

SPECIAL GRADUATION SECTION INSIDE

The
CATHOLIC TIMES

THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS' INFORMATION SOURCE

JUNE 2, 2024 • THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST • VOLUME 73:11



**DIOCESE REJOICES:
5 PRIESTS ORDAINED**

Page 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



MUSEUM GALA

A gala for the Museum of Catholic Art and History was held Tuesday, May 21 at the Ohio Statehouse in downtown Columbus, Page 6



BIKE TOUR

The annual seminarians' bike tour to schools around the diocese included a stop on Tuesday, May 14 at Delaware St. Mary School, Page 22

Clergy assignments include newly ordained priests

The Diocese of Columbus announced a series of clergy assignments after the ordination of five priests on Saturday, May 18.

The assignments include the newly ordained and other changes that are scheduled to take place in July unless otherwise noted. They are:

Reverend Tyler Carter, newly ordained, to Parochial Vicar, St. Matthew the Apostle Church, Gahanna, and Administrator, Holy Resurrection Melkite Catholic Parish, Columbus, effective July 9, 2024.

Reverend Daniel Colby, newly ordained, to Parochial Vicar, St. Mary Church, Marion, and Sacred Hearts Church, Cardington, effective July 9, 2024.

Reverend Jason Fox, newly ordained, to Parochial Vicar, St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury, and Church of the Ascension, Johnstown, effective July 9, 2024.

Reverend Michael Haemmerle, newly ordained, to Parochial Vicar, St. Paul the Apostle Church, Westerville, and Associate Vocation Director, effective July 9, 2024.

Reverend David Johnstone, newly ordained, to Parochial Vicar, St. Michael Church, Worthington, and Chaplain, St. Francis DeSales High School, Columbus, effective July 9, 2024.

Reverend Frank Brown, from Parochial Vicar, St. Mary Church, Chillicothe; St. Peter Church, Chillicothe; and St. Mary Church, Waverly, to Parochial Vicar, St. Catharine Church, Columbus, effective July 9, 2024.

Confirming the appointment of the Superior Delegate of the Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines), **Reverend Wojciech Stachura, SAC**, from Parochial Vicar, St. Michael Church, Worthington, to service outside the diocese, effective July 1, 2024.

Confirming the appointment from the Provincial of the Pallottine Province of Our Lady of Good Health, **Reverend Stanislaus John, SAC** from hospital ministry in the Diocese of Columbus, to Parochial Vicar, St. Mary Church, Chillicothe; St. Peter Church, Chillicothe; and St. Mary Church, Waverly, effective July 9, 2024.

Reverend Todd Lehigh, from Pastor, Perry County Consortium (St. Rose of Lima Church, New Lexington, and St. Patrick Church, Junction City), to Dean of Men in the College of the Pontifical College Josephinum, effective August 1, 2024.

Reverend Daniel Moloney, from service outside of the diocese to Assistant Chaplain, St. Thomas More Newman Center, The Ohio State University, Columbus, in residence at St. Joseph Cathedral, effective July 9, 2024.

Confirming the appointment from the Provincial of the Pallottine Province of Our Lady of Good Health, **Reverend Sesu Maria Crescensis Panguraj, SAC**, from Chaplain, St. Francis DeSales High School, Columbus, to Parochial Vicar, St. Paul the Apostle Church, Westerville, and Hospital Chaplain, Columbus, in res-

idence at Holy Spirit Church, Columbus, effective July 9, 2024.

Reverend PeterClaver Kasasa Kiviri, to Parochial Vicar, St. Francis DeSales Church, Newark, effective May 21, 2024.

Reverend Eugene Joseph, to service outside of the diocese, Syro-Malabar Eparchy of St. Thomas, Chicago, effective May 11, 2024.

Reverend Michael Hartge, from Graduate Studies in Canon Law, Ottawa, Canada, to Vicar General and Moderator of Mission Advancement, continuing as Moderator of the Curia, effective July 9, 2024.

Reverend William Hahn, from Vicar for Clergy, to Vicar General and Director of Priestly Life and Vocations, effective July 9, 2024.

Reverend Jan C.P. Sullivan, to Vicar Forane, Vicariate 6: Center South Columbus Deanery, continuing as Rector, St. Joseph Cathedral and Holy Cross Church, Columbus, effective July 9, 2024.

Reverend Monsignor Stephan J. Moloney, from Vicar General, to Vicar Forane, Vicariate 7: Northwest Columbus Deanery, continuing as Pastor, St. Andrew Church, Columbus, effective July 9, 2024.

Reverend Antonio Carvalho, to Vicar Forane, Vicariate 8: North High/Northland Deanery, continuing as Pastor, Our Lady of Guadalupe Star of the New Evangelization Church, Columbus, effective July 9, 2024.

Reverend Michael Hinterschied, from

Parochial Vicar of St. Joseph Cathedral and Holy Cross Church to discernment with the Congregation of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri in Cincinnati, effective August 1, 2024.

Reverend Seth Keller, from Parochial Vicar, St. Mary Church, Marion and Sacred Hearts Church Cardington, to graduate studies in Dogmatic and Fundamental Theology, Rome, Italy, effective July 9, 2024.

Confirming the appointment of the Prior Provincial of the Dominican Province of St. Joseph, **Reverend Edmund Ditton, O.P.**, from service outside the Diocese, to Parochial Vicar, St. Patrick Church, Columbus, effective July 22, 2024.

Reverend William Ferguson, from Parochial Vicar, St. Mary Church, Delaware, to Chaplain, St. John Paul II National Shrine, Washington D.C., effective July 9, 2024.

Reverend Robert Penhallurick, from Pastor, St. Brendan the Navigator Church, Hilliard, to Pastor, St. Catharine Church, Columbus, Director of the Respect Life Office, and Director of International Priest Personnel, effective July 9, 2024.

Reverend Paul J. Brandimarti, from Parochial Vicar, St. Vincent DePaul Church, Mount Vernon and St. Luke Church, Danville, to Administrator, St. Timothy Church, Columbus, effective June 10, 2024.

Bishop announces changes to diocesan leadership

Bishop Earl Fernandes has appointed Father Michael Hartge as Vicar General and Moderator of Mission Advancement and Father William Hahn as Vicar General and Director of Priestly Life and Vocations for the Diocese of Columbus.

The two priests will begin their new duties on July 9.

Father Hartge will continue as the diocese's Moderator of the Curia. He has spent the past two years studying Canon Law in Ottawa, Ontario.

Father Hahn has served as the diocese's director of vocations since 2019.

Msgr. Stephan Moloney, the diocese's Vicar Forane since 1997, was named Vicar Forane for Northwest Columbus, effective July 9, while continuing as pastor of Columbus St. Andrew Church. He has held administrative roles in the diocese for nearly 40 years, beginning as Assis-



Father Michael Hartge



Father William Hahn



Msgr. Stephan Moloney

stant Chancellor in 1985.

Matthew Schlater, the diocese's chief operating officer, will transition out of his current role on July 9. Father Hartge will oversee all diocesan offices.

"In Fr. Michael Hartge and Fr. William Hahn, I have two men whom I trust deeply to share my mind in respect to

teaching, governing and sanctifying the Diocese of Columbus. I'm happy to appoint them to these positions," Bishop Fernandes said.

"In addition, I want to extend my profound gratitude to Monsignor Stephan Moloney, who has served in the Chancery for almost four decades as Vice Chancellor, Chancellor and Vicar General. He also served as Administrator to the Diocese in 2021 and 2022 when Columbus awaited a new bishop.

"I also want to express my gratitude for the service of Matthew Schlater as COO of the Diocese of Columbus. Matt has been instrumental in planning for

the Diocese's future by implementing the structures necessary to carry out the work of evangelization."

According to Canon 469 in the Code of Canon Law, the diocesan curia consists of those institutions and persons which assist the bishop in the governance of the whole diocese, especially in guiding pastoral action, in caring for the administration of the diocese, and in exercising judicial power.

Canon 475 §1 states that in each diocese the diocesan bishop must appoint a vicar general who is provided with ordinary power according to the norm of the following canons and who is to assist him in the governance of the whole diocese.

As a general rule, one Vicar general is to be appointed, unless the size of the diocese, the number of inhabitants, or other pastoral reasons suggest otherwise (Canon 475 §2).



Front page photo

5 PRIESTS ORDAINED

Father Michael Haemmerle gives a blessing as a new priest to Bishop Earl Fernandes at the ordination Mass on Saturday, May 18 at Columbus St. Andrew Church

CT photo by Ken Snow

The CATHOLIC TIMES

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The five candidates for the priesthood prostrate themselves in front of the altar during the ordination Mass on Saturday, May 18 at Columbus St. Andrew Church. *CT photos by Ken Snow*



The five newly ordained priests (left) receive a final blessing at the end of the Mass from Bishop Earl Fernandes.

Five ordained as priests for diocese

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

NEW PRIEST PROFILES PAGES 12-20

Bishop Earl Fernandes ordained five men to the priesthood during a Mass at Columbus St. Andrew Church on Saturday, May 18.

Fathers Tyler Carter, Daniel Colby, Jason Fox, Michael Haemmerle and David Johnstone received the Sacrament of Holy Orders in a packed church with standing room only.

Ordination to the priesthood, formally known as Order of Presbyter, is one of three levels of ordination in the Sacrament of Holy Orders. The first is ordination to the Order of Diaconate, when a man is ordained a deacon. There is also ordination to the Order of Episcopate, when a priest is ordained a bishop.

The five newly ordained make up the largest class of seminarians for the diocese since 2018.

Fathers Carter, Colby, Haemmerle and Johnstone studied at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, and Father Fox studied at Pope St. John XXIII Seminary in Weston, Massachusetts, which is for men studying to become a priest at an older age.

Bishop Fernandes was assisted in celebrating the ordination Mass by priests from across the diocese as well as Bishop Emeritus James Griffin, who will celebrate his 90th birthday next month; Bishop Emeritus Frederick Campbell; Father Steven Beseau, the rector-president of the Josephinum; and Father Brian Kiely, the rector of Pope St. John XXIII Seminary.

After the Liturgy of the Word during

the Mass, the Rite of Ordination began with the presentation and election of the candidates.

Father William Hahn, the diocesan vocations director, testified to the bishop that the five candidates had been found worthy to be ordained as priests. The men were then elected, or chosen, by the bishop for the sacred order of the priesthood.

In his homily, Bishop Fernandes reflected on the power of the Holy Spirit, as the ordination was celebrated on the eve of Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost, which celebrates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and the Blessed Mother, the birthday of the Church, is observed 50 days after Christ's Resurrection.

The bishop noted that he, too, was ordained a priest on May 18, which was also the eve of Pentecost 22 years ago. He reminded the candidates that the Apostles were transformed by the fire of God's

love, the fire that is the Holy Spirit, on Pentecost, and the Church needs priests with that same fire.

"These are the men, the priests the Church needs today: men who are on fire – the fire of the Holy Spirit," Bishop Fernandes said.

"The fire of the Holy Spirit purifies our souls and purifies the souls of others ... the fire, which is relentless in purifying society of its evils, a society which does not welcome the unborn, the disabled, the elderly ... that discriminates against people because of the color of their skin.

"A society that says to the poor, 'You are not welcome here' is a society that needs to be burned to the ground by the power of the Holy Spirit, and by the same power, a new civilization of love must be forged. This is the power that God gives us."

Bishop Fernandes shared that he real-

See ORDINATION, Page 9



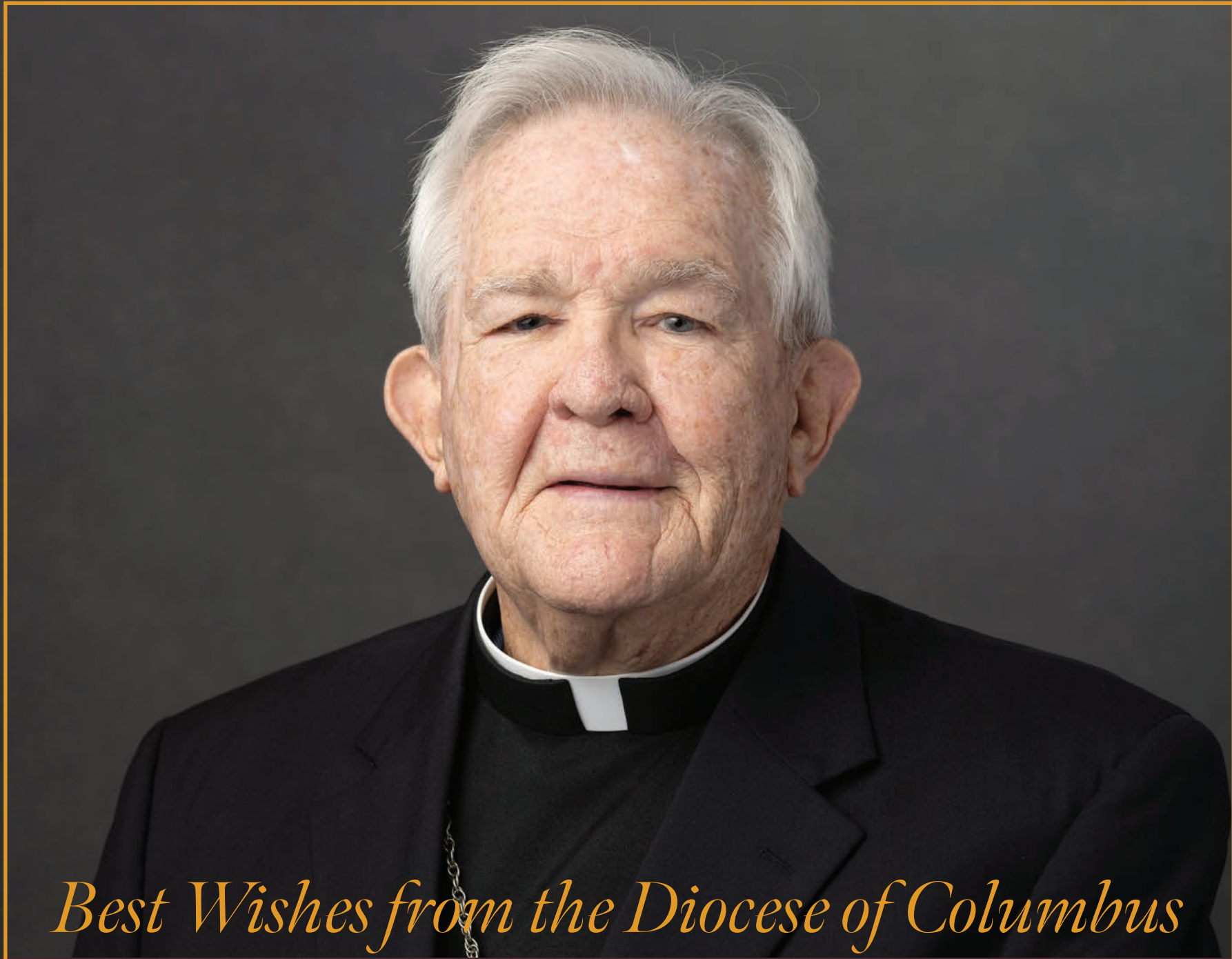
Bishop Earl Fernandes anoints the hands of Father Daniel Colby with the Oil of Chrism.



In an ancient apostolic gesture, Bishop Earl Fernandes lays hands on Jason Fox.



David Johnstone kneels before Bishop Earl Fernandes during the Promise of Obedience.



Best Wishes from the Diocese of Columbus

**MOST REVEREND JAMES A. GRIFFIN
ON YOUR 90TH BIRTHDAY
AD MULTOS ANNOS!**

Bishop of Columbus 1983-2004

Bishop Emeritus Griffin will be recognized at the 12:05 p.m. Mass on
Thursday, June 13, 2024, at St. Joseph Cathedral

Bishop Griffin to celebrate 90th birthday at Cathedral Mass

Bishop Emeritus James A. Griffin will celebrate his 90th birthday at the 12:05 p.m. Mass in Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., on Thursday, June 13.

The public is invited to attend the Mass that day.

Bishop Griffin was spiritual leader of the Diocese of Columbus for 21 years, a tenure longer than anyone except Bishop James Hartley, who served in that role from 1904 to 1944.

He was serving as auxiliary bishop of Cleveland when Pope John Paul II appointed him on Feb. 7, 1983 to come to Columbus and succeed retiring Bishop Edward J. Herrmann. He was installed as the 10th bishop of Columbus in St. Joseph Cathedral on April 25 of that year and announced his retirement on Oct. 14, 2004 for health reasons.

He retired on Jan. 14, 2005, when he was succeeded by Bishop Frederick F. Campbell, who had been auxiliary bishop of St. Paul-Minneapolis, Minnesota. Since Bishop Griffin's retirement, he has lived in a condominium in Powell. For many years after retirement, he regularly celebrated weekend Masses at Powell St. Joan of Arc Church.

After retiring as bishop, he became a theology professor at Ohio Dominican University (ODU) for two years. He was appointed interim president at ODU on July 1, 2007, serving in that position for a year. He also was an adjunct professor in theology at the Pontifical College Josephinum

Bishop Griffin was born on June 13,



Bishop Emeritus James Griffin (left), giving the fraternal kiss of peace to Father Tyler Carter at the diocese's priestly ordination Mass on May 18, turns 90 on June 13. He retired as bishop of Columbus in 2004 after serving the diocese for 21 years. *CT photo by Ken Snow*

1934, in Fairview Park, the fifth of seven children of Thomas and Margaret (Hannousek) Griffin. He attended St. Angela Merici School in his hometown, Cleveland St. Ignatius High School and St. Charles College in Catonsville, Maryland. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy from Borromeo College in Wickliffe and attended St. Mary Seminary in Cleveland before being ordained to the priesthood by Cardinal John Krol on May 28, 1960, in Cleveland.

