

# The CATHOLIC TIMES

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**PILGRIMAGE PASSES  
THROUGH DIOCESE**

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Vacations should be a time of rest and renewal away from the daily pressures of life while also helping you and your family draw closer to Jesus, Page 7



### JUNETEENTH

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A procession enters St. Joseph Cathedral for the start of Mass on Sunday, June 30, the final day of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's stop in the diocese. The cathedral was filled to capacity.



Bishop Earl Fernandes carries the Blessed Sacrament under the canopy on Fourth Street in downtown Columbus with hundreds following behind during a Eucharistic procession after Mass.  
*CT photos by Ken Snow*



Members of the Knights of Columbus lead the Eucharistic procession down Broad Street in Columbus immediately following Mass at St. Joseph Cathedral. The procession covered a city block before returning to the Cathedral.

## Pilgrimage ends weeklong stay in diocese at Cathedral

A standing-room-only congregation packed Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral for the final Mass on Sunday, June 30 that culminated the weeklong visit of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's Seton Route through the Diocese of Columbus.

Bishop Earl Fernandes served as the principal celebrant of the Mass and Father Roger Landry, a chaplain on the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's Seton Route, was the homilist.

"In the ongoing Eucharistic Revival of the Catholic Church in the United States, the most important outcome is for us not just to recognize that the Eucharist really is Jesus Christ, the same Jesus who was in Mary's womb for nine months, whom St. Joseph, the patron of this cathedral, held in his strong arm, who died on Calvary for us, rose from the dead on the third day, and ascended into Heaven 40 days later," Father Landry said in his homily that was delivered in English and Spanish. "It's not the main point of the Eucharistic Revival. "It's to learn how to treat that Eucharistic Lord Jesus the way Mary and Joseph treated Him as He was growing up, the way the disciples and apostles loved Him, the way the saints loved Him through the centuries, kept close to Him and had their lives changed by Him.

"We Catholics firmly believe, and forthrightly profess, that the Eucharist is not a thing. The Eucharist is not merely bread and wine. The Eucharist is in fact someone: the eternal Son of God, the Savior of the World, the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords ... and that He comes for us."

He said the transformation of Jesus in

the bread and wine into His body and blood should inspire his followers to respond fully to the gift of faith – and faith in his transcendent power.

"This is what the Eucharistic Revival is about, to revive us, to bring us to the fullness of life," he said. "And this is what the Eucharistic Pilgrimage leads us to as Jesus today reaches out to us."

After the 90-minute Mass, Bishop Fernandes carried the Blessed Sacrament outside onto Broad Street for a procession around the block that turned at Fourth Street and then onto Gay Street and Fifth Street before returning to the cathedral.

The procession paused five times at stops set up by ethnic ministries to pray a decade of the rosary in English, Tagalog, Igbo, Spanish and Swahili – languages spoken by Catholics in the diocese.

The final day of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's visit to the diocese concluded with a picnic and some brief testimonials from the pilgrims who are traveling the entire route that started in May in Connecticut and wound its way along the East Coast and through Pennsylvania and West Virginia before crossing into Ohio.

The Department of Evangelization estimated that 7,000 people participated in the pilgrimage during its six days in the diocese.

The week began on Monday, June 24 in Somerset with Adoration, Mass and Eucharistic procession at historic St. Joseph Church, where Catholicism originated in Ohio. From there, the pilgrimage spent Tuesday, June 25 in Newark at Blessed Sacrament and St. Francis de Sales churches.

On Wednesday, June 26, Pickerington St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish hosted the pilgrimage for a day of Adoration, a Mass commemorating the 25th anniversary of Father Landry's ordination to the priesthood and a procession around the parish grounds.

The pilgrimage left Seton on Thursday, June 27, with a 2 1/2-mile pilgrimage down State Route 256 before the Blessed Sacrament was placed in the pilgrims' van and transported to Columbus St. Catharine Church for a holy hour. Later that afternoon, the pilgrims prayed at the Planned Parenthood on East Broad Street before the Blessed Sacrament was brought to Columbus Christ the King Church for Adoration and a Mass celebrated in Spanish by Bishop Fernandes.

The first stop on Friday, June 28, was at Pickaway Correctional Institution in Orient for Adoration, Mass, a Eucharistic procession and fellowship with the men. It was the only visit to a prison on any of the four routes of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage.

On Friday afternoon, the Blessed Sacrament was brought to the Mother Angeline McCrory Manor for a Eucharistic procession and Holy Hour attended by residents and staff. The day concluded at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Fernandes and a talk by Father Landry followed by a visit to the Museum of Catholic Art and History in downtown Columbus.

A turnout of around 1,200 was on hand the next day at Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church for Adoration, a Mass,

Eucharistic procession and vocations fair on Saturday, June 29, the Solemnity of Ss. Peter and Paul.

After Sunday's events at the Cathedral, the pilgrims left the next morning for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati before crossing into Indiana for the final leg of their journey leading to the National Eucharistic Congress on July 17-21 in Indianapolis.

"I want to simply say thank you to Father Landry, to the Franciscan Friars for the Renewal, to our lay Eucharistic missionaries and pilgrims who have been journeying with us the last six days," Bishop Fernandes said at the picnic after Sunday's Mass and procession at the Cathedral. "I can tell you their presence has been life changing in all the different parts of the diocese from Somerset where the seeds of Christianity were first planted in Ohio to our mother church and all along the way.

"They've been bringing great joy. They've been bringing the joy of knowing Jesus in the Eucharist to all the people of the Diocese of Columbus and so we're very grateful for their presence. ... They were able to go into Pickaway Correctional to bring Jesus there. Even inside prison walls, Jesus' mercy and love is relentless.

"They were able ... to go to Mother Angeline McCrory and visit with the elderly. We had Mass with our Hispanic community and today we saw the great diversity of our diocese, whether it's the Latino communities or the African communities, men and women religious here present. We see people coming from everywhere to Columbus, because Jesus is here."



Front page photo

### EUCHARISTIC PILGRIMAGE

Isaac Reash, one of the Knights of Columbus, walks ahead of the monstrance with the Blessed Sacrament during a Eucharistic procession around the parish grounds on Saturday, June 29 that was part of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's seven-day stay visit to the diocese. *Photo courtesy Andy Long*

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A Eucharistic procession with Bishop Earl Fernandes carrying the monstrance follows a path through the complex at Pickaway Correctional Institution during a visit by the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage on Friday, June 28.



Phillip Whitaker presents the gifts to Bishop Earl Fernandes during a Friday morning Mass at Pickaway Correctional Institution, located south of Columbus in Pickaway County.

*CT photos by Ken Snow*



Josue Puga (center) spends time in prayer before Mass at Pickaway Correctional Institution.



Assembling with the men and Bishop Earl Fernandes for a photo near the end of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's stop at Pickaway Correctional Institution were the Seton Route pilgrims, sisters and staff members from the facility and the diocese.

## Pilgrimage makes only visit to a prison on any of four routes

The four routes of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage covered thousands of miles from coast to coast and from the southern border of the United States to the far north, but only one made a stop at a prison.

On Friday morning, June 28, the Seton Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage visited Pickaway Correctional Institution in Orient for a Mass and procession at the facility southwest of Columbus.

Bishop Earl Fernandes celebrated the Mass along with Father Roger Landry, the chaplain for the Seton Route of the Pilgrimage; Father Joseph Trapp, a diocesan prison chaplain; and Father Justin Alarcon, CFR, a member of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal religious order who traveled the entire route with the perpetual pilgrims accompanying the Blessed Sacrament from May in Connecticut up through the National Eucharistic Congress that starts July 17 in Indianapolis.

Approximately 35 incarcerated men attended Mass and 25 were able to participate in the procession afterward.

The chance to go inside a prison to bring Christ to the men there proved to be one of the most profound experiences of the 1,100-mile trip for the priests and the pilgrims, who along the way have visited St. Patrick's Cathedral and the Statue of Liberty in New York and traveled to Baltimore, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, among other places.

