effective July

29, 2023.

Reverend Fr. Daniel Ochs, from Retirement to Parochial Administrator, St. Timothy Church, Columbus, effective July 29, 2023.

Confirming the appointment from the Provincial of the Pallottine Province of Our Lady of Good Health, **Reverend Veevin Richard Pitchaisavary**, SAC, from service outside the diocese to pas-

toral service at Holy Spirit Church and St. Philip the Apostle Church, Columbus, effective August 3, 2023.

Reverend Isaac Agbenohevi, from service outside of the diocese to Theology Teacher, Bishop Hartley High School, and in residence at Holy Cross Church, Columbus, effective August 3, 2023.

Confirming the nomination of the Most Reverend Thaddeus Cho Hwan Kil,

Archbishop of Daegu, Korea, **Rev. Kyo-unghun Kim** from service outside the diocese to pastoral care of the St. Andrew Kim Taegon Korean Catholic Community of Columbus, effective August 3, 2023.

Reverend Fr. Sunder Ery, from service outside of the diocese to Parochial Vicar, Seton Parish, Pickerington and Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, Columbus, effective August 8, 2023.



BASILICA CEREMONY

An installation and blessing of the papal insignia for Lancaster Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption took place on Monday, Aug. 14, the Vigil of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

CT photo by Ken Snow

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Lancaster basilica receives insignia

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

In addition to celebrating the Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, there was another cause for celebration at Lancaster Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption on Aug. 14.

That evening, Bishop Earl Fernandes celebrated a special liturgy: the Mass of Blessing and Installation of the Basilica Insignia.

After a two-year application period, St. Mary of the Assumption was named a minor basilica, meaning the church was given a special designation by the Holy Father. Through an Apostolic Decree issued by the Apostolic See in Rome on July 7, 2022, Pope Francis raised the parish church to the honor of minor basilica.

More than a year later, on Aug. 14, basilica insignia were officially installed during a Mass celebrated by Bishop Fernandes. The bishop was joined by Father Craig Eilerman, rector of the basilica, and several priests from the Diocese of Columbus.

During the Mass, Bishop Fernandes asked Msgr. Stephan Moloney, vicar general of the diocese, to read aloud the Apostolic Decree by which the church was designated as a minor basilica.

Traditionally, minor basilicas display two basilica insignia that historically accompanied the pope in processions.

One is the *Umbraculum*, also known as the *Umbrelinno*, which resembles an umbrella. It is a canopy with red and yellow stripes, the traditional colors of the pope and the city of Rome. On the bottom of the silk stripes are four coats of arms: those of Pope Francis, Bishop Fernandes, the Church of Columbus and the basilica.

The other insignia is the *Tintinnabulum*, meaning "little bell," in Latin. The *Tintinnabulum* is a small gold bell in a wooden frame that is mounted on a poll. It can be carried in special processions ahead of the clergy.

The papal symbol of the crossed keys can also be displayed on banners, furnishings and on the coat of arms of the minor basilica.

Following Bishop Fernandes' homily, there was the blessing of the insignia.

In a procession to the altar, Brian McCauley, director of religious education at the basilica, presented the *Tintinnabulum*, and Kevin Crabtree, president of the parish pastoral council, presented the *Umbraculum*.

Bishop Fernandes read aloud a blessing and blessed the two insignia with holy water and incense. McCauley and Crabtree placed the *Tintinnabulum* and *Umbraculum* outside the sanctuary at the front of the church. The *Umbraculum* is displayed on the right side of the main altar at every basilica.

"Now, you have the *Umbrelinno*, the *Umbraculum*, as they say in Latin, which

used to be used to give shade to the pope when he would travel around, and the *Tintinnabulum*, which are the bells, which when the pope would be walking by and coming into the presence of someone, they would ring the bells," Bishop Fernandes said.

"Now, you can be assured that Peter is here. The Scriptures say that the people would just want Peter's shadow to fall upon them. These are signs of the symbols of the unity with our Holy Father and the sign of unity with the Church throughout the world. And so, we give praise and thanks to God for the gift of our faith."

Father Eilerman expressed gratitude to McCauley "not only for his work this past year and putting together this Mass, but in a very particular way, it was Brian's work of completing the questionnaire that was sent out by the Vatican as we sought the title for a minor basilica."

A basilica is recognized for its history, beauty and liturgical life and is given special honor and privileges by the Holy Father, as a special bond exists between a basilica and the pope.

A decree titled "Regarding the Title of a Minor Basilica," issued on Nov. 9, 1989, illustrates the norms, special duties, privileges and requirements for a church to be considered for the title of minor basilica. The Church's only four major or papal basilicas are located in Rome and include St. Peter, St. John Lateran, St. Paul Outside the Walls and St. Mary Major.

Special duties include promotion of the liturgical instruction of the faithful and preparing for and carrying out the Christian liturgical year. As a basilica, certain days must be celebrated with great care: the Feast of the Chair of Peter on Feb. 22, the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul on July 29 and the anniversary of the pope's election on March 13.

There are also special privileges for the faithful who visit a basilica.

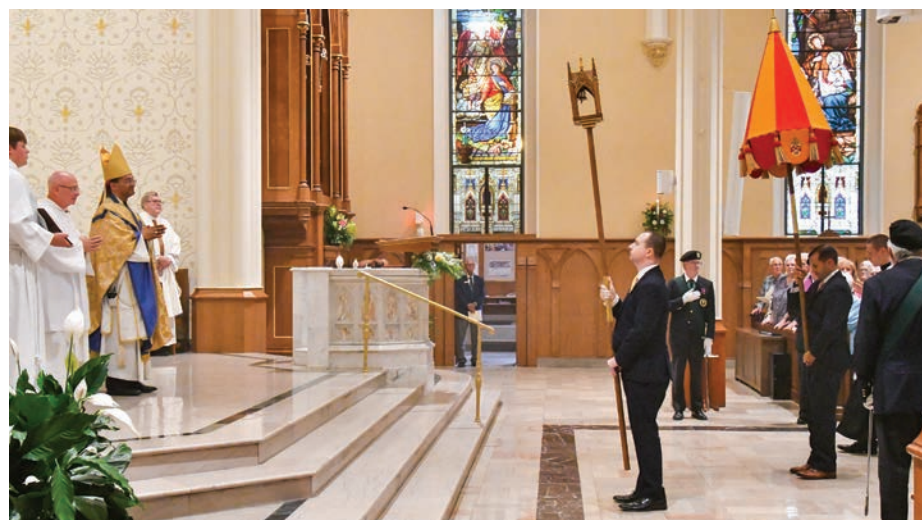
By participating in a sacred rite or reciting the Lord's Prayer and the profession of faith inside the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, a plenary indulgence can be obtained on certain days of the year. The usual conditions for an indulgence must be met: sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father.



Bishop Fernandes sprinkles the tintinnabulum and umbraculum with holy water.



Lancaster Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption's insignias are located at the front entrance.



Brian McCauley presents the tintinnabulum, which means "little bell" in Medieval Latin, and Kevin Crabtree carries the umbraculum, an historic piece of the papal regalia and insignia once used on a daily basis to provide shade for the pope. The bell mounted on a pole is placed in a Roman Catholic basilica to signify the church's link with the pope. It consists of a small gold bell within a golden frame crowned with the papal tiara and keys of heaven. *CT photos by Ken Snow*



Bishop Earl Fernandes and priests from the diocese concelebrate the Mass at the installation and blessing of the papal insignia at the Lancaster Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption on Monday, Aug. 14, the Vigil of the Assumption.

Dominicans celebrate 25 years as religious sisters on feast day

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

The Solemnity of St. Dominic, celebrated on Aug. 8, is a special day for Columbus St. Patrick Church.

St. Dominic founded the Dominican order, the Order of Preachers. Until 1824, the only priests in Ohio were Dominicans. The order has served St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus since 1885.

This year, the Solemnity of St. Dominic was also special for two Dominican sisters, Sister Andrea Andrzejewska and Sister Leonarda Zielinska, Dominican Sisters of the Immaculate Conception Province, who celebrated their 25th jubilee of professing vows in the Order of Preachers.

Both sisters renewed their vows of poverty, chastity and obedience during a Mass celebrated at St. Patrick Church.

“We give thanks to God for the witness of St. Dominic and beg his prayers for us and for his Order of Preachers,” Father Stephen Alcott, OP, the pastor of St. Patrick, said in his homily. “And we give thanks to God especially for the men and women who have come to follow in his footsteps:

“Our Dominican sisters, especially Sister Leonarda and Sister Andrea, who celebrate their 25th anniversary of their profession of vows in the Order of Preachers.”

St. Dominic, who was born in Spain, founded the Order of Preachers in France in 1216. Before St. Dominic was conceived, his mother, Blessed Jane of Aza, had a dream of a dog running with a flaming torch in its mouth, setting the world on fire.

Blessed Jane prayed about the dream at a Benedictine abbey, and later, the dream proved prophetic, as she conceived a son, St. Dominic, who ignited the world on fire through preaching and his desire to gain souls for Christ.

The word “Dominican” comes from the Latin words *Domini canes*, meaning “dogs of the Lord.” St. Dominic is often depicted in paintings and statues standing beside a dog.

“Dominic was only one man from a small town in Spain,” Father Alcott said. “And the darkness of error and ignorance of the faith in his own time was overwhelming, but because he allowed the light of Christ to shine through him, he became that bright reference point in a chaotic world that drew many souls to the eternal shores of salvation.”

St. Dominic sought to combat the Albigensian heresy, which he encountered in southern France. The Albigenses believed in the existence of two principles: good and evil. They believed that the bad principle created the human body, and the good principle, God, created the soul, which was imprisoned in the body and must be liberated.

The Albigenses favored suicide, often through starvation, as a way to free the soul. They advocated against marriage and sought the extinction of bodily life.



Father Stephen Alcott, OP, pastor at Columbus St. Patrick Church, celebrates Mass on Aug. 8, the feast of St. Dominic, at the downtown parish with priests from the diocese. The Dominican friars have staffed St. Patrick Church since 1885.



Sister Leonarda Zielinska, OP (left) and Sister Andrea Andrzejewska, OP, who are Dominican Sisters of the Immaculate Conception Province, process to the front of Columbus St. Patrick Church during a Mass on the feast of St. Dominic on Aug. 8 when they celebrated their 25th jubilee of professing vows.

“While we don’t hear much of Albigensians anymore, we do find ourselves in a culture where the living Christian faith has become more scarce, and there are many who have absorbed from a secular culture a way of life that cannot bring them into the presence of the deepest truths or into authentic and lasting joy,” Father Alcott said.

“When the darkness grows deeper, sometimes the light of a Christian life lived in self-giving love and authentic faith and joy shines all the more brightly.”

St. Dominic was a reference point for others, Father Alcott said. By seeking to draw people back to the truth of the Christian faith through his words and example, St. Dominic helped to light a fire, which would spread, as his mother’s dream foretold, across Europe and eventually throughout the world.

“Each of us, in our own vocations, in humbly living with charity the life God has traced out for us, can be that bright



Sister Leonarda Zielinska, OP and a statue of St. Dominic, the Order of Preachers’ patron.
Photos courtesy Isabella Williams

reference point for another,” Father Alcott said.

Sister Andrea and Sister Leonarda, through their vocation as Dominican sisters following in the footsteps of St. Dominic, have dedicated themselves to bringing the light of Christ to others.

Sister Leonarda, who serves as the director of religious education at St. Patrick Church, came to Columbus in 2013, and Sister Andrea, who arrived in 2021, serves as a project manager and executive assistant for the diocesan Office of Catholic Schools. Both are originally from Poland.

Sister Andrea and Sister Leonarda entered the Congregation of Sisters of St. Dominic in Poland and were sent to the Immaculate Conception Province in the United States.

Religious orders are often divided into various regions, known as provinces. A province can encompass an entire nation, or there can be several provinces within a country.

In the United States, the Immaculate

Conception Province has a convent in Columbus on Livingston Avenue, where Sister Andrea and Sister Leonarda live with other sisters in their community.

God “deserves our gratitude every second of our lives, but the 25th jubilee is a great milestone and the occasion to give Him thanks and praise together with the whole Church,” Sister Andrea said.

“Sister Leonarda and I had the opportunity to do that on Aug. 8 at St. Patrick parish downtown. We were so blessed to be surrounded by so many people who joined us in prayers of thanksgiving for the 25th year of our religious life.”

Reflecting on her vocation, Sister Andrea recalled her journey to accepting God’s call for her life.

“I never wanted to become a sister,” she said. “I wanted to have a ‘normal’ young adult life. However, the more I wanted to resist God’s calling, the stronger I heard His invitation, especially during prayers.

“During that time, I was working in a bank. Unemployment in my family town was 17 percent. I knew that if I would join the community and discern later that it wasn’t what I thought, the chances of getting a job were nearly zero.

“But God acts in mysterious ways, and He gives enough graces to fulfill His will. His love helped me to overcome my fear.”

As a religious sister, Sister Andrea was first sent to the sisters’ house in Czestochowa, Poland, which she considered one of her “biggest blessings.” She studied English and had the opportunity to visit the shrine of the Black Madonna every day for a year.

The image, also known as Our Lady of Czestochowa, is believed to have been painted by St. Luke.

“God blessed me with many gifts and graces,” Sister Andrea said. “He also allowed many challenges in my life to teach me how to trust Him wholeheartedly.”

In 2000, the general superior of the Congregation of Sisters of St. Dominic in Poland came to Czestochowa to ask Sister Andrea if she would go to the United States.

“I was very surprised because, in my congregation, only perpetually professed sisters were sent to other countries at that time,” she said.