He spent one year as associate pastor at Cleveland St. Jerome Church before being sent to Rome to study canon law. He received his canon law degree from the Pon-

tifical Lateran University in Rome in 1963, then returned to the Diocese of Cleveland, where from 1963 to 1965 he was secretary-notary of the diocesan Tribunal.

He worked in the diocesan chancellor's office from 1963 to 1978, spending the last five years as chancellor. During that time, he attended night classes at Cleveland State University and earned a civil law degree from that institution. He also received honorary degrees from Ohio Do-

minican and Ohio Northern universities.

He was appointed vicar general of the Cleveland diocese and administrator pro tem of St. John Cathedral in Cleveland in January 1978. Three months later, he became pastor of Euclid St. William Church. Bishop James Hickey of Cleveland appointed him in June 1979 as auxiliary bishop, responsible for the western region of the diocese. He held that position

See GRIFFIN, Page 6

Bishop Campbell reaches episcopal milestone

Bishop Emeritus Frederick Campbell celebrated the 25th anniversary of his ordination as a bishop on Tuesday, May 14.

Bishop Campbell, 80, has continued to live in central Ohio since his retirement upon reaching age 75, the mandatory retirement age for bishops, on Aug. 2, 2018, when he submitted a letter of resignation to Pope Francis. He served as apostolic administrator of the diocese until Auxiliary Bishop Robert Brennan of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, New York, was installed as his successor on March 29, 2019.

Bishop Campbell served as shepherd of the Diocese of Columbus for 14 years, from his installation as the diocese's 11th bishop on Jan. 13, 2005 until the announcement on Jan. 31, 2019 of Bishop Brennan's appointment. Bishop Brennan now is the bishop of the Diocese of Brooklyn, New York.

Bishop Campbell was ordained a priest of the Diocese of St. Paul-Minneapolis on May



Bishop Emeritus Frederick Campbell (left), shown greeting new Father Tyler Carter during the fraternal kiss of peace at the diocese's priestly ordination Mass on May 18 at Columbus St. Andrew Church, recently observed the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the episcopate in 1999. He served as bishop for the Diocese of Columbus from 2005 to 2018 before retiring. *CT photo by Ken Snow*

31, 1980 and served as an associate pastor and pastor in that diocese until being ordained as its auxiliary bishop on May 14, 1999.



JUNE 14 & 15, 2024

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Bishop, Tiberi talk about evangelization, faith at museum gala

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

The Museum of Catholic Art and History held its annual fundraiser on May 21 at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus. The gala, a “Night at the Statehouse,” featured a keynote speech from former U.S. Congressman Pat Tiberi and an address from Bishop Earl Fernandes.

Also present was Ohio Senate President Matt Huffman (R-Lima), a practicing Catholic.

The gala included food, music and a silent auction. Guests were invited to dress in a late Victorian-era costume, marking the opening of the Ohio Statehouse in the 1860s.

Bishop Fernandes offered remarks on the beauty of the Museum of Catholic Art and History.

“There are many beautiful things in our Catholic faith and in our Catholic tradition, and the museum helps to preserve those for the future so that future generations can know and see and be touched by that which has touched our souls and changed our lives,” he said.

The bishop also recognized the Catholic museum as a point of evangelization. Non-Catholics can encounter the Catholic faith and find answers about Catholicism in the museum.

Shawn Kenny, executive director of the Museum of Catholic Art and History, said 70 percent of museum visitors are not Catholic.

“We’re trying to evangelize, and art and history are a way of doing that,” Bishop Fernandes said. “All those things that people are curious about – ‘Why do Catholics do this? Why do they do that?’ – you can find a lot of those answers at the museum.”

Bishop Fernandes noted that the beauty inside the Catholic museum can touch souls and draw them to God. Beauty, he said, is a simple yet effective way to evangelize.

“There are different ways: You can catechize a person and you can talk to them. You can give them the Catechism and talk to them through words – use lots of words – and have great theological discourses, or you can show them something simple yet beautiful that moves the soul,” the bishop said.

He offered examples of how beauty moves the soul and elicits human emotion.

“A beautiful image of the scene of the Annunciation with the Archangel Gabriel appearing to a lowly virgin, and she says, ‘Yes’ to him, can move the soul,” Bishop Fernandes said. “Seeing a sculpture like the Pietà by Michelangelo can help us to understand what it’s like to lose a loved one and to be able to empathize with others.”

Tiberi spoke about his Catholic faith and its impact on his time in office. The



Museum of Catholic Art and History executive director Shawn Kenny addresses the audience at the Ohio Statehouse during the museum's gala while surrounded by characters whose relics or artifacts are on display at the museum.
CT photos by Ken Snow

former U.S. congressman said it was his first time talking publicly about his faith.

Tiberi represented central Ohio in the U.S. House of Representatives from 2001 to 2018. He currently serves as president and chief executive officer of the Ohio Business Roundtable.

The son of Italian immigrants, Tiberi said he was born into a devout Catholic family, and the faith provided him with “guideposts” while serving the American people.

“You realize in public service ... you cannot please everybody,” he said. “You have to look in the mirror and understand that what you’re doing is right by the moral code that you abide by. My faith provided that guidepost.”

“I’m certainly imperfect. I certainly wasn’t perfect as a legislator, and I’d like to think that, ultimately, working through that, I became a better legislator and a better person.”

Tiberi said his faith transformed during his time in public office.

In politics, he said, it can be difficult to change positions on an issue. A public official is often attacked, he said, and then labeled as a “flip flop.”

Tiberi changed positions on the death penalty while serving in Congress. He was formerly in favor of the death penalty. His justification, he said, was because it is not innocent human life.

“Before I left Congress, over time, my faith had me change my position,” he said. “I am now against the death penalty. It took me a while to get there ... but faith played a role in that experience.”

Tiberi said his faith was also the rea-



Former U.S. Congressman Pat Tiberi speaks to the audience about his faith during the Museum of Catholic Art and History's annual fundraiser on Tuesday, May 21 at the Ohio Statehouse.

son he left Congress. His mother, who died 21 days after a cancer diagnosis, encouraged her son to return home.

“On her deathbed, she said to me that ‘you have four young daughters; your father is not well. You are gone a lot. You need to be home,’ and I came home. That was faith,” Tiberi said.

Addressing the Catholic museum, he recognized how its displays are preserved for people of all faiths. Tiberi noted the importance of preserving art and antiquities for future generations.

“We all must never forget – never for-

GRIFFIN, continued from Page 5

until coming to Columbus.

He has written eight books and was coauthor of three others. He has received many awards from central Ohio church and civic organizations, including having the section of East Lynn Street in Columbus behind the diocesan office building

get – the history, the teachings portrayed in the art that represent so much of our past but also represent our future,” he said.

Kenny said the Catholic museum operates on a \$250,000 budget. He shared that the museum, a non-profit organization, relies solely on funds from events such as the evening’s “Night at the Statehouse” gala.

“What really makes the museum something, again, are visuals, and it is, of course, bringing these stories to life for people of the saints and the Apostles and the Virgin Mary’s Annunciation, all the history of our Catholic buildings around the world – St. Peter’s Basilica – and our different artifacts,” he said.

Kenny also discussed the impact of the museum’s life-size Nativity. It was displayed for the first time last Christmas on the front lawn of the Chancery, where the bishop resides, adjacent to Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.

The historic set, formerly known as State Auto’s Christmas Corner, was donated by the insurance company to the Catholic museum last year.

The 80-piece set, which depicts the events surrounding the birth of Jesus Christ, came with an additional \$250,000 from the insurer to assist in preserving the tradition for years to come.

Kenny said an estimated 10,000 individuals visited the Nativity during Christmastime.

To conclude the evening, several volunteer actors surprised the audience by coming on stage dressed as characters from the Catholic museum. Characters included Sts. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Helena and John Vianney, as well as Mary, Queen of Scots.

Their relics or artifacts, on display during the evening in the Statehouse atrium, included a relic of the True Cross and Mary, Queen of Scots’ necklace, which is part of the Museum of Catholic Art and History’s collection.

The museum was established in 1998 to preserve Catholic heritage through art and education. It is recognized by the Vatican as the largest collection of diversified Catholic art in the United States.

The museum evangelizes through art depicting the Bible, Christian and diocesan history and the lives of the saints. It also exists to preserve liturgy, music and statuary.

and the cathedral renamed as Bishop Griffin Place. The student center at Ohio Dominican and a building on the Columbus Christ the King Church campus that provides a number of services to the poor also are named in his honor.

Should I cancel our cruise vacation?

Dear Father,

My parents are taking our entire clan on a cruise vacation, including all the grandchildren. My wife and I are concerned about getting to Mass while we're traveling, but I think it's going to be hard while we're on a cruise. Should I find a way to tell my parents that my wife and kids and I can't go on the cruise?

-Noah

Dear Noah,

The best solution to your situation is to take me along on the cruise; then daily Mass will be guaranteed!

Before I get into my answer, let me say a couple of things about "obligation" during vacation, about which, admittedly, you are not asking. (Warning: I'm about to go off on this topic and it's not intended for Noah.)

When it comes to going to Mass on Sunday or a Holy Day such as Christmas, is obligation really the mentality that we want to have?

Have we reduced the love of God to the obligation to go to Mass, most of which last less than an hour? Which one of us, apart from those in unhappy marriages, would think of kissing one's spouse as an obligation? Which person with a little baby would think of cradling the child, or feeding the child, as an obligation?

Obligation is a word we use to denote legal necessity. For instance, a parent hauled in on charges of child abuse is told by the court that the bare minimum is to feed, rather than starve, one's son or daughter. We're shocked when we learn of such negligence because we can't imagine that anyone would think that basic nutrition and hydration is below the level of obligation. We wonder where love is when we hear of child abuse.

Here's another scenario to consider. A spouse says,

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.



"You don't kiss me much anymore. What's wrong?" And the other spouse replies, "I kissed you last month. What more do you want from me?!" I think we'd all agree that that marriage is a disaster.

Loving God and worshiping Him is infinitely more than a requirement or obligation, just as feeding a child or kissing one's spouse is. It's the fabric of human existence. To not worship and love God is to become less human, less free. We don't save time because we've skipped Mass; we lose ourselves.

On the contrary, to love and worship God in the form that He has asked, namely the Sacrifice of the Mass, is to become truly human, to flourish as a man or woman, boy or girl. Nothing else in the entire universe can make us flourish as human beings as can the holy Mass. Absolutely nothing!

Likewise, nothing on the face of this earth will grant us eternal happiness, which comes only from God. The richest person, the most powerful person, the most beautiful person will lose every penny, every control, every bit of comeliness at the moment of death, if not sooner. As the saying goes, I've never seen a U-Haul attached to the hearse.

The Church's "law" that we go to Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is the minimum in the same way that feeding your children and kissing your spouse is the minimum. It's the Church's way of saying: If you do less

than this, you're not going to be happy, you're not going to flourish, you're headed in the wrong direction, you're coming undone.

Back to Noah's question.

Noah, I'm appreciative of your sincere seeking to do the right thing. I suggest that you ask the cruise line if Mass will be offered on board or at some port of call. Sometimes, a priest will be on the cruise and offer to celebrate Mass. Short of having a priest on board to offer Mass, the next thing to do is to contact your parish priest.

Canon law (no. 1245) says that "a parish priest, in individual cases, for a just reason and in accordance with the prescriptions of the diocesan Bishop, can give a dispensation from the obligation of observing a holy-day or day of penance, or commute the obligation into some other pious works."

In the Diocese of Columbus, Bishop Earl Fernandes has granted the faculty to all priests assigned in the diocese to dispense, on a person-by-person basis, the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. However, this dispensation has to be for a just cause.

In terms of a "just cause," someone going on vacation but who doesn't want to make the effort to find a nearby Catholic church and Mass schedule is not going to receive the dispensation. Especially in our day when looking for a Catholic church, Mass schedules are easily found on a cell phone. Dispensations are for truly difficult situations where there is no Catholic church and no Mass available, such as may be the case on a cruise.

Bottom line: If you find no satisfaction from your cruise line, speak to your local priest.

Bon voyage, Noah!

Reflecting on mental health awareness from Catholic perspective

As we reflect on the recent observance of Mental Health Awareness Month this past May, it is essential to consider the vital role the Catholic Church plays in addressing mental health crises. With nearly one in five Americans affected by mental illness each year, the prevalence of this issue is more widespread than many realize — a fact that has become even more apparent in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Catholic Church, guided by the teachings of Christ and the wisdom of its leaders, has taken significant steps to meet this challenge. Pope Francis has often spoken about the need for compassion and support for those suffering from mental illnesses. "Every life has immense value," he reminds us, "even the frailest among us and those who require more care and attention deserve this love and additional support."

Saint Dymphna, the patron saint of mental illness, provides a spiritual figure of hope and intercession for those suffering from mental health conditions. Her legacy is particularly cherished in the Catholic community for her association with the healing of mental health disorders.

After fleeing her homeland due to familial turmoil, Dymphna settled in Geel, Belgium. Years after her death, this place would later become renowned for its compassionate and community-based care for the mentally ill. Many turn to her in prayer, seeking com-

FAITH IN ACTION

Jerry Freewalt

Jerry Freewalt is director of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns.



fort and healing in times of mental distress.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) also has been proactive through its various initiatives. The USCCB has recently launched a National Catholic Mental Health Campaign with prayers and resources on how parishes can better serve individuals with mental health challenges and their families. This initiative reflects a holistic approach to well-being that integrates spiritual care with psychological and emotional support.

Furthermore, the National Catholic Partnership on Disabilities (NCPD) and its Council on Mental Illness have been instrumental in equipping Catholic communities with the tools and knowledge to support those affected by mental health issues. Their resources help to educate and reduce the stigma associated with mental illness, promoting a more inclusive and understanding Church environment.

In Ohio, the Church's advocacy has tangible outcomes, such as the support for OhioRISE (Resilience through Integrated Systems and Excellence) and oth-

er programs designed to assist young people with behavioral health challenges. Organizations like St. Vincent Family Services exemplify this work by providing critical support to youth in need, demonstrating the Church's commitment to healing and care in practical ways.

Reducing the stigma associated with mental health is a continued effort. Open conversations and acknowledgment of mental health issues within our communities are vital. The Church encourages this dialogue, fostering an environment where individuals can seek help without fear of judgment.

For those looking to support a loved one or a friend struggling with mental health issues, simple acts of kindness, listening, and encouraging professional help are crucial. Resources are more accessible than ever, with initiatives like the 988 suicide and crisis hotline in Ohio offering immediate support.

As we move beyond Mental Health Awareness Month, let us carry forward the momentum and continue to advocate for and support mental health initiatives. The Catholic Church remains a steadfast ally in this mission, promoting dignity, compassion and practical help for all God's children struggling with mental health challenges.

Father Almighty: transcendent authority who loves, cares for His children

The following is the second of two parts of “The Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth.”

Here is where we start to deviate from our Jewish brethren and, to a greater extent, our Muslim brethren.

The idea and scope of God as “Father” is extraordinary. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC 238 and 239) says, “Many religions invoke God as ‘Father.’ The deity is often considered the ‘father of gods and of men.’ In Israel, God is called ‘Father’ inasmuch as he is Creator of the world. Even more, God is Father because of the covenant and the gift of the law to Israel, ‘his first-born son ...’ By calling God ‘Father,’ the language of faith indicates two main things: that God is the first origin of everything and transcendent authority; and that he is at the same time goodness and loving care for all his children.”

The idea of God as loving, caring for children and one to be loved back makes all the difference on who God is and how we are to view Him. Instead of YHWH, we can say, “Father” or “Abba” in St. Paul’s language. Yes, we are his creatures but born to be children of God, part of a family. The devil is hard at work destroying human fatherhood so the idea of thinking of God as loving Father is hard to relate to and possibly revolting.

When we recite, “The Father Almighty ...” in the creed, we may not give it much consideration; it’s “obvious.” But St. Thomas adds that we should have “good effects of our faith” with this statement.

1) “We are led to a knowledge of the divine majesty.

AQUINAS CORNER | Richard Arnold

Richard Arnold, a parishioner at Chillicothe St. Mary, holds an MA in Catechetics and Evangelization from Franciscan University of Steubenville and is a husband and a father to two children.



Now, if a maker is greater than the things he makes, then God is greater than all things which He has made. ‘If through delight in the beauty of these things’ men assumed them to be gods, let them know how much better than these is their Lord, for the author of beauty created them. And if men were amazed at their power and working, let them perceive from them how much more powerful is He who formed them (Wisdom 13:3-4).”

The greater we know, the greater we can love. Compare your “wonder and awe” of nature with the “wonder and awe” when contemplating the creator!

2) “We are led to give thanks to God. Because God is the Creator of all things, it is certain that what we are and what we have is from God: ‘What have you that you did not receive? (1 Cor 4:7).’ ‘The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof; the world and those who dwell therein (Ps 24:1).’ We, therefore, must render thanks to God: ‘What shall I render to the Lord for all his bounty to me? (Ps 116:12)’”

How often is it that we go about our day and fail to give thanks to God? Do we even take the time to give thanks before we eat? Gratitude disposes us to a happi-

er, more peaceful life.

