

The CATHOLIC TIMES

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**NATIONAL VOCATION
AWARENESS WEEK**
NOV. 5-11
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INSIDE THIS ISSUE



DEFEND LIFE

Election Day is approaching on Tuesday, Nov. 7, when Ohioans vote on Issue 1, a proposal that would enshrine abortion into the state constitution. Catholics are encouraged by Ohio's bishops to vote no for the protection of the unborn and parental rights, Page 2



WHITE MASS

The annual White Mass on the feast of St. Luke for those who work in health care and healing professions was celebrated at the St. Thomas More Newman Center, Page 3

Will we accept responsibility to protect parents' rights, women, unborn?

This weekend, I address all Catholics throughout the Diocese of Columbus. This coming Tuesday, there will be a very important vote regarding enshrining abortion in the Constitution of Ohio. I urge all of you who have not yet voted to vote No on Issue 1. **No in November.** I encourage you to invite your family members, friends, neighbors, and co-workers to vote No. If you know an elderly or homebound person who needs transportation, offer to drive them so that they can participate in the political process. Our No to this amendment is an expression of our great Yes to the gift of human life and to God Himself.

Two Sundays ago, Jesus said in the Gospel: "Render unto Caesar what belongs to Caesar and unto God what belongs to God." God is the author of life and Lord of all creation. After making man and woman in His image and likeness, He declared His creation to be very good. We are called to be stewards of creation and to give back to God what belongs to God. Look around you – your fellow parishioners, infants in their mothers' arms, your spouse – they all have dignity and value. Each is a masterpiece of God, made in His image, bearing His likeness. We are to render unto God what belongs to God, offering Him our very lives.

Last Sunday, Jesus summarized the law and prophets in two commandments: love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself. To love God only with our lips is not enough. We show our love of God by loving our neighbor, including the unborn. I am astounded by how many people, especially Catholics, tirelessly serve the poor and accompany women and their children – at the Pregnancy Decision Health Centers, the Women's Care Center, at the St. Vincent de Paul Centers throughout the Diocese; through Seton Housing, sheltering the homeless; at food pantries and soup kitchens; and through our Catholic healthcare ministries and visits to the sick and elderly. Our responsibility to our neighbor extends far beyond the womb. Many of our parishes carry out the Walking with Moms Initiative. We commit ourselves to accompanying women, their children, and their families.

Nevertheless, I urge you to vote No because if the rights of the unborn are not protected then other populations too become vulnerable. Pope Francis has said: "Among the vulnerable for whom the Church wishes to care with particular love and concern are unborn children, the most defenseless and innocent among us. Nowadays efforts are made to deny them their human dignity and to do with them whatever one pleases, taking their lives and passing laws preventing anyone from standing in the way of this. Frequently, as a way of ridiculing the Church's effort to defend their lives, attempts are made to present her position as ideological, obscurantist and conservative. Yet this defense of unborn life is closely linked to the defense of each and every other human right.



Bishop Earl Fernandes CT photo by Ken Snow

It involves the conviction that a human being is always sacred and inviolable, in any situation and at every stage of development. Human beings are ends in themselves and never a means of resolving other problems. Once this conviction disappears, so do solid and lasting foundations for the defense of human rights, which would always be subject to the passing whims of the powers that be. Reason alone is sufficient to recognize the inviolable value of each single human life, but if we also look at the issue from the standpoint of faith, "every violation of the personal dignity of the human being cries out in vengeance to God and is an offense against the creator of the individual." (*Evangelii Gaudium* 213)

To protect the rights of the vulnerable, I urge you to vote No. I also urge you to vote No, not only because this amendment would permit abortion even in the latest stages of pregnancy, but also because it takes rights away from parents in making decisions regard-

ing their minor children. The amendment does not apply to adults but says *any individual*. The amendment is not restricted to permitting abortion; the language says "reproductive decisions," which would also include gender reassignment, without parental consent or knowledge. The amendment puts women at risk by making it nearly impossible to prosecute those who have abused women or female minors and who pressure them to have abortions and those women who have been trafficked, who subsequently are pressured into ending their pregnancy. Issue 1 simply goes too far – even for some who identify as pro-choice.

This is not merely a political issue; it is fundamentally a moral issue. Will we accept our responsibility as Catholics to protect the rights of parents, vulnerable women, and the unborn? Will we acknowledge God as the Lord of Life?

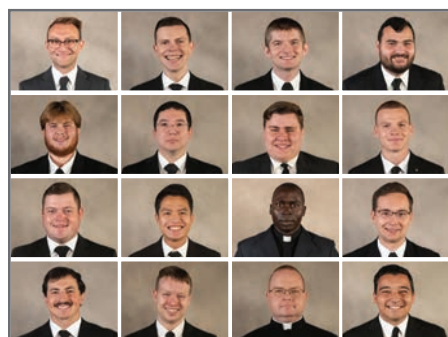
In this Sunday's Liturgy, Paul invites us to draw near to the Gospel "not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God." Jesus offers a warning to our conscience to conform our way of living to it. In today's passage, He rebukes the scribes and the Pharisees for their hypocrisy. Jesus notes that they "preach, but do not practice;" rather "they bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with their finger."

Catholics throughout the Diocese are lifting their hands and voices to lighten the burdens of women and children, but we need your help to be the people that God has called us to be – a people of life, a people who celebrate life, nourish life, cherish life, and protect and defend life. I urge you to vote No in November. No matter how the election goes, the day after the election, there will still be women who are contemplating abortion, and we need to be there to offer support so that they know they can say Yes to life – to assure them of a network of support, to remind them that they and their children are loved. We need to make abortion unthinkable.

By voting No in November, we will offer the answer to the question of Malachi the prophet in the first reading: "Have we not all the one father? Has not the one God created us? Why then do we break faith with one another?" We are part of the same human family. Jesus Himself says in the Gospel, "You are all brothers ... you have but one Father in heaven."

At the end of November, we will celebrate the Feast of the Christ the King. The Gospel that day is the separation of the sheep from the goats – the Last Judgment. Christ will say, "Whatever you did for the least of my brothers and sisters, you did for me." Stand beside the least of our brothers and sisters, defending their right to life, acknowledging that there is one God and Father of us all. Say Yes to God and human life. Vote No in November.

Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus



Front Page photo:

VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK

First-year diocesan seminarians featured during National Vocation Awareness Week are (top row from left) Nicholas Arnold, Leonard Berglund, Keith Bray, Ray Duffy, (second row from left) Joshua Dyke, Absalom Hall; Mark Jewett, Colin Lee, (third row from left) Nick Love, Andrew Nouanesensy; Kennedy Ofezu, Aaron Schaefer, (fourth row from left) Gabe Shroyer, Chad Walton, Anthony Whalen and Jacob Wilson.

Photos courtesy Office of Vocations

The CATHOLIC TIMES

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Bishop Earl K. Fernandes: President & Publisher
Doug Bean: Editor (dbean@columbuscatholic.org)
Hannah Heil: Reporter (hheil@columbuscatholic.org)
Emma Noel: Layout/Design (enoel@columbuscatholic.org)
Mailing Address: 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215
Editorial/Advertising: (614) 224-5195
Subscriptions: (614) 224-6530
(subscriptions@columbuscatholic.org)

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White Mass brings together Catholic medical professionals

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

For Catholic health-care professionals, the medical field at times can be a lonely place. Defending the Gospel of Life and adhering to Church teaching while facing opposition from both inside and outside the field is difficult.

Many Catholic nurses, doctors, medical students and others who work in health care find consolation and support by uniting in their faith.

They had that opportunity on Wednesday, Oct. 18, at the White Mass.

The Mass was celebrated by Bishop Earl Fernandes at the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center, adjacent to Ohio State University. Catholics in the health-care profession attended the Mass.

“The White Mass is named because doctors wear a white coat, and ... it’s a reminder of the days when nurses all wore white uniforms,” said Michele Faehnle, a school nurse at Columbus St. Andrew School and school nursing adviser for the diocese’s Office of Catholic Schools.

The Mass is traditionally organized by Columbus’ Catholic Medical Association.

“The Catholic Medical Association is a physician-led organization open to all health-care practitioners and students in the health-care professions,” said Dr. Marian Schuda, a Columbus physician specializing in geriatric medicine and secretary of the local association board.

“It’s a good thing to be able to pray together and collaborate and visit with other like-minded health-care professionals, and then we go out into the world of health care and try to do our best to stay true to the values espoused by us in our faith.”

The bishop was joined by several diocesan priests, including Father Mark Hammond, the pastor of Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul and Danville St. Luke churches, who was a nurse before becoming a priest, and Father Robert Penhallurick, the pastor of Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator Church and association chaplain.

Also present were Father Bill Ferguson, the parochial vicar of Delaware St. Mary Church and local chaplain of Courage, a ministry providing pastoral care to those experiencing same-sex attraction; Father Adam Streitenberger, the executive director of the Newman Center; and Deacon Dr. Stephen Petrill, a deacon at Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church and professor of psychology at Ohio State University.

The Mass is traditionally held on or near Oct. 18, the feast of St. Luke, who is the patron saint of physicians. St. Luke was an evangelist and author of one of the four Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles, as well as a physician.



The annual White Mass sponsored by the Catholic Medical Association of Central Ohio brings together students and professionals in health care fields. This year’s White Mass on Wednesday, Oct. 18, the feast of St. Luke, was offered in the St. Thomas More Newman Center chapel. Photos courtesy Abigail Pitones



Anjali Fernandes, a fourth-year medical student at Ohio State University, and others pray at the annual White Mass on Wednesday, Oct. 18, in the St. Thomas More Newman Center chapel.



Bishop Earl Fernandes celebrates the White Mass in the St. Thomas More Newman Center chapel on the feast of St. Luke.

“Gathering together with other health-care professionals to celebrate our Catholic faith and knowing others have the same values and ethics is very important to me,” Faehnle said. “Practicing our faith in our secular society has very unique challenges, so knowing you have support from other health-care providers is a powerful witness and inspiration.”

It can be difficult to know how to approach certain problems in the medical field. One of the main challenges today, Schuda said, is faced by physicians involved with reproductive specialties.

In Ohio, a proposed amendment to the state constitution, Issue 1, is on the Nov. 7 ballot. If passed by voters, it would enshrine abortion through all nine months of pregnancy in the state constitution.

With the passage of the amendment, abortion would be safeguarded in Ohio until fetal viability, which is around 22 weeks, or nearly six months, of pregnancy. Any individual, meaning a woman or a girl without needing parental consent, could obtain an abortion after fetal viability until the moment of birth if a physician, who could be the abortionist, signs off.

“Hopefully we’ll see that the people of Ohio aren’t ready to throw the doors open wide on that,” Schuda said.

Performing an abortion contradicts a Catholic physician’s religious values.

“We honor the dignity and worth of every person as made in the image and likeness of God, regardless of that person’s age, state of ability or really anything else,” Schuda said. “So, I mean a newly conceived but not yet born person is also made in the image and likeness of God, and his or her life deserves protection, so that includes the preborn child.”

“In a lot of these arguments, we hear about reproductive rights ..., but I’m not hearing people talk about what do we owe to that baby, who’s also a separate person. The Catholic Church, it’s not the only one, but it’s one of the main voices reminding us that there’s another person involved here.”

Talia Caridi, a second-year medical student at Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine, said she enjoys gathering with Catholics to pray for the “manifestation of God’s kingdom” on earth, especially in health care.

“As a Catholic medical student, the White Mass is a reminder that I am not alone in my moral convictions about the sanctity of all human life and that I need not rely on my own power and strength to challenge the culture of death,” she said.

Caridi is a parishioner at Columbus St. Catharine Church and is studying to be an obstetrician and gynecologist. She has concerns about Issue 1 and how the proposed amendment could affect her work.

“As a future physician, I am convicted that Issue 1 will radically transform care for pregnant women and their preborn children – and not for the better,” she said. “I am deeply concerned that my work as a pro-life OB/GYN will be hindered, if not thwarted, by the mandates of this issue to ‘not interfere’ at all in the procuring of abortion.”

“The White Mass and community event following it is a vital step toward uniting Catholics in medicine as we continue to uphold the sanctity of life in all its stages.”

Maximilian George, also a second-year medical student at Ohio University who is studying at the medical college’s Dublin campus, attended the White Mass. He said it is special to celebrate the Cath-

Exhibit of crime scene photos recalls notorious abortion center

EDITOR'S NOTE: The article contains descriptions and accounts of abortion that could be considered disturbing.

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

With days left until an election that could enshrine abortion in the Ohio Constitution through all nine months of pregnancy if voters pass state Issue 1, Ohioans can observe a hidden reality of abortion.

Photos taken at the crime scene in Kermit Gosnell's Philadelphia abortion clinic are on display through Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 7, in an office space in Columbus' Short North arts district at 1241 N. High St.

In 2013, Gosnell was found guilty of 237 crimes, including first-degree murder in the deaths of babies who were born in his abortion clinic, known as Gosnell's Women's Medical Society, which he had operated in Philadelphia since 1979.

Gosnell was also found guilty of infanticide and hundreds of counts of uninformed consent to an abortion. A grand jury sentenced him to three terms of life in prison.

Phelim McAleer and Ann McElhinney, the producers of "Gosnell: The Trial of



Phelim McAleer (right), co-producer of the Gosnell movie, talks with visitors at the crime scene photo exhibit in Columbus.



Some of the graphic photos taken by investigators at Kermit Gosnell's abortion center in Philadelphia were covered by a curtain.



The exhibit is titled "EVIDENCE: Crime Scene Photos from the Trial of America's Biggest Serial Killer." Photos/Unreported Story Society

America's Biggest Serial Killer" movie (2018) and "Serial Killer: A True Crime Podcast," brought the photos to Columbus.

The photos, which were not challenged by Gosnell or his defense team in court and are accepted as evidence, McAleer said, are on display for the first time outside of the courtroom where Gosnell was convicted.

The exhibition, "EVIDENCE: Crime Scene Photos from the Trial of America's Biggest Serial Killer," includes photos

taken by the FBI, the Philadelphia Police Department and the Philadelphia Medical Examiner's Office.

"There's a real tradition in America of crime scene exhibitions, and we thought, you know, this cries out for that," McAleer said. "The great thing of these photographs is they're not taken by activists. They're not pro-life photographs; they're not pro-choice photographs. They were taken as evidence."

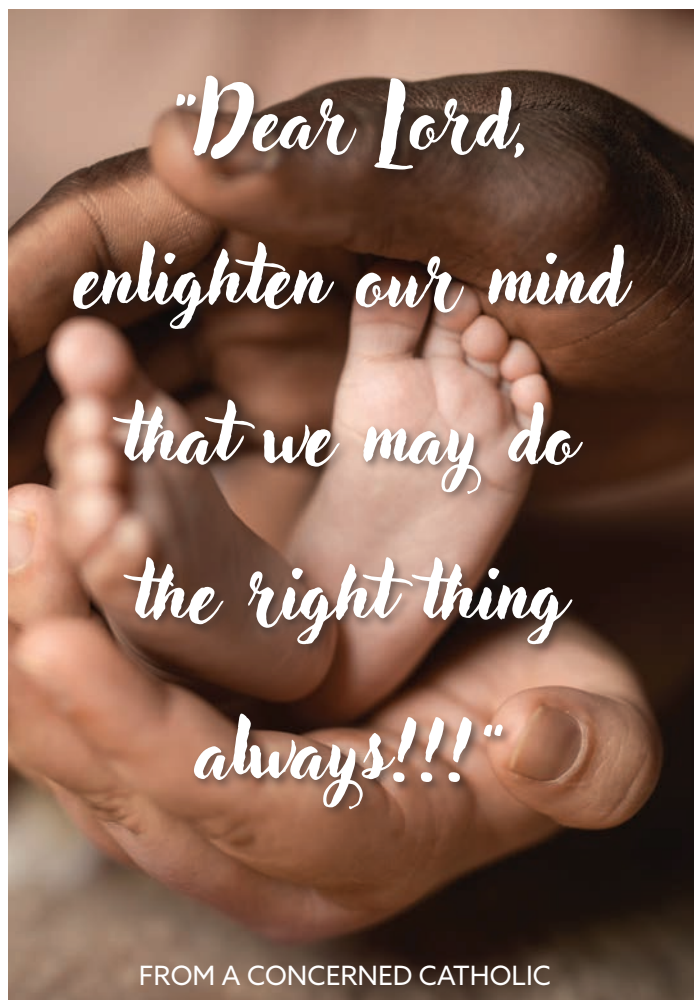
The exhibit features photos of an unsanitary waiting room and procedure

rooms and faulty medical equipment used by Gosnell and his staff.