Perpetual vows are typically professed six to nine years after the profession of the first vows. Sister Andrea had renewed her temporary vows before she came to the United States.

“Mother General gave me some time to think and pray about it, but I did not have any doubts. I had entered the congregation with an open heart and was willing to undertake almost anything ... except becoming an organist.

“And, on the vigil of the solemnity of Our Lady of Czestochowa (what a coincidence!), I departed to the United States.”

Sister Andrea lived in Milwaukee, Wisconsin for 20 years. She returned to

Seriously, God wants us to laugh; just check the Bible

“God has brought me laughter, and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me.” – Sarah in Genesis 21:6

Stand-up comedian John Branyan, who is known for his clean, family friendly comedy that appeals to all ages, said, “We didn’t think up laughter; that wasn’t our idea. That was given to us by God who knew we were going to need it to get through life. He knew we were going to have hardships. He knew we were going to have struggles. He knew stuff was going to happen. ... Laughter is a gift.”

A quick look at some of the creatures God made (including me) should bring laughter: Some are odd (the duck-billed platypus), and some are just fun to watch (playful otters and baby goats). God made mammals that live in the ocean and long-legged birds that cannot fly. God clearly has a sense of humor.

Because we are created in His image, we, too, have the joy of laughter. I firmly believe if I want to make God laugh, I just need to explain my plans for my life to Him.

I heard God laugh at the end of February when I fell (full disclosure, I also cannot keep from laughing when someone falls before I offer assistance – it’s human nature!). The accident put me in a rehab center for six

FAITH IN ACTION | Erin Cordle

Erin Cordle is associate director of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns.



weeks waiting to have a knee replaced. After a few weeks of rehab I was back home. Luckily our amazing diocesan IT office provided me with a hotspot and the support I needed to “stay” on the job (minus the first week after surgery – better living through chemistry, you know).

God provides references to laughter in the Bible, first, with the story of Abraham and Sarah. God promised the elderly couple a child, “a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.” (Genesis 15:4)

Sarah finally gave birth at 90 to Isaac, meaning “laugh”. Also, Sarah proclaims that “God has given me cause to laugh and all who hear of it will laugh with me.” (Genesis 21:6)

Anyone who knows me (casually or closely) knows I love to laugh and actively search for anything that can bring me a smile or a full-throated guffaw! I believe we need to take laughter seriously – for the Bible tells me so (smile if you know that childhood song). Here are some

of my favorite biblical citations for humor, laughter and joy. (I listed only a few, as I found more than 100!)

- “A joyful heart is the health of the body.” (Proverbs 17:22)
- “Then our mouths were filled with laughter, and our tongues sang with joy.” (Psalm 126:2)
- “A time to weep and a time to laugh.” (Ecclesiastes 3:4)
- “Rejoice with those who rejoice.” (Romans 12:15)
- “And you will have joy and gladness.” (Luke 1:14)
- “Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory.” (1 Peter 1:8)
- “When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.” (Matthew 2:10)
- “Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful. ... Enter into the joy of your master.” (Matthew 25:21)
- “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing.” (Romans 15:13)

Dear God, thank You for giving me the gift of laughter! In the next week, find time to laugh at yourself, bring a smile to others and rejoice in the Lord.

Attending daily Mass can satisfy our thirst for Jesus

I’m a person who likes to move every day, if possible, whether it’s walking, lifting weights, stretching, cycling or hiking. If I don’t stay physically active, my joints ache, I get grumpy and I can’t focus.

Because I know this about myself, I have been physically active my whole life in different ways in different seasons. I give myself permission to be active because I know I’m better for others when I am consistent in this habit.

Even more important than exercise is my commitment to pray every day. If you are reading this, you probably pray every day, too. I also feel called to attend daily Mass as often as possible. I know that not everyone feels called to daily Mass, and for many people, work and family commitments can make attending daily Mass a challenge. In the Columbus diocese, we are blessed to have access to daily Mass from early to midmorning, during lunchtime and into the late afternoon.

A priest friend of mine recommends that everyone try to get to one daily Mass per week as it can be life-changing. For him, daily Mass was key to hearing God’s voice and the call to the priesthood. Powerful testimony!

Much like my commitment to regular exercise, being consistent with daily Mass several times each week strengthens me and helps me to be better for others. I

HOLY AND HEALTHY | Lori Crock

Lori Crock is a SoulCore Rosary prayer and exercise leader and a St. Brendan parishioner. Lori is online at holyanandhealthycatholic.com, where she shares her passion for faith and fitness.



was recently reflecting that, on our walk with Jesus and in our desire to be more like Him, receiving the Eucharist softens our hearts, increases our love for Jesus and for others, and challenges us to listen and respond to how Jesus is calling us to love and serve.

St. Thomas Aquinas said, “The Eucharist is the sacrament of love: it signifies love, it produces love. The Eucharist is the consummation of the whole spiritual life.”

If I have a week when I’m not able to attend daily Mass as often as I’d like, I feel a longing in my heart and I also begin to notice that my thoughts and my behavior change, even ever so slightly. I notice that I begin to feel less connected to Jesus and to others, and selfishness enters in. I need only to call upon Jesus Who is always there for us.

St. Euphrasia said, “To speak of the Blessed Sacrament is to speak of what is most sacred. How often, when we are in a state of distress, those to whom we look for help leave us; or what is worse, add to our affliction by heap-

ing fresh troubles upon us. He is ever there, waiting to help us.”

One of the fruits of daily Mass for me has been a desire to spend more time in Eucharistic Adoration. I find that the more I receive Jesus, the more I wish to spend time with Him in quiet prayer and reflection.

We are familiar with Matthew 11:28-30: “Come to me all you are weary and burdened and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

For me, this summarizes my desire for the daily Eucharist. I can rest in Him, give Him my concerns, my day, my challenges and my joys. In receiving Him, I receive His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity, and I receive His peace. St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta said, “I thirst,” and in this she meant she thirsts for Jesus, and, of course, He thirsts for us even more than we thirst for Him.

St. Maximilian Kolbe said, “If angels could be jealous of men, they would be so for one reason: Holy Communion.”

May we, like the saints, acknowledge our thirst for Jesus. Let us respond by seeking Him often in the sacraments, and let us prayerfully encourage and invite others to join us for daily Mass and Eucharistic Adoration.

DOMINICANS, continued from Page 4

Poland for one year and professed her perpetual vows in 2005, and then she returned to the United States.

While in Milwaukee, Sister Andrea studied at Marquette University and then served as a nursing home administrator for 14 years. She began serving in the field of education upon moving to Columbus.

Sister Leonarda began discerning a religious vocation in high school, she said, and entered the Congregation of Sisters of St. Dominic after graduating.

“I am grateful for all the graces received through those 25 years of religious life,” she said. “God works miracles in our lives if we let Him do so. I know that, if asked 25 years ago, I would never imagine my

life to be what it is now.

“God is good, and He will lead us to visit places we would not expect to see, to meet people we would never expect to meet and to do things we never dreamt of doing.”

After professing vows as a religious sister, Sister Leonarda spent time in various houses of the congregation in Poland, she said, teaching religion and studying for her master’s degree in theology.

Sister Leonarda was sent to the congregation’s Provincial House in Justice, Illinois, southwest of Chicago, after completing her theology studies. She studied English at a local college and served at a nursing home run by the sisters.

Sister Leonarda moved again when a

new house for their community opened in Columbus.

“What attracted me to the Congregation of Sisters of St. Dominic was the union of the contemplative and active life,” she said.

Unlike Dominican cloistered nuns, who live contemplative lives and their ministry is centered within a monastery, Dominican sisters actively minister within the world.

“If you say ‘yes’ to God, your life will never be boring,” Sister Leonarda said. “It will not be easy, untroubled, free of struggles and pain, but it will be an exciting adventure. Trust God, do not be afraid and see miracles happen.”

The first Dominican Sisters of the Immaculate Conception Province came to Chicago from Poland in 1925 to serve Poles in North America. The early years of their provincial history were marked by challenges and hardships, but the sisters remained committed to service and evangelization, and they entrusted themselves to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

The sisters acquired land in Justice in 1936, their first permanent foundation in the United States, and shortly afterward, the community expanded to Milwaukee.

In 1951, the sisters received permission to become the Immaculate Conception Province in America. Today, the province has additional sites in Arkansas and Canada.

Saying 'Amen' at Holy Communion shows our belief in His Presence

Dear Father: At Mass, I witnessed one of the assisting priests telling the gentleman near me that the man had to say "amen" before he could receive Holy Communion. Then, at the end of Mass, the priest gave us all what seemed like a lecture, telling us that we are supposed to say "amen" when we receive Holy Communion. I've never heard of this practice before. I checked with my friends, and they said they had never heard of it, either. What's up with this priest? – F.E

Dear F.E.: While the priest may have used the wrong tone in giving his instruction (perhaps he was having a bad-hair day!), he was correct about the importance of the "amen" at Holy Communion. When a priest (or other minister of Holy Communion) holds up the consecrated Host and says, "The Body of Christ" – or when the Precious Blood is distributed with the statement, "The Blood of Christ" – the recipient is supposed to respond with "Amen."

The word, seemingly of Hebrew origin, means "so be it" or "I believe." It seems that the early Christians, formed by their Jewish roots, used the "Amen" in response to the prayers offered aloud by the bishop or priest. Of course, we still do this today for most of the prayers at Mass. But the "Amen" at Holy Communion always carried a special weight. We learn this from the writings of the fathers of the Church.

Some who are familiar with the Mass of 1962 know that the "Amen" was pronounced by the priest as he distributed Holy Communion. For each recipient, he said this prayer in Latin: "May the Body of our Lord Je-

SACRAMENTS 101

Father Paul Jerome Keller, OP, S.T.D.

Father Paul Jerome Keller, O.P., S.T.D., interim director of the diocese's Office of Divine Worship, is a priest of the Dominican Province of St. Joseph. His doctorate is from Rome in sacramental theology. He currently assists at Columbus St. Patrick Church.



sus Christ guard your soul unto eternal life. Amen."

The priest made the sign of the cross with the Host in front of the recipient during that prayer. After the Second Vatican Council, one of the changes at Mass was the shortening of this prayer to "The Body of Christ." Notice that besides the condensing of the priest's prayer, he also no longer said the "Amen."

St. Augustine, one of the greatest doctors of the ancient Church, taught specifically about saying "Amen" in one of his sermons. He said: "If you are the body and members of Christ, then it is your sacrament that is placed on the table of the Lord; it is your sacrament that you receive. To that which you are you respond 'Amen' ('yes, it is true!'), and by responding to it you assent to it. For you hear the words, 'the Body of Christ' and respond 'Amen.' Be then a member of the Body of Christ that your 'Amen' may be true."

Our "Amen" is important because that one word means so much, particularly at Holy Communion. First, it is our assent of faith that we believe Jesus Christ is present in the Host we receive, Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity. We assert that we believe we are about to receive the Real Presence of Christ.

Second, the "Amen" is an act of adoration and wor-

ship because we are saying "yes" to Christ Himself, "yes" to His love, "yes" to His desire that we be made one with Him and He with us. We humble ourselves by the "Amen" in a sort of verbal prostration before God.

Third, we are declaring that what we receive, the Body of Christ, is what we become by receiving It. That is, we are saying "yes" to being transformed from the inside out.

Our transformation is twofold. First, we are divinized. To take the words of St. Augustine once again, when we eat natural food, it becomes a part of us and is changed into our bodies. But when we eat this supernatural food, we are changed into what we consume.

We are more intimately one with Christ than any human relationship could make happen. The saints teach us that our soul is made one with Christ's soul, our mind with His mind, our heart with His heart.

Also, we are made more fully members of the mystical body of Christ, the Church. Our "Amen" is our declaration that we want to more fully belong to Christ and His Body, that we want to be and are made one with all our baptized brothers and sisters, that is, the Church.

Thus, our "Amen" is also an implicit statement that we desire to lay aside all that prevents union with the Church, including our enmities toward others as well as our weakness in believing and living all that the Church teaches as the Body of Christ.

The space in this column is limited, however, I want to say a bit more and will finish my answer to you in my next article. Until then, pray for your priest(s), including me, and don't forget to say "Amen!"

The Vatican's China deal unravels further

The latest self-inflicted blow to the Vatican's China policy came in mid-July, when the Holy See announced that Pope Francis had "recognized" Bishop Joseph Shen Bin as Bishop of Shanghai — despite the fact that the bishop had been "transferred" to China's most important and prestigious diocese by the Xi Jinping regime, not by the pope. A few days later, America published a lengthy analysis of this Roman kowtow by Gerard O'Connell, its Vatican correspondent. O'Connell, for his part, drew on what Vatican News described as an interview with the Holy See's Secretary of State, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, but what was actually an auto-interview, the cardinal having sent the prewritten Q&A to the various instruments of Vatican media for publication.

One striking revelation in that self-interrogation came when Cardinal Parolin noted that two previous transfers of bishops within China "were carried out without the involvement of the Holy See," and said that "this way of proceeding appears not to take account of the spirit of dialogue and of collaboration established by the Vatican party and the Chinese party over the years."

To which one could only respond, what "spirit of dialogue and collaboration?" Does the Vatican seriously believe that a totalitarian regime — one that conducts the world's most extensive surveillance of its own population, builds genocidal concentration camps for ethnic and religious minorities, blocks international investigation of its role in the global breakout of COVID-19, and publicly announces that all religions in China must be "Sinicized" (i.e., subordinated to the regime's concept of what China is and should be) — is truly interested in "dialogue and collaboration?" Even if that naïve assumption had been the Vatican's starting

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

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premise in the negotiations that led to the 2018 agreement between the Holy See and the People's Republic of China, shouldn't China's subsequent violations of that agreement and its crackdown on Catholics in Hong Kong and elsewhere have prompted a critical re-examination of the premise?