Later that day, the pilgrims took the Blessed Sacrament to the Mother Angeline McCrory Manor on the east side

of Columbus for a procession and Holy Hour for the aged and infirmed residents there. In the early evening, the Pilgrimage moved to Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School for a Vigil Mass on the Solemnity of Ss. Peter and Paul. The night ended with a tour of the Museum of Catholic Art and History in downtown Columbus.

At Pickaway Correctional, the bishop and priests were joined by the traveling pilgrims, the Sisters of the Daughters of Mary, Mother of Healing Love who are making the pilgrimage, and also prison staff and representatives from the diocese.

Before a period of Adoration, Bishop Fernandes and Father Alarcon heard confessions. The bishop and priests then celebrated Mass, which was followed by a Eucharistic procession that went outside into the yard at the prison.

Bishop Fernandes explained to the men in his homily, which he delivered in English and then in Spanish, that they were part of a unique opportunity as the only facility of its kind to experience the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage.

"Why? Because Jesus wants to be close to you," Bishop Fernandes said. "There is nothing in the world that can keep Jesus' mercy and Jesus' love from you. Not even the walls of this place.

"On the evening of the Resurrection, in St. John's Gospel, the apostles were all locked inside, behind closed doors. They were afraid. And the risen Lord passed through those doors and He said, 'Peace be with you.' Jesus wants to bring

*See PRISON, Page 16*



Father Roger Landry, chaplain for the Seton Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, carries the Blessed Sacrament through a cemetery at Somerset St. Joseph Church as the Seton Route arrives in the diocese.  
*Photos courtesy Aaron Christy*



The first stop on the Seton Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage in the diocese is at Somerset St. Joseph Church, where Father Roger Landry carries the Blessed Sacrament past a marker commemorating the historic nature of the spot.

## National Eucharistic Pilgrimage arrives in Somerset

The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage made its first stop during a weeklong trek through the Diocese of Columbus on Monday at historic Somerset St. Joseph Church.

Father Roger Landry, the priest chaplain on the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route of the pilgrimage traveling from Connecticut to Indianapolis for the National Eucharistic Congress on July 17-21, handed off the monstrance with the Blessed Sacrament to Bishop Earl Fernandes at the entrance of the church to begin the evening.

Somerset, located in Perry County in the eastern part of the diocese, is where the first Mass in Ohio was celebrated more than 200 years ago by Bishop Edward Fenwick. The parish, the oldest in the state, is known as the “Cradle of Catholicism in Ohio.”

The Blessed Sacrament was taken inside the church for Eucharistic Adoration

before Bishop Fernandes celebrated Mass with Father Landry and other priests who were joined by deacons, seminarians and Dominican brothers. Altar servers included students at Somerset Holy Trinity and Lancaster Fisher Catholic, Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans and Sheridan high schools.

An overflow congregation of more than 400 from east-central and central Ohio squeezed inside the Gothic Revival-style church on the warm summer evening. Among them were the football and cheerleading squads from Bishop Rosecrans and religious sisters.

“It was truly a privilege to be asked to be the first pilgrimage stop in the diocese, and it only made sense since St. Joseph Church is the oldest church in the state of Ohio, and the place of the first Mass ever celebrated in Ohio,” said Father Andre-Joseph LaCasse, OP, the pastor of St. Joseph and Somerset Holy Trinity churches. “I

was truly amazed by the hundreds of people who came to the all-day Adoration and the Mass that Bishop Fernandes celebrated on the Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist.

“Since St. Joseph is a small community of faithful Catholics, seeing the grounds and the people here all day was a great blessing. It certainly put St. Joseph Church in the news and exposed many people to the first Catholic Church in Ohio.”

The parish has been under the care of the Order of Preachers (Dominican Fathers of the Province of St. Joseph) throughout its history. The province’s novitiate was formerly located in Somerset and many of its deceased friars are buried in the cemetery there.

“More than 200 years ago, Bishop Edward Fenwick planted the first seeds of faith here in Somerset when the first Mass was offered in the state of Ohio,” Bishop Fernandes said in his homily. “For

the people then, they could exclaim, ‘Jesus is here!’

“More than 200 years later, we too can raise our voices with theirs, saying, ‘Jesus is here!’ He is here, He is living, He is present in the most Blessed Sacrament on the altar.”

After the Mass, Bishop Fernandes carried the Blessed Sacrament outside the church to lead a Eucharistic procession around the grounds at St. Joseph while accompanied by the large contingent of followers who attended the Mass.

“What a blessing for our community to have the first stop of the pilgrimage in the diocese here at St. Joseph,” said Susan Saffell, whose family lives in Somerset and attends Mass at St. Joseph, the church where her parents were married. “It means so much to us.”

Cathy McClary, a parishioner at Junc-

*See SOMERSET, Page 17*



Bishop Earl Fernandes (left) receives the Blessed Sacrament from Father Roger Landry at Somerset St. Joseph Church to mark the arrival of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage.



An evening Mass was followed by a Eucharistic procession through the grounds of Somerset St. Joseph Church on Monday, June 24, the Solemnity of St. John the Baptist. *CT photos by Ken Snow*

# National Eucharistic Pilgrimage stops in Newark



The Blessed Sacrament is carried through Newark, the second stop in the diocese for the Seton Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, on Tuesday, June 25 after arriving in the diocese the previous day at Somerset St. Joseph Church. Mass with Father Roger Landry, chaplain on the Seton Route, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament also took place at St. Francis de Sales and Blessed Sacrament churches in Newark. The pilgrimage proceeded to Pickerington St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish the following day. *Photos courtesy St. Francis de Sales Church*



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# Contextualizing near-death experiences

Near-death experiences (NDEs) are a complex set of phenomena that often include reports of leaving one's body, seeing it from outside or above, passing through a tunnel of light, seeing various forms of illumination, experiencing the presence of deceased relatives and friends, and even sensing the presence of angelic or divine beings. Between 12 and 15 percent of resuscitated heart attack patients report NDEs.

Sometimes discussions of these experiences include spiritual interpretations and religious overtones, and some commentators have claimed that "near-death experiences are certainly pronounced and conspicuous evidence of a transphysical soul" that we may use "to extract information about the afterlife." Such strong claims, however, require further substantiation, even as they trigger vigorous discussion.

NDEs, to be clear, are not instances of a person actually dying and then returning from the dead to tell about it. If an individual were to die and return to life, there would have to be a supernatural explanation and cause. Human corpses do not come back to life, apart from the rare miraculous events surrounding the deaths of Jesus, Lazarus, the daughter of Jairus, the son of the widow and Nain, as we see in the Gospels.

Human death always involves the key notion of irreversibility, which is to say: the irreversible cessation of circulatory and respiratory functions, or the irreversible cessation of all functions of the entire brain, including the brain stem, as explained in the 1981 Guidelines of the American Medical Association. NDEs involve situations that are reversible. They may be caused by physiological phenomena that arise as the human brain faces various stressors, like oxygen deprivation, rather than any properly supernatural phenomena.

While supernatural forces could, in theory, cause an NDE, explanatory entities should not be multiplied beyond necessity, as "Occam's razor" counsels. The Church's wisdom in evaluating such matters is that we should gen-

Rome is chaotic at its calmest, but three weeks working there in May suggested that the chaos has intensified to what may be unprecedented levels. Public transport is regularly stymied by strikes. Graffiti is everywhere. As always, traffic is a nightmare, but the usual insanities of Roman driving, (which include daredevil motorini drivers careening in and out of lanes) have been magnified by the rush to complete Line C of the local subway, which involves digging up large chunks of the city, often in already-congested places like Piazza Venezia. (Years ago, local wags of a theological temper said that the opening of Line C was an eschatological concept, i.e., something that would happen the day after Christ returns in glory. We shall see.)

So, a word to the wise: If you're planning a visit to the Eternal City in the next few months, don't count on tranquility.

The all-court press to finish *Metropolitana Linea C* reflects the city administration's determination to be prepared for the tens of millions of pilgrims expected in Rome for the Jubilee of 2025, which was formally announced by Pope Francis in the "bull of indiction" issued on May 9, the Solemnity of the Ascension. Prior to that, however, Vatican and local diocesan agencies were issuing preparatory materials for the jubilee year. Some of them warrant comment.