3) “We are led to bear our troubles with patience. Although every created thing is from God and is good according to its nature, yet, if something harms us or brings us pain, we believe that such comes from God, not as a fault in Him, but because God permits no evil that is not for good. Affliction purifies from sin, brings low the guilty, and urges on the good to a love of God. ‘Shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? (Job 2:10)’”

4) “We are led to the right use of created things. Thus, we ought to use created things as having been made by God for two purposes: ‘The Lord has made everything for its purpose (Prov 16:4)’ (that is, for the glory of God), and finally for our profit: ‘Which the Lord thy God created for the service of all the nations (Dt 4:19).’ Thus, we ought to use things for God’s glory in order to please Him no less than for our own profit, that is, so as to avoid sin in using them.”

5) “We are led also to acknowledge the great dignity of man. God made all things for man and man is more like to God than all other creatures save the Angels. ‘Let us make man in our image, after our likeness (Gen 1:26).’ [T]his likeness of God in man does not refer to the body but to the human soul, which has free will and is incorruptible (immortal). Let us not, therefore, diminish his dignity by sin and by an inordinate desire for earthly things which are beneath us and are made for our service.”

Invoking John Paul the Great

ROME -- Age certainly accelerates one’s sense of the passage of time.

Well do I remember high school classes that felt as long as Würm Glaciation, the minute hand circumambulating the clock’s perimeter at a glacial pace. Yet this past April 27, sitting in the south transept of the world’s greatest tombstone – the Papal Basilica of St. Peter’s in the Vatican – I remembered being at that exact spot at the 1996 Mass marking John Paul II’s priestly golden jubilee, and the intervening decades seem to have passed at hypersonic speed. *Tempus fugit*, indeed!

It was the 10th anniversary of John Paul II’s canonization, so it was also unnerving to realize that a full millennium had gone by since the man whose biography I had written was raised to the glory of the altars in company with Pope John XXIII. There were murmurings, then, that Pope Francis had contrived a double-header canonization to dilute the focus on John Paul II. To my mind, though, it was *vere dignum et iustum*, “truly right and just,” that the two bookends of the Second Vatican Council – the pope who summoned the Council to re-energize the Church for evangelization and the pope who gave the Council its authoritative interpretation while calling us to live Vatican II’s teaching in the “New Evangelization” – should be canonized together.

Be that as it may, last month’s anniversary Mass was something of a grand recapitulation of the John Paul II years.

It was organized by John Paul’s longtime secretary and confidant, Stanisław Dziwisz, now the emeritus cardinal-archbishop of Kraków. His episcopal motto, *Sursum Corda* [Lift Up Your Hearts], poignantly summarized the Polish pope’s electrifying impact on the world Church.

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.



The principal celebrant was Cardinal Giovanni Battista Re, dean of the college of cardinals and longtime *Sostituto* of the Secretariat of State under John Paul – in effect, the papal chief of staff. At 90 years old, Cardinal Re still exudes the incandescent energy he displayed as *Sostituto* from 1989 until 2000 – although, as I reminded him at the post-Mass reception in the atrium of the Paul VI Audience Hall, “You fell asleep on my shoulder during the premier of *Our God’s Brother* in Kraków in June 1997!”

And there, in the first row of concelebrants, was John Paul II’s great vicar for the Diocese of Rome, Cardinal Camillo Ruini: 93 and confined to a wheelchair but determined to celebrate the sanctity of the man whose vision of a missionary, culture-reforming Church Ruini had worked heroically to bring to life in Rome and throughout Italy. What, I wondered (and not for the first time), would things have been like if Pope Benedict XVI had made Cardinal Ruini his Secretary of State?

One concelebrant’s presence raised eyebrows. Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, then merely “Don Vincenzo,” was endlessly solicitous of John Paul II for 26 1/2 years. Over the past decade, however, Paglia has systematically dismantled – some would say, demolished – one of the Polish pontiff’s signature initiatives: the John Paul II Institute on Marriage and the Family at the

Pontifical Lateran University, which today bears only a nominal relationship to the vibrant intellectual center that Carlo Caffarra, Stanisław Grygiel, Livio Melina, José Granados, and other distinguished scholars once created. (Which likely explains why the institute has so few students today.)

At the end of a Mass, the concelebrating cardinals and bishops laid a floral wreath on John Paul II’s tomb, between the chapel of Michelangelo’s *Pietà* and the basilica’s Blessed Sacrament chapel. They then led the congregation in a prayer composed for the occasion, which beautifully captured the Christ-centeredness of an epic pontificate and evoked some of its greatest concerns:

O Saint John Paul, from Heaven’s window give us your blessing! Bless the Church, which you loved so much and courageously served along the pathways of the world, to bring Jesus to everyone and everyone to Jesus. Let us hear again your powerful cry, “Open, open wide the doors to Christ!” Help us open the doors of our hearts to Jesus, so that we may be tireless missionaries of the Gospel today.

Bless the young, who were your great passion ... Bless the families, bless every family. You who felt Satan’s assault against this precious spark of Heaven that God kindled on earth, make us strong and courageous in defending the family ...

... Open new pathways to the Divine Mercy that Jesus made near to us in the Sacrament of Pardon, in the Most Holy Eucharist, and in the Charity that transforms us into a window of God’s Love. Amen.

St. John Paul II, pray for us.

The coats we try on and the coats we keep

If there were an exhibit at the museum of my life, perhaps it would include a series of coats. Being as I currently own only two coats and neither of them fit well, perhaps more description is needed.

I recently had the privilege of sitting in as my college children shared with each other all the different groups they have been involved with this semester. Being quite honest, they were surprised by my lack of shock in their "belonging" to some of the groups. I will admit, as a more veteran mom, I'm more apt to ponder first and speak later. I'd like to also be humble enough to remember my own years as I grew into an adult. Mercy is needed for us all!

I explained to them as we sat and shared hearts that they will try on many "coats" while they are stepping and stumbling into adulthood. Some will fit and others will not.

My definition of a "coat" is the figurative attempt at belonging to a group, a stepping into the group, seeing how I fit. Do my beliefs align with theirs? Does this group make me feel happy? Am I better being part of this group than not? All these things help me determine if I want to keep "wearing this coat."

As I shared these metaphors with my kids, they nodded understandingly. I explained that I was not saying the groups they were part of (that might have been

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.



on the edge of my comfortable zone as a 47-year-old mother) were wrong or a phase but rather that I recognized what they were doing. They were trying on a coat. I asked them to think about how it felt. Was it comfortable? How did it feel? I told them to keep watch to see if they grew out of it or if it grew with them.

As a college freshman, I tried on the college athlete coat. I trained and traveled and was part of the team. But I never felt that I could be myself. So, I took that coat off and tried on so very many other coats. Ones I'm proud of and ones that I wonder what I was thinking! But each one formed me.

As a new mother, I remember joining many mothers' groups. For one, we took walks together. For another, we were all expected to have little at-home parties selling cooking supplies or jewelry. Those coats didn't fit me either.

Eventually, I found some mothers' groups that aligned with the goals I had for myself as a mom. The women were supportive. The group was child focused,

and members were supportive. I grew and helped others grow into the mother they wanted to be. So, I wore that coat for a while and it felt so very comfortable. It was a good season.

We finished off the discussion with my explaining that even within my Catholic faith, I have tried on many, many coats. I tried to be very orthodox, and that coat didn't fit me as well as I thought. Then I was going to be very charismatic, and while I love to sing and praise the Lord, that coat was not the exact fit either. Turns out that right now, I don't have a coat that fits and I'm OK with that. Perhaps the Lord is forming one just for me as I go along.

Here's the message I think is important to share with our kids without judgment. You will try new things as you go along your journey. Discern wisely. We all know what it's like to try on a piece of clothing you really want to fit and get stuck. It hurts to get out of it. But life is full of mercy and new beginnings. Building relationships with our children is so very important.

May we have the courage to share our story humbly and honestly with our children in a way that builds trust. I'm grateful for the exchange policy life offers with all these coats. As you can see, my closet would be quite full, but so too is my heart with the wisdom learned.

ORDINATION, continued from Page 3

ized as a young priest the power of God to heal, save and make whole.

"To be a priest is to be willing to serve, to serve Jesus Christ and His people so wounded by sin, so broken, so in need of healing," he said.

The bishop's homily was followed by the examination of the elect. Bishop Fernandes questioned the candidates about their resolve to undertake and faithfully fulfill the ministry to which they were about to be ordained, as well as their willingness to unite themselves more closely to Christ, the High Priest.

The five candidates then knelt before Bishop Fernandes. They promised to respect and obey the bishop and his successors.

The congregation then joined in the litany of supplication. While the five candidates prostrated themselves on the floor of the church, the congregation implored God's mercy and invoked the intercession of the saints.

The litany was followed by the laying on of hands and prayer of ordination.

Placing his hands on the head of each candidate, which is an ancient apostolic gesture of ordination, Bishop Fernandes invoked the Holy Spirit. Priests in attendance came forward and imposed their hands on each ordinand's head.

During the prayer of ordination, the bishop beseeched God to raise each ordinand to the priesthood. Through the imposition of hands and prayer of ordination, the five men were ordained priests.

Several priests came forward to help vest the newly ordained.

The newly ordained priests were invested, or dressed, in stole and chasuble. The stole is a sign of the office of the priesthood, and the chasuble is the vest-

ment worn for the celebration of Mass.

Bishop Fernandes anointed the ordinands' hands with sacred chrism oil. The gesture signifies their sharing in Christ's sanctifying ministry.

The bishop also extended a greeting of peace to the new priests as a sign that they are co-workers in the ministry of the Church. Other bishops and priests in attendance also came forward to extend a fraternal kiss of peace to the newly ordained.

Father Carter, 27, is from Columbus St. Patrick Church. His assignments during seminary included Newark St. Francis de Sales, Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul, Danville St. Luke, Gahanna St. Matthew the Apostle Church, Groveport St. Mary and Canal Winchester St. John XXIII churches.

Deacon Colby, 33, is from Columbus Immaculate Conception Church. His assignments during seminary included Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas, Columbus St. Mary Magdalene, Columbus St. Aloysius, Columbus St. Agnes, Marion St. Mary, Cardington Sacred Hearts, Mount Vernon St. Paul, Danville St. Luke and Delaware St. Mary while also participating in a summer Hispanic ministry immersion.

Deacon Fox, 50, is from Powell St. Joan of Arc Church. He served in assignments at Scio-Catholic in the Portsmouth area, Westerville St. Paul the Apostle, Columbus Christ the King and St. Veronica Parish in Burlington, Massachusetts.

Father Haemmerle, 29, is from Columbus St. Patrick Church.

His assignments included Columbus St. Andrew, Columbus Holy Family, Chillicothe St. Peter, Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator, Perry County Consortium and Zanesville St. Nicholas and St. Thomas Aquinas churches.

Deacon Johnstone, 38, is from Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes Church. His assignments included Westerville St. Paul the Apostle, Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul, Danville St. Luke, Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains, Portsmouth St. Mary of the Annunciation, Holy Trinity and Holy Redeemer, the former New Boston St. Monica, Basilica of Regina Pacis in Brooklyn, New York, Chillicothe St. Mary and St. Peter, Waverly St. Mary, Gahanna St. Matthew and Columbus Our Lady of Peace churches.

At the conclusion of Mass, Bishop Fernandes announced the first parish assignments for the five newly ordained priests.

Father Carter will serve as parochial vicar at Gahanna St. Matthew Church. He will also serve as administrator for the Columbus Holy Resurrection Melkite Greek-Catholic Church beginning Aug. 1.

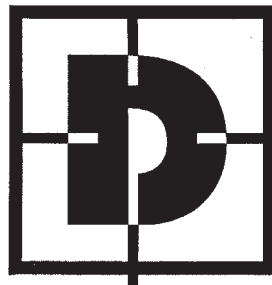
Father Colby will serve as parochial vicar at Marion St. Mary and Cardington Sacred Hearts churches. Father Fox will be parochial vicar at Johnstown Church of the Ascension and Sunbury St. John Neumann Church.

Father Haemmerle will serve as parochial vicar at Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church. He will also work with Father Hahn in the vocations office, serving as assistant vocations director.

Father Johnstone was assigned as parochial vicar at Worthington St. Michael the Archangel Church and chaplain at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School.

The newly ordained will begin their diocesan assignments in July.

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Plenary indulgence offered to Eucharistic pilgrimage participants

A plenary indulgence is being offered to anyone who takes part in the National Eucharistic Procession, which will be passing through the Diocese of Columbus from Monday, June 24 to Sunday, June 30 on its way westward to the National Eucharistic Congress, scheduled from Wednesday, July 17 to Sunday, July 21 at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis.

The elderly, infirm or those who cannot leave their homes for a serious reason, and who participate in spirit with the pilgrimage, uniting their prayers, pains or inconveniences with Christ and the pilgrimage, may also receive the indulgence, which removes all temporal punishment due an individual for sin.

Conditions for receiving the indulgence include participating in the pilgrimage, making a sacramental Confession and receiving Holy Communion in the days leading up to or just after the pilgrimage participation, and praying for the intentions of the Holy Father. The indulgence may be applied to the souls in Purgatory.

The Columbus diocese is part of one of four pilgrimages starting in various sections of the United States and heading for Indianapolis. It began on Pentecost Sunday, May 19 in Connecticut and

will have traveled through New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Pennsylvania and West Virginia before entering Ohio on Friday, June 21 in the Diocese of Steubenville.

The first of eight pilgrimage stops in the diocese will be at the “cradle of Catholicism in Ohio,” Somerset St. Joseph Church, 5757 State Route 383, on Monday, June 24, with Eucharistic Adoration from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., followed by Mass at 7 and a Eucharistic procession at 8.

Over the following six days, the procession will travel west to Newark Blessed Sacrament Church, 394 E. Main St., and Newark St. Francis de Sales Church, 40 Granville St., on Tuesday, June 25 and Pickerington St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, 600 Hill Road N., on Wednesday, June 26.

Father Roger Landry, chaplain of Columbia University in New York, who is leading the pilgrims from Connecticut to Indianapolis, will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood at the Pickerington Mass.

The pilgrimage will travel to Columbus Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., on Thursday, June 27; Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., on Friday, June 28;

Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church, 313 N. State St., on Saturday, June 29 and Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., on Sunday, June 30.

Bishop Earl Fernandes will celebrate Masses at 7 p.m. Monday in Somerset, at 7 p.m. Thursday and 6 p.m. Friday in Columbus, at 10 a.m. Saturday in Westerville and at 12:30 p.m. Sunday in the cathedral. The Mass on Thursday will be in Spanish and the Masses on Friday and Sunday will be bilingual.

Besides Father Landry, another priest, a brother, a seminarian and five young adults will be traveling from Connecticut to Indianapolis on what is known as the Seton route of the national pilgrimage. The Daughters of Mary, Mother of Healing Love also will travel with the Seton route.

They will visit holy sites, embrace the sacraments daily and publicly proclaim Christ’s Real Presence in the Eucharist throughout the journey.

The route is named after St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first American-born saint to be canonized by the Catholic Church. A convert to Catholicism, the young mother and widow was drawn to the Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton opened the first

free Catholic school for girls in America in 1810. Her work laid the foundation for today’s parochial school system. A relic of Mother Seton from The Museum of Catholic Art and History in Columbus will be on display at the pilgrimage locations.

At least two diocesan parishes are offering travel packages to the Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis. Columbus St. Peter and Powell St. Joan of Arc churches are planning a trip for \$785 that will cover the costs of a five-day conference pass, hotel accommodations, breakfast, and bus transportation from and to Columbus and from the hotel to the conference. For questions, contact Jen Whitsett at jwhitsett@stjoanofarcpowell.org.

Sunbury St. John Neumann Church’s trip will cost \$300 for bus transportation and a complimentary lunch at the Shrine of the Holy Relics in Maria Stein, or \$200 for a conference pass without bus transportation. Accommodations, meals and transportation costs to and from the conference are on your own. For inquiries, go to Paul Stokell at pstokell@stjohnsunbury.org.

For more about the congress, go to www.columbuscatholic.org/revival.

Eucharistic pilgrimage brings Christ to the world

By Sister Constance Veit, Isp

During Pentecost weekend, I participated in an historic event in New Haven, Connecticut. I was not there to take part in another protest at Yale University or even to attend any of the graduation ceremonies taking place there. Instead, I joined hundreds of other Catholics for the launch of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage.

This four-pronged pilgrimage, which began simultaneously in New Haven, San Francisco, Brownsville, Texas and the Mississippi Headwaters in northern Minnesota, will cover 6,500 miles over the next two months.

These four routes will converge in Indianapolis in time for the National Eucharistic Congress in mid-July. The Eucharistic pilgrimage is the largest procession ever attempted in the Catholic Church – the most audacious event in Christianity’s 2,025-year history!

Although we encountered no signs of protest, I was thinking about the recent unrest in our country as we processed with the Blessed Sacrament through the Yale campus Saturday evening in light rain. I could not help thinking how different our procession was from the re-

cent university protests.

After all, we were following Jesus, the Prince of Peace, the Good News incarnate, as he was carried in a monstrance by Father Roger Landry, the Catholic chaplain at Columbia University.