Has the Holy See learned nothing from the behavior of totalitarian regimes throughout history, all of which, without exception, have sought to subordinate Christian communities to regime ideology, be that Nazism, Leninism or "Xi Jinping Thought?"

I understand the constraints of diplomatic language in a difficult negotiation. Still, there is something self-demeaning and strategically unwise (not to mention morally unsavory) in taking diplo-speak to the extreme of saying, as the cardinal did, that the conversation between the Vatican and Beijing would continue, "trusting in the wisdom and good will of all." What "wisdom" or "good will" has Beijing shown since 2018? Is its current program of bringing the Catholic clergy of Hong Kong to the mainland for instruction in Sinicization an expression of good will, or an exercise in coercion and intimidation?

The same inability — or stubborn refusal — to grasp the nature of a regime like Xi Jinping's was evident in the cardinal's hope that "adequate statutes" would be developed for a Chinese bishops' conference. But imag-

ine, for the sake of argument, that statutes "adequate" by the standards of Roman canon lawyers were developed, and that a Chinese bishops' conference was created. Considering the Xi Jinping regime's record since the Vatican-China agreement was signed in 2018, how could a reasonable person imagine that those statutes would be honored, and that the conference would function according to what Cardinal Parolin called its "ecclesial nature and pastoral mission?" How many times does one have to get gut-punched before recognizing that one's "dialogue partner" is not playing by Marquis of Queensberry rules?

Then there was Cardinal Parolin's call for the Chinese authorities to establish a "stable liaison office" for the Holy See in mainland China that would make the Vatican/Beijing dialogue "more fluid and fruitful." a request, Gerard O'Connell reported, that the Chinese regime has rebuffed before while demanding that the Holy See close its "study office" in Hong Kong. What purpose would this "stable liaison office" serve? Is it the opening wedge to the diplomatic holy grail long sought by certain Italian Vatican diplomats: a Holy See embassy in Beijing? But that would require severing Holy See diplomatic relations with Taiwan, the first Chinese democracy in history. And fantasies of a Vatican "place at the table" notwithstanding, an embassy would add nothing to the Holy See's leverage with the Beijing regime while further muffling the Vatican's public voice.

There are few enthusiasts for the current China policy in the College of Cardinals, and an examination of the policy is imperative during the next papal interregnum. That discussion should begin with the understanding that, however noble its intentions, the current policy is a failure that is damaging the Church's moral authority and witness.

Pregnancy Decision Health Centers help families in crisis

God uses hundreds of beautiful moments every day through the people, services and programs at Pregnancy Decision Health Centers (PDHC).

For moms and their babies, lives are saved and lives are changed, impacting families for generations. Just as God worked through the life of Esther to fulfill His purposes, He works through each of us every day, moving and inspiring us for such a time as this.

“(A)nd who knows whether you have not come to the Kingdom for such a time as this?” (Esther 4:14)

The ministry of PDHC was envisioned more than 42 years ago, as God worked through founders Mike and Peggy Harts-horn, along with their Catholic friends and other passionate, pro-life Christians, as they opened PDHC, the first pregnancy help center in Columbus.

They started the crisis hotline, answering calls from a bedside phone, listening to women in their time of greatest need and connecting them with essential services in the center.

Since then, staff members and volunteers on the 24/7 hotline continue to serve families, answering calls, texts and chats, often as a first point of contact with PDHC.

Already this year, they have responded to more than 1,800 calls, 2,300 chats and 32,000 texts. Each moment on the hotline is an opportunity to show God’s love and abundant grace to women in crisis, providing them with hope during an uncertain time.

As individuals enter one of PDHC’s four pregnancy resource centers, they are met with love and compassion by women whom God has called to the ministry of PDHC. God uses their hearts for love and life to care for each woman’s spiritual, emotional and physical health as they listen to her unique story and show her precious baby for the first time during an ultrasound.

Already this year, more than 1,100 individuals have been served through more than 2,000 visits to PDHC’s centers, and hundreds of lives have been saved.

These women receive ongoing care and support through PDHC’s Family Empowerment Center. They are provided with a family advocate who guides them through parenting education classes throughout their pregnancy and beyond, up until their baby’s first year. They are blessed with a community of support as they interact with other moms.

Fathers are also provided with support

and education to build strong families. Families also receive resources such as diapers, wipes, car seats, pack-n-plays, clothing and other much-needed baby items.

So far in 2023, more than 450 new moms and dads have participated in more than 360 in-person and 7,700 on-line parenting classes, along with 1,100 visits to our baby boutique.

God also uses the lives of individuals to help heal the broken-hearted. As St. Francis of Assisi said, “We have been called to heal wounds, to unite what has fallen apart and to bring home those who have lost their way.”

Since 1989, PDHC Abortion Recovery (aR) programs and services have provided hope and healing to individuals who have experienced the grief and trauma of abortion. PDHC’s aR program also provides a 24/7 CareLine for individuals to seek help in their healing journey.

This year, the aR program has already served 64 individuals through more than 340 program sessions. For help, call or text the CareLine at 614-721-2100.

Since 1984, God has used the lives of individuals who are passionate about our youth, educating students on character development and healthy choic-

es to help them achieve their life goals. PDHC’s Common Sense Culture program has served more than 3,300 students in 34 schools so far this year.

There have been so many beautiful moments and so many lives impacted during the past four decades at PDHC. Don’t miss your opportunity to see how God has worked through the lives of others for such a time as this by attending the upcoming Celebration for Life Galas.

The galas will be held in Lancaster on Thursday, Sept. 14, at the Tree Church, with guest speaker Melissa Ohden, an abortion survivor, and on Thursday, Sept. 21, in Columbus at Villa Milano, with guest speaker Scott Klusendorf, president of Life Training Institute, author and narrator in the movie *A Matter of Life*.

Guests also will hear from a mom who was abortion-minded but made a life decision after seeing her baby on an ultrasound and from a woman who found healing from her abortion experience through PDHC’s aR program.

To reserve complimentary seats, visit SupportLifePDHC.org.

Catholics, it’s time to defend the unborn in Ohio

Now that Issue 1 has failed and a proposed abortion amendment needs just a simple majority of votes to pass in the November election, the time has come for Catholics and all lovers of life (born and unborn) to ramp up their efforts to protect the most vulnerable among us.

The amendment on the Nov. 7 ballot is a blatant attempt to enshrine the right to abortion in the Buckeye State as part of its constitution. Make no mistake, this initiative is a serious threat that will allow preborn lives to be eliminated in the womb until the time of birth.

To make matters worse, the language of the proposal also threatens parental rights. By referring to an “individual” rather than an adult or child, parents would lose their power to prevent a child from making harmful decisions such as procuring an abortion or opting for gender transition through hormones or irreversible sex-change surgeries that mutilate the body.

And if that’s not bad enough, anyone (abusers included) who assists a minor in getting an abortion or sex change could be protected.

This proposal is radical. It’s extreme. It’s scary.

And Catholics might be the only group of people who can prevent wholesale abortion from becoming legal in Ohio.

Let’s be clear: We’re not talking about the Church as a religious entity becoming involved in a political issue. We’re referring to individual Catholics who have a moral duty beyond the political sphere to preserve every soul that God has created.

Only Our Lord decides who lives or passes from this earth, not a collection of boisterous abortion-rights supporters and politicians leading a campaign that uses scare tactics such as “loss of women’s rights” and “women may die” without so-called “safe and legal” abortion.

Church leaders have received undue criticism from

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individuals and in the media for declaring their support for life. Some dissenters have claimed that the Church is violating its non-profit status by speaking about issues in the political area. But as Bishop Earl Fernandes explained so well in a recent column:

“Although the Constitution ensures separation of church and state, that is largely to prevent the government from intruding into religious affairs and to prevent religious groups from running the government. It does not mean that Catholics and other religious groups should keep their faith private, nor does it mean that they should not be involved in the political process to shape a better civilization and to promote the common good. In fact, because God has so blessed us, we have perhaps an even greater responsibility toward our brothers and sisters, born and unborn.”

In April, a group of nuns from religious orders in Ohio that included several sisters from a Columbus-based order penned an op-ed published by *The Cincinnati Enquirer* that seemingly sought to de-emphasize the debate over abortion. They wrote:

“We are deeply concerned that recent legal and legislative efforts to criminalize abortion and block access to reproductive care threaten the lives and dignity of women. Abortion bans in Ohio and other states have made high-risk pregnancies even more dangerous. Black and Hispanic women, who often struggle to access quality medical care and suffer from higher maternal mortality rates, are disproportionately impacted by these punitive laws. Sadly, many politicians and religious leaders often promote these policies as ‘pro-life.’

“If Ohio lawmakers and elected officials across the country truly care about being pro-life, they should consider how these punitive laws hurt women and fail to address the complexity involved in how women use

discernment to make reproductive decisions.”

Cincinnati Archbishop Dennis Schnurr wrote an op-ed several weeks later in the same newspaper that read in part:

“At no point should any person, inside or outside the womb, be deemed less of a life because someone else says so. To think otherwise is to objectify that life. Society must never claim for itself the ‘right’ to determine the value, worthiness or dignity of another person for any reason whatsoever, including whether or not that person is wanted. Yet, today, our culture suggests that some humans are more important than others, and those less-important humans might actually be expendable. Pope Francis has lamented, ‘The throwaway culture says, ‘I use you as much as I need you. When I am not interested in you anymore, or you are in my way, I throw you out.’ It is especially the weakest who are treated this way – unborn children, the elderly, the needy, the disadvantaged.’

“We are currently facing an extraordinary threat to the dignity of life right here in Ohio: an amendment (deceptively named ‘The Right to Reproductive Freedom with Protections for Health and Safety’) to the Ohio Constitution that would enshrine the ‘right’ to take the lives of innocent children in the womb and harm mothers in the process is being proposed to voters for the November 2023 ballot. This amendment also would remove existing parental notification laws and basic safety standards and enable abortion based solely on a preborn child’s disability diagnosis. Innocent children in the womb would be lost, and their mothers would be both wounded in the moment and emotionally scarred for years to come. Ohio does not need a constitutional amendment that only perpetuates violence and a culture of death.

“God alone is the Author and Lord of life. Therefore,

LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS

Blue Mass to be celebrated on Sept. 11

The annual diocesan Blue Mass for all active, retired and deceased law enforcement, fire and emergency medical services personnel will be celebrated by Bishop Earl Fernandes at 5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 11 at Columbus St. Timothy Church, 1088 Thomas Lane.

The tradition of the Blue Mass dates to September 1934, when it was first celebrated in Washington, D.C. It became a tradition in the northeastern United States and spread nationwide following the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

Its name comes from the mainly blue-colored uniforms of police officers, firefighters and emergency personnel. In the Diocese of Columbus, it has been organized for several years by Knights of Columbus Council 14345 of St. Timothy Church.

Friends of the Poor walk set for Sept. 16 at DeSales

The diocesan St. Vincent de Paul Council's annual Friends of the Poor walk will take place Saturday, Sept. 16 at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m.

All proceeds from the walk go back to participants' local St. Vincent de Paul conferences to serve the needy in their communities.

Donations may be made by cash or check. For more details, contact the St. Vincent de Paul Council at (614) 221-3554.

Grodi, son will speak to Catholic Record Society

Marcus Grodi, president and founder of the Coming Home Network, and his son JonMarc, the network's executive director, will speak at the quarterly meeting of the Catholic Record Society at 1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 10 at The Columbus Foundation, 1234 E. Broad St., Columbus.

They will speak on the history of the network, which Marcus Grodi, a Presbyterian minister for more than 15 years before becoming a Catholic, founded 30 years ago to assist and encourage other Protestant ministers and laypersons who want to join the Catholic Church.

From a small office building just outside of Zanesville, the Grodis lead a worldwide ministry that is best known for the weekly EWTN television program "The Journey Home," produced in a studio that is part of the office. JonMarc recently took over hosting duties from his father, who for 25 years talked to hundreds of guests about what led them to become Catholic.

More information about the society is available at www.columbuscatholic.org/catholic-record-society.

Denison Newman club to present Catholic lecture series

Denison University's Newman Catholic Club will present a series of lectures on how modern discoveries display the

links between Christianity and science each Sunday from Sept. 3 through Dec. 17 (Nov. 19 excepted) after the 6 p.m. Sunday Mass at Swasey Chapel on campus.

The theme will be "Ultramodern Christianity in the Light of Ultramodern Scientific Breakthroughs: Why It Can Revolutionize Worldview and Re-Enchant Lifestyle."

The speaker will be Father William Slattery, a Pontifical College Josephinum faculty member who has been a priest for 32 years and is a specialist on how Christianity relates to the disciplines of philosophy also studied by theoretical physics.

The program from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. each week will feature a talk and a question-answer period, with food and refreshments. For more information about the Newman Catholic Club, go to <https://saintedwards.org/newman>.

Ohio Dominican lecture topics announced for fall semester

The Center for Dominican Studies at Ohio Dominican University (ODU) will present four lectures this fall featuring ODU faculty members focusing on the university's theme for the 2023-24 academic year, "Truths We Have Learned."

The presentations, all on Thursdays, will take place at 3:30 p.m. in the Colonial Room of Sansbury Hall, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Refreshments will be provided.

The presentations are free, but seating is limited. To reserve your seat for each session, contact Sister Diane Traffas, OP at traffasd@ohiodominican.edu or (614) 251-4722.