Gosnell used single-use medical instruments on multiple women, cross-contaminating and infecting them with sexually transmitted diseases, according to records, and he had unlicensed teenage girls administer anesthesia to patients.

The exhibit includes photos of the remains of babies that were discovered

See EXHIBIT, Page 20



*"Dear Lord,
enlighten our mind
that we may do
the right thing
always!!!!"*

FROM A CONCERNED CATHOLIC

Lord Jesus, How am I to answer you? When you ask me,

"What have YOU done to STOP ABORTION?"

I respond:

"It's Not My Issue!"

"It's not my issue!"

I tell you, "It's not my issue"

63 + million babies have been ripped apart with forceps or killed with abortion pills or by some other deadly means since 1973.

But "It's not your Issue?????"

Now, they want to enshrine the "Right to an Abortion" into the Constitution of the State of Ohio.

There is still time for you to help stop it. Please respond!

Vote No!!!! on Issue #1 | November 7, 2023

Early voting began October 11, 2023

No 'Safe Space' to stand: Vote No on Issue 1, give human life a resounding victory

By Ashley K. Fernandes, M.D., Ph.D.

One day many years ago, my medical students asked me what the most important advice I could give them was, before we went our separate ways. I thought about my life as a physician and bioethicist; my intense study of moral philosophy and the philosophy of science as a Ph.D. student; and the lessons my parents taught me as Catholic Indian immigrants who believed in the promise of America so much, that they left their beloved country to start anew in "the land of the free and the home of the brave." Reflecting on all of this, I told them: "Between good and evil, there is no 'safe space' to stand."

Never have those words rung more true than the ballot initiative — Issue 1 — posed before the people of Ohio this November 7. We must, as Catholics, every single one of us, rise up with all our might to crush this amendment. For on the greatest moral issue of the day — the sanctity of human life — we cannot hope to stand neutral in some fictitious, secure place, hoping the dark, shadowy clouds will quickly pass over us like violent summer storms. The darkness that is coming if Ohioans vote for Issue 1 will be pervasive. It will annihilate the love of human life our state has carefully built — however imperfectly — since *Roe vs. Wade* and its fall.

When you vote in this election — and you must vote NO — remember these five key points as you inform yourselves and your neighbors' consciences:

1. If Issue 1 passes, abortion will become legal through the ninth month, after the baby can feel pain. Do not let people tell you this is "misinformation." Here is the language on the ballot, verbatim: "Always allow an unborn child to be aborted at any stage of pregnancy, regardless of viability, if, in the treating physician's determination, the abortion is necessary to protect the pregnant person's life or health." Clearly, whether you are pro-life or pro-choice, the amendment is too extreme: it allows a child to be aborted at any stage, till the moment of birth; it does not even use the word "woman" or "mother" anywhere in the amendment language ("pregnant person"); any physician can determine the definition of a "health" justifying abortion (e.g., anxiety could allow abortion); and in the very rare instance where a serious threat to the mother's life could not be managed medically, and where an unborn child would have to pass away because of it, no current or proposed law prevents this treatment.

2. A "No" vote does not threaten any medical care for pregnancy, miscarriage or even contraception. Though our Church teaches firmly against artificial

contraception, many within our own parishes and outside our Church use it. But no proposed or existing law threatens any authentic women's health care. The amendment's "protection" of these aspects of health care is a ruse. Indeed, in one estimate, more than 80% of obstetrics and gynecology doctors will not even perform an abortion now — so don't be intimidated or cowed by the "1,000 doctors" who sponsored this amendment. There are thousands more, the silent majority, that feel differently and know how to deliver excellent women's health care — without killing.

3. Abortions hurt women, and we should never vote for anything that hurts women. Our Church teaches that women are more than their bodies — they are created in the divine image, and, like all human persons, they have a right to truly be free; and freedom does not lie in simply choosing, but in choosing the good. Pro-life women in our state must stand up and be counted and lead us to crush this amendment — a supposed "women's rights" amendment so obsessed with gender fluidity it does not even say the word "woman" or "mother" once. Say no to pressuring women to have abortions; say no to lying to women about what their unborn child really is and means; say no to the devastating mental health effects of post-abortion syndrome; say no to a society that would rather pay for women to have abortions than pay for child care or stable families. Catholic Women of Ohio, we need you to guide us, following the courage of Mary, to see the face of God in the unborn and vote no, leading your families to do the same.

4. Realize that Ohio's very constitution — the same document that banned slavery in the state at its founding — will be dangerously scarred. This is not a change that can be simply "undone" if one has "buyer's remorse" after election day. This ballot amendment is so extreme, the abortion proponents have spent \$50 million (more than twice what all pro-life efforts have) through outside groups (that have had success in Michigan and California) to change what we Ohioans stand for. All Catholics and all Ohioans know how radical those abortion laws are, and will be, in abortion "sanctuary states." Is that what Ohio truly is, morally and constitutionally? Is abortion now an absolute "right" that the state — in the words of the amendment itself — "shall not directly or indirectly, burden, penalize, prohibit, interfere with, or discriminate against?"

5. Do not be bullied or intimidated, but pray and have courage! Now is the time to stand up for life, if ever there was one! Ignore the "Vote Yes" signs, the glittering anti-life billboards, the incessant and inaccurate TV

commercials. Put a VOTE NO sign in your own yard. Go door to door in these last days. Talk quietly to friends and neighbors. Encourage people to vote, and drive them to the polls to vote no. And pray with every breath. Pray for women with unplanned pregnancies, and those who have had abortions or are contemplating them — that Christ and His Blessed Mother will bring them peace when this amendment is defeated, as we work to build a pro-life, supportive culture. Pray for the volunteers of our Crisis Pregnancy Centers, whose work continues whether Issue 1 is defeated or not — that the Lord may strengthen them and that the Holy Spirit may give them words of wisdom to bring Christ's love to the abortion-minded. Pray for our holy bishops and priests, who have tried against all odds, to be good shepherds in these times and lead us to embrace the sanctity of life. Pray for pro-life Catholic doctors, nurses, and other health professionals — that we may long continue to be able to uphold life without threats to our conscience and laws that pressure us to kill. Pray finally for pro-choice Catholics and those still undecided, that in these final days they may come home, and see that women are not just bodies, that an unborn child is not just a meaningless blob of tissue, and that this amendment is too extreme for all those of good will, pro-life or pro-choice.

Wherever the light retreats, the darkness invades — yes, even into "safe spaces." Abortion is evil. We cannot, and should not, expect "reasonable limits" to it if Issue 1 passes. Jesus Christ said, "I am the Light of the World." It is His light we must carry forward boldly, without fear or apology, into the darkness and shadow of Issue 1. It is the light of Christ we must bear in our minds, on our lips, and in our hearts as we march to the polls in droves never before seen, to crush this absolutely cruel amendment. If we can just do this, our "No" vote will resound in every state in this country and in the world that the money and power and untruths of radical outsiders cannot steal the soul of our life-loving, God-fearing state. When you vote no on Issue 1, you will be a part of this David-beats-Goliath revolution, led by Catholics who respect the science, and always serve God first.

Dr. Ashley Fernandes, M.D., Ph.D., is a physician and bioethicist, the older brother of Bishop Earl Fernandes, and a member of the Board of the Catholic Medical Association of Central Ohio (cmacbus.com). His views are his own, do not represent those of his employers, and are protected under the free speech and free exercise clauses of the First Amendment.

Catholics, remember who you are on Election Day

In my youth, a song by The Who was released titled *Who Are You?* Realizing we are headed to the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 7, that is a very good question to ask ourselves before we vote.

Ultimately it is a question of identity and determining what part of our identity is inherent and what is taken on from our experiences and preferences.

I would propose four marks of our identity that are inherent, that flow from the change that took place at our baptism, when we died and rose with Christ into a restored relationship with God as a part of His family.

First, we are a people of life, an Easter people, a resurrection people. We celebrate the conquering of death and the abundant life that Jesus won for us through His passion, death and resurrection. We celebrate it in the sacraments. We celebrate it every Sunday. We celebrate its earthly echo in the joys of springtime, of births and birthdays, and in what Charles Dickens describes in *A Christmas Carol* as "the power to do good."

We know that life is a true good, and that we are called

FAITH IN ACTION | Mark Huddy

Mark Huddy is the Episcopal Moderator for Catholic Charities and the Office for Social Concerns in the Diocese of Columbus.



to nurture and protect it. Every life is conceived in the mind of God, before it is conceived in the mother's womb. Every life is of inestimable value, unique and unrepeatable, and meant to be a gift to the world. That is why we oppose the taking of life whether through abortion, assisted suicide, euthanasia or the death penalty.

Second, we are a people who show compassion to the suffering and the vulnerable. We have experienced the love of God, and we know that we are called to love Him and love our neighbor. Loving our neighbor means willing their good and doing what we can to bring that about. And our neighbor is anyone we encounter who is in need.

We recognize the vulnerability of a woman facing an unplanned pregnancy and her child. Many of our parishes

have the Walking with Moms program. Willing the good of mother and child, we offer accompaniment and spiritual and material resources, both before and after birth. We are also mindful of those who have been affected by abortion and help them find a path to hope and healing.

Third, we are a people of truth. We know that truth is a person, Jesus Christ. We seek after it with the strength of our being. We recognize the voice of truth. In this world, we examine things thoroughly. We look under the hood and kick the tires. We recognize the difference between freedom and license — the first being the right to do what we ought, and the second, the right to do what we want.

We know about the intentional language used in state Issue 1 that conceals the truth that it is about license in that it would promote abortion through all nine months of pregnancy and threaten existing health and safety regulations, parental rights and freedom of conscience restrictions on abortion. We also know that if passed, only

Catholics must show up, vote 'no' on Ohio's Issue 1

By Rachel del Guidice

Planned Parenthood and the American Civil Liberties Union are working overtime to make abortion legal through all nine months of pregnancy as well as end parental notification and consent requirements that protect minors from undergoing an abortion or a sex change without parental knowledge or involvement.

If voters in Ohio pass Issue 1 on Nov. 7, abortion will be legal up to the moment of birth, a parent's right to know if their underage child is considering an abortion or sex change operation will be eliminated and basic health and safety standards for women will be banned.

The proposed state constitutional amendment purposely fails to use the word "woman" and instead uses the word "individual." It makes no mention of adults vs. minors; it would cut parents out of some of the most defining decisions of their children's lives and allow abusers to take a minor female to get an abortion, no questions asked.

It is imperative that every Catholic in the state votes

"no." No Catholic in good conscience can turn a blind eye to Nov. 7. If Ohio Catholics vote "yes," and Issue 1 passes, we will be culpable for allowing this diabolical evil in our state.

Catholics have a duty and an obligation to stand for life. If we believe the most basic tenets of our faith, we can't in good conscience stand on the sidelines.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) reminds us that "human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person – among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life." (CCC 2270)

It's time for the Catholic Church to show up. The pro-abortion crowd shows up. The crowd that wants to legalize gender mutilation surgeries for minors without parental knowledge or consent shows up.

And guess what? They show up unapologetically. They are proud to proclaim from the rooftops that they are showing up to make abortion in Ohio legal up to birth, past the current limit of 22 weeks.

They unapologetically stand for the mutilation of

children. They are so unabashed in their beliefs that they think parents have no right to know if their underage daughters undergo a surgery to remove their breasts and attach male genitalia to their body.

The Church is unequivocally clear in its stance on abortion. To sit out Nov. 7 would say that Catholics don't believe what our faith professes. If we look the other way when we have the chance to ensure that Ohio does not enshrine abortion as a state constitutional right, we aren't living as a Catholic.

If we stay home, we are saying that whatever we are doing that day is infinitely more important than supporting the most basic tenet of our faith – that human life must be respected and protected from its earliest stages until death.

It's high time for Catholics to unapologetically show up. If we don't show up, or are too ashamed to show up, or too busy to show up, why do we even dare to call ourselves Catholic? What is the difference then between the Church and the world?

Rachel del Guidice is communication director for Ohio Right to Life.

MASS, continued from Page 3

olic faith with other health-care professionals.

"It is always heartening to connect with others who share my beliefs, especially when it can be challenging to do so on a daily basis," he said.

George, who is originally from Beavercreek, Ohio, attends Columbus St. Patrick Church with his wife, Erin, and their 5-month old daughter, Zelig Rose. He said the White Mass is timely this year.

"This Mass is especially important in light of the upcoming November election," he said. "Through the celebration of the life-giving gift of the Eucharist, we reaffirm our commitment as health-care providers that we will cherish, protect and care for all life, no matter how small."

In his homily, Bishop Fernandes affirmed that Catholic health-care professionals proclaim the Gospel of Life through their work.

He said there are people who do not want the Word of Life to go forth. Many early Christians, such as St. Paul, were persecuted for spreading the Gospel message.

"Despite the persecutions, the Word went forth because the mission of the Church is a spirit-driven event – a spirit-driven event – and if God is for us, who can be against? These are the things St. Luke recounts in the Gospel and the Acts, and we have much to learn from him," Bishop Fernandes said.

He told those gathered that they, too, will be persecuted for spreading the Word of God today, and they will face setbacks. The bishop said not to be discouraged; the Apostles experienced many setbacks, but the Word of God went forth.

"We should not be ashamed to be more bold," he said.

Bishop Fernandes asked those present: "How can we not speak about the Name (of God)? How can we not, knowing what God has done for us?"

He said there are several themes in the Gospel of Luke: preferential option for the poor, the universality of salvation – that salvation is not only for Jews but also Gentiles – and the role of foreigners, the foundation of the Church and God's mercy.

Bishop Fernandes recalled the 10th chapter of St. Luke's Gospel, which includes the story of the Good Samaritan, when a man fell victim to robbers and was left half-dead in the road. A priest and Levite walked by the man, but a Samaritan, a foreigner who was despised by the Jews, stopped to help, bandaged the man and cared for him.

The priest and the Levite wondered, perhaps, "What will happen to me if I stop to help?" But, the bishop said, the Samaritan asked a different question: "What will happen to him if I do not stop to help?"

"A doctor finds himself in front of a sick patient; the doctor has the skills to bring that patient – another person made in God's image and likeness – to health, and he or she does all in his power to do just that: to restore the person to health and to life – a great good, a great gift from God."

Christ is truly the Good Samaritan, the bishop said, Who heals wounds and shows mercy. Christ tells his followers to go and do likewise.