First, the jubilee logo.

It's often said, and rightly, that in a world confused about truth and goodness, beauty, the third "transcendental," can be an invitation to reconsider modern skepticism and moral relativism. If we see (or hear) something beautiful, we know it's beautiful in itself –

## MAKING SENSE OUT OF BIOETHICS | Father Tad Pacholczyk

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, PhD, earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did postdoctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Massachusetts, and serves as director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org).



erally prefer a natural explanation for a phenomenon, unless and until the evidence for a supernatural explanation becomes truly compelling or overwhelming.

Rather than presupposing a supernatural explanation for NDEs, scientists have considered alternative explanations by examining stressful, near-death situations and their effects on brain function.

A 2023 *Scientific American* article notes how researchers "analyzed EEG data from four comatose patients before and after their ventilators were removed. As the patients' brains became deprived of oxygen, two showed an unexpected surge of gamma activity, a type of high-frequency wave linked to the formation of memory and the integration of information."

This raises the prospect that even in situations of severe hypoxia, certain brain functions may, at least briefly, operate in ways that could still affect thought and perception.

Dr. Kevin Nelson, a researcher who has studied near-death experiences extensively, notes, "One of the most common causes of near-death experiences is fainting," which is able to generate a sense of being separated from your own body, or a feeling of euphoria. Researchers have also reported that a restriction of oxygen flow to the eye can sometimes result in an experience of tunnel vision.

Others have argued that central nervous system hallucinatory mechanisms may contribute to NDEs. The well-known neurologist, Dr. Oliver Sacks, notes how

migraine headaches can generate illusions or hallucinations, which sufferers often describe as pulsating lights, shimmering illumination or fields of brightness.

Sacks has also described the work of Swiss neuroscientist Dr. Olaf Blanke, who was able to generate a hallucination, "a 'shadow person' in a patient by electrically stimulating her left temporoparietal junction. 'When the woman was lying down,' Sacks reported, 'a mild stimulation of this area gave her the impression that someone was behind her; a stronger stimulation allowed her to define the [someone] as young but of indeterminate sex.'"

NDEs can also resemble drug-induced experiences, and many have noted the similarity of NDE accounts to essays written by conscious drug users about their experimentations and trips while using drugs like mushrooms, cannabis, LSD, ayahuasca, etc.

Sacks also offers the important observation that the reason hallucinations seem so real is that "they deploy the very same systems in the brain that actual perceptions do." When a person is hallucinating a face, the fusiform face area, normally used to perceive and identify faces in the surrounding environment, is activated; when someone is hallucinating a voice, the auditory pathways are stimulated. It seems reasonable to believe that NDEs may rely on similar mechanisms.

Sacks also raises the possibility that NDEs may not occur when individuals are actually suffering an absence of circulation to the brain or when they are trapped in a deep coma, but rather as they are surfacing out of the coma and their cortex is beginning to regain function.

Since it is difficult to verify the cause of an individual's NDE, it is wise to use some caution around the interpretation of such experiences.

The most authoritative source of information about the afterlife remains the One who came from heaven, redeemed us through His suffering, death and resurrection, and who invites us to follow Him into eternal life.

## Only one name

### 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.



it's not a matter of "my" beauty or "your" beauty." And we instinctively grasp that this beauty is good – not just "good for me." Hans Urs von Balthasar built an entire theological edifice on the foundation of an extended reflection on God's beauty: "the glory of the Lord." Bishop Robert Barron's *Catholicism* series is such a powerful tool of evangelization because it's visually beautiful – and thus opens viewers up to Catholic ideas of the true and the good.

Why, then, did the Vatican come up with such a tacky jubilee logo? Can't the Catholicism that inspired Fra Angelico, Michelangelo, Raphael, Caravaggio and Henry Ossawa Tanner produce a beautiful logo rather than kitsch that looks like a sixth-grade art project? This aesthetic self-degradation began with the logo for the Great Jubilee of 2000 and has continued ever since. Basta! If, in this world of marketing, we must have logos, let's have beautiful ones. For as Benedict XVI insisted, beauty is one of the "proofs" of the truth of Christian faith.

Then there are some of the preparatory materials currently being circulated by dioceses. One of them is a video entitled "Towards the Jubilee 2025." The narration fails to use the words "Jesus Christ." Yet, as the pope noted in his bull of indiction, 2025 is the 1,700th anniversary of

the first ecumenical council, Nicaea I, which proclaimed in its Creed the divinity of Christ, "consubstantial with the Father," against the Arian heretics who insisted that "there was a time when the Son was not." As forms of Arianism are widespread today in the world and the Church – Jesus is a human exemplar, a spiritual guru, an avatar of a generic, divine will-to-save – Nicaea I's confession of "one Lord, Jesus Christ: God from God, Light from Light, True God from True God" is an urgent reminder of the bedrock truth of Christian faith. Thus the absence of the words "Jesus Christ" from that Jubilee-2025 promotional video is, to put it gently, striking.

Then there is the Hymn for the 2025 Jubilee. As contemporary Catholic music goes, it's acceptable melodically and the text is tolerable. But the official Jubilee 2025 hymn has none of the robust, unapologetic Christocentrism of the hymn for the Great Jubilee of 2000, Gloria a Te, Christo Gesu [Glory to You, Christ Jesus]: at its most stirring when performed by Andrea Bocelli and the Chorus of Rome's National Academy of St. Cecilia. Gloria a Te, Christo Gesu is entirely and intensely Christological, as befits a hymn composed for the celebration of the 2,000th anniversary of the Incarnation. So why the Christological reticence of the hymn for Jubilee 2025, which will mark the anniversary of the Church's dogmatic definition of the divinity of the Lord Jesus? What has happened to the Church over the past 25 years?

Now, as ever, the lesson of Acts 3:1-7 is pertinent. Like Peter speaking to the lame man in the Temple, the Church has nothing to offer but what is most important: "Jesus Christ of Nazareth."

## A special blessing to guarantee heaven?

Dear Father,  
My friend's father was in the hospital on the East Coast. When she went to be with him while he was dying, a priest gave him some special blessing called a pardon. The priest said it was guaranteed to get him to heaven. The priest also gave that blessing to my friend and her husband. Can you explain more about this and how we can get it here in our church?

-Kate

Dear Kate,

It seems that what you are describing as the blessing that a priest gave to your friend's father is the Apostolic Pardon. It is, indeed, a special blessing, but it is reserved for those who are very near death.

There are two forms of the Apostolic Pardon blessing. One is: "Through the holy mysteries of our redemption may almighty God release you from all punishments in this life and in the life to come. May he open to you the gates of paradise and welcome you to everlasting joy."

The other formula is "By the authority which the Apostolic See has given me, I grant you a full pardon and the remission of all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

Each of these prayers, in its own way, asks God for the remission of all the punishments due to sins. This refers to what we might call the remains of our sins, or the temporal punishment due to sin.

First, however, we must repent of our sins. In so doing, we ask God's forgiveness. If the sins are serious, known as mortal sins, then we must use the means that Christ gave us for divine forgiveness. It's not merely a matter of an interior act such as wishing for forgiveness. God wants us to confess our sins through a priest, who sits in

### SACRAMENTS 101

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

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the person of Christ. God wants us to receive absolution from our mortal sins through the priest.

Second, we are to show signs of our repentance. The first sign is confession. The second sign of our contrition is the desire to make up for our sins or try to repair the effects of our sins. While we may be able to repair having hurt a loved one, we can never repair the harm we have caused God's infinite majesty. Jesus does this for us through the sacrament of penance.

Our serious sins can so disrupt our relationships or so destroy people and our world that we and others suffer the effects of those sins for a long time. We especially suffer those ripple effects in our own lives. By way of analogy, mortal sins cause our spiritual death, like a heart attack might. Confession is the restoration of our spiritual life, like a medical electric shock jump starts the heart. And as a new regimen of diet and exercise will be required after the heart attack, so with the soul.