Dates, topics and presenters are:

Sept. 14, "The Metaphysics of Truth and the Truths of Metaphysics," Dr. Jeremy Skrzypek, assistant professor of philosophy; Sept. 28, "How Changing Ideas on Truth Impact Students," Dr. Marilissa Stauffer, chair of the ODU education division; Oct. 12, "The Truth about Truth," Dr. Lawrence Masek, professor of philosophy; Oct. 26, "Four Perspectives on Truth," Dr. Anjel Stough-Hunter, former member of the sociology faculty, Dr. Natalie Kompa, associate professor of public relations, Dr. Tony DeGenaro, assistant professor of English, and Dr. Matt Ponesse, associate professor of history.

Ohio Dominican announces plans for homecoming Oct. 7

Ohio Dominican University (ODU) invites alumni, students, faculty, staff, friends and family to its annual homecoming celebration on Saturday, Oct. 7.

The event will include a free tailgate party before the football game against Lake Erie, a homecoming Mass and a recognition dinner and ceremony to celebrate recipients of this year's distinguished alumni award and members of

ODU classes of years ending in "3" and "8."

Honorees at the dinner, which will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the Bishop Griffin Student Center, 1216 Sunbury Road, will be Mary Smart Callaway (class of 1979), Jay DeLuca (class of 1996), John Kelley (class of 2005) and Lou Staffilino (class of 1973, posthumous).

The tailgate party begins at 11:30 a.m., with the game at 1 p.m. Free tickets will be available for all alumni at the alumni office. The Mass will be celebrated at 4:30 p.m. at Christ the King Chapel in Sansbury Hall by Father Dan Millisor (class of 1981), university chaplain.

Other athletic events scheduled for that day are a women's volleyball game against Ursuline College at 6 p.m. in Alumni Hall and a women's soccer match against Tiffin University at 8 p.m. in Panther Stadium.

St. John Learning Center offers fall classes for adults

The St. John Learning Center at Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church, 640 S. Ohio Ave., is offering several adult education opportunities this fall.

Programs include General Education Diploma (GED) and English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, small business workshops, homebuyer classes and a mental health series. All classes are free, and most have online options.

GED and ESL classes, taught by Columbus City Schools teachers, will start on Tuesday, Sept. 5. Call (614) 547-2171 for intake information and assistance with registration.

Start Your Own Business workshops in September and October will cover topics such as developing a business plan, small business grants and loans, insurance issues, tax planning and marketing.

The classes will be available online on Wednesdays from 6 to 7 p.m. starting on Sept. 20. This series is taught in collaboration with a variety of other nonprofits and business professionals.

In November, a homebuyers series will be offered, beginning with a workshop on financial literacy and continuing with a workshop on the process of buying a home. This will be an online "lunch and learn" series.

Throughout the fall, the mental health series will feature mental health professionals addressing issues such as dealing with holiday-related stress and grief. Speakers will be mental health professionals. The series also will be available online.

The St. John Learning Center has been offering adult education opportunities for more than 30 years. Call the center at (614) 547-2171 to learn more about the range of social services it offers.

Visit stjohnlearning.wordpress.com for more information on classes and links to social media. Go to stjohnlearning.eventbrite.com to register for online classes.

Shepherd's Corner lists fall events

The fall schedule of activities at the Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, a ministry of the Dominican Sisters of Peace, will include the annual Shepherds Fest from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23.

Those attending can explore the urban farm's trails and feed the sheep. Admission is free, but those attending are asked to bring a shelf-stable food item for donation to local pantries.

Labyrinth walks are scheduled once each month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Dates and themes are: Wednesday, Sept. 13, "Embrace Peace"; Thursday, Oct. 26, "Final Harvest"; Friday, Nov. 10, "Connect"; and Thursday, Dec. 21, "Winter Solstice." First Friday hikes will take place on Oct. 6, Nov. 3, Dec. 1 and Jan. 5. A \$5 donation is suggested for each of these events.

There will be a class in beginning backyard birding for adults and family groups including one or two children at 9 a.m. Friday, Oct. 27. Registration is required, with a maximum of 11 registration groups. There is a \$15 charge. One birdfeeder will be provided per group. To register, call (614) 866-4302 or visit shepherdscorner.org/calendar.

Gail Maraman will lead a class from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 28 on how to use wet felting techniques with leaves and acorns to create art celebrating autumn. Registration is \$20.

A class on making small gifts from items found around the house will take place from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 17. There will be a late fall morning walk at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 5. Registration for both events is \$5.

Shepherd's Corner's annual holiday craft sale will begin at 9 a.m. Friday, Dec. 8. Additional dates may be added.

The center at 987 N. Waggoner Road in Blacklick is open Fridays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. through mid-November. Visitors are requested to either bring a donation or shelf-stable food for pantries.

The sisters at Shepherd's Corner invite visitors to join them in experiencing the joys and responsibilities of caring for land, life and spirit and to inspire others to become shepherds of creation in their own corners of the world.

They offer rental of their building or labyrinth to groups whose mission is compatible with that of Shepherd's Corner. On-demand programming is offered for small groups.

For more information, call (614) 866-4302, send an email to SCEcologyCenter@oppeace.org or go to www.shepherdscorner.org.

Diocesan schools welcome increased enrollment, new administrators

All signs point toward diocesan Catholic schools continuing a positive trajectory this year in content and enrollment as funding initiatives make education more affordable to families.

Total enrollment across the 23-county diocese is expected to increase again this year, eclipsing last school year's record of 17,000, the highest student count for the 11 high schools and 39 K-8 schools in a decade.

A nearly 10% increase in K-8 enrollment was expected, according to spring projections but actual enrollment could exceed estimates based on more families choosing Catholic schools due to a combination of programs that have made Catholic education more affordable.

The state's Educational Choice Scholarship Program (EdChoice) is now accessible to all Ohioans after House Bill 33 was signed into law on July 3 by Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine. The program originally was implemented in 2005 to provide

parochial and private school options to families living in underperforming public school districts but has been expanded multiple times over the past 18 years to aid more families, particularly those with lower incomes.

Now, every family, regardless of residence or household income, can receive state scholarship dollars for students to attend a participating Catholic school for little or no cost, effectively allowing parents to choose a school best suited for their children.

Families at 450% or below the Federal Poverty Guideline will receive the maximum scholarship amount of \$6,165 (K-8) or \$8,407 (9-12). Those at 451% or more will receive a portion of the full scholarship amount depending on household income and family size.

During the 2022-23 school year, only 42% of students in diocesan Catholic schools were eligible or took advantage of EdChoice scholarships. With the recent

changes, every student now is eligible to receive a state scholarship.

Another program benefiting students and families is the Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund, which is the diocese's certified Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO).

Anyone can make a gift to the SGO, which provides a dollar-for-dollar credit up to \$750 per person to offset a donor's Ohio tax liability, by going to www.emmausroadscholarship.org or sending a check to the Office of Catholic Schools. The SGO allows taxpayers to save money while increasing the diocese's capacity to help families afford Catholic school.

In 2022, more than \$1.9 million was raised for scholarships and, according to estimates, nearly 1,300 students in the diocese were slated to receive the scholarships this year.

Overall, with a boost from the SGO funds, the amount of tuition assistance available in the diocese more than tri-

pled for this academic year, resulting in a 100% increase in the number of awards over the previous academic year.

New administrators at schools in the diocese are: Nandee Hocker, assistant principal, Columbus Immaculate Conception; Veronica Stemen, principal, and Ericka Gowitzka, assistant principal, Columbus St. Agatha; Anna Tufano, assistant principal, Hilliard St. Brendan; Brian Lower, interim principal, Columbus St. Joseph Montessori; Nikki Ford, assistant principal, Columbus St. Mary German Village; Sister Mary Regina Whitney, OP, Worthington St. Michael; Luke Patterson, interim assistant principal, Westerville St. Paul; Eric Pfeifer, principal, Delaware St. Mary; Carli Saliba, assistant principal, Newark St. Francis de Sales; Katie Laufersweiler-Hanf, vice principal of student services, Columbus Cristo Rey High School; and Phil Kraker, vice principal of operations, Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School.

Schools aim to foster Catholic culture

Diocesan schools will continue to focus on strengthening the Catholic culture during a new academic year that has begun for all students.

As a prelude to the opening of classes, the Office of Catholic Schools hosted a "Hope is Here" evangelization conference for teachers on Monday, Aug. 21 at St. Charles Preparatory School with featured presenters Father Dave Pivonka, TOR, who serves as president at Franciscan University of Steubenville, and national Catholic speaker Katie Prejean McGrady.

In recent comments to *The Catholic Times*, Bishop Earl Fernandes emphasized the importance of students and staff members having a strong sense of Christ's presence in their schools.

"As another school year begins, I am particularly hopeful that our goals with respect to the Catholic identity of our Catholic elementary and high schools will be met," Bishop Fernandes said.

"Last year, a new religious course of study was promulgated. We have begun to incorporate the Theology of the Body into our religion curriculum. We have three new assistant superintendents who will continue to work on recruitment, marketing, virtue formation and formation of our administrators and school teachers, who act as spiritual leaders of our young people."

Bishop Fernandes has experienced Catholic education at all levels, starting in grade school and high school in Toledo. In addition to seminary studies and advanced theology degrees, the bishop has taught religion at a Catholic high school in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, served as an academic dean at Mount St. Mary of the West Seminary (The Athenaeum of Ohio) in Cincinnati and was the pastor at a Cincinnati parish with the largest Catholic grade school in the state before he was named bishop for the Dio-

cese of Columbus in 2022.

"More and more, we are moving away from the idea that a Catholic school is a private school with religion classes," Bishop Fernandes stressed. "Rather, the Catholic school should be a place of integral formation of the whole person, where the Spirit of Christ is encountered across the curriculum, and where Christ Himself is met in the sacraments, in the faculty and in the student body."

Dr. Adam Dufault, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, added, "Our schools lead with our faith. As we have executed our strategic plan over the past three years, we have deepened our commitment to an unapologetically Catholic culture in our schools. The educators in our Diocese work tirelessly every day to lead our students to a love of Jesus Christ and His Church – it is our mission and our ministry."

At the 11 high schools in the diocese,

priests and religious sisters will help bring Christ to the young people with a visible presence on campuses.

Among the clergy assigned to high schools are Father Paul Noble at Columbus Bishop Watterson, Father Sesu Maria Crescensis Panguraj, SAC, at Columbus St. Francis DeSales, Father Anthony Essien, OFM Cap, at Columbus Bishop Hartley, Father Michel Wojciak, SAC, at St. Charles Preparatory School, Father David Arroyo, CR, at Columbus Cristo Rey and Father Emmanuel Ado Addai at Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans.

Fathers Crescensis and Wojciak, members of the Pallottine order, and Father Essien, a Capuchin Franciscan priest, are new to the diocese. Father Arroyo is with the Congregation of the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Other priests who will be on high school campuses as chaplains and/or instructors are Father Kyle Tennant at Co-

lumbus Bishop Ready, Father Tyron Tomson at Lancaster Fisher Catholic, Father Brian Beal at Portsmouth Notre Dame, Father David Sizemore at Newark Catholic and Father Jeff Coning at New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic.

As for religious sisters, the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (Salesian Sisters) enter their second year on staff at St. Francis DeSales High School and at Columbus St. James the Less School, and the Leaven of the Immaculate Heart of Mary sisters assist at Portsmouth Notre Dame high school and elementary.

The Apostolic Sisters of St. John will serve for the first time at Bishop Ready High School, and the Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary will be new this year at Chillicothe Bishop Flagg Elementary and Tuscarawas Central Catholic elementary and junior/senior high schools.

Parish schools and other high schools with religious sisters on the staff include the Dominican Sisters of Mary Mother of the Eucharist at Worthington St. Michael, Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus at Westerville St. Paul, Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary at Columbus Our Lady of Peace and Columbus Our Lady of Bethlehem, Little Servant Sisters of the Immaculate Conception at Columbus St. John Paul II Early Childhood Education Center, Sisters of Our Lady of Kilimanjaro at Cristo Rey High School and the Dominican Sisters of the Immaculate Conception Province at Gahanna St. Matthew and Bishop Hartley High schools.

Sister John Paul Maher, OP, begins her first year as an assistant superintendent for Catholic culture, a new role for diocesan schools. She is a member of the congregation of the Dominican Sisters of

Fall sports Mass at Bishop Watterson



Several hundred student-athletes and coaches from Central Catholic League Schools participated in the annual fall sports Mass on Sunday, Aug. 13 celebrated at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School by Father Paul Noble, the school's chaplain, to begin the season.

Photo courtesy Jim Jones

Prayers for the start of the new school year

By **Dr. Adam J. Dufault**
Superintendent of Catholic Schools

The new year has begun in Catholic schools across the Diocese of Columbus! Over the past few weeks, teachers have been busily preparing classrooms and principals have been finalizing plans as we all prepare to welcome back our students. Enrollment is expected to be significantly higher than even last year, which recorded the Diocese's highest student count in a decade.

Many schools select an annual theme that frames the goals planned for the year ahead. The Office of Catholic Schools has adopted this practice and chosen part of the Emmaus Road story as our theme for this year. This story from Luke's Gospel happens shortly after our Lord's death and resurrection. A group of disciples walks along a road to the town of Emmaus, and Jesus comes along beside them. They do not recognize him as he retells all that has happened during His Passion in the context of the prophets of Scripture. Finally, the disciples recognize him when they eat together and he blesses and breaks the bread. "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us?" they ask as they realize His presence.

These words, "Were not our hearts burning," are our theme. They remind us that Jesus will appear along our road and

share our journey giving encouragement and hope, that if we invite him to stay with us, he will reveal himself to us in amazing ways. Our prayer is that we walk forward into this new year confident that Christ accompanies us, knowing the love of God around us.