The bishop also reflected on the daily Gospel reading (Luke 10:1-9) when Jesus appointed and sent out 70 people, in pairs, to cure the sick and proclaim that the kingdom of God is near.

"The miracles of healing throughout the Gospels are all signs of the proclamation of the kingdom of God," Bishop Fernandes said. "It is no coincidence that in tonight's Gospel we heard, 'Cure the sick and proclaim the kingdom of God is at hand for you.'"

"To you, who have been called to the healing arts, your ministry, your vocation, your profession, they're all sort of intertwined, but what you are really doing is assisting in the proclamation of the kingdom of God."

Mary Hyland, a third-year medical student at Ohio State University College of Medicine, said her Catholic faith is the driving force behind her desire to be a physician.

"Throughout my first few years of medical school, I have seen how the practice of medicine largely aligns with Jesus' message of healing in the Gospels," she said. "Everything we learn as future physicians is meant to prepare us to steward the gift of life and uphold the dignity of those who face illness."

Hyland, who attends St. Catharine Church and is from Cleveland, is interested in pediatrics and emergency medicine. She sees the work of a physician as being the hands and feet of Christ, as they actively care for those in need. She said it is important, for this reason, for Catholic physicians to unite in their faith.

"Coming together to celebrate the Most Holy Eucharist is essential as we strive to support each other in our call toward being the hands and feet of Jesus to our patients," she said. "It leads us into deeper relationship with Christ, Who is the ultimate healer."

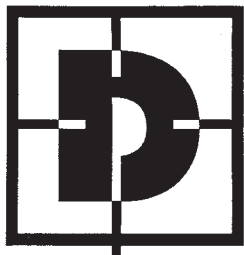
Caridi said that she is "ever more in awe of God the Creator" as she studies the human body.

"My faith gives me the strength to study well and to connect the sufferings of my patients with that of our Lord on the cross," she said.

Caridi said that even more important than medicine is the work that all people are called to do: give praise and worship to their Creator.

"The White Mass is an opportunity to engage in the most important work we will perform as human beings: liturgical worship."

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What to do with cremation ashes

Dear Father,
My husband of 57 years passed away some years ago. I have his cremated ashes stored in an urn which I keep in our bedroom near a picture of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. I made plans to be cremated and have our ashes mixed together and sprinkled in our Catskill Mountains getaway. My children are upset with me because they want our ashes divided up among them so they each have a part of us in their homes. Am I being selfish to say no to them?

-B.T.

Dear B.T.,
What a dilemma! Who would have thought that we could come to the day when Catholics are mixing cremains (the ashes and bits of bones resulting from cremation) and spreading them around.

The real dilemma here is not to decide who gets whose ashes but how to explain to all of you that this is not the burning issue that you make it out to be.

There are several reasons people give for wanting to be cremated: economic concerns (cremation can be less expensive than traditional burials), environmental concerns (wanting to be “green”), and even fear of being buried alive in a box.

But what about the Catholic perspective concerning our dead bodies? Being Catholic makes a difference with what we do with our bodies both in life and in death. Our bodies are made temples of the Holy Spirit when we are baptized. Just as we treat our bodies, and those of all others, with care and respect while we are alive, so too we care for our bodies in death.

That’s why our U.S. bishops teach: “although cremation is now permitted ... it does not enjoy the same value as burial of the body.” The preference, the bishops urge, is that “the body of the deceased be present for the fu-

SACRAMENTS 101

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

Father Paul Jerome Keller, O.P., S.T.D., 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.



neral rites, since the presence of the human body better expresses the values” which the funeral rites affirm. Furthermore, pastors and all who catechize those of any age should “make particular efforts to preserve this important teaching.”

Until 1963, the Church forbade cremation because it was often used by those who deny the resurrection of the body from the dead.

I can only wonder if you, dear B.T., have forgotten that Christ died for you, body and soul, and rose from the dead so that you, too, might rise from the dead on the last day. I say this because you seem more worried about what appears to be a pagan practice of mixing your cremains with your husband’s and then sprinkling them in a place you idealized. This is not the way to honor a temple of the Holy Spirit.

The bishops are firm on this point: “The practice of scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air, or on the ground, or keeping cremated remains in the home of a relative or friend of the deceased are not the reverent disposition that the Church requires.”

When a Catholic makes use of the permission to be cremated, the remains are to be placed in a worthy vessel and cared for much as one would care for the dead body. The vessel containing the cremated remains must be buried in a grave or placed in a mausoleum or colum-

barium (a place where cremains are interred).

If one chooses cremation, without any prejudice to our Catholic belief in the sacredness of the human body and its future resurrection from the dead, here’s what is to be done.

The cremation takes place after the funeral prayers and Mass with the deceased body. In this way, the wake or Vigil for the Deceased and other prayers, such as the Rosary, can be held the day before the funeral. Then, after the cremation, the remains are committed to the cemetery or columbarium with the Church’s Rite of Committal.

The Holy See tolerates the possibility of a funeral Mass with the cremains present, but it is the prerogative of each diocesan bishop to judge whether he will allow the practice in his diocese. If he does, then every care is to be taken that Catholic funeral rites are observed with all decorum.

Your question, B.T., about whether you are being selfish with your children, I hope you see now, doesn’t make sense. No one, your children, or you, has the right to do whatever you want with your body (in spite of our degraded culture which says we have total freedom over our bodies). Your body is not your own. As with our whole earth, everything belongs to God. We are the caretakers.

Since you asked for my counsel, here it is: Take your husband’s cremated remains to the Catholic cemetery. I hope you had a funeral Mass for him, but if you didn’t then have one celebrated. Have other Masses offered for the repose of his soul. Then make plans for your own funeral. If you insist on cremation, then make arrangements for your cremains to be interred next to your husband’s at the Catholic cemetery. And tell your children about your new wishes. It’s time to teach them anew about life and death.

P.S.: I love the Catskills, too!

Genetic privacy: Should law enforcement have access to newborn’s blood?

Many parents and concerned citizens would probably be surprised to learn that their children’s blood samples are being accessed by law enforcement agencies without their knowledge or consent.

In 2021, the State Police of New Jersey sought access to a blood sample from the Newborn Screening Laboratory, a sample belonging to a child who had been screened nine years earlier as a newborn. They wanted to perform DNA analysis so they could try to connect the child’s father to a crime committed nearly 25 years earlier.

Filed away for a long time, these original paper medical forms, with spots of dried blood on them, contain the DNA of newborns. By obtaining the child’s bloodspot sample without a warrant, the State Police were able to maneuver around the requirement to establish probable cause before seeking a warrant for a mouth swab from the suspect. The DNA results obtained from the child’s blood were used to submit an affidavit of probable cause, and a warrant was then issued for a mouth swab from the father. After the analysis of his swabbed DNA, he was criminally charged.

Every baby born in New Jersey — and most other states as well — is required by law to be tested for a number of diseases and disorders, often within 48 hours of birth, as part of a newborn screening program. By pricking the heel of the baby, hospitals and medical facilities collect blood samples from virtually all newborns in the U.S. Many states retain the dried blood samples after the initial testing has been completed. Upwards of four million newborns are tested annually.

The goal is to identify a range of conditions and diseases in newborn babies in the hope of reducing their severity through early treatment. One of the most notable success stories involves a condition called phenylketonuria (PKU). When babies with PKU eat foods containing phenylalanine — an essential amino acid

MAKING SENSE OUT OF BIOETHICS | Father Tad Pacholczyk

Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as Senior Ethicist at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncbcenter.org and www.fathertad.com.



found in many common foods — they can suffer permanent brain damage. Before standardized newborn blood screening, families discovered that their child had the condition only after the child developed brain damage. With the advent of newborn screening for PKU in the 1960s, families could be told whether their child had the condition right after birth. They could then use a special diet to prevent permanent brain damage from occurring.

Notwithstanding the praiseworthy and commendable project of trying to improve health outcomes for newborns, these blood spot samples are often collected without getting informed consent from a newborn baby’s parents, and in some states, the samples may be retained and stored afterward, even for decades. Many parents are unaware not only of the existence of the screening program but also that blood was drawn from their newborn. It can come as a shock to discover that their family’s genetic privacy may have been violated when law enforcement receives access to their child’s stored blood sample without their knowledge or consent and without a warrant.

When it comes to the ethics of blood testing programs, parents are entitled to full transparency, including complete and accurate information about why their baby’s

blood is being drawn. Those states that retain and store samples after the completion of immediate testing also have an ethical duty to inform parents of this practice and be sure that parents have an opportunity to provide informed consent not only for the immediate testing of their newborn but for any subsequent uses of the blood sample, including possible future scrutiny of the sample by law enforcement or by biomedical researchers.

The fact that our DNA and our genetic code contains important personal information about us means that our individual “bio-informatics” should not be used or brokered by others without our awareness and consent. Medical confidentiality should be reasonably safeguarded as part of initiatives like the Newborn Bloodspot Screening Program. Legislative mandates requiring such newborn screening should thus allow parents to opt out, not only of the testing itself in the face of serious reasons but also of long-term storage and subsequent uses of their newborn’s biological samples, including by law enforcement.

Informed consent is also becoming important in the face of an ever-growing number of direct-to-consumer genetic testing options, like 23andMe and Ancestry.com. Companies should assure that customers can retain real control over their data. Genetic privacy is a subset of medical privacy, and even those who upload their DNA data to genetic genealogy databases should have the opportunity to provide consent for retention of their data and for disclosure of these data to any third parties.

Informed consent serves as an essential bioethical principle in biomedicine today by providing a concrete safeguard for the dignity of those receiving medical treatments, or otherwise involved in human medical experimentation or research. It should not be contravened without due process and substantial reason.

Mother: the first woman in her child's life

It is such a privilege to be a mother, the layers of which continue to unfold before me like petals from the fullest rose.

With that privilege comes responsibility and the realization that I am the first woman in my children's lives. It is me from whom the image and definition of woman and mother are first formed. It takes my breath away to ponder this.

This revelation gives purpose to my days as I seek to live out my vocation as mother. The other day, one of my sons lost his patience with me, and it surprised me. I have a sensitive soul and am easily hurt. I can also hold my ground and call my children to task when necessary. (Mama Mary taught me that!)

After emotions had calmed down, I sat with this child of mine and explained to him that with me is where he will learn how to treat the women in his life. He looked at me skeptically, and I explained, "I am the first woman who you get to navigate life with. The relationship with me is where you practice the relationship you will have with your friends, with your first girlfriend and with your future wife.

"How you learn to treat me is how you will treat other women in your life, and it's my job to teach you. Now here's the thing you need to realize: I am stronger than even I realize. I was formed to be your momma, which means I can weather the storms you might throw my way as you navigate growing into a young man.

ALL THAT WE HAVE

MaryBeth Eberhard

MaryBeth Eberhard writes about marriage, life experiences of a large family and special needs. She attends Sunbury St. John Neumann Church.



"But it doesn't mean I like it or that you can just throw willy-nilly. It is in your relationship with me that you learn how to treat a woman. You learn how it feels to be loved and how to love. You learn to love when you are hurt. You learn to forgive.

"You learn how to respond when you have hurt another. You learn how to see that hurt without becoming defensive and defiant. You learn to have eyes to see how to bless me because I dedicate my days to doing the same for you. This is what love looks like."

Now how do we live up to this responsibility? To be honest, it is a daily surrender because at age 47, I, too, still struggle with my emotions. (Granted, far less than I used to, but owning up to the struggle makes me more a witness than asserting my authority.)

Using moments as opportunities to applaud, whisper, coach and affirm help build memories with my children. I leave a little note or a text to be intentional in sharing how something they did that was loving or kind made me feel cherished and loved.

I came home from work, and the dishes were loaded

and the counter wiped down. Wow! What a difference that made in my evening, guys! When I am sad, they will come and sit with me because a ministry of presence has been taught.

I am often asked where I learned to mother like this, and the answer is, my heavenly mother. Growing up in a home that wasn't safe mandated that, if I was going to break that cycle, I had to find an example of motherhood that was going to enable me to raise loving, kind, gentle, selfless, charitable and good-to-their-core humans.

With every word spoken, Mary has been a guiding point in my motherhood and continues to shepherd me in my vocation as I shepherd my own family. It is a beautiful circle of life that helps me place my trust in Mary's guidance but also brings me hope for my children, that through this witness, they may grow to be selfless Christians who serve and love their families abundantly.

I find comfort and support in Pope St. John Paul II's quote reflecting on the role of mothers:

"You have sheltered human beings within yourselves in a unique experience of joy and travail. This experience makes you become God's own smile upon the newborn child, the one who guides your child's first steps, who helps it to grow, and who is the anchor as the child makes its way along the journey of life."

All Saints, All Souls and Synod-2023

By their vocabulary, you shall know them? Well, to a considerable degree. And in these early November days, when the Church celebrates all the saints in glory and prays for those who yearn to join them in the Father's House, it's instructive to ponder the vocabulary that dominated the just-completed first assembly of the Synod on Synodality for a "Synodal Church of Communion, Participation, and Mission."

One eminent Synod father was jotting down vocabulary notes during his small-group "Conversations in the Spirit" and was struck by which words were used and which weren't. He satirized both in the form of a two-part mock memo from the Synod general secretariat to the Synod membership.

First, The Words That Must Be Used in Every Intervention and Statement:

Synodality. Harmony. Symphony. Women. LGBTQIA+. Working together. Those excluded. Those on the margins. Spirit as protagonist. Women. LGBTQIA+. Insensitive parish priests. Backward seminarians. Sensitive, nice pope. Women. LGBTQIA+. Bleeding Earth. All are welcome. Listening. Discerning. Women. LGBTQIA+.

ELECTION DAY, continued from Page 5

another state constitutional amendment could rescind it.

Fourth, we are a people who pray and act. We believe in the power of prayer and the intercession of Mary and the saints. For us, the rosary is a powerful weapon in spiritual battle. Issue 1 involves a spiritual battle. We also believe that we have responsibilities, and that one of them is to exercise a faith-filled citizenship for the true good of each person and all persons at the same time.

We remember the words of Pope Benedict XVI in the encyclical *God Is Love*, where he states that justice is the achievement of politics, and that the direct duty to work for the just ordering of society belongs to the laity in the Church. We register and we vote. And we encourage others to do the same.

Please, on Election Day, Nov. 7, remember who you are!

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

George Weigel is the Distinguished Senior Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C. George Weigel's column 'The Catholic Difference' is syndicated by the *Denver Catholic*, the official publication of the Archdiocese of Denver.



Divorced and remarried. Poisoned seas.

Then there was the Non-Acceptable Vocabulary:

Salvation. Sin. Conversion of heart. Holiness. Unborn babies. Vocations. Marriage and family. Eucharistic renewal. Penance and fasting. Persecuted Christians. Religious freedom. Sunday Mass. Sacrament of Penance. Virtue. Parishes. Intellectual life. Sanctifying grace. Fatherhood. Heaven. Pope St. John Paul II. Pope Benedict XVI. One-holy-catholic-apostolic Church

My friend exaggerated, as we all tend to do when exasperated. But he didn't exaggerate by much. And the Synod-2023 lexicon, in which a decidedly secular vocabulary displaced the Church's distinctive language, was predictable, for it mirrored the vocabulary in the Synod's *Instrumentum Laboris* [Working Document]. There, the words "synodal" and "synodality" were used 342 times and "process" was used 87 times, while "Jesus" appeared 14 times. How can you have a serious "Conversation in the Spirit" absent the Jesus who, meeting the apostles after the Resurrection, "... breathed on them, and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit'" (John 20.22)?