From the human side of things, we can do things to heal and deepen our friendship with God, such as prayer, making reparation, and other holy deeds. The Apostolic Pardon is one of those ways to help heal the effects of our sins. The Pardon is a special prayer by which a priest asks God to pardon all remaining effects of a person's sins while the "work" of the dying person is to join his/her sufferings to Christ's

## Keeping the faith while on family vacation

I share many check-in phone calls with my elderly father and his typical sendoff is, "Keep the faith, MaryB." I smile as I recall this because it is summer, and as we plan family vacation time, the phrase "keep the faith" came to mind. Thanks, Dad. Thanks, Jesus.

Vacations are typically taken as a time of rest. We are a green-light, just-keep-swimming culture and rest can be challenging to come by, especially with children along.

I recently shared a conversation with a couple of friends who are in various stages of parenting as to how to cultivate family rest time: find your own rest time, keep the faith alive, and perhaps, grow it while on family vacation.

Pope Francis once emphasized the importance of families wasting time together. Our everyday lives do not afford us time to do this as easily. As I plan a family vacation, I try to remember to leave plenty of room for margin. It's in the margin that sandcastles are built, marshmallows are roasted, card games begun and late-night conversations shared.

I also take prayer time to think about where each member of my family is. I watch them to see how they find rest. I have one who loves nature, one who loves to read and draw, one who needs to sleep in the sun and one who loves to go and do things. So, I try to provide opportunities for all those things during the time we are away. Every day cannot meet everyone's needs, but I think I can give some time for each to breathe and find rest.

In taking care of everyone, it's easy to lose one's own rest time during vacation. My kids range from ages 22 to 11, and I am surprised by how differently I parent my youngest compared to how I parented the oldest at that same age. I have learned to be honest with my needs. "I am really hoping to have some time to read, take a nice nap and listen to the waves by the ocean," I might say.

Our children are not insensitive. They have hearts and eyes to see and want to bless us just as much as we seek

### 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.



to bless them. I used to pour everything into my older kids on vacations and come back more depleted than when we left. Knowing now how important it is to model asking for what we need, I practice this whether on vacation or at home, and it works.

Everyone is happy to give me time to rest on the beach, knowing that I will be a happier, more alive version of myself after that gift. My husband will likewise ask for some coffee and nature time. Our kids even help make the schedule to make sure everyone's needs are met.

Vacation time can provide an opportunity to grow your family's faith. Depending on the ages, the car ride can be filled with praise songs, an audio book or a family rosary. (My kids even rap a decade in honor of their friend, Joe Melendrez).

We have lots of family memories of attending Mass at different parishes and missions while on vacation. We have appreciated different architecture at churches, beautifully painted statues and enjoyed how different cultures and ethnic groups worship the same Lord but in different ways. It opens their eyes.

Some families might have a mixed group of travelers, where some are practicing the faith and others are not. I have found that my taking time outside of the regular activities to quietly attend

sufferings. Thus, suffering, and even death, is transformed into something holy, just like the exhaustion and pain of the runner in a race is "transformed" into a gold medal.

Every Catholic priest is able to give the Apostolic Pardon, but only to someone at death's door and is rightly disposed, namely, to be in friendship with God. The Apostolic Pardon is not a magical formula for an unrepentant sinner to slip into heaven through the back door.

Or is it a substitute for the sacraments of penance (confession) and anointing of the sick. Given a choice between receiving the sacraments and receiving the Apostolic Pardon, always go for the sacraments.

That said, having received the sacraments, including Holy Communion for the last time (viaticum), and being properly disposed, the Apostolic Pardon is important because of its power to take away any remaining experience of purgatory.

I'm concerned about something you said: that the priest gave the Apostolic Pardon to the daughter and son-in-law of the dying man. The Apostolic Pardon is not granted to non-dying persons. To give it in that situation is a false hope and could lead the so-called recipients to think that their own purgatory was eliminated. The Church offers a multitude of indulgences in addition to the sacraments to help us take care of the temporal punishment due to our sins.

As for getting this here in Columbus ... well, we already have it. We have the sacraments administered by our wonderful priests, morning, noon and night. Sacramental grace, received with a heart desirous of union with God, is the guarantee of heaven, because God wants our union with Him more than we ever can desire it. Our priests give the Apostolic Pardon to Catholics on their deathbeds. We are blessed!

a daily Mass or grab a Holy Hour has spoken as a witness and invited more conversation than the uncomfortableness of worrying about who will be going, who will not.

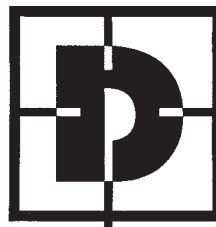
An invitation is always extended but always in charity. It is surprising how much a simple Holy Hour away from the everyday hustle and bustle fills my tank and gives me a spirit of peace. I typically leave these moments with a bit of a personal challenge to create more of these moments when back at home.

Faith is the backbone of the family. Father Patrick Peyton reminds us, "The family that prays together, stays together," and vacation is a great time away to reboot and begin again. There is rest in prayer. Not only can we "keep the faith," as my father is fond of saying, but we can nurture and grow it.

May your vacations be a time of renewal and rest, drawing you and your family closer to the heart of Jesus.

To read more of MaryBeth Eberhard's writing, visit her website and subscribe for updates at [www.marybetheberhard.com](http://www.marybetheberhard.com).

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## Seton Route comes to Seton Parish on third day in diocese

The third day in the diocese for the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's Seton Route was a special one for Father Roger Landry and Pickerington St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish.

The priest, who is serving as a chaplain on the two-month Eucharistic journey from Connecticut to Indianapolis for the National Eucharistic Congress next month, celebrated the 25th anniversary of his ordination at a Mass on Wednesday, June 26 at Seton Parish.

Father Landry, the Catholic chaplain at Columbia University in New York and a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Massachusetts, served as the principal celebrant and homilist at the Mass.

In addition to concelebrating priests from the diocese, Father Landry was also joined on the altar by Father Tad Pacholczyk, the senior ethicist at the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia who also is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River celebrating the 25th anniversary of his ordination. His syndicated column, *Making Sense Out of Bioethics*, appears in *The Catholic Times*.

After the Mass, Bishop Earl Fernandes offered a reflection and presented Father Landry a special papal blessing for his Silver Jubilee in recognition of his service to the Church.

A Eucharistic procession around the parish grounds and a reception followed the Mass. The evening had begun with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the church.



A Eucharistic procession travels around the grounds at Pickerington St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish after Mass on Wednesday, June 26 as part of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's Seton Route that went through the diocese during the week of June 24-30. *CT photos by Ken Snow*

The Seton Route's visit to a parish with the same patroness gave the visit added significance for parishioners and pilgrims.

"I feel very thankful and blessed that the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage has stopped here," said Justin Stone, a member of the parish. "I'm pretty speechless about it. The Mass was awesome and the procession around the church was reverent and beautiful.

"The fact that this leg of the pilgrimage bears the name Seton and that we are Seton Parish is significant, too. It was an amazing opportunity for me, my wife,

Sarah, and our 2½-year-old son, Zachary. It's not often that your home parish has the chance to see everyone unite together for such a great celebration."

Patti Wasserman, a member of the combined parishes of St. Michael the Archangel in Gibsonburg and St. Mary in Millersville, both in the Diocese of Toledo, traveled to Pickerington with four others who will be unable to attend the National Eucharistic Congress on July 17-21 in Indianapolis.

"We have 21 people from our two small rural communities who are going to the revival there," she said. "I saw that

the Seton Route was coming to the Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, so I knew we had to come here to be a part of it."

Spiwe Mavunga came from neighboring Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church and said, "The Eucharistic procession reminded me of when I was in Lourdes last October, when they were carrying the monstrance under the canopy. Oh, my goodness. It draws us close to the Lord. It was marvelous."

On Thursday morning, June 27, pilgrims and approximately 40 others joined a 2½-mile Eucharistic walking procession down busy Route 256 to conclude the stop in Pickerington on the way to Columbus St. Catharine Church for Eucharistic adoration in the afternoon followed by a Holy Hour and evening Mass in Spanish celebrated by Bishop Fernandes at Columbus Christ the King Church.