This theme also points to the fact that we enter into the second year of the National Eucharistic Revival, culminating in the National Eucharistic Congress next summer. During this year, our schools will participate in the revival, renewing our devotion to the Holy Eucharist and to His Real Presence. We will work to strengthen our prayer life and grow closer to the Lord through Adoration and a deepening of our unapologetically Catholic culture.

We continue to implement our strategic plan *Real Presence, Real Future: Our Catholic Schools*, which provides a vision for the future of our schools and sets forth our commitment to ensure that our schools continue to grow in Catholicity, academic excellence, and sustainability. We have a particular focus on implementing our Evangelization Plan, helping a love for the Lord to burn in the hearts of our educators, students, and families.

To further support our Catholic culture, our Catholic Schools will enter into the second year of our new Religion Course of Study, a phase focusing on

Theology of the Body. More than a program or curriculum, it is a culture based on the teachings of Pope St John Paul II that grounds our schools in respect as men and women created in God's image and also in the great virtues of our faith. As we work with one another and with our partners at the Ruah Woods Institute to build this culture, our schools will continue to transform lives through the beauty and truth of our Catholic faith.

In the classroom, we will continue to work to integrate our faith into all content areas, instilling a Catholic worldview throughout or curriculum. This year, we will be working with our educators to revise our Math Course of Study. Professional development for principals will dive deeply into this this year. As Pope Francis has said, "The mission of schools and teachers is to develop an understanding of all that is true, good, and beautiful." We aspire to make every classroom in our diocese reflect that vision.

Due to Ohio's recent changes to the Ed-Choice program, recognizing parents as the primary educators of their children and empowering them to truly choose the educational program that fits their family, and because of the tremendous generosity of all of the donors to our Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund, Catholic school has never been more affordable. We will work this year to improve our

financial models and to ensure the good stewardship of the funds entrusted to our children's education.

The Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund, a recognized Scholarship Granting Organization in the state of Ohio, will continue to raise tuition assistance dollars. That means that contributions to this Fund up to \$750 per person will receive a state tax credit in that amount. It is an excellent opportunity to grow our ability to support families. To learn more or to make a contribution to receive your tax credit, visit <https://EmmausRoadScholarship.org>.

Great things will happen this year. Milestones will be reached, challenges overcome, and our students will grow in their faith and in their knowledge. Our Catholic schools have never been more sought out, never been more necessary for the formation of our students, and have never existed in a more supportive economic environment. We remain committed to our belief that Catholic education changes lives and that a life centered on the great truths of our faith leads us to Heaven.

At their foundation, our schools are places of evangelization tasked to form disciples for a world that so dearly needs them. This essential work will continue in all of the classrooms of the Diocese this year. Please pray for our educators, our students, and their families as we begin the new school year.



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FESTIVAL SPONSORS

Immaculate Conception School marks 100 years in Columbus

By Elizabeth Pardi

As the school year commences, Columbus Immaculate Conception (IC) School will celebrate its 100th anniversary. With classes now ranging from preschool to eighth grade, the school, in the north side Clintonville neighborhood, began as two small classrooms in a residence purchased in 1922.

Immaculate Conception Church, still in its infancy, had just begun celebrating Masses in a chapel with room for only about 50 families. The residence containing the classrooms was acquired to serve as both a convent for a group of Franciscan nuns as well as a school for IC's first students, whom the nuns would teach.

Under the leadership of Msgr. John J. Fagan, who was both pastor of the church and principal of the school until his death in 1960, more and more students enrolled, and within a few years, the construction of a new building was underway. It was the first of many new builds and renovations for the IC community, due to its increasing growth.

Charlene Pardi, who attended IC school for first through sixth grades in the late 1930s, recalled being disappointed when her second-grade class wasn't able to receive its First Holy Communion in the new church because it wasn't ready in time.



Columbus Immaculate Conception School has educated students in the Clintonville area for 100 years. Photo courtesy Immaculate Conception School

"I was so sad," she said. "The old church was just a room in a hallway."

The new church, still in use today, was complete by the time the Clark family started in 1954 at IC school, where all 11 children attended.

"Since 1954, IC has never had a school year without one of my parents' descendants in attendance," said Mary Margaret Clark Schultheis, who attended IC in the

late 1950s and early '60s. At that time, all of the classes were still taught by the Franciscan nuns, whom Schultheis remembers for the orderliness they brought to the school. "We all had to stand up and say 'good morning' whenever another adult came into the classroom," she said.

Slowly, beginning in the early 1970s, the nuns were replaced by laity as IC's teachers, as the school strove to keep up

with the changing times. Cindy Butchko, IC's current third-grade teacher, began at the school in 1980 as a student teacher when technology was far less common in the classroom.

"I'd say one of the biggest changes I've seen (here over the years) is keeping up with the changing technology," she said. As a school that prides itself on effectively preparing students for high school, one of IC's priorities is technology fluency for its students. "(It benefits them to) know how to use it," Butchko said, "because it's a part of our world."

Deacon Chris Campbell, principal at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School as well as IC parish's permanent deacon, said IC school's "facilities, technology and curriculum have kept up with the times." Despite being a century old now, "(the school) is not stuck in the past," Campbell said.

Because of its age, IC school boasts a wealth of large families with multiple generations all attending there. Terry Irwin Kelleher, who graduated eighth grade at IC in 1968 and is still an active parishioner there, said the IC community has been an integral part of her family since the 1930s when her mother attended school there.

"(In) 2014, ... we rejoiced at my grandson's baptism at Immaculate Conception

See 100 YEARS, Page 13



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St. Charles celebrates 50 years of soccer

By Tim Puet

For The Catholic Times

Two members of the Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School soccer team that won state championships in 1983 and 1985 said their fiercest challenges came not in any playoff games but against each other.

"Our scrimmages were the most competitive matches we played, the best training sessions you could ever have," said Angelo Catenacci, a 1986 graduate of the school. "Getting through those was harder than any of our regular games because of what was at stake."

"In those days, the school didn't have its own athletic fields," Dave Merola, a 1987 graduate, said. "We had to practice at Wolfe Park, across East Broad Street from the school. So, we had to carry all our equipment, including goal nets, across the street and back again."

"We had carpool groups of various sizes. Practices would end with the groups scrimmaging each other, with the loser having to carry the equipment across the street. No one wanted to carry those big, awkward, heavy nets across four lanes of traffic on a heavily traveled street at rush hour, so the competition was terrific."

"As intense as we played each other to avoid carrying the nets, it made the games against other schools easier."

Catenacci and Merola are the first two inductees into the new St. Charles Soccer Hall of Fame. They were honored on Friday, Aug. 11 before the Cardinals' season opener against Pataskala Watkins Memorial.



St. Charles Preparatory School opened its 50th soccer season by honoring Angelo Catenacci (left) from the Class of 1986 and Dave Merola from the Class of 1987 as the program's first hall of fame inductees.

The hall has been created to honor the 50th anniversary of the St. Charles soccer program, which began with a club team in 1973 and became a varsity sport when soccer came under the jurisdiction of the Ohio High School Athletic Association three years later.

St. Charles' 1-0 victory against Watkins in the opening game gave the Cardinals a record of 554 wins, 248 losses and 108 ties in that period. (The record is incomplete because one year is missing.)

This includes state championships in 1983 and 1985 – the school's first in any

sport – state runner-up finishes in 1981, 1988, 1991 and 2016; eight regional championships; 12 district championships; 20 Central Catholic League (CCL) titles; and five championships in the former Central Ohio Soccer League (COSL).

St. Charles won the 1983 Ohio Class A-AA championship, completing a 21-0 season, by defeating Cincinnati Finneytown 2-0 at Westerville South on goals by Catenacci and Merola's deceased brother, Rick. Two years later, the Cardinals (21-2-1) were 3-1 victors over Enon Greenon in the A-AA title game at Cooper Stadium in

Columbus, with Dave Merola and Catenacci scoring the first two goals.

Despite the success of the state championship teams, Merola and Catenacci said the Cardinals' best team in that era was the 1984 squad, which competed in Class AAA in that year and won 22 straight games before being beaten 1-0 by Centerville at Huber Heights Wayne in the state semifinals, ending what remains a state-record 43-game winning streak.

"What I remember most about that game is that it was played in very stormy weather," Merola said. "It was on a wet, muddy field – not real soccer. Thinking about that game still hurts almost 40 years later."

Catenacci and Merola were part of a five-season run from 1981 to 1985 in which the Cardinals were state semifinalists every year and had a combined record of 92-8-7.

One of the remarkable things about that period is that the team had four head coaches – John Blume in 1981 and 1982, Ron Wigg in 1983, Jaroslav Valachovic in 1984 and Glenn Morton in 1985.

"We played a variety of styles in those years because each one emphasized a different aspect of the game," Merola said. "Coach Blume was very defensive-minded, while Wigg placed a much greater emphasis on offense. Valachovic, who was previously the junior varsity coach, and Morton were a little more balanced."

Wigg also was part of the first two attempts at professional soccer in Colum-

See **SOCCER**, Page 13

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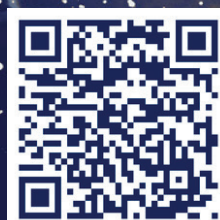
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Author of "The Case for Life"

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SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS RECOGNIZED FOR SERVICE

The Office of Catholic Schools honored administrators in the spring for their service in the diocese. Those recognized for their anniversaries were:

5 YEARS

- Chris Kowalski,
BISHOP HARTLEY HIGH SCHOOL
- Matt Brickner,
BISHOP READY HIGH SCHOOL
- Chelsea Tolliver,
BISHOP ROSECRANS HIGH SCHOOL
- Jill Carfagna,
ST. BRIGID OF KILDARE SCHOOL
- Mark Watts,
ST. CATHARINE SCHOOL
- Lisa Ruth,
ST. PIUS X SCHOOL
- Josh Caton
BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL
- Susan Swackhammer
BISHOP FENWICK SCHOOL

10 YEARS

- Julie Freeman,
OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP SCHOOL
- Gina Stull,
ST. MARY GERMAN VILLAGE SCHOOL

15 YEARS

- Joel Wichtman,
ST. ANDREW SCHOOL
- Kate Cavello,
ST. BRENDAN SCHOOL
- Laura Corcoran
BISHOP FLAGET SCHOOL

20 YEARS

- Joan Miller
ST. BERNADETTE SCHOOL

SOCCER, continued from Page 12

bus. He was the leading scorer of the American Soccer League's Columbus Magic, who played in 1979-80 and 1980-81 at Cooper Stadium, and was coach of the Columbus Capitals in 1984-85 and 1985-86, their only two years of existence. The Capitals played American Indoor Soccer Association matches in Battelle Hall at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

"Soccer was just taking off in the late 1970s and early '80s when the Merola brothers and I started playing with the Columbus Dynamo and East/West youth soccer organizations," Cataldi said. "Some of us in those groups went on to St. Charles, while others went to Westerville North and South and what was then Worthington High School, creating rivalries which were part of the COSL, in which we won five championships in six years from 1979 to 1984, the year the CCL began league play in soccer."

Merola and Catenacci were asked separately what made St. Charles soccer successful when they played, and both used the same phrase – "We felt like a family."

"We all worked for each other. We didn't play for individual rewards. All we wanted was the state championship," said Catenacci, who set two state records by scoring three goals in the first 2:17 of a game against Lancaster in 1984 and finishing his high school career with 119 goals, with his final goal coming in the state championship game against Greenon.

Catenacci played college soccer at Ohio State University and coached St. Charles from 1991 to 1994, with his first team los-

ing in the state championship game to Bay Village Bay on penalty kicks.

"We grew up together and shared many experiences," said Merola, who broke Catenacci's record in 1986 and finished with 128 goals. "Many of us are still great friends."

Merola played for the University of North Carolina, where he was a member of a team that reached the NCAA Final Four in 1987. He also represented the United States on several teams that toured Europe and South America. His son, David, later played for North Carolina State.

Merola was an assistant coach on Catenacci's St. Charles team in 1993 and their friendship later extended into a business venture in which they were franchise holders for Wendy's restaurants in the Kansas City area of Missouri and Kansas.

Catenacci coached his children in youth soccer in the Kansas City area and today owns a construction company in Overland Park, Kansas and is coaching director for the Sporting Blue Valley Soccer Club, part of the Sporting KC organization in Major League Soccer. Merola is president of a commercial real estate company in Cary, North Carolina.

Before the game against Watkins, the Hall of Fame inductees spoke to the current St. Charles team. Asked afterward what they said, Merola responded with a familiar phrase. "Remember you are a family, from the first game to the last," he said.

"You share a bond you always will have in common. Now give it all you've got – and win."

CULTURE, continued from Page 9

Mary Mother of the Eucharist and a former principal at Worthington St. Michael School.

In the new role, Sister John Paul will assist diocesan schools in developing a Catholic culture that radiates from an expression of authentic faith embodied in everything and everyone.

She plans to meet with administrators at each school during the year to help them assess strengths, provide resources and generate conversations about the Blessed Sacrament, the source and summit of the Catholic faith.

"People shape Catholic culture," Sister John Paul explained. "This is why the people we choose to be around and who we welcome into our Catholic schools is so important.

"A Catholic culture begins to form when a community of people, sharing belief in Jesus and His teachings given to us by the Church, choose to put that faith into action through words and deeds.

"The experience of a Catholic culture in our schools is important because it impacts the level of staying power that the faith has in the lives of our young people. When a Catholic culture is present in a school, it provides a worldview and immersion experience that bring Catholicism to life.

"Like the domestic church of family life, the life of a school community shapes

the mind and habits of the young by the ideas and reality they absorb."

To gauge students' awareness of the faith and the Catholic culture in schools, the diocese uses the Assessment of Religious Knowledge (ARK) for religious education that provides insights into the doctrinal, liturgical, moral and spiritual areas of knowledge.