What a providential choice it was that Father Landry – so closely associated with “Ground Zero” of the protest movement – would be named as the only priest to walk an entire route of the pilgrimage!

Many other members of the clergy will participate in a portion of the trek, but Father Landry will himself carry the Blessed Sacrament along the entire eastern route of this historic journey.

In two talks over the weekend of May 18-19, Father Landry made several reflections that impacted my own Eucharistic spirituality.

He spoke of Christian life itself as a Eucharistic pilgrimage. We are pilgrims in a strange land he said, called to be always on the move.

This struck me in a particular way on Sunday morning as we processed through the streets of New Haven, a city just waking up to bistro brunches, dog walks and morning jogs. A few people seemed to pray with us as we passed them on the street, while others just

stared with a look of curiosity.

We were walking in faith, bringing Christ out into the world, doing our part to reverse the indifference and contempt so rampant in our society.

We were trying to remind people that Jesus still lives among us and within us.

As we hastened along the streets of New Haven, I also recalled something Archbishop Christopher Coyne had said in his homily the evening before. A pilgrimage is “prayer embodied,” he suggested.

Each footstep lands both on an actual road and on the path of faith.

As Catholics, I think our faith can be a bit “disembodied,” merely a private matter of the mind and heart. But this idea of prayer “embodied” became very real to me as my old legs began to tire during our fast-paced walk to the wharf in New Haven.

When we reached the dock, we saw two boats – a beautiful luxury yacht and a much smaller fishing trawler.

Jesus, who called his disciples to be fishers of men, could only have chosen the fishing boat, so we quickly boarded the humbler vessel, following Father Landry and the monstrance.

We Little Sisters felt privileged to be able to accompany the “Perpetual Pil-

grims” and a few journalists on this leg of the pilgrimage.

During our two-hour boat ride on Long Island Sound, we fixed our gaze on the monstrance, prayed and sang with the Perpetual Pilgrims.

We were never in danger of sinking, or did we try to walk on water, but we did try to imagine what it must have been like for Jesus and his disciples each time they set sail on the Sea of Galilee.

When we arrived in Bridgeport, Father Landry and the small band of Perpetual Pilgrims continued on, but our participation in the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage concluded.

We returned home, grateful for having been a part of history.

If you are going to be anywhere near one of the Eucharistic pilgrimage routes this summer, don’t pass up the opportunity to participate in this historic experience.

May you come to know the joy of prayer embodied and may your faith in Jesus’ personal love for you be rekindled!

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

Priests come from near, far to celebrate Father Ike's anniversary

By Tim Puet

For *The Catholic Times*

A dozen priests from five states and two continents joined Father Hilary Ike at the 5 p.m. Mass on Saturday, May 4 at Columbus St. Matthias Church to celebrate the 20th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.

"There have never been as many African priests at St. Matthias Church at one time as there are on the altar today," said Father Ike's older brother, Msgr. Obiora Ike, an ethics professor at Godfrey Okoye University in Enugu, Nigeria, during the Mass homily. "We thank you in America for all you have given to help the Church in Africa develop priests. Today, we are paying you back."

The concelebrants included other priests from Nigeria and from Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota and Florida. Among them were Father Elias Udeh of Columbus St. Peter and Powell St. Joan of Arc churches and Father Ramon Owera of Columbus St. Dominic Church.

Members of Father Ike's family present included his twin brother, Ephraim, who lives in Bristol, England, and Nkem Ugwu, a niece from Cleveland, who were Scripture readers. Father Ike is one of three brothers and six sisters from Nigeria. The Mass included joyous African liturgical music from the choir of Columbus' Northland Catholic Community.

In remarks before the end of the Mass, Father Ike said a question from a *Catholic Times* reporter caused him to reflect on what drew him to the priesthood, and the answer was the Eucharist.

In response to the question, Father Ike wrote, "I was ordained a priest on May 8, 2004, back in Nigeria. My seminary journey started when I was 11 years old and an altar server. It always amazed me to see the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. My love for the Holy Mass and the prayers drew me ever closer to the altar.

"Back then, we used to have evening Benediction on Sundays where the priest exposes the Blessed Sacrament. I loved to be an altar server for the exposition because during the blessing at the end, I got to use the incenser while the priest blessed the people with the monstrance. Those liturgical activities seemed heav-



Father Hilary Ike (center) is joined on the altar at Columbus St. Matthias Church after Mass by fellow priests, some of whom came from Africa, and servers. Photo courtesy Nelson Koranteng

ily to me and they still hold me in great awe years later.

"I wanted to become a priest so that I could celebrate the Holy Mass. The joy of doing this is what has sustained me all these years and will continue to be my source of happiness in my chosen vocation. I do not ask for much but, like the psalmist, 'All I ask is to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.'

"Working in this diocese for the past 12 years gave me the unhindered opportunity for worship and the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. If there is anything I am grateful for in this life, it is for the opportunity to be a minister at the altar.

"It does not feel like I have done this for 20 years because I feel so fresh and am just getting warmed up. I can only pray for good health and the continued presence of the Holy Spirit in my life.

"I am eternally grateful to God for choosing me, His unworthy servant, to share in the ministerial priesthood of Christ. I am grateful to God for giving me the priestly identity in persona Christi. I never had to ponder what I shall become or who I shall be. It was mapped out for me since my childhood. The lot mapped out for me is my delight.

"The journey through life is often

punctuated by people and events. It started with family and then friends as we grow. My family has been the fertile soil upon which my vocation was nurtured. Chief among them was my father, of blessed memory. His exemplary Christian life convicted me to seek and to serve God among His people.

"I learned everything I know about the priesthood from my dearest brother, Obiora. He is here with us today and may God continue to bless him for all he has done for me. Thank you also to my twin and all my family members.

"My friends are the other strong ground upon which my vocation grew and flourished. I have been lucky and feel very blessed with good friends. They advise and challenge and support me in so many ways. Good friends are like silver and gold. I appreciate you all."

In his homily, Msgr. Ike spoke of the gifts God has given Father Hilary, gratitude to God for those gifts, and the promise of God's grace for the future for Father Hilary and the universal Church,

"People today have become used to saying 'No' to God, to life, to creation, to goodness, to family," he said. "In such a world, Father Hilary said 'Yes' to God and to His call to the priesthood. By say-

ing 'Yes' to God's 'Yes,' he has lifted up all of us."

Msgr. Ike spoke of the strong vocations culture in parts of Africa, where it's common for boys 11 and 12 years old to start studying for the priesthood, but also said they find the curriculum so rigorous that most drop out over time. "My seminary class started with 127 members and 16 became priests, and that is typical," he said. "Father Hilary's 'Yes' remained strong and we are grateful. If he had said 'No,' all of us wouldn't be gathered here today from around the world."

Father Ike and his twin brother both began seminary studies in Nigeria in 1986. His brother left the seminary in the mid-1990s. Father Hilary continued and was ordained in 2004 by Bishop Anthony Okonkwo Gbujii of the Diocese of Enugu.

He worked on the Enugu diocesan Tribunal from 2004 to 2008 and was the bishop's secretary in 2009, then began studies in canon law at the Pontifical Urban University in Rome.

He came to the Diocese of Columbus in 2012 to serve as defender of the bond for the Tribunal and to perform pastoral care for the diocese's Nigerian Catholic community, with residence at St. Joseph Cathedral.

He became administrator of Groveport St. Mary Church in 2020 and was assigned as parochial vicar of Columbus St. Elizabeth and St. Matthias churches in July 2023. On Aug. 31, 2023, he became diocesan judge and assistant judicial vicar for the Tribunal. He was incardinated as a priest of the Diocese of Columbus on March 21 of this year.

He received a doctoral degree in education from Ashland University in 2019 and also joined the U.S. Army Reserve that year.

St. Matthias, St. Elizabeth and the closed Columbus St. Anthony Church will be combined as the new St. Josephine Bakhita Parish effective Saturday, June 15, with St. Elizabeth serving as the parish worship site. St. Matthias School will remain open and will continue to be the site for regularly scheduled Masses for the local Brazilian, Haitian and Nigerian Catholic communities and for school Masses.

Catholic Home Mission collection benefits U.A. dioceses, eparchies

By Sister Zephрина Mary, FIH

Director, Diocesan Missions Office

Approximately 43 percent of the dioceses in the United States and its territories are designated as "Catholic Home Missions" by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). This means that these churches lack the resources to provide for basic pastoral ser-

vices to the faithful.

The Catholic Home Missions collection on the weekend of June 1-2 helps to fund 84 dioceses and eparchies in the United States. These dioceses struggle with severe shortages of priests, poverty among parishioners, difficult or isolated terrain, religious hostility and other circumstances that hinder the care of souls.

In 2023, the Diocese of Columbus contributed \$ 56,091.52 to Catholic Home Mission. I would like to thank you for your generosity on behalf of our Bishop Earl K. Fernandes and Bishop W. Shawn McKnight, Chairman of Catholic Home Mission.

Catholic Home Mission funds help the Church to support ministries that reach the hearts of all people and foster stron-

ger bonds of unity among Church members while allowing them to be able to devote their best and undivided energies to the service of God.

In 2023, at the National Black Catholic Congress held at National Harbor in Fort Washington, Maryland, Catholic Home Missions funding allowed 20 participants from five home mission Diocese to

See COLLECTION, Page 26

Father Johnstone goes from convert to priest

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

It was around 2014 when Father David Johnstone, 38, met a priest for the first time. Now, a decade later, he is one.

Father Johnstone, who is from Marysville, was ordained on Saturday, May 18 along with four other priests for the Diocese of Columbus.

His journey to the priesthood began in 2017. He was welcomed into the Catholic Church and entered seminary later the same year.

Before converting and entering seminary, Father Johnstone, who was raised as a non-denominational Christian, worked as a disaster case manager for the Salvation Army, an English teacher at a private university in China and a substitute teacher in the Marysville school district.

He graduated from Marysville High School and Ohio Wesleyan University with a bachelor's degree in history and minor in computer science.

His first glimpse of the priesthood came before his conversion while working at the Salvation Army. At the time, Father Johnstone said, he met weekly with a priest who helped work with families affected by natural disasters.

His impression of the priest was profound.

"He loved in a way that I'd never seen before," Father Johnstone said. "He was like 80 hours, 100 hours a week working with not only his two parishes but then the families who are affected who weren't even Catholic."

"He was spending time with them and helping them out, so I saw somebody love like I've never seen before, and he was joyful, and he was always helpful, and that was the first time I really thought, 'This is what I've always been looking for,' but I didn't know it."

While it might seem reasonable to begin exploring the Catholic faith and a vocation to the priesthood, there was one holdup: Father Johnstone was engaged to be married. He said he knew priests were not married, and so, there was no sense looking into the priesthood.

However, everything changed when the relationship ended.

Father Johnstone was living in Seattle at the time. After he and his former fiancée went their separate ways, he began the process of converting to Catholicism.

Father Johnstone moved home to Marysville to be with his family, and he was welcomed into the Catholic Church at Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

With the priesthood still on his mind, he took a leap of faith and applied to seminary. He was accepted and entered later that fall. Father Johnstone described his thought process as:

"Am I going to go find another menial job that I don't really find fulfillment in,



Father David Johnstone

or am I going to seek out the priesthood, which is something that I was drawn to when I first started learning about it, so I said, 'Why not?'"

While his "why not" proved worthwhile, at times during seminary, it could be tempting to doubt his worthiness for the vocation. He trusted that God would supply what he needed, if He was calling him to the priesthood.

"I think every person who's going through the seminary has that question of, 'Why me?' because I know who I am. I know I'm a sinner; I know I'm not worthy of doing something like this. So, those questions, those thoughts definitely have come up multiple times."

"But then there's the hope and the faith and the trust that God is the One Who ... helps you along, Who calls you, Who's going to give you whatever abilities, gifts that you need to follow through with it. And so, it's more like, 'OK, I can be a steward of the gifts that God has given me.'"

Reflecting on when he first learned about Catholicism, the priesthood and entered seminary, Father Johnstone recognized that God was preparing him for his vocation all along. As a disaster case manager, he said, he walked with individuals during the most difficult time of their lives.

"I could walk with somebody and help them carry their burden and help them through it, and it felt natural to me," he said. "I feel like that's another aspect of the priesthood: helping somebody carry their burdens, to pray for them and pray with them and help them along through the bad times but the good times as well."

The opportunity to walk with individuals and help carry their cross is something Father Johnstone admires about the priesthood. It impacted his personal relationship with the Lord.

"There's that special charism of the priesthood that helps pick up the cross like Jesus did with somebody but in a way that it's not mine to carry; it's



Bishop Earl Fernandes hands Father David Johnstone a chalice and paten. CT photo/Ken Snow

Christ's to carry," Father Johnstone said. "He ... saved that person, not me, but we get to participate in that encounter with Christ in a special way."

Father Johnstone expressed gratitude to his parents for teaching him to love Christ, church and the Bible. Although he no longer belongs to the same church, he said, he is grateful for his parents and what they taught him so he can be where he is today.

Growing up "fairly anti-Catholic," Father Johnstone said, he did not consider converting to Catholicism until he learned about the Real Presence in the Eucharist.

"Once I learned that the Real Presence of Jesus was in the Eucharist, then I had to have it because I needed Christ," he said.

Father Johnstone said he began attending Eucharistic Adoration and Mass, although he was not yet Catholic, because "I knew that Jesus was truly present there." He knew Christ was present in the various Christian churches he attended, he said, but not in the same way as the Catholic Church, where He was truly present in the Eucharist.

"That was a big part of my conversion – Jesus being truly present in the Eucharist," he said.

"When ... I learned these truths about Christianity in the Catholic Church, then it's like, well, I have to be Catholic, even though I don't really want to be, because that's where Jesus is, that's where the truth is, so I have to become Catholic, and I have to trust that, even though I don't want to, this is the right way to go. And so, I did."

Father Johnstone trusted in the Lord amid doubts. Perhaps one of the "biggest struggles that I had becoming Catholic," he said, "was the veneration of Mary as the Mother of God."

He did not understand the concept and "it wasn't in my heart either," he said, but he trusted the Church was correct in its Marian doctrine. He began

praying the rosary in the evenings with Eternal Word Television Network.

Father Johnstone continued to walk by faith and trust in the Lord and Church teaching. Much to his surprise, he had a change of heart, which he discovered after becoming Catholic.

"The day after I was received into the Church ... I remember at some point thinking that I love Mary, and it was like all of a sudden, 'Whoa, where did that come from? I don't understand,' because it had been such a long time that I had a block," he said.

"Once I had been united to Christ through the Eucharist, all of a sudden, He opened up for me this path, or removed the blockage or whatever it was, so that I could love His Mother in a way that I never could understand."

Before his conversion, Father Johnstone said he also turned to the Fathers of the Church to understand what they taught and believed about Christ. He sought to understand how they lived the faith in the early Church.

He was drawn to the Church Fathers' writings, he said, particularly St. Ignatius of Antioch on the Eucharist, St. Justin Martyr's description of the early Mass, as well as Eastern Church Fathers St. Gregory of Nazianzen and St. Maximus the Confessor.

During seminary, his assignments included Westerville St. Paul the Apostle, Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul, Danville St. Luke, Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains, Portsmouth St. Mary of the Annunciation, Holy Trinity and Holy Redeemer, the former New Boston St. Monica, Basilica of Regina Pacis in Brooklyn, New York, Chillicothe St. Mary and St. Peter, Waverly St. Mary, Gahanna St. Matthew and Columbus Our Lady of Peace churches.

His will serve as parochial vicar at Worthington St. Michael the Archangel Church and chaplain at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, effective July 9.

Father Fox says Jesus kept knocking at his door

By Tim Puet

For The Catholic Times

Father Jason Fox likens his call to the priesthood to Jesus' parable of the man persistently knocking at a neighbor's door until the neighbor responded.

"It took Jesus three times to knock on the door of my heart until I finally recognized I was being called," he said.

"The first knock came when I was about 8 years old and I told my grandmother, Sylvia Fox, that I thought God might want me to be a priest. She was faithful and dedicated throughout her life, especially in matters of religion, and she always encouraged me to pursue that calling. She's perhaps the person who was most influential in my ultimate decision.

"I got interested in other things and kind of put the priesthood in the back of my mind, but at 21 I felt the call again and joined the Legionaries of Christ religious order in Cheshire, Connecticut. The Legionaries are a very strict order – too strict for me, so I left them and again decided I wasn't being called," he said.

"I did a bunch of other things for several years and moved to Columbus after my mother died in 2018 so I could be closer to two sisters who live in the area. I began attending Powell St. Joan of Arc Church and one day while attending Eucharistic Adoration there, I heard Jesus' voice in my heart so clearly that every barrier I had put up inside me to the priesthood crumbled. 'The time is now' was the message I heard, and this time there was no doubt."

He was 45 years old at the time. After contacting the diocesan vocations office to determine his next step, Father Fox took philosophy courses at Ohio Dominican University for a year, then attended Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, Massachusetts, which works with candidates for the priesthood who are 30 and older, to compete his priestly formation process. He received his Master of Divinity degree from the seminary on Monday, May 6.

Father Fox grew up in the Toledo area, graduated from Sylvania Southview High



Father Jason Fox (right) exchanges a greeting of peace with Father Brian Kiely, rector of Pope St. John XXIII Seminary, where Fox studied for the priesthood. *CT photo by Ken Snow*

School, received an associate degree in law enforcement from Oakland (Michigan) Community College and was close to finishing work on a Bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Ferris State University in Michigan when he responded to his call to priestly service.