Taking part in the procession that ended at a shopping plaza in the Columbus suburb were three visitors from out of state who came to Pickerington to experience the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage.

Matthew Connolly of Duluth, Minnesota, said he met Christopher Doherty of Newton, New Jersey, and Emiliano Bell of Montague, New Jersey, while doing pro-life work for Good Counsel Maternity Homes in the New York-New Jersey area.

*See SETON, Page 9*

## Procession goes down busy Route 256 in Pickerington

By Elizabeth Pardi

The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's Seton Route offered public witness alongside a busy road in Pickerington on Thursday, June 27, exposing Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament to hundreds of

passersby during a 2 1/2-mile procession down State Route 256 that started at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish.

The previous day, the parish hosted Adoration, a Mass, an outdoor procession around its grounds and a reception as part of the National Eucharistic Pil-

grimage's seven-day visit to the diocese en route to Indianapolis for the National Eucharistic Congress.

The Seton Route, which started in Connecticut in May, is one of four national routes from four regions of the United States headed to Indianapolis for

the Congress.

"This is (the pilgrims') first stop at a parish that is also named after their patron, which is one of the reasons they came here," said Father Leo Connolly,

*See ROAD, Page 23*



A Eucharistic procession on Thursday morning, June 27 travels down Route 256 in Pickerington after leaving Seton Parish. *CT photos by Ken Snow*



Father Justin Alarcon, CRF, elevates the monstrance in a Pickerington shopping plaza at the end of a 2.5-mile walking route as part of the National Eucharistic procession on Thursday, June 27.



## Priest says he's amazed at pilgrimage's impact

By Tim Puet

For The Catholic Times

The priest leading the St. Elizabeth Seton route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage says people's reaction to the event was far more enthusiastic than he had anticipated.

"We knew the pilgrimage would be giving witness to the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and expected a warm response, but have been amazed by the enthusiasm with which it has been greeted at every stop," Father Roger Landry said.

"Through taking part in this event over two months, we will be witnesses to Christ's Eucharistic love for the rest of our lives," he said on Monday, June 24 from Somerset St. Joseph Church, the first of seven stops the pilgrimage made in Columbus on its way to the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis on July 17-21.

The Seton pilgrimage began May 17 in New Haven, Connecticut and traveled through parts of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, the District of Columbia and West Virginia before arriving in the Diocese of Steubenville. From Columbus, it was to travel to the Archdiocese of Cincinnati into Indiana, stopping at 18 dioceses altogether.

Father Landry estimated 25,000 to 30,000 people had taken part in Masses, processions and other events during the pilgrimage's first five weeks, with several thousand more reading daily updates on the pilgrimage blog.

"Our events filled churches large and small, including New York City's St. Patrick's Cathedral, which seats about 2,500 people. We would be happy if just one person became a Eucharistic soul as a result of the pilgrimage, but we have every expectation that the impact was much greater than that.

"One of the events that most impressed me along the way was an outdoor Mass at St. Francis College in Loretto, Pennsylvania. It drew about 700 people, all of whom brought lawn chairs. That was more than we expected, and the sense was that these people were really ready to pray, not just to go to a Sunday



Father Roger Landry offers the homily at Seton Parish on June 26 during a Mass on the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. *CT photo by Ken Snow*

Mass that happened to start at 7 p.m.," he said.

"Another memorable occurrence came when the pilgrims left Manhattan and the Archdiocese of New York, crossed the Brooklyn Bridge into the Diocese of Brooklyn and handed the Eucharist to a group led by your former bishop, Robert Brennan.

"Crossing the bridge, taking the Eucharist from one group to another was to me a symbol of the path God took on becoming man in the person of Jesus Christ and of the Eucharist serving as a bridge between God and man," Father Landry said.

"When plans for the congress and the current National Eucharistic Revival were announced in 2022, I knew I wanted to do something special and memorable to show my love for the Eucharist. Talking with other priests, the idea of doing something like a charity walk-

athon came up. This wouldn't be to raise money but to raise awareness of the Eucharist.

"We were catalysts for that idea. Once the plans for the four pilgrimages were made, I checked the calendar at Columbia University, where I'm chaplain, and found I could be part of the entire pilgrimage because school would be done, so I committed myself to it."

Father Landry said he and the core group of pilgrims are getting an idea of what it must have been like for the apostles to travel with Jesus, stopping at a different place to rest each night, then going back on the road. Most of the pilgrims' resting places have been at churches, schools or private homes, with only one or two hotel stops.

Father Landry is a native of Lowell, Massachusetts and a priest of the diocese of Fall River, Massachusetts, where he served as a pastor, newspaper editor and high school chaplain. He was part of the staff of the Holy See's permanent mission to the United Nations from 2015 to 2022, when he became chaplain at Columbia.

He was ordained a priest on June 26, 1999 and celebrated the 25th anniversary of his ordination during the pilgrimage stop at Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton Parish.

"I wanted to be a priest for as long as I can remember," he said. "At about age 4, I thought a priest was the luckiest person in the world because he could hold God between his fingers. That thought was a seed which eventually flourished."

He said that besides celebrating Mass, the greatest joys of his priesthood come from hearing confessions and preaching. He was selected by Pope Francis to be a Papal Missionary of Mercy in 2015.

"I hope the best effect of this pilgrimage and jubilee will be to plant seeds of faith in people and see those seeds grow, with the result that eventually those people will go on to plant the seed in others," he said.

SETON, continued from Page 8

"We heard about the pilgrimage and thought that, if we couldn't get to the beginning of it, we would try to connect somewhere down the line, which was in Philadelphia" in late May and early June, Bell said.

"I caught up with Emiliano in Philadelphia before coming here and we're going to continue on to Indianapolis," Connolly said. "Along the way at the stops, we'll be promoting the Gospel of Life."

Doherty returned home from Pickerington but plans to reconnect with Connolly and Bell in Indianapolis for the National Eucharistic Congress.

Carrying the monstrance along part of the route was Father Justin Alarcon, CFR, a member of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. Members of the religious order based in New York are actively participating in all four U.S. routes of the 48-day National Eucharistic Pilgrimage.

Father Alarcon shared what the community's superior general said about the pilgrimage. "If Jesus is going to walk on this continent, in his country, He will be followed every step of the way by a gray habit (of the order) and a pair of sandals."



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## Leaders reflect on special week in diocese

By Hannah Heil  
Catholic Times Reporter

After spending seven days in the Diocese of Columbus, perpetual pilgrims traveling with the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage have continued on with their journey, but their time in the diocese is likely unforgettable.

Father Roger Landry, the chaplain at Columbia University in New York, is leading the Seton Route, which is traversing the eastern part of the United States with Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. Traveling the route are two priests, a brother, seminarian and five young adults serving as perpetual pilgrims. They are joined by religious sisters of the Daughters of Mary, Mother of Healing Love.

The Seton Route arrived in the Diocese of Columbus on June 24. It was one of several dioceses the pilgrims visited along the eastern route, and perhaps, one of the most notable.

“Most places that we’ve gone, to be blunt, would have either extremely pious people organizing who love the Lord so much, and it’s really palpable, but without great organizational skills ... or with fine people with extraordinary organizational skills but without that same type of devotion, until we got to Columbus,” Father Landry said during a picnic outside of Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on Sunday, June 30.

“Columbus, we have had that sort of double gift, especially in Liz Christy and Marlon De La Torre and one of the best bishops in the country, Bishop Earl Fernandes, who have brought to our time here both love that’s contagious as well as all the details already worked out, so we’re so grateful to the Diocese of Columbus.”

The Seton Route, one of four routes traveling across the country, departed from New Haven, Connecticut in May. The pilgrimage concludes in Indianapolis on July 16 before the opening of the 10th National Eucharistic Congress.

The pilgrims’ weeklong stay in the diocese was complete with Eucharistic processions, Holy Hours and Masses at various locations throughout the diocese. Approximately 7,000 individuals participated in events with the Eucharistic Lord before the route’s departure on June 30.

“Every single parish that hosted over the last week just gave their best,” said Christy, the associate director for the Department of Evangelization & Catechesis. “Their pastors and their staff and their volunteers all came out.