"What's important is: How does this lead us to Jesus, and what does it tell us about our schools and the areas of growth for us that we need to work on to build our Catholic culture?" Sister John Paul said.

But she pointed out that development of Catholic culture goes well beyond how students score on a test.

"A true Catholic identity is not going to come from an accreditation goal. It's not going to come from buying new books," she said. "A true Catholic identity comes from people.

"Within a Catholic culture, young people can observe a convincing continuity in the lives of authentic witnesses. They are able to make sense of how the pieces of life fit together by looking at others who know how to unite what they believe with how they worship, how they live and how they pray.

"They see that people who know Jesus and accept the truth given to us in

See CULTURE, Page 17

100 YEARS, continued from Page 11

at the same baptismal font where his father, aunt, uncle, grandmother, great-aunts and great-uncle were all baptized! The circle of life was not lost on my mother (Marian Sauter), 89 years of age, beaming with joy at her new great-grandson in a most special, holy place, holding so many memories."

Mary Ann Ireton, a former teacher at IC, said, "IC is a very unique community in that ... children – when they become adults – return to Clintonville, (and) children of former students attend IC."

Mia Theado is another one of these former IC students whose three sons have all attended school there themselves. "(It's) a wonderful place to grow up as well as raise your children," she said. "I have had the privilege of experiencing both.

"IC has a way of bringing together families in the community who share the same goals of providing their children with a well-rounded, faith-based education. ... I have celebrated multiple sacraments there of my own as well as for my sons."

Colleen Kent, who became IC's principal 11 years ago after serving as assistant principal at Worthington St. Michael School, said that upon becoming part of the IC community, the connectedness of the families to one another – many of whom have had multiple generations attend there – is what stood out most to her.

"I was an outsider coming into the

community and have truly felt the love and the draw that people have toward this place," she said. "(I've met so many) parents who pick up each other's kids."

One of the changes Kent has made in her time at IC has been starting a preschool there, which offers classes for children ages 3 through 5. Because the preschool serves as a feeder school to the older grades at IC, it's helped enrollment numbers.

Another factor in increasing IC's student body has been the recent closure of several other Columbus Catholic schools, specifically Columbus St. Anthony. Kent said she's happy to welcome more students but is running out of room.

"(We have) plans currently written up for the next renovation," she said. "We're squeezing people into small spaces here. Our new counselor's office is actually a closet that we made look nice," she said, laughing.

IC's last renovation was in 2003 for \$4 million and included adding classrooms and updating air conditioning. Kent, whom Butchko said "works really hard and lives the faith," is optimistic about continuing to build onto the school for future generations.

In regard to the support and loyalty of families eager to help the school prosper, Kent said, "That is the beauty of (this) environment, and I just love it. I can't get enough of it."



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Annual Jubilee of Anniversaries set for Sept. 10

Bishop Earl Fernandes will honor long-married couples on Sunday, Sept. 10 at the annual Jubilee of Anniversaries, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life.

Couples celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary and any five-year anniversary thereafter, as well as couples celebrating 60 years of marriage or more,

are invited to attend the Jubilee Mass at 2:30 p.m. at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37. A light reception for the jubilarians only will follow the Mass.

For couples and family members who prefer to attend virtually, the Mass will be livestreamed on the St. John Neumann YouTube page, www.youtube.com/@saintjohnneumann.

com/@saintjohnneumann.

All couples observing landmark anniversaries in 2023, whether they plan to attend the Mass or not, are encouraged to register for the event. Registered couples will receive a congratulatory letter and personalized certificate recognizing their anniversary.


Couples who RSVP by Monday, Aug. 28 will be featured in the worship aid available at the Mass and online, and their names will be listed in *The Catholic Times*. Registration for the Jubilee Mass is online at www.columbuscatholic.org/marriage-family/marriage/jubilee.

Local Order of Malta members make pilgrimage



During the first weekend of August each year, the three U.S. Associations of the Order of Malta make a pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion near Green Bay, Wisconsin. Members also go on pilgrimage every year to Lourdes, France, where the entire Order is invited for a week of service. The order's second year pilgrimage is to a local Marian site in a given country that is more like a retreat for individual members and often their families. The Columbus Region, which is part of the Federal Association of the Order headquartered in Washington, D.C., was well represented this year in Wisconsin. Charles Mifsud of Plain City (left) and Albert Navarro of Dublin (right), who is an auxiliary member and 2025 candidate for the Order, are with the Prince and Grand Master of the Order, Fra' John Dunlap. The statue of Our Lady of Champion is seen behind them after a group finished a Marian procession around the grounds.


Photo courtesy Order of Malta




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Ohio pilgrims make their presence known at World Youth Day with a state flag waving at a large gathering of young people in Portugal. Photos courtesy Office for Hispanic Ministry



Bishop Earl Fernandes (center) joins Fathers David Arroyo (left) and Victor Cano and pilgrims from the diocese at World Youth Day in Portugal.

World Youth Day had impact on Columbus Latinos group

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

After attending World Youth Day 2023, which was celebrated Aug. 1-6 in Lisbon, Portugal, the Columbus Latinos to World Youth Day group can attest that the Catholic Church is alive.

The group spent a week participating in World Youth Day, which was started by Pope St. John Paul II in 1986 in Rome and takes place every few years, drawing young Catholics from across the world.

Fathers David Arroyo and Victor Cano, parochial vicars at Powell St. Joan of Arc and Columbus St. Peter churches, accompanied the Columbus Latinos group and served as spiritual fathers to them.

"Portugal was a moment to renew my commitment to the Church and allow all to know that the Church is alive," Father Cano said. "One of the memorable moments was the closing (ceremony) and especially the last Mass.

"Celebrating the Mass with all the priests in the world was incredible. Also, ... seeing these young people, their love for Mary, her prayers, and also having concelebrated (Mass) in the church."

Father Arroyo said concelebrating the Masses was a highlight of the trip.

"Everything was like brand new for me," he said. "I had the chance to concelebrate the Mass – two Masses – with many priests around me, and I think, for me, that marked my experience there, to have the opportunity to celebrate the Mass with the pope the last day and to hear many languages in the celebration of the Eucharist.

"For me, it was a good experience ... to see the universal Church, many faces of the Church."

Preceding World Youth Day 2023, the "Days in the Diocese" was held from July 26-31. The gathering integrates young people into Portugal's dioceses, allowing participants to become acquainted with the region and the local Church.

The Columbus Latinos to World Youth Day group, which consisted of 21 members, received a \$9,000 grant from The

Catholic Foundation for the trip, said Lisset Mendoza, director of the diocesan Office for Hispanic Ministry.

More than 50% of travel costs were raised through local events and donations from parishioners, she said, so the group did not have to pay full price for the trip.

Members of the Columbus Latinos to World Youth Day group attend Columbus St. Cecilia, Christ the King, Holy Name/Parroquia Santa Cruz, St. Peter, St. Stephen the Martyr and St. Thomas the Apostle parishes.

"Within our group, there was so much diversity because we were representing the U.S., which is where we were all coming from," said Alma Vera, who served as a group leader and is the office manager at Christ the King. "We're also representing our origins. We all come from different Hispanic and Latin countries, so we had the Mexican flag.

"We had people from Colombia in our group. We had people from El Salvador in our group. It's a very common thing at World Youth Day for everybody to have the flag from their country. Also, at the same time, there are people chanting or praising the Lord in each of their own languages.

"There was just this sense of we're all in unity together, each with their own language, which is so beautiful to see how different we are but how united we come in our faith."

"It was very joyful to see many young people in love with their faith, and they were all excited and happy and dancing and singing people from all over the world," said Angelica De Leon, who was part of the Columbus Latinos group and is the office manager and director of the Parish School of Religion at St. Thomas the Apostle.

"One of the parts that I really loved from the Masses was that, at the time you say 'peace,' everybody will say 'peace' to you in their languages, and that was something I'll never forget."

The week in Lisbon began with an accidental encounter, which led to celebrating Mass with Bishop Denis



Members of a Latino group from the diocese enjoy their time at World Youth Day in Portugal.

Jean-Marie Jachiet, the bishop of Belfort-Montbéliard, France, who previously served as the auxiliary bishop of Paris.

The Columbus Latinos group was preparing to celebrate Mass with Father Arroyo and Father Cano in the conference room of their hotel, when the bishop entered the room.

"Somehow, (he) found out we were having a Mass, (which) we had just scheduled that same day just a couple hours prior, and just goes and celebrates Mass for us, and he was from France, but he also happened to speak Spanish and English, which, of course, was so fitting for our group," Vera said.

"And then, we found out later, he was on his way to a Mass. He got confused on the hotel, and that's how he ended up at ours. ... That was such a beautiful gift from the Lord."

The group participated in various events throughout the week. The first was the opening Mass on Aug. 1.

The welcome ceremony with Pope Francis took place Aug. 3, and Stations of the Cross with the pope was held the following day.

There was also a U.S. national gathering, De Leon said, in which all of the pilgrims from the U.S. gathered in a park.

"Our bishop was there – Bishop Fernandes – he stopped by and said, 'Hi,' to the group," she said. "Also, the seminarians were there – the seminarians from the Diocese (of Columbus) – and there was a lot of people.

"Seeing the diversity in the Church in the United States ... right now, it's very bilingual. Even the talks and then the music for this event were bilingual, so we were saying this represents our group very well."

An evening prayer vigil was held on Saturday, in which all of the pilgrims gathered and camped outside overnight, awaiting the missioning Mass with Pope

WYD, continued from Page 16

Francis on Sunday morning, which concluded World Youth Day.

"Most of the events during the week were central in the city," Vera said. "People were all spread out, all at different churches, parks, big areas, for the most part.

"On Saturday night, the pope arrives and spends some time with the pilgrims, leading Adoration, and there's musical performances, and then people are camping out until the morning the next day with the closing Mass."

Bishop Fernandes described attending his first World Youth Day as "phenomenal."

"It was great to see 1.5 million young people in Lisbon," he said. "It gives me great hope for the future. I spent a day with the seminarians in Fatima, which was very moving for me. Two moments of Eucharistic Adoration were also powerful.

"One was the American gathering in the park, with the bishops and faithful of our country adoring the Lord. Bishop (Robert) Barron (of the Diocese of Winona-Rochester, Minnesota) and Bishop (Edward) Burns (of the Diocese of Dallas) led the activities. That was the moment where I was able (at least briefly) to be with the pilgrims from Columbus together.

"The other moment was the vigil with the pope; the silence was most impressive, and the pope reminded us that nothing in life is free except the love of Jesus!"

Meliza Saucedo, a member of the Co-

lumbus Latinos group, said the vigil was memorable for her, too.

"It was a very eye-opening experience, for sure, sharing that sleeping space with other youth from other countries, with other priests, with other religious sisters. ... When opening my eyes (it was) like, 'Oh, wow. People are already dancing,'" she said. "It was awesome to see that type of energy."

Saucedo said the experience was an "adventure" and allowed her to take risks, placing herself in new and uncomfortable situations, such as sleeping under a bridge for the vigil.

"All these risks have added value to the experience, and because of that, I came back more convicted, and there was more clarity in what God's plan is for me individually," she said.

The theme for World Youth Day 2023 was "Mary arose and went with haste" (Luke 1:39), which was chosen by Pope Francis because the quote, which recounts the Visitation, presents the Blessed Mother as a woman of charity and a missionary.

The pope emphasized that young people need to be missionaries, active in evangelization and witnessing to "the presence of the living Christ."

The Columbus Latinos to World Youth Day group heeded the pope's advice.

"We must be missionaries; it's not some-

thing for us to keep but to share with others," De Leon said. "I want that to be my mission for life: to share joy with others, to share my love for Christ with others."

Myra Huddleston, who serves on the missionary staff at Damascus Catholic Mission Campus in Knox County and served as one of the group leaders, agreed with the pope's sentiments.

"One thing that God has put on my heart is that, these people who went, we can't just stay there," she said. "The Lord put on my heart that we need to send them out to serve, to really go back and give to their parishes and their community."

Huddleston, who participated in three previous World Youth Days, also enjoyed Pope Francis' words this year on the love Christ has for each person.

"The pope's homily, in the opening ceremony, in Spanish he said, 'Unique is His heartbeat for you. You were called because He loved you,' and he said, He loves me for who I am, not for who I desire to be, because I think we all desire to be greater. We all desire to be holier. We all desire to be virtuous, ... (but) He's uniquely called me here, (which) was really impactful for me."

The group said that Pope Francis also urged young people to "be not afraid." The pope's words were particularly con- solating for Saucedo.

"After that, moving forward and being back in Ohio, I'm not going to be afraid, and I'm going to continue taking risks, either in my faith or what I'm going to do in a professional way," she said.

The Columbus Latinos to World Youth Day group also grew in love for the Blessed Virgin Mary during their time in Lisbon.

Vera said one of her biggest takeaways was how she feels "called to continue honoring Our Lady and continue growing in my own love and devotion for her."

"I was reminded all throughout the week of that dependence on our Blessed Mother and how she cared for us so well. One of the joys of going as a group leader, ... it was so visibly evident how much our group bonded and grew in relationship to each other and together and developed those friendships."

Father Arroyo also witnessed how World Youth Day brought the group together.

"For our group, I saw a movement," he said. "At the beginning, the group was very shy, very quiet, but by the last day, or two days before the ending of the trip, all of the group, we saw each other differently, like a family.

"I think, for me, this is a fruit from this pilgrimage, this World Youth Day. This group now, we see each other in a different way."

CULTURE, continued from Page 13

Catholicism have a freedom and joy that isn't found to the same degree elsewhere. They see how Catholics have a clear sense of mission and want to invite others into the way, truth and life that they have found."