"I also took courses in computer programming at Owens Community College in Toledo but decided that wasn't for me," he said. "I did a lot of things between high school and the priesthood, waited a lot of tables, but what I enjoyed most was working on or near water."

When he was about 30, he got a chance to be part of the crew of the Liberty Clipper, a 150-foot traditional gaff-rigged schooner (popularly known as a Tall Ship) built in 1983 in the style of the Baltimore clippers which sailed the East Coast in the early 19th century.

The ship splits its time between Boston, its port of call, and Miami. During the late spring and summer, it serves in Boston as an educational vessel with some charter work. When the weather turns cold, it heads for Miami, where it is used mainly for recreational and tourism purposes.

"I spent a great three years on the boat and faced a different challenge every day," Father Fox said. "I obtained a license allowing me to be a captain for steam and sail vessels of up to 100 tons, but I think it's expired by now."

His longest time at one job came when he spent six years as head of maintenance for the Grosse Ile (Michigan) Bridge Co., which operates a 110-year-old toll bridge over the Detroit River connecting the island community of Grosse Ile with Riverview on the mainland.

"That job put me in contact with a lot of law enforcement officers and made me decide to pursue a career in that area until God's call changed everything," he said.

"I thought seminary was going to be a boring environment, but it surprised me how quickly I was able to catch on. It was great to see how 'normal' the other seminarians were and I bonded with several of them pretty quickly. A lot of the guys were former military, police, firefighters or emergency medical techs and that makes sense. They came from a background of serving people and found it made them want to serve God and the church."

His priestly formation included assignments at St. Veronica Church in Burlington, Massachusetts during the winter and summertime postings at Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church and the St. John Paul II Scioto Catholic Community.

From May 2022 to May 2023, he spent his pastoral year at Columbus Christ the King Church, where Father David Schalk was pastor. "He treated me as an integral part of the parish and I learned plenty about all aspects of a priest's life – living in a rectory, administration, celebrating what sacraments I could – all the ups and downs of a year in a parish.

"Since it's a mainly Latino parish, I learned a lot about that culture and went

to a few *quinceaneras* (celebrations of a girl's 15th birthday). I took Spanish courses from Senora Betty Protz at Westerville St. Paul School so I could work in Latino parishes," he said.

After being ordained as a permanent deacon in 2023, Father Fox split time between St. Joan of Arc Church and his final year of theology studies. "That last year is mostly liturgy-oriented," he said. "At my first Baptism ceremony, I baptized a total of 13 children from several families. "I was asked 'Are you going to be OK with that many?' and responded 'We'll find out.'"

"Things went well, and I wrote all the names of those children in my prayer book, as well as the names of all the others baptized during my diaconal year. I'm keeping all of them in my prayers, placing them under the protection of Mary's mantle."

Father Fox said Father James Black and Father Stephen Smith, formerly pastor and parochial vicar respectively at St. Joan of Arc, also were pivotal in his formation. "They took me under their wings," he said. "When I had doubts or questions, they were always there."

Father Smith was the homilist at St. Joan of Arc for Father Fox's first Mass. Also taking part were Fathers Schalk and Black and Father Dan Dury, pastor of Sunbury St. John Neumann Church.

Effective July 9, Father Dury will be pastor at both Sunbury and the John-



Father Jason Fox

stown Church of the Ascension, with Father Fox serving as parochial vicar for both churches and Father Smith being transferred from Johnstown to the Scioto Catholic Community.

"Besides being able to celebrate Mass, what I'm looking forward to most about being a priest is being able to hear confessions and anoint the sick," Father Fox said. "I've felt the grace of the Sacrament of Reconciliation so many times and seen so many anointings. Now I have the opportunity myself to be able to bring those graces to others."



CONGRATULATIONS

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THE COMMUNITY OF
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WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE OUR NEWLY ORDAINED PRIESTS:

*Father Tyler Carter, Father Daniel Colby, Father Jason Fox,
Father Michael Haemmerle, and Father David Johnstone*



Father Colby found his way back to God and to priesthood

By Hannah Heil

Catholic Times Reporter

“Why do you want to be a priest?”

Father Daniel Colby recalled the words written across his seminary application. He remembered writing that he did not yet know why, but he was fairly certain God was calling him to pursue the priesthood, and he wanted to find out.

“Seven years later, I hope I can say I know a little more than when I started,” he said.

Father Colby, 33, was ordained to the priesthood on May 18 along with four other men for the Diocese of Columbus. He officially began his journey to the priesthood in 2017 when entering seminary. However, he recognizes how God was preparing him for the vocation several years before that.

Father Colby was raised Presbyterian in Raleigh, North Carolina. He was active in theater and Boy Scouts during high school, earning the rank of Eagle Scout.

Church was an important part of his upbringing, he said, but he decided to leave the faith in middle school.

At the time, he said, he was “checked out” and did not want God telling him what to do. In an effort to “redefine” himself, he began going by his surname, Colby, and sought to be his own person.

He went on to graduate from Virginia Tech University with a degree in consumer product design. His first job after college landed him in Charlotte, North Carolina and then Columbus.

When he moved to the Buckeye State in 2014, Father Colby was still not practicing any faith, but he befriended some neighbors who belonged to the Xenos Christian Fellowship. He attended a seminar with them on evidence for Christ’s Resurrection.

He said the seminar left him convicted that Christ truly rose from the dead. And so, for the first time in about 10 years, he prayed to receive God back in his life and let Him be his Lord.

After spending a decade seeking to be the lord of his life, “Colby” became “Daniel” again. He surrendered and allowed God to be his judge. Ironically, the meaning was embedded in his name.

“I felt God calling me to go back to the name ‘Daniel’ and take that up again as my name, later discovering that Daniel means ‘God is my judge,’ so, very meaningful, what I had been casting off – the name ‘God is my judge.’ I can’t have that,” he said with a laugh. “And then reclaiming that spiritually, what that meant for my life and letting God be my judge again.”

He began researching various Christian denominations upon learning later that year that his Presbyterian father intended to become Catholic.

Father Colby attended an early morning Mass on January 1, which he later discovered was the feast of Mary, Mother of God. He would go on to develop a devotion to the Blessed Mother, eventually consecrating himself to her.

He began the conversion process in 2015 at Columbus Immaculate Conception Church, which was located near his house. He was initiated into the Church

at the Easter Vigil the following year.

On his journey to Catholicism, while participating in the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA), Father Colby learned about the priesthood. He said he experienced a call to the vocation.

“Within (OCIA) is when I first read about the priesthood and felt a very clear call from God to pursue that path,” he said. “I already, the year beforehand, promised to stop running away and let God be God and let Him direct my life, and so, I said, ‘OK, I guess You’re taking me up on that promise now.’”

Father Colby spent a year involving himself in his parish, learning the ins and outs of Catholic life. He was active in the parish men’s group, Knights of Columbus and choir. Shortly before Holy Week in 2017, he applied to seminary.

Ironically, he was notified on Easter Monday that his office was closing and all design staff was laid off. It seemed divine providence, perhaps, calling Father Colby in a new direction.

Much to his delight, he was accepted to the Pontifical College Josephinum and began his studies that autumn.

Having spent seven years in seminary, the answer to “Why do you want to become a priest?” has become clearer.

Father Colby said he sees himself as one of the lost sheep Christ came to save. He said the verse Luke 19:10, “For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost” resonates with him.

Having spent a decade away from the Lord, he can better minister to those in the same position. As a priest, he will now also partner with Christ in working to help save those who have fallen away.

“The same way that our Lord sought me out and was always with me, even when I didn’t realize it, during the whole time I was away, I know that’s now my mission as part of His mission to go be the shepherd bringing the stray sheep home, finding our Blessed Mother’s lost and stray children and drawing them back to her as they did for me,” Father Colby said.

He said the “biggest spiritual lesson” he learned about the ministry, perhaps, is how much it does not depend on him. Anything good or effective for other people’s salvation must come entirely from God and Our Lady working through him, he said.

Father Colby described that notion as “incredibly freeing.” Before coming to faith, any efforts to be God and the source of all good in his life proved to be “spiritually, emotionally and existentially exhausting.”

Yet, it seems God used that period in Father Colby’s life, as he will now participate in God’s mission of saving the lost.

“That journey and that discovery will help me with a lot of people who are in the same situation, whether it’s Protestants who are learning about the Church, whether it’s just people ... trying to do everything the world says is fun and good ... every little part of that journey apart from the faith, all the little worlds that I was a part of, that can be a bridge or connection back into the Church,” he said for those he will serve.

Through his own faith journey and

reconciliation with God, Father Colby regards any future success in his priestly mission as being “to the extent that I let God work in me.”

“It’s also freeing because then I don’t have to be afraid of failure because even our Lord didn’t get everybody that He came to call, people still turned away.

“And so, when those discouragements come, when this mission of seeking the lost, at times, ends in failure – at least, apparent failure at that moment – (it’s) being one with Him, being conformed to Him and participating in that mission of His whole life, which included, at times, people turning away and leaving and not listening.”

Father Colby also recognizes that God can use his interests to form connections with individuals. While serving his parish assignment at Delaware St. Mary Church, Father Colby, having involvement with theater in high school, supported parishioners involved at Delaware’s community theater. It was also an opportunity for evangelization, as many non-Catholics attend the theater as well.

“We’ve got all different kinds – former engineers, a lot of athletes, hunters,” he said of the seminarians. “They all got the human parts and their worldly parts of who they are, what God has given them as interests. All can be bridges, connection points, drawing people back to the faith or deeper into the faith.”

Father Colby’s assignments during seminary included Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas, Columbus St. Mary Magdalene, Co-



Father Daniel Colby

lumbus St. Aloysius, Columbus St. Agnes, Marion St. Mary, Cardington Sacred Hearts, Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul, Danville St. Luke and Delaware St. Mary churches.

He completed a Hispanic ministry course track in seminary, studying advanced pastoral Spanish and various Spanish rites. He also participated in summer Hispanic ministry immersions.

Father Colby will participate in a Hispanic ministry immersion this summer in Oakland, California before beginning his first parish assignment at Marion St. Mary and Cardington Sacred Hearts churches in July.


IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

Congratulations

Rev. Daniel Colby, Son of Immaculate Conception Parish, and to all the men recently ordained into the priesthood for the Diocese of Columbus! Thank you for responding to God’s call!



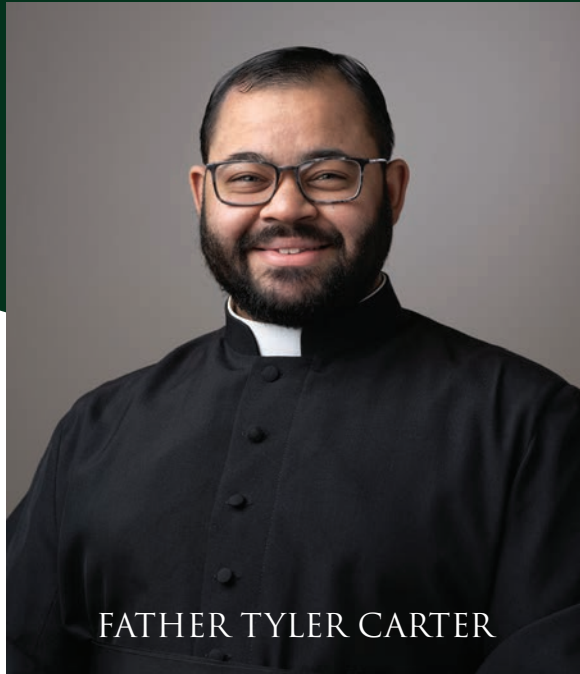



Rev. Daniel Colby was ordained on Saturday, May 18 and celebrated his Mass of Thanksgiving at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church on Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024.

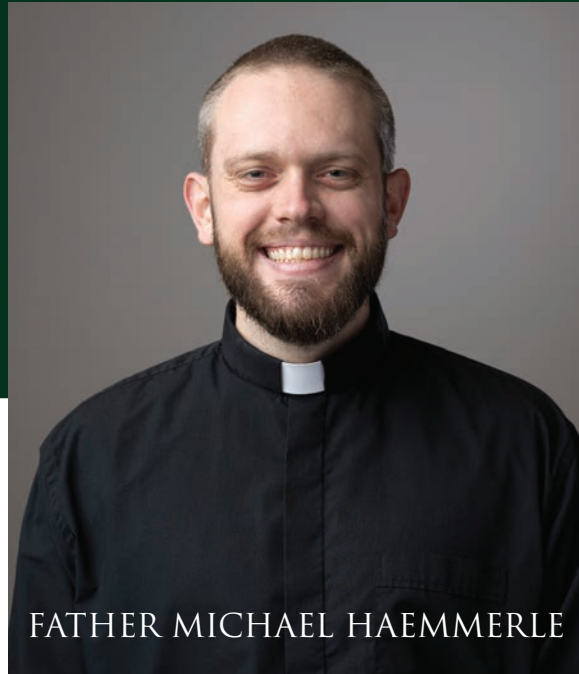


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Father Carter developed profound appreciation for liturgy

Most preschoolers struggle to sit still and stay quiet for an hour at Sunday Mass. It wasn't that way with Tyler Carter.

"When I was pretty young, probably three or four, I've been told I was just really kind of engrossed in the Mass and really paid a lot of attention to the Mass," he said recently.

That interest in the liturgy led to setting up his own Masses at home with his cousins. They turned sheets into vestments and traced around his Irish Catholic grandmother's collectible shot glasses to make their own circular hosts.

Considering his devotion to the Mass at a young age, an interest in pursuing a vocation to the priesthood as he grew into a young adult wasn't all that surprising.

He went straight to seminary out of high school and, nine years later, the young man who had envisioned being a priest one day was ordained on Saturday, May 18 by Bishop Earl Fernandes at Columbus St. Andrew Church.

Father Carter is one of five new diocesan priests who will begin serving at parishes starting in July.

A fellow St. Patrick parishioner, Father Michael Haemmerle, was ordained in the same class.

Father Carter's first assignment will be as a parochial vicar at Gahanna St. Matthew the Apostle Church, one of the

parishes where he spent time as a seminarian.

In addition, Father Carter, 27, will become an administrator at Holy Resurrection Melkite Greek Catholic Church, 4611 Glenmawr Ave., Columbus in August after Father Ignatius Harrington retires.

Since Father Carter's ordination, he has celebrated several Masses, including his first Mass at his home parish, Columbus St. Patrick Church, on Sunday, May 19, the day after his ordination, and on Monday, May 20 at Holy Resurrection.

Father Carter was no stranger to the sanctuary at St. Patrick after having spent countless hours serving at the altar from fifth grade through high school for the Dominican friars, who have staffed the downtown parish since 1885.

He also has celebrated or plans to offer first Masses at Groveport St. Mary and Canal Winchester Pope St. John XXIII parishes, where he served during his final year of seminary, at St. Matthew on Trinity Sunday and in his family's native Pittsburgh at St. Philip Church.

Father Carter attributes several factors as integral to his formation and vocational call, but he said there wasn't a particular moment when he felt God was calling him to the priesthood.

"I just kept praying and trying to follow the logical steps, like serving at St. Pat's," he said. "I was just doing little things

like continuing to pray and build up my prayer life.

"It really helped having a regular routine of daily prayer. I've had a lot of support along the way from people who really helped me with their prayers and their example and just with encouraging me and not forcing it or saying you have to do this now. I felt very free."

Many religious vocations start in the home and Father Carter received support from his family. One of his uncles is Father Timothy Hayes, the pastor at Granville St. Edward the Confessor Church.

"He was always a source of support, kind of sounding board for questions," Father Carter said.

Father Carter credits Mater Dei Academy, an independent Catholic school on the east side of Columbus, as formative in developing his knowledge and zeal for the Catholic faith. He also attended Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School for one year and then moved to Columbus Bishop Watterson for his final three years of high school, graduating in 2015.

"I remember one day I was helping set up for Mass at school (Mater Dei) and Mrs. (Joan) Eppick asked me to go to the back of the room and make sure the altar cloth was straight," he recalled. "And I said it looks good enough. She said, 'No, never good enough ... always our best for God, and that's stuck with me."



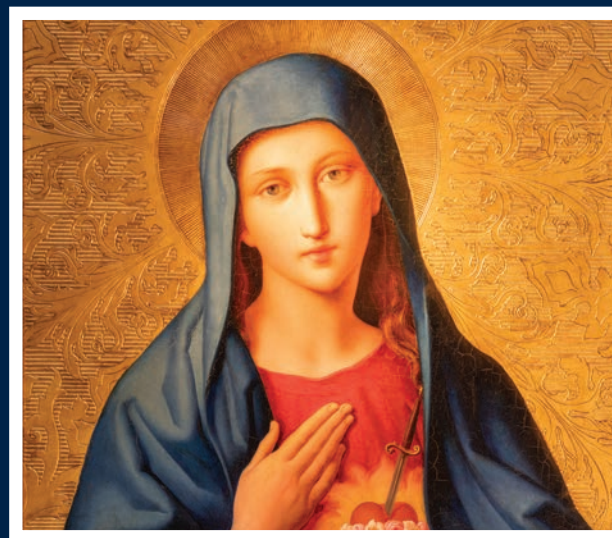
Father Tyler Carter

"I give a lot of credit for nurturing my vocation to Mater Dei Academy and Mrs. Eppick, who was a great influence and just a good example of faith."