"Resurrection" was another word notably absent in the synodal discussions described to me by those participating in them. But what is a Church "in mission" unless it's a Church proclaiming that Jesus of Nazareth was raised from the dead and thereby constituted Lord and Savior (cf. Acts 2)? There were moments (and not a few moments) at Synod-2023 when it must have seemed to those Synod members most committed to the New Evangelization – a Church in mission proclaiming the Risen Lord Jesus Christ – that the Acts of the Apostles

had never been written.

In his popular and academic works of biblical exegesis, the Anglican scholar N.T. Wright has insisted that there was no form of early Christianity that did not proclaim Jesus as having been raised from the dead. None. Resurrection faith is the bottom line of Christian faith. Yet one bishop with extensive and successful experience in evangelization had to explain to one of his episcopal brothers, adrift in the fog of "inclusion" and "welcome," that evangelization means more than saying "Come on in." Evangelization means inviting souls lost in the cosmos to meet the Risen One, who, as John XXIII taught in his opening address to the Second Vatican Council, "still stands at the center of history and of life."

The Church's call is not a generic invitation to human fellowship. It is a very specific call, "inclusive" in that it's addressed to everyone: Come meet the Risen Lord. Embrace his Gospel. Become his friend. Be sanctified.

The call to conversion and sanctification was muted, at best, at Synod-2023. Yet the sanctification of the world and of us is the whole purpose of the Church. That is what we celebrate on All Saints Day: the victory of those who, having embraced Christ and the Gospel, have been sanctified and now live in the light and life of the Thrice-Holy God. On All Souls Day and throughout November, we pray that those who have died but have not yet been fully purified of the dross that accumulates in every life may soon be cleansed and fully sanctified, so that they may live comfortably with the Trinity and the saints.

The purpose of the Second Vatican Council was to lift the Church from a defensive crouch and turn the Church's institutions into launch-platforms for mission. Synod-2023's dominant vocabulary did not reflect that evangelical purpose – although the representatives of the living parts of the world Church, who spoke in a distinctively Catholic vocabulary, did. Theirs should be the defining voice when the second synodal assembly meets in a year, and in the "synodal process" between now and then.



This year's new and returning seminarians in the diocese gather for a photo.

Photo courtesy Office of Vocations

Diocese welcomes 16 new seminarians

What stands out above all else with this year's seminary class in the Diocese of Columbus is undoubtedly the size.

Sixteen men have stepped forward to begin prayer and study that could ultimately lead to ordination to the priesthood.

The sheer number of first-year seminarians makes this one of the largest classes in several decades in the diocese and ranks among the biggest in the country.

The influx of newcomers comes at an opportune time for a diocese that, like others throughout the world, has seen the number of priests dwindle to the point where hard decisions have been made to close parishes in part because the ranks are so thin.

The 16 newcomers bring the total number of seminarians in the diocese to 37, an increase of 12 from the previous year. Five seminarians are on schedule to be ordained to the priesthood in May and another three in May 2025.

Father William Hahn, the diocese's vocations director, points to several factors for the spike in new seminarians. Among them are altar serving at parishes, the Damascus Catholic Mission Campus retreats and camps, Melchizedek Project meetings held throughout the diocese for young men considering a religious vocation, the annual Quo Vadis summer retreat at the Pontifical College Josephinum for high-school age students, Andrew Dinners with Bishop Earl Fernandes, and the work of such missionary evangelization groups as St. Paul's Outreach (SPO) and Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) with college students.

The diocese has also established regional priest moderators who serve as a point of contact for potential candidates and are often able to get to know them and facilitate the discernment process.

"I would say probably something pretty common to all of them was that they got involved with either the Melchizedek Project or had been to Quo Vadis or in some way had come in contact with the seminarians or the seminary," Father Hahn said.

"There were two at Ohio State who were both involved with SPO, and there were a couple who were involved in their parish life. Some have a Damascus connection and served as a missionary there."

Father Hahn stressed the importance of young men getting to know priests.

"There should be some kind of event that brings them closer to God and then some kind of component that connects them to the priest and/or seminarians," he said. "Those are the two most important pieces and also actively growing closer to the Lord with a spiritual practice through some kind of involvement with Adoration or prayer."

When then-Columbus Bishop Robert Brennan launched the diocese's Real Presence Real Future initiative three years ago, he placed a strong emphasis on vocations. His successor, Bishop Earl Fernandes, picked up where Bishop Brennan left off and emphasized the urgent need for vocations from the time he arrived in the diocese in May 2022.

"He has an intentionality about vocations and evangelization, and he's a strong leader that guys want to follow," Father Hahn said of Bishop Fernandes. "He inspires them, and I think people trust him."

When other diocesan vocations directors throughout the country ask Father Hahn the reasons behind the influx of new seminarians, he points to a zeal for evangelization and discipleship in the diocese.

"They say, 'How the heck did you get 16?' I think it's a culture that has been very supportive, and part of that is from the lay missionary groups like SPO and Damascus," he said. "I think it's creating a culture where young people sense that they do have a mission in life."

The new seminarians are beginning a lengthy journey on the path to the priesthood. With the changes recently implemented by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in conjunction with the Holy See, the formation process now includes an additional year, which is referred to as

Seminarian to be ordained a deacon

Bishop Earl Fernandes will ordain diocesan seminarian Daniel Colby to the diaconate on Friday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m. at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St.

The ordination is open to anyone who would like to attend, and light refreshments will be served in the undercroft following Mass. An RSVP is requested by Friday, Nov. 3 to the diocesan Office of Vocations.

Colby will join four diocesan seminarians who were ordained to the diaconate earlier this year.

He is currently studying at the Pontifical College Josephinum. After being

ordained as a deacon, he will return to the seminary to complete his theology studies before his anticipated ordination to the priesthood in May 2024.

Colby, a parishioner at Columbus Immaculate Conception Church, is a native of Raleigh, North Carolina and moved to Columbus in 2014. He was raised Presbyterian and entered the Catholic Church in 2016.



Daniel Colby

List of diocese's first-year seminarians

New seminarians with stage, home parish, high school and/or college experience:

Name: Nicholas Arnold

Stage: Propaedeutic

Home parish: Granville St. Edward the Confessor
High school: Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School

College: Ohio State University (materials science)

Seminary: The Athenaeum of Ohio

Name: Leonard Berglund

Stage: Propaedeutic

Home parish: Powell St. Joan of Arc

High school: Homeschooled

Seminary: Pontifical College Josephinum

Name: Keith Bray

Stage: Propaedeutic

Home parish: Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator

High school: Hilliard Davidson

College: Ohio Dominican University (history, political science)

Seminary: The Athenaeum of Ohio

Name: Ray Duffy

Stage: Propaedeutic

Home parish: Columbus St. Catharine

High school: Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School

College: St. Vincent College, Latrobe, Pennsylvania

Seminary: The Athenaeum of Ohio

Name: Joshua Dyke

Stage: Propaedeutic

Home parish: Sunbury St. John Neumann

High school: Olentangy

College: Columbus State Community College

Seminary: Pontifical College Josephinum

Name: Absalom Hall

Stage: Discipleship

Home parish: Portsmouth Holy Redeemer

High school: Portsmouth West

College: Shawnee State University

Seminary: Pontifical College Josephinum

Name: Mark Jewett

Stage: Propaedeutic

Home parish: Newark Blessed Sacrament

High school: Newark Catholic

Seminary: Pontifical College Josephinum

Name: Colin Lee

Stage: Propaedeutic

Home parish: Westerville St. Paul

High school: Westerville North

Seminary: Pontifical College Josephinum

Name: Nick Love

Stage: Discipleship

Home parish: Dennison Immaculate Conception

High school: Indian Valley

College: Kent State University Tuscarawas

Seminary: Pontifical College Josephinum

Name: Andrew Nouanesengsy

Stage: Propaedeutic

Home parish: Columbus St. Catharine

High school: Columbus Bishop Hartley

College: Ohio State University (chemical engineering)

Seminary: The Athenaeum of Ohio

Name: Kennedy Ofezu

Stage: Configuration

Home parish: Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral

High school: St. Peter & Paul Minor Seminary, Pokea Arua, Uganda

College: Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Nairobi, Kenya; Uganda Martyrs Major Seminary, Alokolum, Gulu

Seminary: The Athenaeum of Ohio

Name: Aaron Schaefer

Stage: Propaedeutic

Home parish: Columbus St. Augustine and Gabriel

High school: Christifideles School

Seminary: Pontifical College Josephinum

Name: Gabe Shroyer

Stage: Propaedeutic

Home parish: Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

High school: Watkins Memorial

College: Ohio State University/Wittenberg University

Seminary: The Athenaeum of Ohio

Name: Chad Walton

Stage: Propaedeutic

Home parish: Lancaster St. Bernadette

High school: Lancaster Fisher Catholic

College: Capital University

Seminary: Pontifical College Josephinum

Name: Anthony Whalen

Stage: Configuration

Home parish: Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral

High school: Trinity, Euless, Texas

College: St. Joseph College of Maine, Baltimore Seminary

Pastoral year: Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul Church

Name: Jacob Wilson

Stage: Discipleship

Home parish: Gahanna St. Matthew

High school: Pickerington North

College: Southern New Hampshire University

Seminary: The Athenaeum of Ohio

See SEMINARIANS, Page 10

Parents of seminarians find support in group

By Hannah Heil

Catholic Times Reporter

Parents whose sons are studying for the priesthood have a special role.

One day, should God call these men to the priesthood, their sons will be in persona Christi, or in the person of Christ. They will have consecrated hands and the ability to administer the sacraments instituted by Jesus Christ.

With such a high calling for their sons, parents play a role in supporting and journeying with them in their discernment.

Julie Ratliff and Tammy Dixon, two mothers whose sons are studying for the priesthood in the Diocese of Columbus, wanted to form a group for parents of seminarians.

They received the support of Father Bill Hahn, the diocese's vocations director, and the group was born. Known as the Guardians of Melchizedek, the parents of seminarians meet monthly to pray, share a meal and support one another.

Their group's namesake comes from Psalm 110:4: "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek."

The group's mission is to unify families around their sons' calling to the priesthood and provide support for families during their son's journey to the priesthood.

Their goal is to better understand the discernment process, grow in faith and develop relationships with one another through prayer and discussion. They lean on one another as they seek to best support their sons.

The Guardians of Melchizedek held their third meeting on Oct. 25 at Gahanna St. Matthew the Apostle Church. The evening began with Mass celebrated by

pastor Father Ted Sill and was followed by dinner and fellowship in the church's undercroft.

The group will meet again on Tuesday, Nov. 14 at New Albany Church of the Resurrection for a 7 p.m. Mass celebrated by the pastor, Father Denis Kigozi, followed by a meal. They will begin reading "A Priest in the Family" by Father Brett A. Brannen and discuss the book as a group.

Rose Voegele and her husband attended the parent gathering for the first time in October.

"I just wanted to get to know other parents that had children in the religious life since we have a daughter that's in a religious order and then our son entered in seminary," she said. "It's just nice to have some other parents to talk to and just run things by or just see what's going on."

The Voegelers' son, Luke, is studying for the priesthood at Mount St. Mary's Seminary of the West in Cincinnati, and their daughter is in the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Indiana.

"It's humbling," Voegele said of having children called to religious life. "We pray for them every day and just Mary's mantle be over them and pray for more vocations."

Voegele said both children found their calling while at the University of Cincinnati.

They were active in several Catholic organizations in college including St. Paul's Outreach and the Fellowship of Catholic University Students, and they were involved with Catholic men's and Catholic women's households. She said they also spent time volunteering, which helped to discern their vocation.

Jennifer Fagge and her husband attended the group's October gathering. She said she enjoyed celebrating Mass as a group, and she is interested in getting to know and pray with parents whose

sons discern a call to the priesthood.

Fagge's son, Justin, is studying for the priesthood at the Pontifical College Josephinum. He is in his second year of college at the seminary.

"When Justin first discerned, I wanted to ask more experienced mothers what their experience was like, and I didn't have anyone to call or didn't know who to call," Fagge said. "And I'd love to be able to fill that role for somebody else if they need it."

Alan Ratliff, whose wife, Julie, helped form the Guardians of Melchizedek, has enjoyed meeting other parents. Their son, Dominic, is in his third year of college at the Josephinum.

"I feel honored," Alan said.

He recently spoke with a seminarian whose parents were not as supportive of their son entering seminary.

"The guys don't always feel supported from their families of origin," he said.

Alan said this can be because parents often have expectations for their children's futures. It tends to be more difficult for parents whose oldest son goes to the seminary, he said, because they are experiencing "that natural separation at the same time as he's in the seminary."

He noticed that parents whose younger son discerns a call to the priesthood tend to be more comfortable with their discernment. Alan wants to "reach out to" parents who are struggling with their son entering seminary, so they receive the support they need and can be at peace with their son's call.

He is grateful that people across the Diocese of Columbus are offering prayers for his son.

"Knowing that other people are praying for their sons is really, really, really comforting because it's a hard decision," he said. "I'm confident that the power of prayer affects following what God really

wants for those guys."

Parents in the group have sons in different years of seminary. Some of their sons are in the propaedeutic year, which is the beginning stage of seminary, while others are further along in their formation.

Julie said it is nice to have parents in the group whose sons are at different stages. Parents whose sons have been in seminary for several years can be a resource to those with sons in the propaedeutic stage.

She said having a son discern a call to the priesthood can call parents to a greater surrender to Christ, just as their sons have surrendered to God's will for their lives.

"I feel like we're finally getting to know each other, like a little bit of our stories and where our sons are at and where each of us is, even sort of surrendering over, too, that this process that our sons are drawing us into," Julie said.

"It's great to be with people who have been where we were and who are in the same place, and then, also parents who are further along in the process and just to have that perspective."

Dixon, who helped form the group, and her husband have a son, Christopher, who is in his second year of pre-theology at the Josephinum. She looks forward to seeing deeper relationships develop among parents of seminarians.

She wants to support parents "so that they can just see the value of how prayer can make a difference for our young men in their discernment process."

"I think that those walls will come down, where we can really share with each other what's on our heart and where we can kind of help our sons and journey with them, and again, not smother them, not push them, just be there for them, be still and let the Lord work His way."

SEMINARIANS, continued from Page 9

a "propaedeutic year," that gives incoming men a year of additional discernment, prayer and study with an emphasis on a monastic-type experience to block out cultural distractions such as media.

For most of the individuals entering without any college experience, the number of years in seminary will now add up to nine. The majority of men with college degrees will spend seven years in formation before ordination to the priesthood.

The extra year has not proved to be a deterrent, Father Hahn said.

"Guys might be a bit resistant at first," he said, "but I think they appreciate its purpose, and they understand the need to detox from the culture and have time to work on themselves and prepare themselves for seminary."

"For some of them, it can be a real challenge after being in college and also for those who are more mission oriented or have worked with local youth groups. All

of a sudden, they're pulled back from that, but they recognize the importance of it."

For the first time in a number of years, some of the men are being sent outside the diocese for a portion of their seminary studies to vary their experience during the years of formation. Seven members of this year's class have been assigned to Mount St. Mary Seminary of the West (The Athenaeum of Ohio) in Cincinnati.

The entrants out of high school and most of the returning seminarians have remained in the diocese at the Pontifical College Josephinum.

Jacob Wilson, whose home parish is Gahanna St. Matthew Church, is one of the seminarians who is at Mount St. Mary this year.