In conjunction with the three-year U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' National Eucharistic Revival to reawaken belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, schools will be encouraged throughout the year to incorporate more opportunities for Adoration, Eucharistic processions and Benediction for faculty, staff and students.

"A school can provide an immersion experience into Catholicism by allowing the Holy Eucharist to grace the lives of all in the school community, fostering conversion and human flourishing," Sister John Paul said. "As the joy and freedom of living as children of God grow, people will naturally express their faith in a life of increasing witness to the Gospel and works of mercy.

"They will gravitate more consistently toward what is good, true and beautiful and want to share these with others. They will seek ways to invite others to experience the same peace, joy and freedom they have in Christ. They will understand that life is a gift from God, and they have a vocation to live, in imitation of Christ, as a gift of self for others."

Through programs such as Pope St. John Paul II's Theology of the Body, which the diocese rolled out last year, and re-

sources offered by Cincinnati-based Ruah Woods Institute that emphasize the dignity of the human person, students are exposed to the immutable fact that God created each soul in His image and likeness.

"When we're talking about Catholic culture, we have to realize that we're starting from the human person and the whole idea of the primacy of the Church," Sister John Paul said. "The Church passes by way of the family; the Church passes by way of the human person, and so what we're trying to do on a larger scale is reorientate our understanding that a Catholic culture starts with the human person.

"We need to be intentional in creating Catholic cultures in our Catholic schools so that they are a refuge from the world, that when children come in, they feel safe, and they feel loved. They're stepping into a world where the faith is being lived, and it looks and feels and sounds like something different than other places.

"It's not just a place of love like other places, but it's actually love motivated by the Eucharist."

When the Eucharist becomes the center of a school, she said, "it's going to be a magnet that draws."

"Bishop Fernandes spoke to all the principals last year at a retreat, and one of the things he challenged us with is: 'What difference does it make that your kids go to Mass? What difference does it

make in your local community that your school went to Mass? In other words, what impact does participating in Mass have on your school?'

"I know from personal experience the building feels totally different. The school day feels more peaceful. And sometimes (the students) would come up and say, 'Sister, I'm just happier.'"

Administrators agree that giving young people the opportunity to be in a state of grace by partaking in the sacraments is foremost in building Catholic culture.

"Our Catholic faith will find expression in a Catholic culture as people accept the invitation to a personal encounter with Jesus and embrace a patient commitment to ongoing conversion and the sacramental life, a reliance on grace and docility to

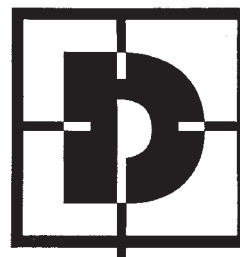
the Holy Spirit," Sister John Paul said.

"The growth of a Catholic culture takes time, as it is always grounded in the human person, with their unique relationship to God. It takes patient cultivation, as in the slow journey of the acorn into the tree, or the silent growth of an interior life through the years."

As staff members and students develop a disposition of missionary discipleship to spread the faith within their schools, the hope is that Catholic high school graduates develop lifelong devotion that forms them as evangelists.

"As people live the Catholic faith in joy and freedom," Sister John Paul said, "the gift of their witness and human flourishing will strengthen and bring new life to a Catholic culture."

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21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

God's authority draws us together

Isaiah 22:19-23
Psalm 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8
Romans 11:33-36
Matthew 16:13-20

Exercise of authority has always been problematic for human beings. "Who is in charge?" or "Who is the boss?" tends to be the concern of many. It should not be a surprise that the life of Christians is affected by this. We are now in a time when true authority is hard to discern.

The Scriptures show clearly that God is the true "Author" of all, and thus is the only One Who has full authority. At the same time, they reveal that among the people of God, there are lines of authority that are meant to enable them to stay in a right relationship with God. The one whom God appoints and any others who share that authority are to be obeyed.

At the same time, the person who has authority also bears responsibility. Authority is for a purpose set by God, not by human agenda. The vision God has, however, includes the reality that we are interdependent.

Each person, each role assigned is in correspondence to the whole. There is a place for each of us in God's plan for humanity. Responsible exercise of authority is meant to help the whole people work together to build up God's kingdom among us.

Jesus appoints Peter as the leader among His Apostles after Peter makes an affirmation of faith in Jesus as the Messiah. He uses the image of the keys as the expression of "authority."

The first reading shows the background of this image in the kingdom of Judah. Shebna, master of the palace, is to lose his place due to a failure to be responsible

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

True depth of prayer involves acceptance of God's way

Jeremiah 20:7-9
Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9
Romans 12:1-2
Matthew 16:21-27

We long for something greater than this world can give us. Our choices make us aware of two dimensions in our own persons that are "fed" by whatever we have chosen.

On the one hand, we experience satisfaction, a certain fulfillment to the desire that moved us toward reaching out. On the other hand, inevitably, we also experience dissatisfaction. The reality that we now possess in some way is not "all that."

It does not give what it promised, at least not in its fullness. It leaves out something or it adds something unexpected that is not pleasing to us. Even if there is no major dissatisfaction, it opens us to a desire for more.

We might attempt to fill that desire by repeatedly reaching for the reality, or we might become aware of a deeper desire, a

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Father Timothy Hayes

Rev. Timothy M. Hayes is the pastor of Granville St. Edward the Confessor Church.



with the keys. Eliakim will take the role Shebna has had with all the trappings of the office and symbols of authority:

"I will clothe him with your robe, and gird him with your sash, and give over to him your authority. He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to the house of Judah. I will place the key of the House of David on Eliakim's shoulder; when he opens, no one shall shut, when he shuts, no one shall open. I will fix him like a peg in a sure spot, to be a place of honor for his family."

Jesus entrusts Peter with the keys in response to his faithful expression of faith. The implication is that Jesus, Who is the fulfillment of the promises to David, is sharing His authority with Peter to build up the kingdom.

The Catholic Church acknowledges that this is a responsibility that has been entrusted to the pope through the ages. In our time, Pope Francis continues to go out to the world to proclaim Jesus Christ and to gather together the people of God.

Recently, the gathering with the Holy Father for World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal was a sign that such authority still has power to draw together people from every nation and to ensure that the faith is passed on to the next generation.

The Church is called to respond to authority by putting faith into practice. When we are obedient to legitimate authority, we can discern our own way to contribute to the building up of the king-

longing that reason tells us cannot be filled in the world as we know it. The psalmist expresses this depth of desire: "My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God."

When we enter into real prayer, a true relationship with God, this longing rises up in us. We might try to guide our prayer through the kinds of prayer we have learned – adoration, contrition, thanksgiving and supplication (petitions and intercession) – but then, without our conscious effort, a new depth of expression arises.

It is expressed in silence, in actively reaching out with our spirits, or in a longing that comes out as hunger, thirst, desire, an acknowledgement that God is God, and He knows better than we do what we truly want.

To reach this depth of prayer, we must be willing to go through the path that Jesus walked and to accept what He is trying to teach His disciples in the Gospel for today: Suffering and death, denial of self, openness to a journey that we do not

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

8/28-9/2 MONDAY 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 8b-10 Psalm 149:1-6, 9 Matthew 23:13-22	THURSDAY 1 Thessalonians 3:7-13 Psalm 90:3-5, 12-14, 17 Matthew 24:42-51	9/5-9/10 MONDAY 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Psalm 96:1, 3-5, 11-13 Luke 4:16-30	THURSDAY Colossians 1:9-14 Psalm 98:2-6 Luke 5:1-11
TUESDAY 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 Psalm 139:1-6 Mark 6:17-29	FRIDAY 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 10-12 Matthew 25:1-13	TUESDAY 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, 9-11 Psalm 27:1-4, 13-14 Luke 4:31-37	FRIDAY Micah 5:1-4a or Romans 8:28-30 Psalm 13:6abc Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23
WEDNESDAY 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 Psalm 139:7-12b Matthew 23:27-32	SATURDAY 1 Thessalonians 4:9-11 Psalm 98:1, 7-9 Matthew 25:14-30	WEDNESDAY Colossians 1:1-8 Psalm 52:10-11 Luke 4:38-44	SATURDAY Colossians 1:21-23 Psalm 54:3-4, 6, 8 Luke 6:1-5

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION Mass Schedule: Weeks of Aug. 27 and Sept. 4, 2023

SUNDAY MASS

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

10:30 a.m. Mass from Portsmouth St. Mary Church on St. Gabriel Radio (FM 88.3), Portsmouth.

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. Mass from St. Francis de Sales Seminary, Milwaukee, at 10 a.m. on WWHO-TV. Check local cable system for cable channel listing.

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

Mass from Massillon St. Mary Church at 10:30 a.m. on WILB radio (AM 1060, FM 94.5 and 89.5), Canton, heard in Tuscarawas, Holmes, and Coshocton counties.

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, Ada, Logan, Millersburg, Murray City, Washington C.H.; Channel 125, Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown and New Philadelphia; Channel 207, Zanesville); 8 p.m., St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

12:05 p.m. weekdays, 8 a.m. Saturdays, Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com and diocesan website, www.columbuscatholic.org. (Saturdays on radio only).

Videos of Masses are available at any time on the internet at these and many other parish websites: Mattingly Settlement St. Mary (www.stannstmary.org); Columbus St. Patrick (www.stpatrickcolumbus.org); Delaware St. Mary (www.delawarestmary.org); Sunbury St. John Neumann (www.saintjohnsunbury.org); and Columbus Immaculate Conception (www.iccols.org). Check your parish website for additional information.

WE PRAY THE SEASONAL PROPS FOR WEEKS I AND II OF THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS

dom. The temptation to compare ourselves to one another and to enter into relationships that are supposed to be interdependent as if they were in opposition can often serve to stand in the way of true progress.

When authority is ignored or rejected, we can miss golden opportunities for drawing others in. When we try to claim authority without reference to the necessity of working together, we can stand in the way of real progress.

want to take – these are the way to glory.

Our first instincts are often with Peter: "God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you" or to us who follow You! The Lord's response to us is the same as He gave to Peter: "You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

The invitation that the Lord offers is to see things as God does, to learn from Him that the path to glory involves a commitment to persevere in the face of struggles.

Jeremiah's plea expresses the cry of the human heart in the face of the world's rejection that often accompanies our relationship with God. "You duped me, O Lord, and I let myself be duped."

The prophet's cry also reflects the impossibility of stepping out of this relationship once we have allowed God in. Human beings are a unity of body, mind and spirit. The spiritual journey is not separate from any earthly experience. When we have eyes to see it, everything is a grace. Prayer in essence is relationship with God.

We become who God created us to be

Successful exercise of authority is like serving as a coach to a talented team. Each member of the team has skills that lead to the win only when all the members learn to rely on one another and to what is necessary to allow each to shine.

The Church, under God's authority, and in cooperation with every other member of the Body of Christ will surely serve as a means to a kingdom if we can discover together "the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God."

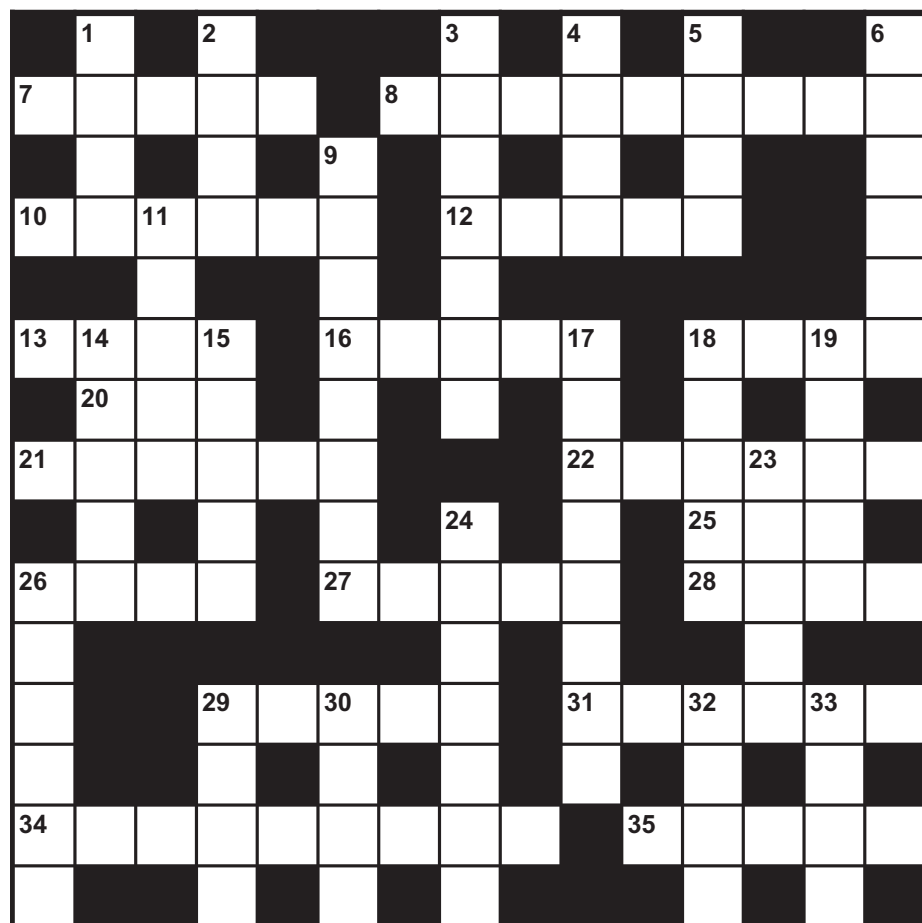
by entering into this relationship with our full reality. God looks at us, we look back at God, and we open our lives to reality itself. This relationship forms us and shapes us into members of Christ, and His journey is our journey.