As a fifth grader, he began altar serving with other young men at St. Patrick. He continued through high school, allowing him to work closely with the Dominican priests and develop a deeper understanding of the Mass.

See CARTER, Page 20

OR
DINA
TION



Congratulations
FATHER TYLER CARTER
and all our newly ordained priests!

from
ST. MARY & ST. JOHN XXIII PARISH

Father Haemmerle eager to begin serving God's people as priest

After four years of college and seven years in the seminary, Michael Haemmerle was more than ready to be ordained to the priesthood.

Asked about what he thought his first assignment would be as a priest before he actually knew, he said, "I don't care. I just want to be in a parish. Twenty-third grade is too many."

No more books. No more teachers. No more studying for exams – at least for a while.

Father Haemmerle and four others were ordained as priests for the Diocese of Columbus on Saturday, May 18 at Columbus St. Andrew Church by Bishop Earl Fernandes.

"It's been such a long time coming," he said.

In July, Father Haemmerle, 29, will take up residence at Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church as a parochial vicar. He also was named the diocese's assistant director of vocations.

The newly ordained priest spent the first days and weeks after his ordination celebrating first Masses and offering first blessings around the diocese at Columbus St. Patrick Church, his home parish staffed by the Dominican friars; Zanesville St. Nicholas Church, where he was assigned along with Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church on weekends during his final year at the Pontif-

ical College Josephinum; and Hilliard St. Brendan Church, where he spent his pastoral year.

He's looking forward to immersing himself in parish life after years of study and formation.

"It does get long," he said of the time in seminary, "but it's good. It should be long to give you time for discernment. And there's a lot of learn."

In Father Haemmerle's case, discernment took time and patience.

The oldest of five children, Father Haemmerle recalled the first time he thought God might be calling him to become a priest. He was in eighth grade.

"When I was little, I wanted to be an engineer like my dad," he said. "And then I was in Adoration once at (Columbus) Holy Family (Church) doing a homeschool program and the kid next to me was praying his rosary slightly out loud, pretty fast. And I was annoyed.

"I was trying to pray the rosary myself and so I said to myself I'll pray the rosary later. Then I was looking at Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and heard a little voice, like 'Hey, you could be a priest.'"

During high school, he attended some of the diocese's vocations events and continued to pray. But when his senior year rolled around and it came time to apply to colleges, he didn't yet feel a pull toward seminary.

"I said, 'OK, well, I guess I'm not called to the priesthood,'" he said. "I thought about it. I did what I was supposed to do and now I can move on."

He enrolled at Ohio State to study mechanical engineering. At OSU, he became involved in St. Paul's Outreach ministry on campus.

"The idea of the priesthood was just not going away," he said.

He continued to pray and discern. During his junior year, he became convinced that he was being called.

He considered several religious orders but applied to the diocese and was accepted right out of college after earning his engineering degree.

"I had checked out the Dominicans because I was from St. Patrick. I was kind of considering them," he said. "I enjoyed the Benedictines that I visited, but there was something not quite right with each of them.

"I've always liked Columbus, liked the area. Some people say the charism of the diocesan priesthood is being attached to the dirt. This is my home. These are my people. My roots."

Reflecting on the factors that led him to consider a calling to serve the Lord, he said there wasn't one specific thing but a number of little ones. Among those were his family, attending daily Mass and spending many hours serving at the



Father Michael Haemmerle

altar at St. Patrick. An uncle, Father Jerry Haemmerle, is a longtime priest in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

"My family was very open to whatever God was calling us to," he said. "They didn't care what it was. They just wanted to support me and all my siblings in finding their vocation.

"We went to daily Mass a lot and I think that had a huge influence. We also would get families together and pray the

See HAEMMERLE, Page 19



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House of Joseph, to

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FATHER TYLER CARTER

FATHER DANIEL COLBY

FATHER MICHAEL HAEMMERLE

FATHER DAVID JOHNSTONE

&

POPE SAINT JOHN XXIII NATIONAL SEMINARY ALUMNUS

FATHER JASON FOX

Ordained to the Holy Priesthood May 18, 2024

Ad Multos Annos!

HAEMMERLE, continued from Page 18

rosary. Having a community of people to pray together was helpful. And in home-schooling, the faith was very integrated in everything.”

The all-male altar serving program at St. Patrick “was important, having that brotherhood, and helpful to my own discernment,” he said. “And the Dominicans definitely played a role, especially their availability for confession and always being around.

“One of the big attractions (to the priesthood) was being able to offer the sacraments, especially confession. I had received a lot of grace in confession and I wanted to be able to give that to other people.”

At the Josephinum, he spent his initial two years there studying philosophy – and continuing to discern.

“The first two years were a lot of discernment,” he said. “But as you go on, you kind of get more and more sure that this is what I am called to do.

“I think by the end of my third year in seminary, I was pretty sure this is what I was called to – not that there aren’t still questions and doubt.”

After a pastoral year at a parish, “I knew. I got to see parish life for a whole year and loved it. I got some good time to pray there and just felt really called to the priesthood. At that point, there weren’t a ton of doubts and questions

left.”

His assignments at parishes during seminary included Columbus St. Andrew, Columbus Holy Family, Chillicothe St. Peter, St. Brendan the Navigator, Perry County Consortium and St. Nicholas and St. Thomas Aquinas churches.

“I’ve seen more and more how the priest is supposed to be a father to his parish, be part of the family to bring Jesus to them,” he said. “You want to be Christ’s representative on earth with the sacraments, bringing spiritual healing and nourishment.”

Now that he’s finally a priest after all those years of schooling, he’s ready to begin serving the Church.

“I’m super excited to be able to bring the sacraments to people,” he said. “That’s something I’ve been looking forward to for a long time. And I think that’s part of just being in a parish and being a father to people -- bringing Jesus to them in a lot of different ways, sometimes less glamorous than others.

“Life is hard. Everybody has challenges. You get to see parts of people’s lives that nobody else gets to see and be there for the really good times and the really bad (to make) a unique connection with Christ. That’s really special.”



Father Michael Haemmerle receives a chalice and paten from Bishop Earl Fernandes. *CT photo by Ken Snow*

With heartfelt gratitude and prayers, the priests and parishioners of St. Nicholas and St. Thomas Aquinas congratulate our newly ordained priests!

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH

“Oh Jesus, keep them all close to Your heart, and bless them abundantly, in time and in eternity!”
- St. Therese of Lisieux,
Prayer for Priests

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CHURCH

CARTER, *continued from Page 17*

"In my case, I felt drawn to the priesthood and so it's like that was kind of the logical progression to start serving the altar and be closer to the mystery of the Mass," he said. "For me, it was very formative and I know for a lot of people seems to be.

"But I would say in a special way that St. Patrick's with all male servers, it helps you in a different type of bonding when it's just guys. The whole point of having male servers is that they're taking the roles of clerics. There's that vocational aspect that you're getting closer to the altar and getting to know the priests better ... to have that relationship that helps vocations flourish."

Father Carter said he never seriously considered joining the Dominicans despite their positive influence, but "it was a good, formative relationship to have holy priests as mentors to look up to."

Other priests who have influenced him included Father Scott Kramer, C.P.P.S, a priest of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood order who serve at Columbus St. James the Less Church, where Carter and his family attended regularly until moving to St. Patrick before his First Communion.

"He had a very simple way of explaining the faith but with a great depth," Father Carter said. "And it was just really inspiring to see that. So, in addition to the Dominicans, it was really helpful for



Father Tyler Carter (center) prepares to receive a stole and chasuble from Fathers Timothy Hayes (left), his uncle, and Jacob Stinnett.

me to see these good holy priests who are very genuine about their faith."

Father Carter also attended Columbus St. John Chrysostom Church and then Holy Resurrection starting in grade school and developed an appreciation for the Eastern Rite liturgies.

"We learned about the different rites in the Church" at Mater Dei, he said, "and so I asked my mom one Sunday to take me (to St. John Chrysostom), but she doesn't like incense, so she would start dropping me off there for the liturgy. And then I'd go to the social afterward, where they have coffee and doughnuts, and talk to the people, talk to the priest. ... and I

started serving there.

"Then I learned about Holy Resurrection and the Melkites and started helping out there."

The Melkite Greek Catholic Church, which is based mainly in Syria, is in full communion with the Holy See. Melkites are Byzantine Rite Catholics who follow traditions that include incorporating Arabic, Latin and Greek into the liturgy along with English.

Father Carter and Father Robert Jager from Columbus St. John Chrysostom Church will both be celebrating the Divine Liturgy at Holy Resurrection, which has approximately 75 member families,

after Father Harrington's retirement at the end of July.

"I learned all of these forms and it really was a very well-rounded liturgical and ecclesiastical experience," Father Carter said. "You could see the different theology, spirituality, liturgy between the new and old rites of the Mass, the Divine Liturgy, and it's all Catholic."

After nine challenging years of studying to be a priest that included the COVID-19 pandemic at the midpoint of his time at the Pontifical College Josephinum, Father Carter is ready to serve the Church as a priest, especially being able to provide the sacraments.

"It's really a great blessing being able to say Mass, which is the source and summit of our faith," he said. "That's the thing that first drew me to being a priest ... being able to call down our Lord upon the altar every day. Being able to remember all my family and friends at every Mass, the people who have formed and shaped my life, remembering them at the altar is the greatest thanks I could ever give. ...

"Being able to bring the presence of Christ to people, especially the sick and dying, I'm looking forward to being able to minister as an alter Christus (another Christ). There's a feeling of unspeakable joy I don't know to put into words, but there's a burning fire there."

The Eucharist: Sacrament of Truth and Love A Men's Day of Reflection

Saturday, June 1, 2024 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Pontifical College Josephinum

7625 North High Street | Columbus, OH 43235

Facilitated by Father Peter Fegan, OP

SCHEDULE:

- 7:30am **Registration Begins**
(Main Lobby)
- 8:00am **Breakfast**
- 9:00am **Welcome & Conference 1**
(Saint Turibius Chapel)
- 10:15am **Rosary in the Pines**
- 11:00am **Mass**
- Noon **Lunch**
- 1:00pm **Outdoor Stations
of the Cross**
- 2:00pm **Conference 2**
- 3:00pm **Tour of the Josephinum**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation
offered before Mass**

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch Provided
(Seminary Refectory)

Parking: Complimentary
Cost: \$40/Registrant

Brought to you by



Information & Registration: pcj.edu/mensdayofreflection

19 receive Josephinum diplomas

Nineteen graduates became alumni of America's only pontifical seminary as the Pontifical College Josephinum celebrated its 125th commencement exercises on Saturday, May 11.

The graduating class included seminarians from the dioceses of Columbus, Steubenville, Birmingham (Alabama), Gaylord (Michigan), Jefferson City (Missouri) and Wheeling-Charleston (West Virginia) and the Fathers of Mercy religious order. Students from Fresno, California and Paterson, New Jersey were granted graduate degrees from the Josephinum Diaconate Institute.

Four degree recipients were ordained as priests of the Diocese of Columbus one week after the commencement ceremony. They are Deacon (now Father) Tyler A. Carter, Master of Divinity; Deacon (now Father) Daniel H. Colby, Master of Divinity, Master of Arts *summa cum laude* and Hispanic Ministry Field Education Certificate; Deacon (now Father) Michael R. Haemmerle, Master of Divinity, and Deacon (now Father) David A. Johnstone, Master of Divinity and Baccalaureate of Sacred Theology.

Other Columbus seminarians receiving degrees were Christopher A. Dixon, Bachelor of Philosophy; Michael J. Rhatican, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy *summa cum laude* and Matthew S. Waldman, Bachelor of Arts in Philoso-

phy *cum laude*.

The day began with Baccalaureate Mass in the seminary's St. Turibius Chapel celebrated by Bishop Earl Fernandes, vice chancellor of the college. Concelebrating were Father Steven Beseau, the college's rector/president, college faculty members and many visiting clergy.

After Mass, more than 200 guests joined seminary priests, faculty, staff, and seminarians in the Msgr. Leonard Fick Auditorium for commencement exercises. Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Philosophy, Master of Divinity and Master of Arts degrees were conferred upon the seminarians by Father Beseau.

The Josephinum, in affiliation with the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome, granted a Baccalaureate in Sacred Theology pontifical degree to Deacon Johnstone and one other graduating transitional deacon.

Deacon Colby and one other graduating transitional deacon were awarded a Hispanic Ministry Field Education Certificate. The Josephinum was one of the first seminaries in the United States to develop a Hispanic ministry program that prepares seminarians for ministry in the Latino community immediately after ordination.

Three individuals received a Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies degree from

the Josephinum Diaconate Institute, which was inaugurated in response to the continuing education and formation requirements of permanent deacons. The institute offers educational programs through distance learning in English and Spanish to diaconal aspirants and candidates, permanent deacons and their spouses, and lay ministers serving or preparing to serve the people of God through ministry in the Catholic Church.

The final honor bestowed at commencement was the Pinter Scholar Award, which was presented to Rhatican. The award was established in 1975 in memory of Msgr. Nicholas Pinter, a Josephinum faculty member for 55 years. It recognizes a College of Liberal Arts seminarian who has excelled in academic formation.

Rhatican offered an address on behalf of the Class of 2024 in which he acknowledged his transformative experience of formation at the Josephinum.

Commencement marked the close of the seminary's 124th year of forming priests. Graduates of its School of Theology returned to their respective dioceses to be ordained as priests, joining more than 1,000 ordained Josephinum alumni who serve the Church in nearly every U.S. state and 18 nations.



Diocese of Columbus seminarians who graduated with undergraduate or graduate degrees from the Pontifical College Josephinum on Saturday, May 11 were (front row from left) Matthew Waldman, Christopher Dixon and Michael Rhatican; (back row from left) Fathers Tyler Carter, David Johnstone, Michael Haemmerle and Daniel Colby.

Photo courtesy Pontifical College Josephinum

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Seminarians talk vocations with students on bike tour

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

The annual Seminarian Bike Tour made a stop at Delaware St. Mary School on Tuesday, May 14. Eleven diocesan seminarians rode down from their first destination – Marion St. Mary School – and spoke with students in various classrooms about vocations.

The tour continued south on Wednesday with stops at Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare School and Columbus Bishop Watterson High School. On Thursday, the seminarians biked to Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School and Columbus Immaculate Conception School.

Seminarians discussed three main vocations – the priesthood, religious life and marriage – with students. Several also shared stories of how God called them to the priesthood.

At Delaware St. Mary, Deacon Joey Rolwing, who was recently ordained to the transitional diaconate, Justin Fagge and Nick Love visited the seventh-grade science class. They discussed with students the importance of discovering God's individual call for their lives.

"The God of the universe from all eternity has known you personally and created you for a particular reason, ultimately because He wants you to experience incredible joy and fulfillment and adventure and love, and He's known the path that He has walked out for you for all eternity," Deacon Rolwing told students.

"Now, it's up to each one of us to figure out what that is and then pursue it so that we can reach the fulfillment He has created us for."

Love, 25, shared with students how he discovered a possible vocation to the priesthood.

"The seed was planted when I started altar serving in fourth grade," he said. "That was a big part of my vocation."

After attending college for a couple of years and then working, Love said, he lacked the relationship with God that he was called to.

"I wanted to build my relationship with God again and reestablish myself, so I

started praying a lot more," he said. "Going to Holy Hour was a huge thing and praying the rosary, and I made that a routine weekly."

"It wasn't that I wanted to enter into seminary. I just wanted to build that relationship. And over a year, I found myself calling the priests who I talked to in high school, and it was about time for me to enter seminary."

Liz Bender, 13, a St. Mary seventh-grade student, said she enjoyed having seminarians visit her class.

"I thought it was really cool how they came to the different classrooms to speak to all of the kids about the vocations, so that they can get thinking about what their vocation is when they get older," she said.

Seminarians Michael Rhatican, Mark Jewett, Ben Van Buren and Shane Gerrity visited the eighth-grade American history class. Rhatican offered students practical ways to discern their vocation.

"It's important for us to separate some time out of each day to pray to God and to listen to His voice because if we don't know what that is, if we don't know what God's will for our lives is, then we have no direction," he said. "We're just existing really; we're not living to the full."

"Maybe, before bed, take five or 10 minutes and sit by your bedside. Maybe read the Scriptures. That's how we get to know Jesus Christ. ... If we get to know Jesus, we get to know our vocations."

In the first-grade classroom, Rhatican shared his vocation story. He told students that God's call for him to the priesthood was similar to God's call to the prophet Samuel.

In the Bible, recorded in 1 Samuel, God called Samuel's name several times. Samuel mistakenly thought he was hearing Eli, the priest.

After the third call, Eli told Samuel, if he hears the voice again, to respond, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."

Anthony Heinlen, 8, a first-grade student, appreciated having seminarians visit his classroom.

"It was fun," he said.

Heinlen said he enjoyed "the story Michael told us" and "how God spoke to him



Fifth-grader Zachary Bender (holding racquet) chats with seminarian Zack Goodchild during a visit to a Delaware St. Mary School physical education class on Tuesday, May 14.

CT photos by Ken Snow



Pausing for a photo in front of Delaware St. Mary School on May 14 during the annual Seminarians Bike Tour are (from left) Deacon Sam Severance, Justin Fagge, Deacon Joey Rolwing, Ben Van Buren, Kennedy Ofezu, Luke Eschmeyer, Michael Rhatican, Zack Goodchild, Shane Gerrity, Nick Love and Mark Jewett.

and he thought it was someone else."