"From the time I was 8 years old I remember wanting to become a priest," he said. "I would play Mass in my room by myself with animal crackers. When I

got to junior high and high school (Pickerington North), I started going to youth group and summer camps. It was there that I began encountering the Lord Jesus through silent Eucharistic Adoration.

"During that time of Adoration at camp, I truly heard the Lord's words: 'Will you be my priest?' My immediate answer was 'Yes!' It was an incredible moment that I will never forget."

"Now, going to public school, these were some fun conversations to have with my friends who weren't even Christian. Telling people at a public high school that I wanted to be a priest usually left most of them surprised or confused."

"After graduating from my four years of college studies, I still heard the Lord's call to enter into the seminary. ... I now find myself at Mount St. Mary's seminary in Cincinnati, studying pre-theology and trusting the Lord's call every step of the way. Please continue to pray for vocations!"

Some of the older seminarians and those with more life experience, such as Kennedy Ofezu of Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, enter at stages known as "discipleship" and "configuration."

Discipleship is the second stage of formation designed for growth in developing a relationship with Christ through meditation, contemplation, philosophical study and develop of character in Christian virtue.

Configuration, the third stage, includes the study of theology, pastoral formation and cultivation of leadership virtues in preparation for ordination.

The transitional diaconate is the final stage in preparation for ordination to the priesthood.

For more information and a list of vocations-related events, visit www.vocationscolumbus.org.

Watterson senior aims to enter seminary

As fellow seniors figure out which college to attend or career path they'd like to follow after high school, Sam Mahle plans to go in a different direction.

Next fall, the Columbus Bishop Watterson High School senior is hoping to be at the Pontifical College Josephinum as a seminarian for the Diocese of Columbus.

His interest in the priesthood reflects a recent uptick in young men considering seminary out of high school. In this year's class of 16 new diocesan seminarians, four have come straight out of high school to pursue a religious vocation.

That's a positive sign for a diocese – and the Catholic Church as a whole – sorely in need of priests. Only one new priest for the diocese was ordained in the past two years combined, but five are scheduled to be ordained next spring.

At the start of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' National Vocation Awareness Week that runs Nov. 5-11, the faithful are encouraged to pray for young men such as Mahle and for women who are answering a call to religious life or considering the possibility.

Mahle, a member of Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, traces the origins of his vocational discernment to Catholic Youth Summer Camp at the Damascus Catholic Mission Campus in Knox County during summer 2020 before his freshman year of high school.

"I'd had the priesthood in the back of my mind since I can't remember, but I didn't really think about it too hard until before my freshman year," he recalled. "And when I really came to know Jesus and accept him in my life, then it all just kind of rolled from there."

"I never really knew the fullness of the faith until I went to Damascus and actually experienced Jesus in a whole new way. They just do such a good job at inviting us into a relationship with Him through prayer ministry and where other people pray over you."

"My group is praying over me, and a lot of them are getting images of me as a

priest as they're praying for me. And that kind of helped spark what I already had in the back of my mind."

He has gone back to Damascus every summer since then and has attended winter camps and retreats as well. This coming summer, he might return as a missionary leader.

At his home parish, he credits the pastor, Father Dan Dury, who hosts one of the regional Melchizedek Project small discernment groups for high school and college-age students contemplating a vocation, for assisting him in his formation as a young Catholic.

"Father Dury has given me a lot of opportunities," Mahle said. "Father Dury does those meetings once a month, and those are really good. It's really good hearing from him about the life of a priest. He's definitely someone I look up to."

"And no matter where you live, there's a parish around or near you that has it. So that's really good."

Father William Hahn, the diocese's vocations director, also has opened the door to opportunities for discernment with Quo Vadis summer retreats for young men at the Josephinum and with live-ins there during the academic year to experience the life of a seminarian while interacting with them.

"The Quo Vadis retreat just really opened me up to what seminary life was like," he said. "I'd never really met seminarians, and I really didn't even know what seminary was. I just thought it was like a normal college. I didn't realize that there's so much prayer."

"And the friendships that the seminarians have with each other, they seem to have a lot of fun. I thought it would be kind of boring before I went there."

Before starting high school, Mahle said his spiritual life wasn't as developed as it has become today. He described himself as a cradle Catholic who went to Mass on Sunday and prayed before meals with his family.

"That was the extent of my prayer life and my relationship with God," he said.



Sam Mahle, a senior at Bishop Watterson High School, plans to pursue the priesthood after graduation. Photo courtesy Jennifer Conklin

"I didn't really take it seriously at all. I didn't have daily prayer."

From kindergarten through his sophomore year of high school, Mahle attended public school. At the start of his junior year, he transferred to Bishop Watterson.

"I knew that I wanted to be a priest, and I was discerning and all that," he said, "but it wasn't really until I came here to Watterson that there was a big change in my life. I opened myself up to new opportunities, and the school offered good opportunities for me to grow closer to God, specifically through my prayer club and Father (Paul) Noble offering Masses and in my theology classes."

Mahle attends Mass in the school chapel celebrated by Father Noble on Tuesdays and Fridays before classes begin and joins other students for daily prayer and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesdays.

He has been pleasantly surprised by how helpful the teachers were both ac-

ademically and spiritually.

"I wanted to be more around the Catholic culture," he said. "Public school is very secular, and there weren't really many opportunities for me to grow in faith no matter how hard I tried to bring others closer to Christ."

Many of his fellow students at Watterson have heard that he's discerning a vocation to the priesthood, and most are supportive.

"Most reactions are good," he said. "A lot of them are like, 'That's so cool.' A lot of them are like, 'I've never heard that from someone my age before.'"

"Some of them are like, 'Oh, that's odd,' but most of them are like, 'Wow, that's amazing. I'm really happy for you.'"

His parents, Andy and Amanda, have supported him in his discernment. He has two siblings, Drew, 21, a junior at Ohio State University, and Lauren, 19, a sophomore at Columbus State Community College.

"My mom's praying a lot and really doing whatever she needs to do to help me get to seminary and follow my path," he said.

Mahle has begun the formal process of applying to the diocese for consideration. There are multiple layers to the diocese's application process. The Josephinum also requires an application for admittance.

"My backup plan was always if I don't get into seminary would be to become a missionary and just see where that takes me," he said. "But I can't really imagine myself doing anything else."

Knowing that 16 men began the discernment process this year and others are considering entering next year is bound to encourage Mahle and others.

"And I think the new bishop has given me a lot of hope because he seems to be doing a lot of good things in the diocese," Mahle said. "It really makes me want to stay in this diocese because he's just doing so much for vocations."

Woman's path to religious life: 'I was made for something more'



Amanda Dick (left) with a Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help School student. Photo/OHLP.

By this time next year, God willing, Amanda Dick will have begun her life as a religious sister.

She plans to enter her initial time of formation, a one- to two-year period referred to as the postulancy stage, with the Franciscan Sisters, T.O.R (Third Order Regular) of Penance of the Sorrowful Mother in Toronto, Ohio.

The Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help staff member and Ohio University graduate joins an increasing number of young women from the diocese who are answering a call from God to serve Him in religious life.

During National Vocation Awareness

Week, which runs Nov. 5-11, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has asked the faithful to pray for women and men who are discerning a call to serve the Church in consecrated life.

Every discerner follows a unique path to a vocation. Some know as children that they want to dedicate their lives to the Church in a special way. Others might have never entertained the thought of becoming a priest or sister until adulthood.

For Dick, 24, becoming a religious sister wasn't exactly the career plan she had in mind when she began her studies at Ohio University in Athens.

She had attended Our Lady of Perpetual Help School through sixth grade before going to a public middle school and high school and admitted that she didn't know much about Jesus. But as she transitioned to college, her mother, Jennifer, encouraged her to check out the Newman Center on campus.

"So, I went there and found this really beautiful community that I was interested in and wanted to get involved in and learn more about," she said. "All of a sudden, I was surrounded by these wonderful people and just really was intrigued



THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS



In every corner of the Diocese of Columbus, Our Catholic Schools are working toward a common goal: *to help our students become saints.*

Learn more at these upcoming open houses!



Grades 9-12
 Sunday, November 5
 1 p.m.
www.stcharlesprep.org

BISHOP HARTLEY

Grades 9-12
 Thursday, November 9
 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
www.bishop-hartley.org

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES
 HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 9-12
 Sunday, November 12
 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
www.sfdstallions.org

BISHOP READY
 HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 9-12
 Sunday, November 12
 1 - 3 p.m.
www.brhs.org



SAINT ANDREW
 SCHOOL

Preschool - Grade 8
 Tuesday, November 14
 5 - 6:30 p.m.
www.standrewschool.com



ST. CATHARINE
 SCHOOL

Preschool - Grade 8
 Wednesday, November 15
 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
www.stcatharineschool.com

Our Lady of Peace

Kindergarten - Grade 8
 Sunday, November 19
 12:30 - 2 p.m.
www.olpcolumbus.org



BISHOP WATTERSON
 HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 9-12
 Sunday, November 19
 1 - 3 p.m.
www.bishopwatterson.com



Preschool - Grade 8
 Sunday, December 3
 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
www.ic-school.org

Scholarship programs impact affordability, accessibility to Catholic education

By **Seth Burkholder**

Assistant Superintendent for Operations and **Theresa Vivona**
Associate Director for Advancement,
Office of Catholic Schools

If you've seen any education headlines in the past few months, you've likely read about the substantial expansion to Ohio's Educational Choice (EdChoice) Scholarship program this summer. The program, which traditionally provided scholarships to families living in underperforming school districts or those with lower incomes, was expanded to benefit every Ohio family - regardless of their residence or household income - to help fund tuition at the private school of their choosing based on the factors most important to them. Many families in Our Catholic Schools already are seeing the benefit of this newly-expanded scholarship opportunity!

To be clear: school choice is not a new concept. For over 30 years, school choice has been picking up steam across the United States - from Maine to Arizona and more than 30 states in between - and now is more popular than ever. For Catholics, these strides underscore the Catechism of the Catholic Church that clearly states, "Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children," and, "As those first responsible for [that], parents have the right to choose a school for them which corresponds to their own convictions. The right is fundamental."

But, like many things in life, affordability of a Catholic education may still be a challenge, especially during these trying economic times. How many families sitting in our parish pews each weekend pray for the means to send their children to Catholic school? School choice scholarships provide relief to families, but they may not cover the full cost to educate a child in Our Catholic Schools. Financial

need still exists. Enter the Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund.

Established in December 2021, the Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund is the state-certified scholarship granting organization (SGO) of the Diocese of Columbus formed to capitalize on a tax credit passed into law by the Ohio legislature that year. Contributions to the SGO are used primarily as academic scholarships for K-12 students to attend Our Catholic Schools and, in return, the donor can receive a dollar-for-dollar credit against their Ohio income tax liability, up to \$750 for an individual or \$1,500 if married filing jointly.

If this sounds too good to be true, it's not. In 2022 alone, our SGO generated nearly \$2 million in scholarship funds that are helping families afford a Catholic education this academic year, while providing taxpayers the unique opportunity to choose how their tax dollars are utilized; that is, supporting Our Catholic Schools' efforts to lead children to an encounter with Jesus Christ.

Even with the success of the Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund last year, we believe we've only scratched the surface of how much it can grow. Based on year-over-year projections through mid-October, we could eclipse our 2022 donations three-fold or more!

It has long been a priority of our diocese to make an authentic Catholic education affordable and accessible for all families. Now, with school choice scholarships and the Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund working in tandem, a Catholic education at one of our 50 schools is more affordable than ever.

To learn more about our Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund, visit www.emmausroadscholarship.org. Ohio tax credit is up to \$750 for an individual or \$1,500 if married filing jointly. Consult a tax advisor for guidance on your specific situation.

MAKING AN Authentically Catholic Education ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE for All Families



In late 2021, the Ohio Legislature passed a law creating a tax credit for qualified donations to scholarship granting organizations certified by the OH Attorney General.



Donors who make a gift to the **Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund** receive a dollar-for-dollar reduction of their Ohio tax liability (equal to the amount of the gift up to \$750 or \$1,500 if married and filing jointly).



SUPPORT YOUR FAVORITE SCHOOL(S)!

Donations may be directed to any one or more schools in our diocese!



Make a one-time gift or set up a recurring, monthly gift on our web site to budget your donation throughout the year.



ANYONE CAN MAKE A GIFT!

Parents, grandparents, alumni, friends - anyone with a heart for making Catholic education accessible and affordable can give; however only Ohio residents are eligible to receive the tax credit.

In December 2021, the Diocesan Education Corporation (dba **Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund**) was certified as the first SGO in the state of Ohio.



Donations fund scholarships for students to attend Our Catholic Schools, making a Catholic education affordable and accessible for all families



Gifts made to the Unrestricted fund can be used as scholarships for students at any one of the schools in our diocese.




Donations may be made up to the Federal tax filing deadline in April to be counted for the previous tax year.

Best of all, your gift helps to form disciples who learn to recognize God's love at work in their lives and go forth to share that love in the world.



www.emmausroadscholarship.org



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Holy Spirit 'makes all things possible,' NYC cathedral rector says

Father Enrique Salvo emphasized the power and importance of invoking the Holy Spirit to students, faculty, staff and guests at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School's annual Borromeo Lecture on Thursday, Oct. 26 in the Robert C. Walter Student Commons.

Father Salvo, who has served as the rector at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City for the past two years, shared some of his personal encounters with the power of the Holy Spirit before a crowd of approximately 750 and touched on his experiences as the priest in charge of one of the world's famous religious sites.

The Borromeo Lecture Series was established in 1961 by St. Charles alumnus Robert Dilenschneider, a nationally recognized public relations executive, to bring speakers to the school to address topics related to morals and ethics in society, business and government.

The lecture series has attracted prominent speakers over the years that include Cardinal Avery Dulles, S.J.; Knights of Columbus Supreme Knight Carl Anderson; presidents of Catholic universities; Church leaders; and editors of major publications.

Father Salvo's 25-minute presentation, followed by a brief question-and-answer session, started with a reading from the Acts of the Apostles recounting Pentecost, which is recognized as the birth of the Church.

"Remember, the Holy Spirit is called love between the Father and the Son,"

he said. "It is the love of God, the most powerful force in the universe of existence. It is the love that makes all things possible.

"No matter how many times we talk about this subject, it has to be ingrained in each of our minds and hearts that the Holy Spirit is here to guide us throughout our lives."

Reciting a prayer to the Holy Spirit asking Him to renew the face of the earth, Father Salvo spoke of the urgent need for renewal of a society in which "there is so much happening in our lives, in our families, in our schools, in our communities."

"When we look at the world right now, yes, it's in shambles and it needs to be renewed," Father Salvo said. "But there is also so much more love happening each and every day in this world than there is hatred.

"There are so many more acts of heroic love and sacrifice in people giving their lives to help one another than there are people taking away the lives of others. There is so much more happening in the souls of so many people than there are people that have taken the route of looking for evil to fill their souls."

Father Salvo experienced some of the difficulties in the world early in his life. Born in Managua, Nicaragua, he and his family were forced into exile when he was 7 years old after surviving a major earthquake, a revolution and Communist takeover.



Father Enrique Salvo, rector at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York, speaks at St. Charles Preparatory School's annual Borromeo Lecture on Oct. 26. Photo courtesy St. Charles

His family relocated to the United States, which he considers a blessing, and he grew up in Miami, lived for a time in Texas, briefly returned to Nicaragua and then came back to Texas, graduating from Texas A&M University and later earning a master's degree in Mexico.