St. Paul encourages us to be open to a transformation in our way of seeing. "I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship. Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect."

True worship is a decision to cooperate with grace, allowing God's Spirit to touch every aspect of our lives.

The longing of our hearts is fulfilled only in God. When we discover the deepest part of ourselves and allow it to flow into words, we cry out: "My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God."

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- ACROSS**
- 7 Biblical interjection
 - 8 Catholic university in Pennsylvania
 - 10 Village to which Jesus traveled
 - 12 Color of death's horse in Revelation
 - 13 Peter (with "The")
 - 16 Isaiah spoke of a new one
 - 18 Opening of the largest diocese in a province
 - 20 "... born of the Virgin Mary and became ___."
 - 21 "___ the handmaid of the Lord..."
 - 22 Early landing place
 - 25 Mon. of St. Pat
 - 26 "... through the valley of the shadow of death" (Ps 23:4)
 - 27 Catholic creator of Sherlock Holmes
 - 28 Father of Jesse
 - 29 What Samson did while his hair was shaved
 - 31 Moses, for one
 - 34 Certain part of the Mass
 - 35 Canonized pope known as "the Great"
- DOWN**
- 1 "...but do not perceive the wooden ___ in your own?" (Mt 7:3)
 - 2 Biblical site of the temple of Dagon
 - 3 Falls found in the Diocese of Saint Catharines
 - 4 Color for the Army of Mary
 - 5 Grandson of Leah
 - 6 Father of Noah
 - 9 What Jesus did on a certain Thursday
 - 11 Prophet who prophesied that the savior would come from Bethlehem
 - 14 Alpha and ___
 - 15 Mary appeared here in Ireland
 - 17 ___ hosts
 - 18 Fort in the San Antonio diocese
 - 19 Friend of St. Francis of Assisi
 - 23 Title for Jesus
 - 24 The ___ of faith
 - 26 It can rescue us from troubles, according to the Book of Wisdom
 - 29 Faith is like a mustard ___
 - 30 Only OT book that never mentions God
 - 32 Arizona-Vatican connection
 - 33 "O Mary! We crown ___ with blossoms today"

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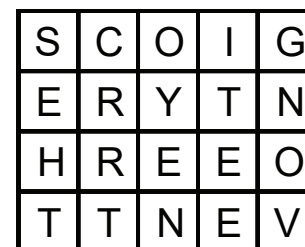
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Words of Wisdom

by Pat Battaglia, aka Dr. Fun

Draw a path from letter to letter to spell the words given in capital letters that completes the wisdom statement. Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left or diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

You cannot win by ...



TRYING TO EVEN THE SCORE

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EDITOR, continued from Page 7

the intentional taking of innocent human life, no matter the circumstances, is intrinsically evil and must always be opposed. Any position to the contrary is inconsistent with the constant teaching of the Catholic Church because it is inconsistent with the nature of life itself.

"In the name of the one Lord of Life, we must vigorously oppose any suggestion that there exists a 'right' to take the life of an unborn child in the womb. Instead, let us all engage in prayer and a joyful outpouring of love and support for pregnant women, especially those most in need. No woman should feel so alone, coerced or hopeless that she chooses to end her child's life through abortion. I urge everyone throughout Ohio to both pray for and actively assist all expectant mothers. Together, let us redouble our commitment to caring for women, children and families so that abortion is not only illegal, but unthinkable."

The results of the special statewide election on Aug. 8 make it easier for the amendment to pass in November by a simple majority of voters rather than a super-majority of 60% that Issue 1 proposed.

Our challenge as Catholics (again, this is not the Church endorsing a political

candidate) is to do whatever we can to prevent abortion from becoming a constitutional right in Ohio, as it has now in California, Vermont and neighboring Michigan since the U.S. Supreme Court struck down Roe v. Wade in June 2022.

How do we help?

Pray fervently that God will intervene. Use social media, talk to friends, relatives and neighbors about why it's important to vote against this amendment. Assist the clergy and pro-life groups at your parishes and in your towns with advocacy on the issue.

The Susan B. Anthony Pro-life America Columbus Region and other pro-life organizations need representatives in the diocese as canvassers to go door to door providing information about the threat to the unborn and parental rights in this amendment.

Ohioans have already seen that the amendment backers are well funded by abortion providers and civil liberties organizations that will continue to pump millions of dollars of advertising into the state over the next few months. Let's pray and work as hard as we ever have to win this battle to keep all children safe from harm.

PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

BEIDER, Greg, 49, July 23
Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption,
Lancaster

BENDER, Sue C., 88, Aug. 5
Corpus Christi Church, Columbus

BRISKI, Bernice M. (Biggs), 97, July 14
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

BURDETT, Alice M. (Lauber), 94, Aug. 1
St. Leo the Great Oratory, Columbus

ELEKES, David F., 73, Aug. 9
St. Rose of Lima Church, New Lexington

FANCELLI, Jeannine (Bailey), 94, Aug. 15
St. James the Less Church, Columbus

GORIUS, Daniel E., 85, July 21
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

GRANNAN, Kate, 89, Aug. 18
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

HERR, Thomas, 76, Aug. 8
St. Leonard Church, Heath

HERBERT, Rita J. (Ryan), 97, Aug. 4
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

HICKMAN, Leland Francis "Lee," 86, Aug. 10
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

HINTERSCHIED, Donna M. (Tartal), 91, Aug. 8
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

JERIC, Maria T., 26, Aug. 13
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

MALEY, Michelle Lee, 50, Aug. 2
St. John Church, Logan

MALONE, Mary S. (Hannum), 86, Aug. 10
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

MILLER, Richard L., 92, Aug. 7
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

MONACO, Anna (Colarossi), 84, Aug. 2
St. Paul Church, Westerville

NEWTON, Lillie M. (Harris), 93, Aug. 16
St. Mary, Mother of God Church, Columbus

REITELBACH, Diann (Auld), 91, Aug. 9
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

RITCHEY, Barbara E. (Kessler), 88, Aug. 9
St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus

SCHIRTZINGER, David R., 59, July 30
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

SMITH, Francis M. (Butts), 92, Aug. 8
St. Peter Church, Millersburg

THORNTON, Helen F. (McAdam), 93, Aug. 15
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

TOLAND, Constance A., 75, July 26
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

COORDINATOR OF PARISH YOUTH CATECHESIS

London St. Patrick Parish is seeking a part-time Coordinator of Parish Youth Catechesis who has responsibility for transmitting the Gospel message to the parish and school community. This includes forming people of all ages to be disciples of Jesus Christ through sacramental preparation, catechesis, and catechist training. The Coordinator of Parish Youth Catechesis will work in collaboration with the Pastoral Catechetical Team (consisting of the pastor, school principal and permanent deacon of the parish to work toward mission advancement within St. Patrick Parish and School aligned with the mission of the parish.

A BA in Religious Education/Catholic Theology or equivalent is preferred. Other bachelor level degrees or higher may be accepted by the pastor provided that some course work in

For a complete job description, candidate submission should include cover letter, resume, and references via email to: **Fr. Anthony A. Dinovo Jr., Pastor** | St. Patrick Church, London, OH 43140
adinovo@columbuscatholic.org

Catholic Theology is pursued and/or maintained during employment.

A minimum 3 years' parish religious education experience or similar experience is required; familiarity with principles and dimensions of adult faith formation, catechist formation, young adult ministry and total youth ministry is preferred; proven administrative skills including interpersonal relations, conflict resolution, management and supervision, budget preparation and collaborative minister.

Must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church. Compliance with BCI&I background checks and completion of Protecting God's Children program and other Safe Environment requirements as necessitated by the Diocese of Columbus.

Sister Eleanor Colgan, SNDdeN

Funeral Mass for Sister Eleanor Colgan, SNDdeN, 93, who died Friday, Aug. 11, was celebrated Wednesday, Aug. 16 at the Mount Notre Dame Chapel in Reading, Ohio. Burial was at the cemetery of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur in Reading.

She was born on July 6, 1930 in Wichita, Kansas to the late Thomas and Eleanor (Focke) Colgan.

She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Our Lady of Cincinnati College in 1959 and a Master of Arts degree in English from Marquette University in Milwaukee in 1973.

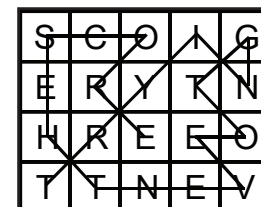
She entered the congregation of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur on July 26, 1947 and made her first profession of vows on Jan. 28, 1950, taking the name Sister Martin de Porres, and her final profession on Aug. 13, 1955.

She was a teacher in Columbus at Bishop Hartley High School (1960-66) and St. Joseph Academy (1976-1978). She also taught at schools in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and the Diocese of Steubenville and in Illinois and Arizona and taught adult learners from 1992 to 2011, when she retired to a ministry of prayer at the Mount Notre Dame Health Center in Reading.

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viding occasional and reasonable liturgical music at other times.

A master's degree or equivalent in music is preferred. A minimum three years of parish music experience or similar experience is required. Must be competent in in pipe organ accompaniment.

Compliance with BCI&I background checks and completion of Protecting God's Children program is necessary.

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New Bishop Griffin Resource Center is dedicated in Columbus

Bishop Earl Fernandes blessed the rebuilt and expanded Bishop Griffin Resource Center on Monday, Aug. 14 during a dedication ceremony.

The center originally opened in 2007 as a project of the diocesan St. Vincent de Paul Society in the former Christ the King Church rectory at 2875 E. Livingston Ave. on Columbus' east side to serve families and individuals in need. It was named in honor of Bishop Emeritus James Griffin, who served the diocese from 1983 until his retirement in 2005.

Bishop Griffin, 89, was on hand for Monday's ceremony.

Construction began last year on the new space after the original structure was demolished. During the transition, the center operated out of a temporary site on East Broad Street in Whitehall.

The new center, which officially opened to patrons on Wednesday, Aug. 16, includes the Mid-Ohio Market at Bishop Griffin, which provides food at no cost in a grocery-store setting. The market, which occupies 3,730 square feet within the 11,600-square-foot center, is three times the size of the former food pantry.

In addition to the market, the center will offer clothes, school supplies and backpacks for students as well as access to job readiness, technology literacy and financial training programs along with other services.

The market within the center is one of six Mid-Ohio Markets, including five in Franklin County, that are part of a partnership with the Mid-Ohio Food Collective, which is the largest hunger relief organization in central and eastern Ohio.

The Mid-Ohio Food Collective works with more than 680 partner agencies in 20 counties to address the needs of the hungry.

"To me, this is all about: How do we treat people with dignity?" said Matt Habash, president and CEO of the Mid-Ohio Food Collective. "They're asking for help. And we're here to help. And that's, collectively, the vision of all of this at the end of the day.

"It really is about everybody coming together and asking, 'How do we take care of each other?' I think that's the grounding of our ministry together, that's what this space is all about, and we could not do it without everybody coming together."

Father David Schalk, the former Christ the King Church pastor who is now at Powell St. Joan of Arc and Columbus St. Peter churches, explained at the dedication the origins of the Bishop Griffin Resource Center, which started as a "simple food pantry" to help east-side residents in need and "grew and grew and grew."

"I arrived here at Christ the King in 2010, and when I peeked in the door of the old rectory, which was the Bishop Griffin Resource Center, it was full," he recalled. "That little house was full. It was filled with volunteers in the two-car garage, in the kitchen and old dining room – people packing bags and moving groceries. There must have been maybe 20 volunteers.

"And then it was filled with neighbors in need, the clients of the Bishop Griffin Resource Center. And the waiting area was jammed, and there were people lined up outside the door. I remember there were lots of smiles, lots of joy in that place. And it was filled also with food, floor to ceiling.

"There was clothing, Christmas gifts. There was not one empty square inch on all three levels. And I laughed and said, 'This is an anointed ministry. And this

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Bishop Emeritus James Griffin stands in front of the center bearing his name. The tree portrays the qualities of fruitfulness, a safe haven and deep roots in the community.



Participating in a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new center are (from left) Father David Schalk, Bishop Emeritus James Griffin, Bishop Earl Fernandes and Father Steve Fernandes, OFM Cap., current pastor of Christ the King Church.
CT photos by Ken Snow



Nyisha Miller, the pantry coordinator for the center, takes a selfie with Bishop Griffin.



Bishop Earl Fernandes sprinkles the space and assembled guests with holy water during the dedication.



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CENTER, continued from Page 21

is a force for good on the east side. And I left that building after that tour and said, 'We should build a new building for the Bishop Griffin Resource Center.' And, guess what, it only took 13 years."

A multiyear "Lift Up Your Neighbor" campaign raised more than \$4.5 million with the help of donors to fund the design and construction of the new facility.

"Those of you who know me know my favorite word is 'persevere,'" Father Schalk said, "and so we persevered through all of these years, the trials and tribulations, the ups and the downs of this very, very long process. And I am so grateful that this community rallied around this ministry, and this community rallied together to build this new center."

Father Steve Fernandes, OFM Cap., the new pastor at Christ the King and a Franciscan Capuchin friar, said the Bish-

op Griffin Resource Center fits in well with the Franciscan charism to show dignity to people on the margins in the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi, the order's patron.

"Many of the folks who are coming here are today's lepers, and we are called to embrace those people, to give them hope," Father Fernandes said. "We may not change their social status in life, but we can give them hope, and, most of all, we can give them love."

Father Schalk paid tribute to Bishop Griffin at the ceremony for his support.

"Really, your service to this community was the inspiration behind this ministry when it started in 2007," Father Schalk said. "So we are, day in and day out here, seeking to honor you for your legacy, and we want to continue that legacy."



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