Seminarians Zack Goodchild, Luke Eschmeyer, Kennedy Ofezu and Deacon Sam Severance, who was recently ordained to the transitional diaconate, visited the fifth-grade physical education class. After discussing vocations, they joined students for some tennis.

Fifth-grade student Zachary Bender, 12, developed a new understanding of the priesthood. After spending time with

seminarians on the court, he thinks differently of priests.

"I used to think they're boring people reading books, but now, since they're playing around, they're having a lot of fun," he said.

"I first thought of becoming a priest when I was very young. I thought it would be boring, sitting there starting Mass, but now, I think it might be what Jesus is calling me to do."



Delaware St. Mary School first-grader Anthony Heinlen said the seminarians' visit was fun.



Seventh-grader Liz Bender enjoyed hearing the seminarians' vocations stories.



Seminarian Michael Rhatican hands a shirt to a first-grader at St. Mary School.

LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS

Sacred Hearts Church to celebrate feast on June 7

Cardington Sacred Hearts Church, 4680 U.S. Route 42, invites families throughout the diocese to join in an evening of celebrating the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus on Friday, June 7.

The celebration will begin with Eucharistic Adoration at 5 p.m., followed by Mass at 6, a Eucharistic procession, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, enthronement of the parish to the Sacred Heart and a light dinner.

As part of the 350th anniversary of the Sacred Heart devotion, those attending the Mass will receive a plenary indulgence, granting remission of all temporal punishment due for sins, if they fulfill the other conditions for the indulgence: receiving the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation within a reasonable time, being free from all attachment to sin, and praying for the pope's intentions.

New home found for Turban Project

The Turban Project is moving to a new home at 858 Garfield Ave. in Newark.

In the 12 years since its founding by women of Knights of Columbus Council 10820 in Dresden, the project has become a worldwide organization that has donated more than 200,000 items of handmade headwear blessed by a priest to people who have lost their hair because of a medical condition, usually from cancer treatment. It has sewing groups in every state and 13 other nations.

It is moving from the offices of Newark Development Partners and will share the new location with the Newborns in Need organization, as it did when both had space at the Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center in rural Licking County.

The time for the move will be announced when work is completed at the site. The project's current workroom was blessed recently by Bishop Earl Fernandes and Father David Sizemore, pastor of Newark St. Francis de Sales Church.

The project will be applying for grants and conducting fundraisers to help with startup expenses. It is always looking for volunteers who sew or want to perform other needed tasks at home or in the workroom. Precut, ready-to-sew fabric is provided.

All Turban Project items are free for the recipient. Besides the gift of time, donations of gift cards to Joann Fabrics or Hobby Lobby, novelty fabric and monetary donations are appreciated.

If you have questions, want to make a donation or volunteer, visit www.turbanproject.com, mail The Turban Project at 7871 Ridge Road, Frazeyburg OH 43822 or call Kathy Braidich at (740) 504-6133.

Right to Life banquet set for June 10 in Columbus

The annual Greater Columbus Right to Life banquet will take place Monday, June 10 at Villa Milano, 1630 Schrock Road, Columbus and feature a presentation by

speaker, songwriter and worship leader Steven Holland, founder of Florida-based Broken Not Dead Ministries.

Holland's conception was the result of the gang rape of a developmentally disabled woman at a group home. She refused to have an abortion, ran away from the home and was homeless when she gave birth to him. Seven days later, he was placed with a loving family that rejected the prevailing notion that a biracial child born to a homeless, developmentally delayed woman would never belong.

Holland will share more of his story at the banquet, including how he got his name and dealt with the circumstances of his birth and adoption, how he met his mother 27 years after being born and how God has transformed his life. He is married and the father of three daughters.

Admission to the banquet is free. There will be an invitation to support pro-life work at the conclusion. Learn more and register at gctrl.org/banquet or by calling (614) 445-8508.

Young men invited to Quo Vadis camp in July

The annual Quo Vadis vocations discernment camp for young men of high school age will take place from Sunday to Wednesday, July 28 to 31 at the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus.

The camp will be led by priests and seminarians of the Diocese of Columbus and is supported by the diocesan vocations office. It provides a chance for young men entering grades 9 to 12 to consider what God's will may be for their lives and equip them with the tools to do so.

The cost is \$50 and scholarships are available for those in need of financial assistance. The registration deadline is Friday, July 19. To register or for more information, go to <https://www.vocations-columbus.org/quovadis> or email columbusquovadis@gmail.com.

Competition for new Marian statue announced

Plans for a statewide competition to design a replacement for the 20-foot Our Lady of Fatima statue at Indian Lake that was destroyed by a tornado on March 14 have been announced.

The American Society of Ephesus, which owns the property, has partnered with ArtSpace/Lima to conduct the competition, which will have six categories: 10 and under, 12 and under, 14 and under, 16 and under, 18 and under and adult. The competition is limited to Ohio residents. A five-person jury will review the submissions and award prizes in each division.

ASE president Bill Quatman said the statue must be of Our Lady of Fatima. Unlike the original statue, it will not have fountains or rotation and motors, because these have been found too hard to maintain.

Designers will be asked to include sitework, landscaping, lighting, pedes-

tal, location, materials and height. Entry forms, rules and a schedule will be posted on the ASE and ArtSpace/Lima websites by Thursday, June 13, along with design criteria and an updated survey of the site and photos. Designs are to be submitted electronically by Sept. 15. Plans are for the new shrine to be dedicated by August 15, 2026.

Following the EF3 tornado that killed three people and injured at least 27 others, it took more than two weeks for divers to find pieces of the fiberglass statue, which was dedicated in 1964, in Indian Lake. The remnants of the statue's pedestal were demolished for safety reasons.

"We don't know how long it takes to fabricate a large statue, nor whether it will be made of metal, stone, concrete, fiberglass or whatever. But allowing two years gives us plenty of time to build the new shrine. In the meantime, the property will be a nice-looking green field," Quatman said.

For more information, visit www.ase-gbq-foundation.org or www.artspacelima.com.

New Albany parish to present refugee-themed art display

The New Albany Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, will be displaying 34 refugee-themed paintings from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, June 6. The paintings will be auctioned off later this month to benefit the local Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS) organization.

They are part of the Columbus Crossing Borders Project, an art exhibit and documentary film created to inspire critical thinking, compassion and support for the millions of people who have been forced to flee their homes due to war, climate, violence and persecution.

The auction is live and may be viewed at Columbus Crossing Borders Project Art Auction (auctria.com). Bidding will close on Saturday, June 22.

Shrine will have special day of prayer for Bishop Fernandes

The National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion in Wisconsin will have a special day of prayer for Columbus Bishop Earl Fernandes on Wednesday, June 5.

The shrine began sponsoring a prayer day for each individual bishop and auxiliary bishop in the United States on May 1 and will continue the program, called the Shepherd Project, through Oct. 31. A perpetual candle will be lit in the shrine's apparition oratory for the bishop who is the focus of that day's prayers.

"As our world faces a shortage of peace and an increase in division and attacks within our families and the Church, our bishops are facing extreme challenges," a release from the shrine said. "This is why they need our prayers, now more than ever, for the grace necessary to heroically lead people of faith in these uncertain times."

The shrine, formerly known as the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help, is located in the community of Champion in the Diocese of Green Bay, Wisconsin, and is where the Virgin Mary appeared three times to 28-year-old Adele Brise in 1859. It is the only approved Marian apparition site in the United States.

For more information, go to <https://championshrine.org/shepherd-project>.

Bereavement ministry lists schedule for June, July

The Seasons of Hope bereavement ministry invites anyone mourning the loss of a loved one to take part in a grief support group on the Sundays of June 23 and 30 and July 14, 21 and 28.

Meetings will be from 2 to 4 p.m. at Columbus Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., and sponsored by the Northland/North High Deanery.

To register, contact Debbie Kennedy at kennedydeborah@yahoo.com or (614) 937-0516.

Record society to meet June 23

The Catholic Record Society will host its quarterly meeting at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 23 in the first-floor meeting room of the Catholic Center, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus.

Dr. Chris Ryckman of Lancaster will speak on the life of "Mother Angela Gillespie – Lancaster's Angel."

Mother Angela, born Eliza Gillespie, was a member of the Congregation of the Holy Cross. In the Civil War era, she established many educational institutions, worked to save the lives of soldiers during the war and helped bring good medical care to Columbus.

Ryckman is a retired physician who worked at Mount Carmel Hospital in Columbus, which Mother Angela and her congregation were instrumental in founding.

A short business meeting will follow the presentation. Ample parking will be available in the St. Joseph Cathedral lot next to the Catholic Center and a ramp leads from ground level to the door. For more information, call Mark Gideon at (614) 312-8026.

Senior citizens celebration is June 20 in Grove City

The 45th annual diocesan senior citizens celebration will take place Thursday, June 20 at Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, 3730 Broadway.

Bishop Earl Fernandes will celebrate Mass at 10:30 a.m., with a luncheon to follow.

The cost is \$20 per person. To register, send a check payable to the Diocesan Office for Social Concerns, Diocese of Columbus, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215.

For more information call (614) 241-2540 or email socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org. Online registration is at dioceseofcolumbus.org/social-concerns-online-payments. Registrations are requested by Friday, June 14.

Corpus Christi Year B

Body and Blood bring faithful into communion with Christ, each other

Exodus 24:3-8
Psalm 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18
Hebrews 9:11-15
Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

Four years ago, many Catholics experienced a “famine” due to Covid lockdown. As a pastor having to close the doors of the church and being unable to gather for the celebration of Mass with the people I had served for 12 years, I felt keenly the absence of the community.

I had to update my understanding of technology using my cell phone and learning how to livestream on Facebook and YouTube. It was all very informal, but it connected me with my people. I developed a daily routine of celebrating the Mass of the day, downloading the recording, adding a few pictures and context by way of a movie program, and uploading the product for wider sharing. It was good to try to keep the community connected. But it was not an authentic experience of Eucharistic bonding.

Sadly, my time with the children of our school ended before the end-of-the-year celebrations. When a new bishop chose to move me to a new parish setting in that context, it was a real sadness to have a goodbye at a distance.

If we pay attention to the real anguish of such experiences, we ought to be able to understand better what the Eucharist is meant to be. It is not a mere obligation. It is truly a privilege and, now that the “fast” is over, it ought to be unthinkable to miss it. There was a small hope that this experience would serve to remind everyone of how central Eucharist is to the life of faith.

Most parish communities have been

10th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Father Timothy Hayes

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



able to return to their former practices. But notably missing are many who used to be with us. Some have chosen to watch the celebrations online, but not to return to full engagement with the community. Others have let their attention be directed to other pursuits and projects. Worship in common has ceased to be important to them.

The Scriptures of the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ remind us of our very nature as the people of God. Moses set before the people of Israel who they were to be for God. “*Taking the book of the covenant, he read it aloud to the people, who answered, ‘All that the LORD has said, we will heed and do.’*” The psalmist prefigured the Eucharist and the commitment we make in worship in the cry: “*I will take the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.*”

The Letter to the Hebrews, which highlights the priesthood of Jesus, points to the depth of the gift offered to us through the Eucharist. “*For if the blood of goats and bulls and the sprinkling of a heifer’s ashes can sanctify those who are defiled so that their flesh is cleansed, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from dead works to worship the living God.*”

Mark’s account of the Last Supper helps us to realize that Jesus has established a covenant with us. The night before He died, He created the ritual that

God calls us to pursue unity in His world

Genesis 3:9-15
Psalm 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1
Mark 3:20-35

Division in families and polarization between groups and organizations are all too common in our time. From the beginning, it is evident that God wills the unity of all human beings and oneness with creation. The account of the fall of Adam and Eve presents the human condition as the result of a human choice that had consequences beyond the expectations of those who made it. When confronted with their disobedience, the “blame game” begins. Adam blames Eve. Eve blames the serpent. God intervenes by a punishment that is designed to leave open a reversal of the condition.

The beginnings of the rule of sin are present, dividing human beings and separating them from paradise and creation’s intended harmony. To Adam and Eve,

God explains the consequences of their choice, but then He creates a distance between human beings and the deceiver that can be filled in. “*I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike at your head, while you strike at his heel.*” There is a future that can be directed toward a renewal of the unity willed by God in the beginning.

When Jesus – who is the promised offspring of Eve that will strike at the serpent’s head – expels the demonic from a human situation, bystanders accuse Him of being in league with Satan. Jesus responds that the house of Satan is already beginning to fall. “*If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand; that is the end of him.*”

Our response to the call to unity must

be the heart of our “work” in the contemporary world. To belong to God and to desire union with God include the acknowledgment of belonging to the people of God and the effort to create a world where individuals and families can thrive in community. Our daily experience makes evident both the reality of original sin and the work of forces beyond us that strive to keep us separate from God and one another. We are polarized and so fail to open to the action of God to restore creation. It is ironic (and demonic!) that even the efforts to promote unity and care for creation become fodder for divisiveness.

Jesus’ response to division is to invite us into His family. “*‘Who are my mother and my brothers?’ And looking around at those seated in the circle he said, ‘Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.’*” We are all children of the same Father, the Author of Creation.

The Responsorial Psalm allows us to

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

6/3-6/8
MONDAY
2 Peter 1:2-7
Psalm 91:1-2, 14-16
Mark 12:1-12

TUESDAY
2 Peter 3:12-15a, 17-18
Psalm 90:2-4, 10, 14, 16
Mark 12:13-17

WEDNESDAY
2 Timothy 1:1-3, 6-12
Psalm 123:1-2
Mark 12:18-27

THURSDAY
2 Timothy 2:8-15
Psalm 25:4-5, 8-10, 14
Mark 12:28-34

FRIDAY
Hosea 11:1, 3-4, 8c-9
Isaiah 12:2-6 (Ps)
John 19:31-37

SATURDAY
2 Timothy 4:1-8
Psalm 71:8-9, 14-15b, 16-17, 22
Luke 2:41-51

6-10/6-15
MONDAY
1 Kings 17:1-6
Psalm 121:1b-8
Matthew 5:1-12

TUESDAY
Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3
Psalm 98:1-6
Matthew 5:13-16

WEDNESDAY
1 Kings 18:20-39
Psalm 16:1-2, 4-5, 8, 11
Matthew 5:17-19

THURSDAY
1 Kings 18:41-46
Psalm 65:10-13
Matthew 5:20-26

FRIDAY
1 Kings 19:9a, 11-16
Psalm 27:7-9c, 13-14
Matthew 5:27-32

SATURDAY
1 Kings 19:19-21
Psalm 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-10
Matthew 5:33-37

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION

Mass Schedule: Weeks of June 3 and June 10, 2024

SUNDAY MASS

10:30am Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio AM820, Columbus, FM88.3, Portsmouth, and FM106.7, Athens., and at www.stgabrielradio.com and diocesan website, www.columbus-catholic.org.

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 Breeze-line 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.

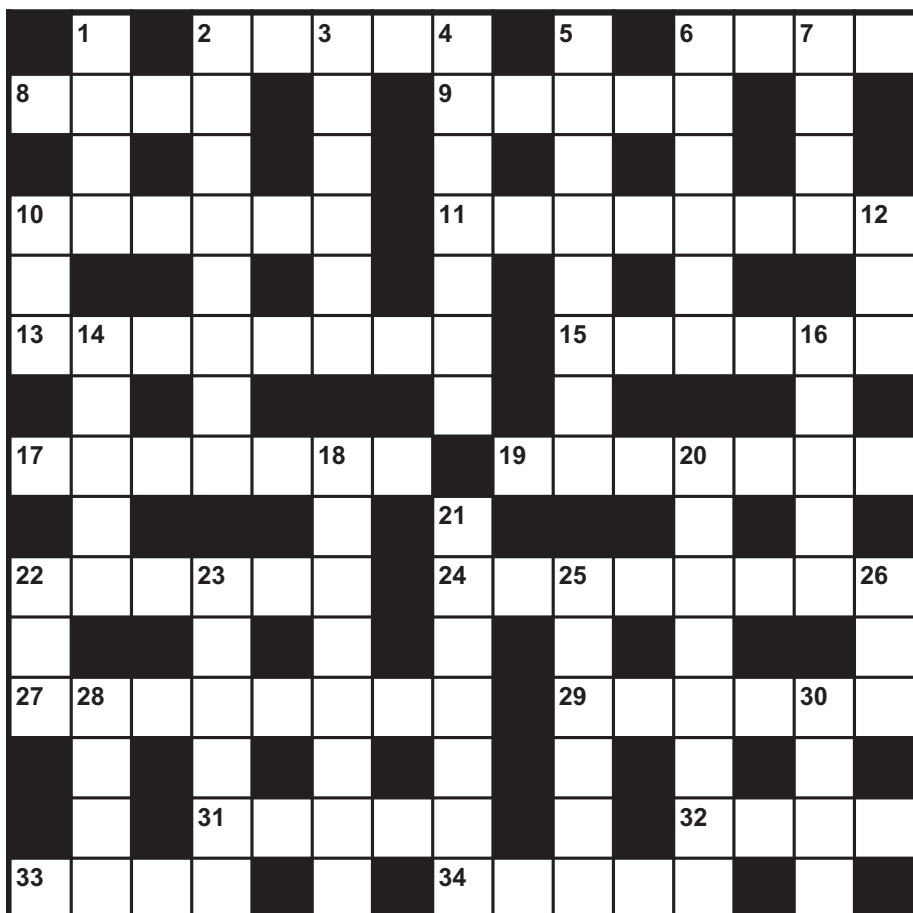
WE PRAY WEEKS II AND III OF THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar are the fulfillment of the promise of the Lord to be with us always and the means by which we experience His power to heal and save our world. The sequence for the feast expresses it this way: “*Christ willed what he himself had done should be renewed while time should run, in memory of his parting hour: Thus, tutored in his school divine, we consecrate the bread and wine; and lo – a Host of saving power.*”

make our cry from the depths of this world’s despair. But since we know that God hears the cry of our hearts, we know that “*With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.*”

The way to keep our minds and hearts in unity is to fix our eyes on God’s plan for us. This plan will bring creation back to harmony and lead us to union with God and one another. Paul expresses this to the Corinthians as acknowledgment of the “weight of glory,” that is, the importance of our common destiny. “*For this momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to what is seen but to what is unseen; for what is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal. For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven.*” May we find the path to unity and stay in it, watching Satan’s kingdom fall.