“It really speaks to how amazing our diocese is and how much our pastors and our parish staff and our parishioners want to be close to the Lord and want to share that with other people,



Diocesan staff members and Bishop Earl Fernandes gather for a final photo with the pilgrims and clergy who are part of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's Seton Route.

and they were just so generous.

“All those things combined – the national planning, the local planning, generosity of parishes – came together so perfectly and just made it such a beautiful, impactful week.”

Christy helped lead the way for the pilgrims as they processed around parishes and through various city streets throughout the diocese. She also located tabernacles for the repose of the Blessed Sacrament.

Similar to St. John the Evangelist beating St. Peter to the tomb as the two raced on Easter morning, Christy ran to find a tabernacle for the Lord to rest after various Eucharistic processions during the week.

“It was fun because I would try to race ahead of them to get there first and make sure the tabernacle was ... ready and prepared,” she said. “It was wonderful to lead the way for Jesus a little bit. It was a really huge honor to get to make that happen for them.”

Somerset St. Joseph Church, the diocese’s oldest parish, was the Seton Route’s first stop. The pilgrims also visited Newark and processed from Newark Blessed Sacrament Church to Newark St. Francis de Sales Church.



Bishop Earl Fernandes blesses the congregation at St. Joseph Cathedral after an outdoor procession at the end of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's visit to the diocese. CT photos by Ken Snow

“It was a huge crowd of people of all ages – young and old – from the elderly down to little babies being carried by their mothers or in strollers – a lot of just vibrancy in that procession,” Christy said of the pilgrims’ time in Newark.

“It was warm, and it didn’t stop anybody, and people were singing and pray-

ing the rosary and adoring the Lord and carrying Him through the street. That was a really great day.”

The third day of the pilgrims’ visit included an anniversary Mass for Father Landry, who celebrated his 25th anniversary of priestly ordination on June 26, at Pickerington St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish. The following day included Mass at Columbus Christ the King Church that Bishop Earl Fernandes celebrated in Spanish.

“The homilies that we got to experience from both the bishop and Father Landry were so beautiful and so Eucharistic-focused and just a good reminder of our faith and why this is all so important,” Christy said.

Saturday, June 29, the Solemnity of Ss. Peter and Paul, drew the largest crowd of the week to Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church. Christy said approximately 1,200 individuals were present.

The day included a Holy Hour, Mass, Eucharistic procession and Benediction, or blessing, of the Blessed Sacrament. A vocations fair was also offered at the church.

Private events during the week included visits to Pickaway Correctional Institution, a state prison for men, and Mother Angeline McCrory Manor, a non-profit health care facility in Columbus sponsored by the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm.

“To see Father Landry and the pilgrims bringing Jesus to those places was very overwhelming in a really good way,” Christy said.

A Holy Hour was held at the correctional institute, and inmates had an opportunity to receive the sacrament of reconciliation. Priests heard confessions from all who desired to bring their sins to the merciful heart of Christ.

While priests were hearing the men’s confessions, religious sisters and pilgrims present prayed the rosary and sang praise and worship songs, Christy said. After confession, there was a Mass and Eucharistic procession around the prison grounds.

“The soul of a penitent was never more revealing when I witnessed inmates from Pickaway County facility express their sincere repentance through the reception of the sacrament of reconciliation to properly prepare to worship and receive our Lord Jesus Christ,” said De La Torre, the senior director for the Department of Evangelization & Catechesis.

“That was really an impactful day, and then we were able to have some fellowship with the men as well. We all were able to have coffee and doughnuts after everything and just talk with them a little bit and just spend time with them,” Christy said.

“We were all given that beautiful gift

## Pilgrims point to prison visit as special moment

The priests, lay pilgrims and religious sisters on the Seton Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage will have traveled through 18 dioceses and eight states by the time they make their way into Indianapolis for the National Eucharistic Congress on July 17-21.

Seven of the 60 days on the road from Connecticut to Indiana were spent in the Diocese of Columbus. The group left Monday, July 1 for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati feeling a little weary but determined to reach the finish line.

During those six days in the diocese, the pilgrimage brought Christ to the birthplace of Catholicism in Ohio at Somerset St. Joseph Church, on June 24 after their arrival from the Diocese of Steubenville; Pickaway Correctional Institution in Orient; the Mother Angeline McCrory Manor in Columbus for the aged and infirmed on June 28; one of the largest parishes in the state, Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church, on June 29; the mother church, St. Joseph Cathedral in downtown Columbus, on June 30 and to several other destinations.

At a gathering outside the Cathedral after Sunday Mass and a Eucharistic procession, the pilgrims and Father Roger Landry, the chaplain on the Seton Route, reflected on their time in the diocese.

"We've done the same things here as we've done in other places -- beautiful Masses, periods of Adoration, processions in the streets," Father Landry said. "We were also for the first time in any of the four routes able to get inside of a prison and bring the Lord Jesus who came to set prisoners free into a place where he could give them that interior liberation to help them in a sense spiritually to break out of jail because he is the one who makes us free for freedom. The bishop and his whole team live out the corporal works of mercy, especially caring for those prisoners who often so forgotten."

"And so I just want you to know that there's something unique going on here in the Diocese of Columbus. God's really working. Jesus is very much loved. Never take that for granted."

Dominic Carstens, a pilgrim who lives in Wyoming and attends Wyoming Catholic College, summarized the time in the diocese as "wonderful."

"Getting to go to St. Paul, the Mass was beautiful and we had a huge church with standing room only," he said. "It's that sort of witness of people coming out for the Lord is really what we love to see."

"And it's not only the numbers, what's more important is the depth of faith. And when we went to the prison, actually wherever you go, finding people that love the Lord so much and so deeply, the love of Christ can get through any wall or gate. He will go to you when you're 95 years old living in a nursing home or when you're incarcerated. And so just seeing the love of Christ manifest itself in people in both



Christoph Bernas (second from left), one of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage pilgrims, and Sister Mary Fatima Pham, DMML, of the Daughters of Mary, Mother of Healing Love, talk with inmates Phillip Whitaker (left) and Joseph Schmitt (right) at Pickaway Correctional Institution on Friday, June 28. *CT photo by Ken Snow*

their joy and jubilation it's just so special."

The visits to Pickaway Correctional and McCrory Manor were particularly memorable moments for him in the diocese.

"Both were very profound in the sense that when Christ was on earth, He went to the outskirts of society ... (and so) both into prison and in the elderly, that's where Christ that's where Christ belongs," he said. "Every one of us has their own little place that we keep hidden away from society because we're scared -- our places of hurt and darkness. But Christ wants to come there too."

"This pilgrimage is a visible manifestation of the most epic love story ever to exist. And so it just revives me and just reminds me interiorly of the true reality that we all participate."

He said the pilgrimage has served as a constant reminder that Christ is present everywhere. Bringing Christ to the margins of society, not only to the prisons and the elderly but to the Kensington area of Philadelphia, where the pilgrims walked the streets with the Blessed Sacrament in a neighborhood that's considered the drug capital of the world

"He doesn't want to just visit us in the nice, glamorous Manhattan," Carstens said. "He wants to come to the Kensingtons. He wants to meet us and give us love to the deepest, darkest places."

Zoe Dongas, a Filipino-American pilgrim who lives in New York, also pointed to the prison and McCrory Manor as two of the highlights in the diocese for her.

"It was just beautiful to be with the people that are often forgotten, that the Lord so greatly desires to bless and to be with and particularly celebrating Mass in the correctional institution in a room that had bright lights and limited resources," she said. "It was like being in any great cathedral or any great church



Father Roger Landry carries the Blessed Sacrament outside Somerset St. Joseph Church while accompanied by the pilgrims who are part of the Seton Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage from its beginning in Connecticut in May to its end in Indianapolis this month. St. Joseph Church was the first stop in the diocese on Monday, June 24, after leaving the Diocese of Steubenville. *Photo courtesy Aaron Christy*

because of the faith of the men and the presence of our Lord and that space."

After the Mass and procession at the prison, the pilgrims were able to talk with the men, hear their stories and collect prayer intentions.