After ordination to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of New York in 2010, he was assigned to St. Elizabeth parish in Manhattan and then became director of vocations for four years. In 2017, he was named pastor at St. Anselm and St. Roch parish in the South Bronx, where he served for four years before Cardinal Timothy Dolan appointed him rector

of St. Patrick's Cathedral in November 2021.

Seeing the millions of visitors and parishioners who come to St. Patrick's Cathedral, located in the heart of Manhattan, gives the priest hope.

"The Holy Spirit's always surprising me," Father Salvo said. "And now I'm in charge of this beautiful cathedral.

"It's very common for us to only point out what's wrong, what's missing in the Church. ... A lot of people want us to think that the Church is basically on a downfall, a forever downfall. And that is not the case. I'm seeing it with my own eyes each day. The Church is very alive because the Holy Spirit is alive."

He said he witnesses the manifestation of the Holy Spirit's unifying power at St. Patrick's each day through the visitors from throughout the world. In addition to being open for prayer, the cathedral offers seven daily Masses.

"You can see the sincerity in people's faces," he said. "They pray, they light candles. They are in awe with the beauty. And if someone asks for a blessing from me or another priest, all of a sudden you have a line all the way to the door because everyone wants a blessing, which is a beautiful thing.

"People are there to be in the same place adoring God. ... Just day in and day out to have such a mix of everyone and even other religions in the same place

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St. Charles to stage 'Inspecting Carol'



The Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School Drama Department will present its fall production, "Inspecting Carol" by Daniel Sullivan, at 8 p.m. Nov. 16-18 and at 3 p.m. Nov. 19 in the St. Charles Campus Theatre. Adult tickets are \$15, students are \$10. Reservations may be placed by visiting the St. Charles website homepage at scprep.org by using the Buy Tickets button. Cast members include (front row from left) Connor McCarthy, Colleen Hernon, Liz Murrin, Thomas Rice, Petrona Gale, Pablo Bott; (back row from left) James Graff, Ted Welch, Grant Dine, Jayson Brake, Juniper Kimbrell, Finn DeLong, Aaron Silva and Vincent Sylvester. "Inspecting Carol" is described as "A Christmas Carol" meets "The Government Inspector" meets "Noises Off" in which a man who asks to audition at a small theater is mistaken for an informer for the National Endowment for the Arts. Everyone caters to the bewildered wannabe actor and he is given a role in the current production, "A Christmas Carol." But everything goes hilariously wrong. Photo courtesy St. Charles

St. Charles seniors receive Merit honors



Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School had six members of its senior class named 2024 National Merit Semifinalists and seven others were Commended Scholars. Those who qualified for the National Merit Scholarship program did so by recording the highest scores of all high school students on the Pre-Scholastic Aptitude/National Merit Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) taken last year as St. Charles juniors. The National Merit honorees are (front row from left) Will Malerich (semifinalist), Andrew Kane (commended scholar), Christopher Lee (commended scholar), Matthew Weyer (semifinalist); (middle row from left) Jamie Graff (commended scholar), Luke Klingele (commended scholar), Will Bratt (commended scholar), Andrew Ferris (semifinalist), Brogan Rogers (commended scholar), Malcolm D'Souza (semifinalist); (back row from left) Jacob Maier (semifinalist), John Bryner (semifinalist) and Dillon Miller (commended scholar).

Photo courtesy St. Charles Preparatory School

Departmental patron saints named at Newark Catholic

By **Stephanie Paul-Tiberio**

*Vice Principal,
Newark Catholic High School*

This year, through a school-wide initiative, departmental teacher teams at Newark Catholic High School have selected patron saints that will permeate their academic course of study and provide opportunities for students to join together in fellowship for the celebration of feast days.

Campus minister Chris Grieb explained that the ultimate goal of the departmental patrons initiative is to be, “a school community that desires to grow in holiness through a real relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church and, like our saint brothers and sisters, be a member of a community that is not afraid to shout from the rooftops that Jesus is Lord. Through the witness of the saints, our students will encounter what it truly means to live lives of intense—oftentimes radical—sanctification.”

Students attend Mass, frequent the Sacraments, adore Jesus in the Eucharist, and pray the rosary as a whole school monthly, but experiences of encounter with the Lord round out the school’s rich campus ministry calendar. Students are also formed through retreat experiences, vocations talks, and a whole-school day of service in May, a tradition spanning nearly 30 years where students fulfill the school’s commitment to partner with over 20 community organizations. The year’s initiative – to name, study, and celebrate departmental patron saints – further demonstrates how the school’s mission is alive and at work, not a static statement.

Pope Paul VI, in the 1975 Apostolic Exhortation *On Christian Joy*, stated, “Dear Brothers and sons and daughters, such is the joyful hope drawn from the very sources of God’s Word. For twenty cen-

turies, this source of joy has not ceased to spring up in the Church, and especially in the hearts of the saints.” Our Church celebrates joyously; however, too often, celebrations have been relegated to secular traditions that, over time, have lost all sense of centuries-old, faith-based traditions. By engrossing students in the study of saints’ lives and taking time out to come together in feast-day celebrations, they will know firsthand the joy and hope which Pope Paul VI discussed.

Departmental patron saints include: St. Thomas Aquinas for Theology, St. Bede for Social Studies, St. George for Languages, St. Hubert for Mathematics, St. Albert the Great for the Sciences, and St. Catherine of Bologna for the arts. With this initiative, NC’s teachers are purposeful in creating authentic connections to the saints’ lives in their instructional planning – to their struggles, successes, and contributions to a given field of study. In coming to understand why saints were selected for canonization given the faith’s teachings across all disciplines, students are met where they are with a soft entry point not only for evangelization but for study of a given course’s content imbued with Catholicism, an ongoing focus area for all teaching faculty.

Science teacher Emily Matuska said, “It’s more than just tying science to a patron saint. It’s more about how science and religion are interconnected and about trying to help everyone make more of those connections.” Building upon this, department teams are organizing whole-school celebrations and events for each saint that will become Newark Catholic traditions.

Senior student campus ministry leaders, Lauren Meier and Nicholas Windholtz, are working with faculty to select artistic depictions of departmental patrons for display to adorn Newark Cath-



Senior campus ministry leader Lauren Meier shared candidly about deepening her faith at Newark Catholic High School’s recent Prayer Breakfast. *Photos courtesy Newark Catholic*



Senior campus ministry leader Nicholas Windholtz spoke to clergy, community and student attendees at Newark Catholic High School’s recent Prayer Breakfast, thanking faculty and staff for their commitment to each student’s faith journey in his remarks.

olic with art that inspires students to live the faith on a more profound level. Art teacher Aliya Stevens shared, “When we see or hear something profound, we automatically feel a certain way about what we experienced, and when early Christians realized this, they created Sacred Art to evoke emotions. They used aesthetics, basic color theory, and imagery/symbols to stir feelings of reverence toward God, encourage believers to feel convicted of sins committed, and inspire them to live the faith profoundly. We still use those same images to help us think about God and our faith more, enhancing the likelihood that we will be

inspired to grow in the faith.”

Newark Catholic High School is committed to creating an environment for students to grow in their Catholic faith, expand their knowledge, and extend their talents in service to others. It is through the faculty and administration’s ongoing commitment to unapologetically Catholic practice such as the implementation of programming for departmental patron saints this year that students are best prepared to live in this life and to live in the next among the saints in heaven.

RECTOR, *continued from Page 14*

under the same God is the Holy Spirit’s work of unifying in action.”

Father Salvo referenced the unifying power that can come from the use of technology and the ability of the Church to reach people all over the world with its teachings through the livestreaming of Masses from the cathedral and through social media.

“But no matter how much St. Patrick’s Cathedral and other beautiful places in the world are there, no matter how much livestreaming we have, if the Holy Spirit weren’t alive in people to receive that, it would all be empty,” he said.

Speaking to those assembled for his presentation at St. Charles, Father Salvo encouraged them to be instruments of the Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth and enkindle the fire of His love in their daily lives.

“Each and every one of us has to be renewed individually, and I see this with my own eyes,” he said. “You have to do hard things throughout your life where you’re trying to follow God’s will, but you never have to do it alone because the Holy Spirit is there.”

Father Salvo shared a story from his time in seminary that showed him the power of the Holy Spirit.

During Pope Benedict XVI’s visit to New York in 2008, Father Salvo received a surprising last-minute assignment to hold the boom microphone for the Holy Father at his Mass in Yankee Stadium. Nerves often caused the seminarian’s hands to shake, making him extremely nervous that he wouldn’t be able to handle the job.

“Look at what could happen,” he thought. “I can start getting the shakes.

I have this pole and, God forbid, I hit the pope. And I am going to go viral, and this is going to become a meme.

“I was praying to Mary and the Holy Spirit and said you have to do something. And it was the most amazing thing. We come out to Yankee Stadium behind the pope, and it was like a power, a peace that got to me that was almost like a surreal dream. It was not normal; it was something so beautiful and powerful.

“It went great, ... and from that moment on, I’m like the Holy Spirit is real.

“When we’re trying to do His will in the big picture of our lives, when we’re trying to serve the Holy Spirit and when we are trying to serve Jesus Christ and the heavenly Father, it is through His will that the Holy Spirit is there to help each and every one of us.”

Father Salvo encouraged everyone to offer their heart, mind and soul to the Holy Spirit because He will give His people the fortitude to withstand everyday challenges and to bring light into the world.

“Imagine if every single person in Columbus did that,” he said. “Imagine every single person in New York did it. If everyone around the world were open to the Holy Spirit. ... When we receive the sacraments, the Holy Spirit comes when we invoke Him, but we need to be conscious of that and rely on Him.

“And then we can say, especially when the church and the world are upside down, that we can cope with darkness because at least I did my part in letting the Holy Spirit kindle in me the fire of His love.”



Members of Newark Catholic's Division III state runner-up boys golf team are (from left) Max Vanoy, Brian Luft, Brogan Sullivan, Bobby Kieber, Nathan Riggleman and coach Phil West. Photo courtesy John Hulkenberg

Newark Catholic golfers finish second

Newark Catholic came as close as any team could to winning the Ohio High School Athletic Association Division III boys state golf championship, falling one shot short on Saturday, Oct. 14 at Ohio State University's Scarlet Course.

The Green Wave, coached by Phil West, entered the second of two rounds tied for the lead with Warren John F. Kennedy and was in the lead on the final day before JFK charged from 12 strokes behind to claim the razor-thin victory.

Newark Catholic posted a two-day total of 649 after rounds of 320 and 329, a 15-stroke improvement from last year when the Green Wave also finished as the runner-up behind Cincinnati Seven Hills.

Senior Max Vanoy was Newark Catholic's top individual finisher, claiming 12th with a two-round total of 13-over-par 155. He was followed by sophomore Bobby Kieber (tied for 20th, 161), junior Brogan Sullivan (tied for 31st, 167), senior Brian Luft (tied for 33rd, 168) and senior Nathan Riggleman (tied for 36th, 169).

The three seniors will continue their golf careers in college next year. Vanoy has committed to NCAA Division II Tiffin University, Luft to Division II Barton College in North Carolina and Riggleman to Division II University of Findlay.

Newark Catholic's recent run of success has included third place in 2021 and sixth in 2020. The Green Wave was bidding for its first state title in golf.

DeSales golfer sets record in taking state individual title

Vaughn Harber didn't just win a state golf title. He destroyed the tournament record on the way to his first Ohio high school state championship.

Competing against golfers from the largest high schools in the state in Division I, the Columbus St. Francis DeSales senior posted a two-round total of 135, obliterating the state record for 36 holes at Ohio State University's acclaimed Scarlet Course on Oct. 20-21.

Harber followed an opening-round 2-under-par 69 on Friday, Oct. 20 with a 5-under 66 (six birdies, one bogey) the following day despite less-than-ideal weather conditions that ranged from rain to cool temperatures. He edged Whitehouse Anthony Wayne senior Logan Sutto (70-66) in the individual competition.

Led by Harber's impressive performance, DeSales claimed fifth place in the team standings with a two-round total of 617. Anthony Wayne finished on top with a 598 total. Rounding out the top five were Akron Hoban (601), Olentangy Liberty (610) and Upper Arlington (612).

The other members of DeSales' five-player team were sophomore Declan Richardson (159, tied for 32nd), junior Caleb Flynn (163, tied for 45th), junior Peyton Thomas (164, tied for 48th) and senior Joe Couhig (165, tied for 50th).

Harber's record-breaking effort eclipsed the Division I boys state tournament record of 141 shared by Whitehall-Yearling's Brian Bridges and Toledo Bowsher's Steve Stone, both set in 1985 on the OSU Scarlet Course.

"It wasn't surprising," DeSales coach Tony Pinson said. "He did what he did and got the end result, a state championship. But the manner in which he did it was just absolutely amazing."

"Last year, he lost at the very end, and this year, he just blew the doors off the place. To go out there with the pressure of a state championship and shoot 69-66, it's just unbelievable."

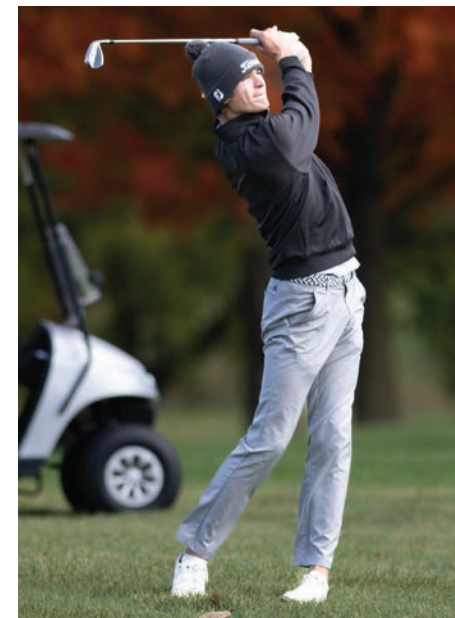
A year ago, Harber finished agonizingly close to winning the state tournament, falling two shots short after he bogeyed the 17th hole in the final round. That fueled his fire to redeem himself in 2023.

"He has thought about that for the last year," Pinson said. "He was on a mission, without a doubt. As he walked off the green on 18 last year after that disappointment, he said, 'I'm winning this thing next year,' and he did."

"He was as sharp as I've ever seen him. He was sharper this year than he was last year, and it was amazing to watch ... like he had the ball on a string."

This time around, there was no denying Harber. He trailed by one shot after the first round before closing with the 66 that set a Division I state-tournament record for a single round.

To give Harber's accomplishment some perspective, his record-setting to-



DeSales senior Vaughn Harber hits a shot from the fairway on the ninth hole at the Ohio State University's Scarlet Course on Oct. 21 in the state golf championships. Harber won the individual title in Division I.

Photo courtesy John Hulkenberg

tal topped the winning scores of former state champions such as Jack Nicklaus, a two-time winner of the event for Upper Arlington; Bridges, a former collegiate golfer of the year; legendary golf course architect Pete Dye; former British Open champion Ben Curtis; and current Ohio State standout Max Moldovan.

Harber arrived at DeSales in 2020 from Gahanna St. Matthew School and immediately stepped into the No. 1 spot on the team as a freshman. He has helped propel the Stallions' steady rise over the past few years into a district and state team contender.

Now he will leave as the No. 1 player in the state.

"All of the people that know Vaughn are so happy for him," Pinson said. "What makes him so great is the quiet confidence he has. He's an extremely humble kid and one of the nicest kids you'll ever meet. That's what makes it so awesome."