CATHOLIC CROSSWORD



www.wordgamesforcatholics.com

ACROSS

- 2 "My ___ I leave you"
- 6 Type of tribe Ephraim and Manasseh are
- 8 "...___ and female he created them"
- 9 One of the seven deadly sins
- 10 The ___ Office
- 11 Room in the Church where the priest vests for Mass
- 13 Describes the soul
- 15 Meal for Ezekiel?
- 17 Altar perfume
- 19 ___ of Columbus
- 22 Crib for Baby Jesus
- 24 A diocese in Virginia
- 27 Declare a saint
- 29 ___ on the Mount
- 31 One of the seven deadly sins
- 32 Husband of Eve
- 33 Marian color
- 34 Mother of Isaac

- 2 Individual reading in the Lectionary
- 3 Season during which the Joyful Mysteries are prayed
- 4 Romans or Jude
- 5 Type of priest
- 6 Patron saint of the isle of Jersey
- 7 One of the seven deadly sins
- 10 Opus ___
- 12 Brynner who played pharaoh in "The Ten Commandments"
- 14 Heavenly fare
- 16 Language of the Tridentine Mass
- 18 Religious ceremonies
- 20 Not Sodom
- 21 "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's ___" (Jn 15:13)
- 22 Catholic actor, Fred ___ Murray
- 23 Patron saint of agricultural workers
- 25 One of 1D, traditionally
- 26 Tribe of Israel
- 28 Son of Adam
- 30 Patron saint of Norway

DOWN

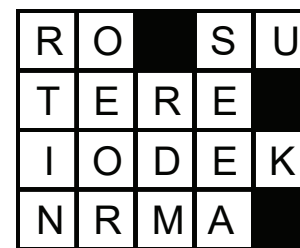
- 1 The three kings

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.

God may break us ...



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PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

BARNES, Gene E., 91, May 13
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

BRANNIGAN, Margaret M. "Peggy" (McGinty), 90, May 8
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

CAIN, Christina Marie, 57, May 12
St. Mary Church, Marion

CALDERONE, Palmer "Cal," 91, May 10
St. Michael Church, Worthington

CANNANE, Billie Ann, 68, May 14
St. Mary Church, Marion

CANTWELL, Michael G., 67, May 7
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

CARMACK, Joanne (Luxbacher), 83, March 5
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

DAVIS, Jeanne M. (Grady), 90, May 9
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

DINAN, Theresa (Campbell), 79, May 16
St. Elizabeth Church, Columbus

DOTY, Shirley J., 89, May 15
St. Mary Church, Marion

DOYLE, Cecilia A., 73, May 4
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

DUPRE, Pamela (Gagnon), 69, May 19
St. Joseph Church, Dover

FOLEY, Thomas B., 76, May 12
St. Mary, Mother of God Church, Columbus

GERLACH, Michael C., 79, May 13
St. Mary, Mother of God Church, Columbus

GUY, H. Kenneth, 92, May 11
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

HOESSLY, Katherine A. "Kitty" (Griggs), 101, May 18
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

HOOPER, Austin Dale, 72, May 14
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

MASON, Frances (Martin), 91, May 8
St. Joseph Church, Dover

PERKO, Joseph G., 81, April 24
St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus

RENICKER, Joanne (Tamborini), 84, May 5
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

SIMMONS, David W., 65, May 8
St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus

WALTERS, Ronald A., 77, May 11
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

WISINTAINER, Evelyn (Weller), 84, April 2
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

Deacon Melvin "Mickey" Hawkins

Funeral Mass for Deacon Melvin "Mickey" Hawkins, 75, who died Monday, May 20, was celebrated Wednesday, May 29 at Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church.

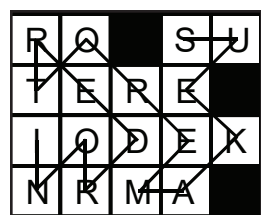
He was born on May 13, 1948 to Melvin and Mary Catharine (O'Reilly) Hawkins. He was a graduate of Columbus St. James the Less School and Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School and received a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Franklin University in 1975. He was a member of the U.S. Army in Vietnam from 1966 to 1969, serving in Vietnam in 1968 and 1969, and was employed for 31 years by the Ohio Bell Telephone Co. and its successor, Ameritech.

He began diaconal studies in 1995 and

was ordained to the diaconate on Feb. 3, 2001 by Bishop James Griffin at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral. He performed his diaconal service at St. Paul Church from then until his retirement in 2022 and also served as administrator at Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center in Newark and business manager at Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church and Powell St. Joan of Arc Church. His final employment was as a school bus driver for VAT Inc. of Columbus and the Westerville schools.

He was among the founders of the St. Paul School Athletic Association in the early 1980s, serving as president in 1992. He also coached football and baseball at the school, was active in its Stewardship Employment Ministry and was diocesan Scout chaplain for several years.

He was preceded in death by his parents; daughters, Mary and Ann; and brother, Msgr. Stephen Hawkins. Survivors include his wife, Patricia (Morey); sons, Scott (Jennifer), Joe (Olivia) and Dan (Amy); daughter, Karen (Jamie) Hardy; brothers, Mark (Jody) and Jeff (Wendy); and nine grandchildren.



WORDS OF WISDOM SOLUTION

Support Catholic Home Missions

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has asked that a second collection be taken for Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Four out of 10 dioceses in the United States lack the resources to provide basic pastoral care for their faithful without outside help. Throughout the United States, a collection is taken one weekend each year to help these churches. The collection in the Diocese of Columbus will be taken on the weekend of June 1-2, 2024.

Catholic Home Mission funds help to create strong and vibrant communities of faith. The collection responds to people's material and spiritual needs, offering ongoing spiritual formation and ministry training. It also brings the flame of God's love into many hearts, both in urban and remote areas. The appeal helps sustain the Catholic faith and the continuous celebration of the Sacra-

ments.

Our prayers and support for the appeal help meet the faith needs in mission dioceses, which include the rural areas of the South (Mississippi, Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, and the Carolinas); Appalachian regions, including here in Ohio; Alaska; and the Caribbean. Helping satisfy the spiritual needs of our brothers and sisters across America unites all of us as a Catholic family. I invite you to respond generously to the Catholic Home Missions Appeal.

May the Lord bless us in our efforts to help expand and strengthen the presence of the Church at home.

Grateful for your generosity and prayers, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Earl Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus

COLLECTION, continued from Page 11

attend this four-day event.

James Watts, director of the Office of Black Catholic Ministry in the Diocese of Birmingham, Alabama who attended the event and was thankful, said, "Along with enjoying opportunities to pray together, attendees took part in sessions on topics including evangelization, synodality and racial divide, gentrification, engagement of younger generations and ways to create unity in shared parishes" (Catholic Home Missions, issue 4, 2023).

"The fund allowed him to participate this remarkable event which helped him to partakers of church mission and to be advocates of Church teaching among his faith community."

The Vatican Council is particularly eloquent on this point relative to the role of the laity: They are to "make Christ visible for others" (Lumen Gentium, n.31). The active missionaries take part in the apostolate of the Church by placing their services to promote evangelization.

In the mission dioceses, especially in inner city and remote villages, Catholic communities have a hard time finding a priest to celebrate Mass. It may take weeks, months to see a priest.

Most of the spiritual needs are met by permanent deacons who witness marriages, preside at funerals, burial services, distribute Holy Communion, and celebrate baptism as well.

Sister Kathy Radich, a Franciscan, said, "We depend on permanent deacons (and also lay ministers) to keep the faith alive in those communities. If it weren't for them, we would not have a Catholic community here" (Catholic Home Missions, issue 1, 2024).

Mission dioceses do marvelous work among non-Christians, the urban poor

and minorities. They also promote mission awareness, vocations and train them for missionary work. Their contribution of service alleviates the suffering of the poor.

For example, Glenmary missionaries are devoted and exclusively serving poor in rural U.S. home missions. Their ministries include building Catholic Communities, evangelizing the unchurched.

In Ohio, the Dioceses of Steubenville and Youngstown, the Romanian Eparchy of Canton and the Ukrainian Eparchy of Parma are considered mission dioceses-eparchies. All receive a grant from the USCCB subcommittee of Catholic Home Missions.

Let our ears echo the words of His Holiness, Pope Pius XII: "We shall spare no effort to cause the Catholic religion to shine also upon distant peoples and to have the shadow of the Cross, in which are life and salvation, fall on the remote areas of the earth. The people whom we encounter everyday realize the depth of God's love and His never ending friendship through our spiritual deeds and commitments in our daily task."

Let us renew our baptismal call to reach out our fellow men and proclaim Christ through our deeds of mercy and love. Let our evangelization renewal assist and take action to influence everyone. Thus, Church becomes the sign of unity and peace.

May our prayers, sacrifices, and financial support for the missions bring more priestly vocations and missionaries who bring the light of Christ and the expansion of the reign of Christ who shed His Blood for all mankind.



A procession on Our Lady of Fatima's feast day crosses the Scioto River bridge on West Broad Street into downtown Columbus.
CT photos by Ken Snow



A member of the procession holds a statue of Our Lady with the three Fatima children along the route.



Maria Francesca Pia Filomena, OFS, a secular Franciscan and a member of Gahanna St. Matthew Church, prays during Benediction.

Annual downtown procession honors Our Lady of Fatima

What has become an annual procession in downtown Columbus to honor the feast day of Our Lady of Fatima took place again this year with a large contingent of priests, religious and laity walking 1.8 miles between Columbus Holy Family and St. Patrick churches on Monday, May 13.

Led by altar boys carrying a statue of Our Lady of Fatima, flags and a crucifix, the procession began at Holy Family,

584 W. Broad St., and proceeded east on West Broad over the Scioto River bridge into downtown before moving past the Ohio Statehouse and stopping for prayer in front of St. Joseph Cathedral before moving on to St. Patrick.

Each mystery of the rosary was recited throughout the procession in honor of Our Lady of Fatima, who appeared to three children in Portugal in 1917 to offer a message of prayer and repentance for the

world.

The pilgrims filled St. Patrick Church for prayer before the Blessed Sacrament that concluded with Benediction led by Father Michael Mary Dosch, OP, former pastor at St. Patrick and former novice master for the Order of Preachers (Dominicans) in Cincinnati. The Dominicans have staffed St. Patrick since 1885.

The evening began with a Holy Hour at Holy Family that included Exposition

of the Blessed Sacrament, rosary and Benediction.

Among the estimated 500 faithful taking part in the procession were the Mercedarian Fathers from Holy Family, Dominican friars from St. Patrick and clergy from St. Leo Oratory and diocesan parishes. Also joining the procession were religious sisters from various orders who minister in the Diocese of Columbus.



Altar boys kneel for prayer in front of Our Lady of Fatima and the Blessed Sacrament inside St. Patrick Church at the end of the procession.



Religious sisters and clergy members lead the prayers in front of St. Joseph Cathedral during the procession.

Cemetery enthroned to Sacred Heart, Immaculate Heart

On the feast of Mary, Mother of the Church, Bishop Earl Fernandes enthroned Resurrection Cemetery to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Making his first visit to the cemetery at 9571 N. High St., Lewis Center, the bishop performed the enthronement on Monday, May 20 during a Mass on a feast that was instituted in 2018 by the Congregation for Divine Worship and

the Discipline of the Sacraments. It is celebrated each year on the Monday after Pentecost.

Assisting Bishop Fernandes at Mass and for the enthronement and blessings was Deacon Paul Zemanek and Deacon Jeffrey Fortkamp, the director of the Office of Catholic Cemeteries of Columbus. Fortkamp oversees the four Catholic cemeteries located in the greater Columbus area.

The enthronement ceremony, which took place after the homily, included a prayer by Bishop Fernandes, a Litany to the Sacred Heart and a blessing of Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary portraits that will remain in the cemetery chapel.

After Mass, the bishop moved outside to bless the new columbaria, where cremated remains are interred, and a mausoleum on the cemetery grounds.

Other Masses for Memorial Day were offered at Resurrection and also at St. Joseph and Holy Cross cemeteries on Monday, May 27.

Catholic Cemeteries of Columbus are open daily for visitation from 8 a.m. until sunset with the exception of Mt. Calvary, which closes at 4:30 p.m.

For more information, visit www.columbuscatholic.org/cemeteries.



Bishop Earl Fernandes sprinkles images of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus with holy water while enthroning Resurrection Cemetery on Monday, May 20. With him are Deacon Paul Zemanek (left) and Deacon Jeffrey Fortkamp, director of the Catholic Cemeteries of Columbus.



Bishop Earl Fernandes blesses and consecrates the new columbaria buildings with niches for cremains at Resurrection Cemetery with assistance from Deacon Jeffrey Fortkamp.

CT photos by Ken Snow



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Ss. Augustine and Gabriel honor Our Lady



The congregation stands during Mass at Ss. Augustine & Gabriel Church on the Solemnity of the Pentecost.

Columbus Ss. Augustine and Gabriel Church celebrated a combined Mass on Sunday, May 19 with the Vietnamese and English-speaking communities for the Solemnity of the Pentecost that included a Marian procession around the parish grounds.

Father Joseph Bay, the parish pastor, was the celebrant of the Mass. He was assisted by Deacon Jason Nguyen.

The parish normally offers separate weekend Masses in English and Vietnamese, but the two were combined for this special observance.

Ss. Augustine and Gabriel is home to the Vietnamese Catholic community in the diocese.



A Vietnamese banner is carried into the church during a Marian procession on Sunday, May 19 at Columbus Ss. Augustine & Gabriel Church. *CT photos by Ken Snow*



The Marian procession outside Ss. Augustine & Gabriel Church includes girls wearing traditional Vietnamese dresses while carrying flowers.



Dancers kneel at the altar after performing a traditional Vietnamese routine before Mass begins at Ss. Augustine & Gabriel Church.

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MOST REVEREND EARL K. FERNANDES, BISHOP OF COLUMBUS.

AS THEY DISCUSS:



How we walk as neighbors in a modern world.

EVENT DETAILS

**Friday, September 13, 2024
7:00am - 9:00am**

Renaissance Columbus Downtown

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Students participate in Eucharistic procession at St. Matthew



Gahanna St. Matthew the Apostle School students participated in a Eucharistic procession from the parish church to the school after a Mass last month. Benediction took place in the school gymnasium before the procession returned to the church. The procession, which was suggested as part of the National Eucharistic Revival taking place this year in the United States, will become an annual part of the school Mass schedule. Father Ted Sill, the parish's pastor who is carrying the monstrance, talked in his homily about processions and journeys through life while walking with Jesus. He invited the students to reflect upon their own journey as they walked in the procession.

Photos courtesy St. Matthew School

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

M	P	E	A	C	E	D	H	A	L	F			
M	A	L	E	D	P	R	I	D	E	U			
G	R	V	I	O	L	S							
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A	E	V	I										
C	A	N	O	N	I	Z	E	S	E	R	M	O	N
B	E	R	C	N	P								
E	G	R	E	N	D	A	A	D	A	M			
B	L	U	E	S	S	A	R	A	H	F			

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Pilgrimage to Lourdes



Brian McCauley (seated in a three-wheel cart) with wife Gina next to him of the Lancaster Basilica of St. Mary of The Assumption are accompanied by a team of knights and dames from the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem and of Rhodes on a visit to Lourdes last month. Brian has been battling brain cancer. From left are Frances and Dwight Winstead of Sunset, Louisiana, Rich Kelly of Dallas, and Martha Kendrick and Harry Kettmer of Chevy Chase, Maryland. The Order began with a hospital in the year 1048 by its founder, Fra' Gerard. Since that time, the Order has addressed the needs of the poor and sick around the world. For almost 70 years, the Order has taken malades (people with illnesses) and their companions to Lourdes. This year, 48 malades and their companions joined almost 300 knights, dames and volunteers from the Federal Association (Washington, D.C. headquarters for the Columbus Region) on this pilgrimage. The Columbus Region was blessed to send two Malades and their spouses to the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes from May 1 to May 8. They were part of the 1,200 malades, their companions and 6,000 knights, dames and volunteers from 46 countries. Each malade has a team of four to seven knights and dames to attend to their needs every day.

Photo courtesy Order of Malta, Columbus Region

MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE

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with Priest Chaplain

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