"My heart is really moved by their honesty and their desire for Jesus, to be close to him, especially in the Eucharist," she said.

Other highlights during the two-month pilgrimage for her included a visit in May to the Statue of Liberty. The pilgrims traveled by boat with the Blessed Sacrament and Cardinal Timothy Dolan of the Archdiocese of New York to Liberty Island in New York Harbor.

"Just a really beautiful moment, a blessing, with a statue that's meant to represent liberty with the One who gives us true liberation and true freedom, Jesus Christ," she said. "Getting to do that with Cardinal Dolan and with our pilgrims -- a small group of people on a boat just as Jesus would be with his disciples -- it was just so beautiful."

She said the pilgrimage has allowed her to witness how different communities come together and how they worship in various styles, "but Jesus is at the center, and at the core of all of it all in the Eucharist."

"It's been beautiful to witness the reverence people have for Jesus in the Eucharist. And I want to continue to cultivate that in my own life -- the importance of Jesus in the Eucharist and to never take a moment with him or time with him for granted, to always like have him at the center of my own life and to have my life be a witness to the truth."

Christoph Bernas, a seminarian in the Diocese of Pittsburgh and a student at Franciscan University of Steubenville, was impressed with the turnouts and the organization at the parishes that hosted the pilgrimage, including the reception

that Father Landry received when he celebrated the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on June 26 at Pickerington St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish.

"Everywhere we went, there were a lot of people there," he said. "People knew what was going on. People knew we were in town and they responded."

"It's been really powerful to see like how many people there are out in the pews who believe in the Real Presence because they can throw out all stats, but the fact that we're getting really large crowds to come on and adore the Lord with us is really powerful."

Amayrani Higueldo, a native of Mexico who lives in Philadelphia, found the pilgrimage to be more than just spending time with Jesus. Along the way, she met people from diverse backgrounds who shared a love for the Lord.

"There's something so unique and special about this diocese," she said. "One of my favorite experiences, where I received a lot of graces, was being able to go into a prison and just bring Jesus into that facility. ... The walls really cannot limit his mercy."

"Just having them be a witness to me was such a great grace -- hearing your stories and being able to sit with them and just talk and share with them about what we're doing across our country. They were so excited and so happy to be a part of it."

Dongas encouraged all who attended Masses, Adoration or processions during the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage to continue to be passionate in their love for the Lord.

"And I want to thank all of the families who brought their children that are witnesses to the importance of family life in the faith," she said. "Please continue to share this pilgrimage with your family members. Bring your children to church because it is the heartbeat of our faith."



Father Roger Landry, chaplain for the Seton Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, carries the monstrance from the van used to transport the Blessed Sacrament. Pilgrims kneel after their arrival in the diocese at Somerset St. Joseph Church on June 24. *Photo courtesy Aaron Christy*



The second day of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage in the diocese included a Eucharistic procession along a street in Newark on Tuesday, June 25. *Photo courtesy St. Francis de Sales Church*



The third day of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's visit to the diocese was spent at Pickerington Seton Parish, where all-day Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament was followed by a Mass and outdoor procession on Wednesday, June 26. *CT photo by Ken Snow*



Father Roger Landry carries the Blessed Sacrament along Route 256 in Pickerington on Thursday morning, June 27 after leaving Seton Parish for a 2 1/2-mile procession on the way to the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's next stop. *CT photo by Ken Snow*



At the Pickaway Correctional Institution on Friday, June 28, Bishop Earl Fernandes holds the monstrance as the incarcerated men, National Eucharistic Pilgrimage priests and pilgrims and staff members kneel. *CT photo by Ken Snow*



The Blessed Sacrament is placed on the altar for Adoration during the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage at Columbus Christ the King Church on Thursday, June 27. *Photo courtesy Andy Long*



Hector Sandoval kneels to receive Communion from Bishop Earl Fernandes during Mass at Pickaway Correctional Institution during the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage. *CT photo by Ken Snow*



Father Roger Landry holds the monstrance for a resident at the Mother Angeline McGrory Manor in Columbus during a holy hour with the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage on Friday, June 28. *Photo courtesy Liz Christy*



The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage comes to Columbus St. Catharine Church for a holy hour with the Blessed Sacrament on Thursday afternoon, June 27. *Photo courtesy Liz Christy*



Bishop Earl Fernandes incenses an altar where the fourth decade of the rosary is prayed in Spanish during a procession in downtown Columbus on Sunday, June 30. *CT photo by Ken Snow*



Marina Frattaroli, one of the perpetual pilgrims on the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's Seton Route, speaks while the Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the altar at Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church on Saturday, June 29. *Photo courtesy Andy Long*



Sisters kneel during to pray one of the decades of the rosary during the procession around St. Joseph Cathedral on Sunday, June 30, the final day for the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage in the diocese. *CT photo by Ken Snow*



A Mass is celebrated during the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage visit to Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School on Friday, June 28. *Photo courtesy Liz Christy*



Bishop Earl Fernandes kneels behind St. Joseph Cathedral as the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage van carrying the Blessed Sacrament prepares to depart. *Photo courtesy Liz Christy*



The evening sunlight shines down through the stained glass windows at Columbus Christ the King Church during a National Eucharistic Pilgrimage Mass on Thursday, June 27.



The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage stop at Christ the King Church began with time for prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Photos courtesy Andy Long

## Pilgrimage visit to Christ the King features Spanish Mass

The fourth day of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's Seton Route featured Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and a Mass in Spanish celebrated by Bishop Earl Fernandes at Columbus Christ the King Church on Thursday evening, June 27.

Earlier in the day, there was a Eucharistic procession in Pickerington before the pilgrimage shifted to Columbus St. Catharine Church for a Holy Hour with the Lord Jesus, prayers at Planned Parenthood on East Main Street and then on to Christ the King.

Ten priests concelebrated the Mass with Bishop Fernandes. The congregation included the pilgrims traveling from Connecticut to Indianapolis and religious sisters from various orders that serve the diocese in Hispanic ministry and through various apostolates.

Christ the King parishioners and visitors said they felt blessed to have the pilgrimage come to them.

"It is an honor to have been here," said Jose Avalos, a church leader. "It is wonderful to feel the presence and I am very grateful to God. It is something unique and I think that all the parishioners have enjoyed it a lot, in the glory of our Lord Jesus."

"It was very beautiful, and I connected a lot with the pilgrimage because I never felt what I felt today in other worships in the church," said Angela Ramirez, a 15-year-old altar server. "Being the bishop here, it made me reflect more on my relationship with God."

Maria Amaro, a hospitality group member, said, "I really liked the pilgrimage because I felt God's presence a lot this afternoon. I have invited you, brethren, to seek our God and that more pilgrimages may continue to take place, so that God may always have us in His hands. He always wants to take care of us, but we don't let him. I ask God to guide us in the right way."

Isabel Rivas, a Christ the King parish-

ioner for 18 years, said she had not experienced an event like this one. "This is something very exciting and beautiful. Through this event, more people can be invited to integrate and learn," she shared.

Lupita Ramirez, a parish leader and Hispanic choir member, said she also had never witnessed anything similar in the church. She has been at Christ the King for 15 years and became Catholic 20 years ago.

"It is a very special and great experience," she said. "I followed the pilgrimage since it began. For me, who grew up in another denomination, I have had very great experiences with Eucharistic adoration and especially at this time."

Javier Negrete, a Hispanic youth group leader who has been at Christ the King for a year, was excited to see young people witness such a big moment when the parish family is united in heart with Jesus.

"It is extremely important as a parish to express our faith publicly and to welcome our brothers and sisters who are not necessarily part of this parish," he said. "Professing our faith in a public way is important and you don't know who can see and witness what is happening. Who knows that a heart comes and has that encounter with Jesus."

Avalos believes that the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis this month will rekindle faith in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

"It is something that reaches all ears and especially all hearts that come close," he said. "It will be very helpful to feel God's presence so close."

Angela Ramirez agreed that other Eucharistic events will bring more Catholics to believe in the Real Presence.