Harber's success is not limited to high school golf. He has competed nationally since junior high at events including the junior world championships and the junior Ryder Cup. His talent grabbed the attention of the coaches at Ohio State, where he is headed next fall to play for the Buckeyes on the same course that he handled so well as a high school player.

"I may be a little biased," Pinson said, "but I think he's going to go in there ready. He's not one of those kids that lets people pat him on the back and tell him how good he is and be satisfied with that. "He wants to take his game pretty far."

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LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS

Cathedral hosting second Gold Mass for musicians

Bishop Earl Fernandes will be principal celebrant of the second annual diocesan Gold Mass for musicians at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 17 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St.

The Gold Mass is the Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit offered to affirm musicians in their ministries and to foster a greater sense of community among them. The color gold has been chosen because of its association with instruments, celebration and performance. Priests from the diocese are welcome to concelebrate.

The Mass will include music by Renaissance composers Palestrina and Orlando di Lasso, and current Mass settings by Dr. Richard Fitzgerald, diocesan music director, who encourages representatives of all faith traditions to attend.

Musicians from various parishes will be participating with the cathedral choir, accompanied by the sound of the cathedral's Fritts grand gallery organ. There will be a reception after Mass in the cathedral undercroft.

Deadline approaches to attend Marian Dinner for vocations

Young women in grade eight through college are encouraged to attend the Marian Dinner for religious vocations at Columbus St. Andrew Church, 1899 McCoy Road, in Nugent Hall on Wednesday, Nov. 8 at 6 p.m.

To RSVP by Friday, Nov. 3, contact Yvette Reategui at yreategui@columbus-

catholic.org or 614-224-2251.

There will be vespers in the church followed by dinner and discussion and opportunity to meet religious sisters from various orders in the Diocese of Columbus with Bishop Earl Fernandes present.

Students for Life president set to speak to YCP group

Kristan Hawkins, president of Students for Life of America, will speak to the diocesan Young Catholic Professionals at a meeting scheduled from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 15 in The Vault, 35 E. Gay St., Columbus.

Admission is free. Anyone in their 20s and 30s is invited. Pizza and drinks will be available. Register at Executive Speaker Series: Kristan Hawkins | Young Catholic Professionals on Glue Up.

Turban Project seeking new, bigger work space

The Turban Project ministry in Newark is growing and is looking for a new space that would allow more volunteers to work to meet the demand for the headwear freely given to men, women and children who suffer hair loss because of a medical condition.

The temporary space the Turban Project was gifted in the Herb Murphy Newark Commerce Center is filled, and its stock of headwear is depleted every week. More than 250,000 have received the blessed headwear made by the volunteers.

Organizers of the 501(c)(3) non-profit, which is funded entirely by donations and staffed by volunteers, are seeking a room or area in the vicinity of Newark-Heath with 2,000-2,500 square feet that could be donated for use as a "forever home."

Contact Kathy Braidich at (740) 504-6133 or turbanproject@outlook.com. For more information, visit www.turbanproject.com

St. Bernard Church starts preservation group

The Friends of Corning St. Bernard Church (FSBC), a private non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, has recently been formed for the purpose of preserving the church in light of its closure.

The group's mission is to raise funds to maintain the church for continued use by the Catholic community in southern Perry County.

The first objective is to install a new roof on the church. The group is also developing public educational projects regarding the history of St. Bernard parish to illustrate the significance of the Catholic Church in this area and the stabilizing effect that faith congregations have on local communities.

Donations can be sent to Friends of St. Bernard Church, P.O. Box 179, Corning, OH 43730.

For more information, visit the FSBC Facebook Page or call (740) 590-6023 or email acramer2@frontier.com.

Bishop Watterson plans Nov. 19 open house

Columbus Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road, will host an open house on Sunday, Nov. 19 from 1 to 3 p.m. for prospective students and their families.

Those attending can meet faculty, staff and athletic coaches and take a tour of the school with a student.

Seating is limited for information sessions with Deacon Chris Campbell, school principal. To sign up, go to www.bishopwatterson.com.

Nuns Against Gun Violence hosting November webinar

Nuns Against Gun Violence will host a webinar titled "Beating Guns: Hope for People Weary of Violence" with author and activist Shane Claiborne from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 8 on Zoom.

Following Claiborne's presentation, Sister Patricia Millen, OSF, will tell how the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia took a stance on gun violence, and Sister Annette McDermott, SSJ, will discuss how the Sisters of St. Joseph of Springfield, Massachusetts, reached out to the people of Springfield after a recent episode of gun violence.

For more information, visit <https://clintonfranciscans.com/news--events/event-calendar/event/2023/11/08/beat-ing-guns-hope-for-people-who-are-weary-of-violence>.

PATH, continued from Page 11

by the way they were living and knew there was definitely something different, so I started getting more involved."

A campus minister introduced her to one of the Franciscan Sisters, T.O.R., and the campus minister took a small group of students on a spring break service trip.

"It was really my first interaction with sisters," she said. "And I just remember being so struck when one of the sisters looks at me, and she's like, 'Hey, what's up?'"

"I was like, 'Oh, are you allowed to say that?'" she laughed. "And so, I was just immediately intrigued and just found it so beautiful how joyful the sisters were."

The sisters' singing while performing their service work struck a chord with Dick, a music therapy major.

"The fact that both of my worlds were combining, I was like, 'Wow, that's really interesting.' And as I was talking to one of the younger sisters, I just suddenly had all these questions that I wanted to ask her," she said.

"So, I'm talking to her, and she looks at me, and she was like, 'Well, Amanda, are

you discerning religious life?' And I was like, 'I don't know how to answer that question because I don't really know what religious life means.'"

She remembers going back to her parents' house and telling her mother about the experience and said that she felt the need to visit the sisters again.

"I have two older sisters, and my mom said, 'Well, I just always imagined them married with babies,'" Dick recalled. "And when I think about you and your future, it was always a little bit more up in the air."

She returned to campus and began researching various orders and putting them on a spreadsheet but soon realized there were too many to list and the process was too time consuming.

"I went to my campus minister, and he said, 'I really don't think your vocation story is going to be within this spreadsheet because it's a love story,'" she said. "And the Lord's going to lead you through it."

She went on a retreat with other young women at the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration convent in Mishawaka, Indiana, and while she found her time there beneficial, she thought that the order wasn't the best fit for her.

After returning to school, she had more encounters with the Franciscan Sisters, T.O.R. on campus and decided to go on a discernment retreat to their motherhouse in Toronto in far eastern Ohio's Jefferson County.

"It was the most joyful and peaceful experience I've ever had," she said. "I was feeling like this is a place that can help me get to heaven, and these women, this community, is like the community that I've always been really searching for."

"The big thing that really sparked that for me was an experience in confession and for the first time profoundly experiencing the Father's mercy in a way I hadn't before."

"Then I come to find out that one of the sisters' charisms is mercy and that their mission is to bring people to the foot of the cross and experience the Lord's mercy there – and that I would love to be able to help people do the same."

After four years in college, she went off to Indiana for a six-month internship as part of her degree program. Not knowing anyone in the small town where she interned gave her time to reflect and pray.

"It was just such a challenging time but also some of the most fruitful time in my discernment because it was really just me and Jesus, and I had to depend on Him and seek Him out and ask these big questions," she said.

"Can You really fulfill all of my desires,' because at that point, I was very seriously discerning, but the Lord just really took that time and drew me so close to Him."

"It was really confirmed for me that I was made for something more than even the degree that I had studied and the job that I was doing because it just wasn't fulfilling me in the way that I had anticipated that it would. So, I just felt like there's something else for you."

After completing the internship, she returned home to central Ohio. At that point, she was relatively certain she

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Leader elicits best in all

Malachi 1:14b–2:2b, 8–10
Psalm 131:1, 2, 3
1 Thessalonians 2:7b–9, 13
Matthew 23:1–12

The call to be servants in leadership is addressed to all disciples of Jesus Christ. Authority has its root in the idea of “authorship” and is meant to ensure that whatever is done is accomplished fulfilling the intention of the author who set a project in motion.

For us as Catholics and Christians, this means that everything we do must be done with the mind of God in view. What is God’s plan for us? What is God’s plan for His Creation and for all those whom He has created?

In the Gospel, Jesus reaffirms the responsibility of disciples to attend to what God has set up in the various kinds of relationships among His people. “The Chair of Moses” is the place of authority. This authority has been given to Peter and the Apostles and to their successors in the life of the Church.

The nature of the Church includes this “holy ordering,” which is the meaning of the term “hierarchy.” The principle of leadership includes a dynamic relationship in the mission of the Church. Leadership is in communion, with each member fulfilling a unique and indispensable role.

Jesus acknowledges that often a discrepancy exists between what those in authority say and what they do. Hypocrisy is often present. The current struggles in the Church have proven the damage that this can do. This stands in the way of our mission.

Nonetheless, the fact remains that there is authority, and it can be properly
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Father Timothy Hayes

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



exercised. Jesus offers an approach to His disciples that opens a new way of looking at things.

There is an “office” or a duty that is assigned to persons by one who has the authority to make such an assignment. There is also a person who accepts the duty.

When such a relationship is set up, this makes possible a true delegation of authority and a proper “flow” to whatever power is in operation. When there is trouble on one side or another, a different response is required. Denial of authority is not useful but seems common nowadays.

God has given authority to each of us. We are His creation. He has a plan for each of us uniquely and for us together. When He assigns authority, the purpose is to draw out of each member of the community what is best and what is destined for all.

Our faith tells us that we have planted within our hearts the truth that sets us free. Jesus calls His disciples to observe what is taught even if the teachers do not live by the truth.

Greatness comes not from having authority or exercising power over others, but from living the mission as Jesus did: “The greatest among you must be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted.”

Negative examples of improper exercise of authority abound – in Scripture, in the history of God’s people in every age as

and she is readily perceived by those who love her, and found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known in anticipation of their desire; whoever watches for her at dawn shall not be disappointed, for he shall find her sitting by his gate.”

To seek Wisdom is to dispose oneself for such a relationship. Wisdom promises a banquet, a rich experience of life that comes from entering the depths of both creation and life with God. To possess Wisdom is to be fully human, engaged in the enterprise of living life in abundance.

The parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids gives a practical example of how Wisdom operates in life and in anticipation of the coming of God’s kingdom. The use of the world’s goods is intended to make us ready for the wedding feast. We must look ahead to what is to come and to interact with the world around us so that we do not lose focus.

When the bridesmaids who have enough oil refuse to share, they are not being “stingy.” Rather, they are anticipat-

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

11/6-11/11
MONDAY
Romans 11:29-36
Psalm 69:30-31,33-34,36
Luke 14:12-14

TUESDAY
Romans 12:5-16b
Psalm 131:1cde,2,3
Luke 14:15-24

WEDNESDAY
Romans 13:8-10
Psalm 112:1b-2,4-5,9
Luke 14:25-33

THURSDAY
Ezekiel 47:1-2,8-9,12
Psalm 46:2-3,5-6,8-9
1 Corinthians 3:9c-11,16-17
John 2:13-22

FRIDAY
Romans 15:14-21
Psalm 98:1-4
Luke 16:1-8

SATURDAY
Romans 16:3-9,16,22-27
Psalm 145:2-5,10-11
Luke 16:9-15

11/13-11/18
MONDAY
Wisdom 1:1-7
Psalm 139:1-10
Luke 17:1-6

TUESDAY
Wisdom 2:23–3:9
Psalm 34:2-3,16-19
Luke 17:7-10

WEDNESDAY
Wisdom 6:1-11
Psalm 82:3-4,6-7
Luke 17:11-19

THURSDAY
Wisdom 7:22b–8:1
Psalm 119:89-91,130,135,175
Luke 17:20-25

FRIDAY
Wisdom 13:1-9
Psalm 19:2-5
Luke 17:26-37

SATURDAY
Wisdom 18:14-16;19:6-9
Psalm 105:2-3,36-37,42-43
Luke 18:1-8

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION Mass Schedule: Weeks of Nov. 5 and Nov. 12, 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 PROPSERS FOR WEEKS III AND IV OF THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS

well as in the Church of today. God Himself calls out those who fail.

At the same time, God invites us to live with the authority that is planted in our hearts. When others fail, we are to listen and to take to heart what God has commanded.

We are to give blessings and to instruct others in God’s way. We are to keep faith with one another and keep in mind the covenant we have with God and with one another. When we do this, we will be able

to pray together: In you, Lord, we have found our peace.

The world needs to see the truth spoken by God in action. May we learn to respect proper authority and to work together in communion with one another under one Father. May each of us discover the truth of our mission and cooperate with all in the covenant God has established among us. May the world come to Christ through our witness.

Wise person can apply knowledge, understanding

Wisdom 6:12–16
Psalm 63:2, 3–4, 5–6, 7–8
1 Thessalonians 4:13–18
Matthew 25:1–13

Knowledge and understanding are two different facets of grasping truth and its meaning. The capacity to put what is known and understood to proper use is yet another facet.

Many have knowledge but do not understand its meaning. Some might have both knowledge and understanding but still not have a sense of how to apply what is known and understood. Wisdom is needed.

The dictum *sapienti sat*, or “a word to the wise is sufficient,” suggests that when something is known and understood, the wise person will realize what must be done.

In the Scriptures, the figure of Wisdom grows ever more personal. The Book of Wisdom envisions Wisdom as a feminine figure in search of a relationship with one who will be open to her.

“Resplendent and unfading is wisdom,

Two Salesian fathers celebrate jubilees

Two Salesians of Don Bosco priests who have Columbus ties were honored on Sept. 30 at the Marian Shrine in Haverstraw, New York, along with 21 jubilarians celebrating their religious professions or ordination anniversaries.

Fathers Dennis Donovan, SDB, and James "Jay" Horan, SDB, who were ordained in the Diocese of Columbus, celebrated golden anniversaries as professed Salesians. They made their first vows on Sept. 1, 1973, in Newton, New Jersey.

Fathers Donovan and Horan studied at the Pontifical College Josephinum and re-

sided at various times at the former Salesian Boys & Girls Club in Columbus.

Father Donovan, 69, was born in New York, entered the Salesians as a high school seminarian and was ordained in 1983. He was treasurer of the Salesian community and the Boys & Girls Club in Columbus from 1985 to 1994 and was executive director there from 1998 to 2004.

Father Horan, 70, was born in Pennsylvania and entered the Salesians in 1971. He was ordained in 1982. Most recently, he has been caring for retired Salesians in Tampa, Florida.

CATHOLIC WORD SEARCH

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

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M	O	R	N	I	N	G	R	A	S	I	M	Y	E	R
R	D	A	M	O	R	E	R	C	N	N	G	E	E	N
R	A	E	N	Y	R	X	A	O	E	I	V	H	T	P
G	E	M	I	T	Y	A	D	L	I	T	N	I	T	T

COMPLINE
EVENING
MORNING
PRAYER
SEXT

DAILY
LAUDS
NIGHT
PRIME
TERCE

DAYTIME
MATINS
NONE
READINGS
VESPERS

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.

The best things in life ...

	T	A	N	E
L	A	A	R	O
L	S	I	T	T
	N	G	H	

ARE NOT THINGS AT ALL

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25th ANNUAL HOLLYDAY CRAFT BAZAAR
SAT., NOVEMBER 4
9AM TO 3PM
70+ Crafters | Raffle
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SUNDAY, NOV. 19 10 AM - 3 PM
Educational Academy for Boys and Girls,
35 Midland Ave., Columbus | Directly behind St. Aloysius Church
Raffles, hand-crafted items, baked goods, cinnamon rolls and soups.
Pictures with Santa from 1:30-2:30 PM | Food will be served

FRIARY COOK OPPORTUNITY
Holy Family Church (Columbus) seeks a qualified individual to serve as a Cook, approximately 15 hours per week, for the community of Mercedarian Friars. This position is responsible for preparing a daily meal Monday through Friday. This position includes some grocery shopping and maintaining cleanliness of the kitchen. For more details, contact dprunte@holymfamilycolumbus.org.

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PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

BROKAMP, Robert A., 85, Oct. 10
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

DeMONTE, Grace (DeBois), 89, Oct. 21
St. Joseph Church, Dover

FINCK, Carolyn S. (Johnson), 71, Sept. 21
St. Patrick Church, Junction City

FLESHER, Norma J., 88, Oct. 16
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

GARABIS, Antonio A., 72, Oct. 17
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

GILMORE, Stephen P., 69, Oct. 12
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

GOODRICH, Brenda, 70, Oct. 14
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

HOFFMANN, Norbert W., 82, Aug. 28
St. Mary Church, Delaware

JENNINGS, Michael, 82, Oct. 18
St. Dominic Church, Columbus

KAMINSKI, Michael E., 81, Oct. 12
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

KLEINHENZ, Elizabeth A. "Betty" (Bell), 92, Oct. 21

Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus

McGILL, James D., 78, Oct. 23
Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Lancaster

MOMBURG, William M., 82, Oct. 21
St. Patrick Church, Columbus

NAGEL, Virginia Ann, 96, Oct. 22
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

RANDALL, Michael K., 55, Oct. 12
St. Patrick Church, Columbus

ROSSETTI, Doris (Vittorio), 99, Oct. 15
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

RUNCO, Samuel, 90, Oct. 14
St. Bernadette Church, Lancaster

SCHAEFER, Jeanne C., 91, Oct. 14
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

SECRET, Marie, Oct. 23
Sacred Heart Church, Coshocton

SOTERIADES, Amalee (Beaver), 82, Oct. 15
St. John the Baptist Church, Columbus

THIBAUT, Lawrence E. "Snake," 86, Aug. 25
St. Mary, Mother of God Church, Columbus

WOLLENBERG, Shirley A. (Kelly), 87, Oct. 16
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

Shirley Poliafico

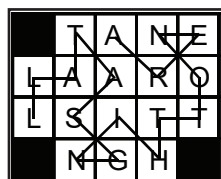
Funeral Mass for Shirley Poliafico, 89, who died Wednesday, Oct. 11, was celebrated Wednesday, Oct. 18 at Parma St. Anthony of Padua Church. Burial was at Holy Cross Cemetery, Brook Park.

She was the mother of Father David Poliafico, a priest of the Di-

ocese of Columbus for 26 years.

She was a charter member of St. Anthony of Padua Church, working at the parish carnival, assisting in various church organizations and bowling in the church league. She also enjoyed golf and crocheting.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, August, and a brother, James Carnezzee. Survivors include Father Poliafico; a son, Charles; a daughter, Donna Mravec; and a sister, Joan Walsh.



WORDS OF WISDOM SOLUTION

EXHIBIT, continued from Page 4

when law enforcement raided Gosnell's clinic. Gosnell killed babies born alive in his clinic by cutting their spinal cord with scissors.

Photos of the babies' remains are covered by curtains in a separate room of the exhibit, so people can decide whether to view the images.

"They need to look behind the curtains and see the reality," McAleer said.

Baby feet were found in jars, and he said many babies' bodies were found in freezers and refrigerators in the clinic. He said he believes there were hundreds more bodies, but Gosnell likely disposed of the remains.

McAleer, who is a journalist, stumbled upon the Gosnell trial 10 years ago while in Philadelphia promoting his film "FrackNation," a documentary about fracking. He visited the courthouse on his day off to attend trials.

McAleer walked into the Gosnell trial and "there on the wall was some of these photographs blown up full size," which are now on display at the exhibit.

"I've covered the troubles in Northern Ireland, in Eastern Europe after communism, Vietnam – I was a journalist in Indonesia," he said. "I've never heard a more shocking testimony."

But, McAleer said, "The most shocking thing of all, actually, was behind me: the empty press benches."

He said the media didn't cover the trial because they "don't want to shine a negative spotlight on abortion."

Gosnell was found guilty on more than 20 counts of illegal late-term abortions. Abortion was legal "to 24 weeks in Philadelphia, which is an enormous length of time," McAleer said.

If voters in Ohio pass Issue 1, it would be legal in the state to abort babies at any stage of gestation until the moment of birth, including fully formed 9-month-old babies.

The pregnant woman's treating physician, who can be the abortionist, would be the only individual needing to sign off, and the state of Ohio would be prohibited from interfering.

"When you ease access and make it a constitutional right, as they're going to do here in Ohio maybe, well then, that just gives carte blanche to bad actors to move into the state," McAleer said.

Pennsylvania is one of the most regulated,

or controlled, states in America, he said, and abortionists, such as Gosnell, know they can "act with impunity," or without punishment. He said, "There's no doubt there's probably a Gosnell in every state.

"It's a great slice of reality," he said. "It shows that you can do anything you like, and the government will allow you to do anything you like, as long as you say it's in an abortion clinic.

"Gosnell was Philadelphia's biggest drug dealer and selling opioids. He was murdering women – actually, murdering minority women. He was murdering babies. He was abusing staff. He was cheating his taxes. He was doing everything, but nobody wanted to look because he was running an abortion clinic."

Two minority women, Karnamaya Mongar and Semika Shaw, died from being treated at the clinic, McAleer said. Gosnell was convicted of involuntary manslaughter in Mongar's death.

Both women died after botched abortion procedures at the clinic, but that "wasn't enough to rise the bureaucrats of Harrisburg to drive down to Philadelphia and have a look," McAleer said.

Abortion clinics in Pennsylvania were required to be inspected every year, McAleer said. The Pennsylvania Department of Health received multiple complaints from doctors, nurses and whistleblowers, or employees who allege wrongdoing by their employer, but the state did not take action.

McAleer said he believes this is because Pennsylvania held abortion as a "sacred right" and a "sacred rite." For some people, he said, abortion is a "sacrament."

It is McAleer's goal to bring the photos to "every state in the union," beginning with Ohio.

He encouraged Ohioans to visit the exhibit and view the photos before Election Day.

"They're accepted as real records of what is going on in America today and what is being allowed to go on in America, and we think that people in Ohio need to see them before they vote on anything, and the people of America need to see them before they vote on anything," he said.

ST. GABRIEL RADIO IS EXPANDING!



ATHENS FM 106.7



Bishop Jerome Feudjio of the U.S. Virgin Islands preaches during the World Mission Sunday Vigil Mass on Saturday, Oct. 21 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral. A World Mission Mass is celebrated annually in the diocese in late October and attended by religious and laity who have come to the United States from other nations.

Photos courtesy Abigail Pitones



Bishop Jerome Feudjio holds the Book of the Gospels aloft during a Mass on Sunday, Oct. 22 at Columbus St. Dominic Church. Bishop Feudjio was in Columbus to celebrate a World Mission Sunday Mass the previous evening at St. Joseph Cathedral and to encourage donations for the missions around the world. He was welcomed by an enthusiastic congregation at St. Dominic.

Virgin Islands bishop here for World Mission Sunday vigil

Bishop Jerome Feudjio of the U.S. Virgin Islands served as the principal celebrant for the World Mission Sunday Vigil Mass on Saturday, Oct. 21 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral before a congregation of approximately 200 people that doubled in size from the previous year.

Many of those in attendance were natives of other countries who have relocated to Ohio.

Concelebrating the Mass were Bishop Earl Fernandes and nine priests either serving in the diocese or as missionaries. Also present were religious sisters from five orders, many of whom have come from outside the United States to work here.

The participants in the Mass reflected a cultural melting pot of Catholics in the diocese. The readings were presented in English and Spanish, and the languages used for prayer intentions included Tamil, Hindi, Polish, French, Swahili and Tagalog.

World Mission Sunday is observed each year by the universal church on the

fourth Sunday of October to bring into focus the work of missionaries throughout the world and to promote support for them through prayer and financial contributions via a special collection.

All of the donations directly aid the life-sustaining endeavors of Catholic missionaries and religious orders serving the poor, who are in need of food, shelter, health care, schooling and employment.

Bishop Feudjio, a native of Cameroon and the first African-born bishop in the United States, spoke on behalf of the missions at the invitation of Bishop Fernandes, "my God-given friend." The visiting bishop shared in his homily that he has seen the work of missionaries firsthand in the Virgin Islands since he was appointed as the spiritual shepherd there in 2021.

He referenced the phrase "hearts on fire" several times during his homily.

"World Mission Sunday focuses on the burning desire to spread the Good News," Bishop Feudjio said.

He offered specific thanks to the people

of the diocese for supporting his diocese, St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands, which is located in the Caribbean and was once led by the late Bishop George Murry, SJ, who left there in 2007 after he was appointed to the Diocese of Youngstown.

"A lived faith is always incarnational (it is felt within the bones)," Bishop Feudjio said. "It is never distant but touches all of us."

"Our unity is a communion in the Body and Blood of Christ. We are of one mind and heart. Your participation in our diocese is a manifestation of the active role of the Holy Spirit in each and every one of us."

"Our mission is what brings us together. We did not give this mission to ourselves; the Lord has called us, chosen us and sent us."

Bishop Feudjio reminded the faithful that the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

teaches that "the Holy Spirit is active in us when we support the missions and apostolates of the Church." (CCC 688)

"This mission of the Holy Spirit is seen in our evangelization activity," he said. "It is indeed what sets our hearts on fire."

To do missionary work for the Church does not mean that an individual has to travel abroad, the bishop pointed out.

"You are missionaries ... pilgrims on a journey," he said.

"Please continue to support the missions."

A reception was held afterward in the cathedral undercroft.

The following day, Bishop Feudjio celebrated Sunday Mass at Columbus St. Dominic Church for the predominately African-American congregation.

PATH, continued from Page 17

wanted to profess to the Franciscan Sisters, T.O.R. but was approached about teaching religion at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School.

"I said that I don't know how long I'll be around," she said. "But they really needed a religion teacher. I said I had to pay off my student loans, and that this could be just this one year."

"And the principal said that, 'We're just so excited to have someone who's discerning and can be that witness.'"

She had hoped to join the sisters in August but was asked to wait a year because of the student loans. Men and women going into religious orders are not allowed to have any debt.

That made her available to work another year at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in the parish religious education program and as an aide for the school.

While teaching middle schoolers last year, she shared her discernment story.

"If I had to miss a day of school, it was actually because I went to the convent this weekend," she told the students. "I did also try to encourage them that this is a time even at your young age to be asking God, 'What do You want for me; what can I be doing for You?'"

Throughout the process, her family has remained supportive.

"For a mom, letting your children go off and do something where they can't come home as often as you might like I think that's definitely a challenge," she said. "It makes me realize it's a sacrifice for the whole family, but I just really know that the Lord's going to reward her as well."

To other young women who might be considering a religious vocation, she suggested going on a retreat to spend time with Jesus and ask questions.

"It's taking that initial step and trying to be around more sisters," she said. "What really helped me so much was just realizing that they're just people, they have interests and they do things, and their life isn't boring, that it's actually really full."

"It's just having an openness and trusting in God that He really wants what is going to make us happy and fulfill us."

For more information on vocations in the diocese, contact the vocations office at vocations@columbuscatholic.org.

ST LEONARD ANNUAL

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

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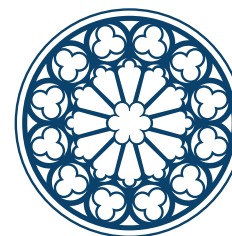
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Marion St. Mary Church turns 125



Marion St. Mary is celebrating the 125th anniversary of its church, which was dedicated in 1898, seven years after construction began. The building, which is the third to serve the parish, is constructed of Berea sandstone and built in the Victorian Gothic style.



Priests and servers gather at the altar of Marion St. Mary as Bishop Earl Fernandes celebrates the church's 125th anniversary Mass on Sunday, Oct. 22. *CT photos by Ken Snow*



The congregation participates in a 125th anniversary Mass at Marion St. Mary Church on Oct. 22.



Father Ed Shikina renews his priestly promises at the altar of Marion St. Mary Church while being formally installed as pastor during a Mass on Sunday, Oct. 22. Father Shikina became the parish's pastor in July.

Last Mass at Corning St. Bernard



A final Mass was celebrated on Saturday, Oct. 14 at Bernard St. Corning Church, which is closing as part of the diocese's Real Presence Real Future initiative. Bishop Earl Fernandes was the principal celebrant at the Mass. The parish was founded in 1882 and served parishioners in Perry County, known as Ohio's cradle of Catholicism, for more than 140 years. The current church was dedicated on Feb. 28, 1916. The parish included a high school that operated from 1907 to 1948 and an elementary school that in 1888 and closed in 1970 that was staffed by the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth for 85 years. *Photo courtesy Abigail Pitones*



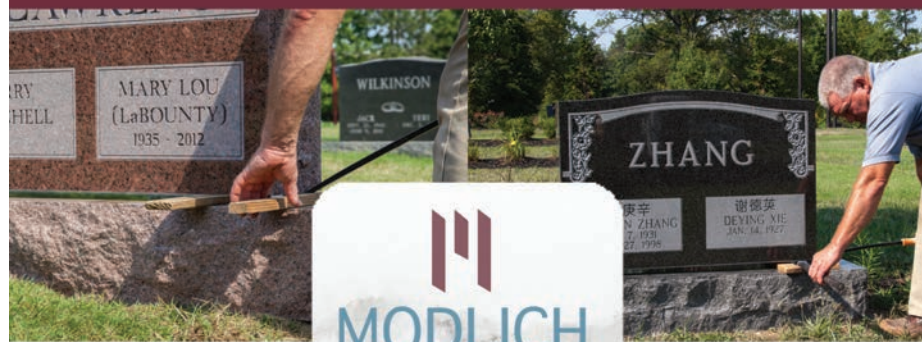
End of an era at St. Anthony

Communicants make their way to the altar during a Sunday Mass at Columbus St. Anthony Church on Oct. 15. The diocese announced earlier this year that the church in the Northland area on the city's north side is closing after 60 years as part of the Real Presence Real Future initiative. *Photo courtesy Abigail Pitones*



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Abortion when the baby feels
PAIN

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ON THE DECEPTIVE & RADICAL ABORTION BALLOT!

Vote **NO** on the *extreme* Abortion Ballot Initiative that will legalize abortion to the 9th month of pregnancy, after the baby can feel pain, and nullify parental consent laws — pushing us radically past the anti-science tragedy of *Roe v Wade*.

Vote **NO** on the *radical* Abortion Ballot Initiative, which deceptively mentions “protecting” “contraception, fertility treatment, continuing one’s own pregnancy, & miscarriage care” —though **no threats exist in our state to any of these**; life-affirming medical care is already available to every woman in our state .

Vote **NO** on the *anti-woman* Abortion Ballot Initiative that fails to recognize the dignity of women and mothers, **not even using the words “mother” or “woman”** in the ballot language.

Vote **NO** on the *deceptive* Abortion Ballot Initiative that would erase 50 years of pro-life legislative and judicial victories in our state, making us an **abortion “sanctuary state”** along with CA and MI.

Vote **NO** on the *anti-science* Abortion Ballot Initiative that **contradicts sound science, & medicine**, which has unequivocally acknowledged the humanity of the unborn child (*Nature*, (2002); 418: 14-15).

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