"I think people don't have that strength yet," she said, "but being here living it, they're going to feel that connection and faith can increase. May the Lord continue to prosper in every person who has come



Bishop Earl Fernandes carries the Blessed Sacrament out of Christ the King Church after Mass to the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage van. Photos courtesy Andy Long



The Blessed Sacrament is returned to the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage van as priests and the faithful kneel at Christ the King Church,

and so more people will be present praising Him."

Several members of the parish expressed a desire to have more opportunities for Christ, truly present in the Eucharist, to be made known in the public square.

"It would be very nice if it were done every year," Rufino Tolentino said.

"It's a great blessing," said Jorge Guiltron, a parish leader. "God is good and I believe that He wants you to do more things and give more. He is there and this is something that lifts us up."

"The more noise we Catholics make with these processions, the more people will know about it," Lupita Ramirez said. Several parishioners said that one of

the evening's highlights were seeing so many visitors in attendance and also was a testimony about faith in the Eucharist by Amayrani Higueldo, a native of Mexico and one of the young people traveling on the Seton Route as the pilgrim.

"At that moment, I thought of my young children and other young people, the way the world is and how it is leading them to worldly things and moving them away from God," Rivas said.

Guiltron was moved by seeing such reverence for the Eucharist, especially from Bishop Fernandes.

"How the bishop smiled when he elevated the Blessed Sacrament, you can see how in love he is with Our Lord," Guiltron said.

## Pilgrimage draws 1,200 to Westerville St. Paul

The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's Seton Route came to Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church on the next-to-last day of its weeklong visit through the diocese for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, a Mass celebrated on the Solemnity of Ss. Peter and Paul and a Eucharistic procession around the campus.

Afterward, a vocations fair was held in the Klinger Center adjacent to the diocese's largest church.

A large congregation estimated at 1,200 attended the Mass on the solemnity of the parish's patron with Bishop Earl Fernandes as the principal celebrant. He was joined by Father Roger Landry, a chaplain traveling with the pilgrims on the Seton Route from Connecticut to Indianapolis, and nine other priests on the altar.

Father Landry and several perpetual pilgrims presented talks during the morning, which began with Adoration.

"The Eucharistic Procession on our parish grounds was a profound experience," said Father Jonathan Wilson, the parish's pastor, in a social media post. "The presence of the Seton Route Perpetual Pilgrims and participation from our parish and beyond made this historic day truly special."

Lay pilgrims, two priests and four sisters are traveling the entire distance of the Seton Route, which started in May in Connecticut and ends in Indianapolis with the National Eucharistic Congress on July 17-21. Three others routes that are part of the National Eucharistic Pil-

grimage started in the west, south and north regions of the United States.

Assisting the priests and deacons on the altar were members of the Knights of the Holy Temple, a group of young men at the parish who are dedicated to reverently serving for Masses and other liturgical events.

"We've done Eucharistic processions here before, but nothing of this magnitude and you could definitely feel the gravity of it and just how it affected people," said Jacob Reash, one of the servers. "I looked back one time (during the procession) and seeing everybody following it was just a witness of faith and such a cool experience for everybody."

"We've had (processions) at Corpus Christi before, but this one was definitely something different and special for sure."

Love for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament was evident during the morning visit of National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, which is part of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' three-year National Eucharistic Revival campaign to enliven belief in the Real Presence of Christ in the ucharist.

"It was such a cool witness of faith to see all the people show up, said Isaac Reash, another server with the Knights of the Holy Temple. "And just the magnitude of the responses ... it really did feel like Christ was present. ... It did strengthen the belief in the True Presence of Christ."



An outdoor National Eucharistic Pilgrimage procession follows Mass at Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church on Saturday, June 29.

Photos courtesy Andy Long



The outdoor Eucharistic procession stops outside Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church for a period of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.



A large turnout estimated at 1,200 is on hand for a Mass at Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church on Saturday, June 29, the Solemnity of Ss. Peter and Paul, that followed Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage.



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PRISON, *continued from Page 3*

you His peace, His mercy and love. He wants to bring you that peace which the world cannot give. And, so, in a way, we are grateful for the opportunity to be here, to be with you."

He continued, "Jesus has come here to heal you, to cleanse you, to make you fit for worship, so that you may offer your gift of a humble, contrite heart, the gift of a changed life -- a gift that, when changed by the love and mercy of Jesus, enables you to change the lives of others here."

"Jesus offers that opportunity to all of you who are here on a longer-term basis, to all of us who get to walk around breathe the fresh air — all of these things Jesus offers for us because He is merciful, because He is kind and because He loves us. But while Jesus offers us His mercy, He offers us something

even more precious: his flesh and blood for the life of the world, in the Holy Eucharist, in the Holy Communion. ...

"In the Eucharist, God is close. He is close to His people and He wants to be with you, here in the Diocese of Columbus and here in Pickaway Correctional."

After the Eucharistic procession, the priests and pilgrims spent time talking with the men and getting to know their stories.

"When we went to the prison, wherever you go, finding people that love the Lord so much and so deeply shows that the love of Christ can get through any wall and gate," said Dominic Carstens, one of the pilgrims, after the prison visit. "He will go to you when you're 95 years old living in a nursing home or when you're incarcerated."

Brian Thoma, who has served nearly

nine years of a 28-year prison sentence, celebrated his 50th birthday on the day of the pilgrimage.

"For this (the visit by the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage) to happen, it's special," he said. "It helps us realize that there are people out there who do care about us, they haven't forgotten about us. It's uplifting. It's good for the spirit."

Thoma, a cradle Catholic who said he was an altar server and attended Catholic grade and middle school, attends Mass in the prison chapel on a regular basis and Adoration on the first Saturday of every month.

"Having Jesus present on this day is a real gift," Thoma said. "The first thing I did after being incarcerated at CRC (Correctional Reception Center of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction) was to find a Catholic chaplain.

And I got into confession and started going to Mass regularly there. And when I got transferred here (Pickaway Correctional Institution), same thing.

"It's helped me out. It's something that keeps me grounded, staying in the faith. I know that Jesus loves me. If anything, you've got to keep the faith, and that's what I've been trying to do. It helps me. Helps me along. Helps my day to day."

Josue Puga spent time visiting with the pilgrims and explained that he grew up Catholic and was raised in the faith by his parents. He said he attends Mass regularly in the chapel.

"(Faith) gives me peace and keeps me going day by day and helps me feel the Holy Spirit in my life," he said. "I know Jesus will always be by my side and guide me in the right way."

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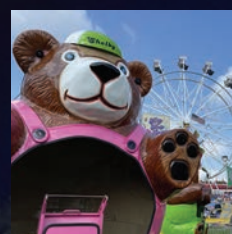
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## Parishes plan local devotions during Eucharistic Congress

Parishes in the diocese will offer special prayer and devotional times for those who cannot attend in person the National Eucharistic Congress taking place July 17-21 in Indianapolis.

The following were reported to *The Catholic Times*:

St. John the Baptist Parish, which comprises Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul and Danville St. Luke churches, will recite Liturgy of the Hours prayers during its regularly scheduled Eucharistic Adoration according to the following schedule:

St. Luke Church: Evening prayer, 5:30 p.m. July 16; Office of Readings and morning prayer, 9:30 a.m. July 17. St. Vincent de Paul Church: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and daytime prayer, 3 p.m. July 18; evening prayer, 6 p.m. July 18; Office of Readings and morning prayer, 9 a.m. July 19; evening prayer followed by Benediction, 5 p.m. July 19; Mass, 5:30 p.m. July 19.

Worthington St. Michael Church, 5750 N. High St., will have 40 hours of Eucharistic Adoration from 9 a.m. Saturday, July 20 to 6 a.m. Monday, July 22.

To sign up for an hour of Adoration, go to <https://stmichaelchurchwor.flocknote.com/signup/170632>.

Columbus Holy Spirit Church, 4383 E. Broad St., is planning all-day Adoration from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. on July 16-19.

Check parish websites, social media or bulletins for other events taking place in diocesan churches during the National Eucharistic Congress.

For anyone attending the Congress, Deacon Carl Calcara of Sunbury St. John Neumann Church will be there as an exhibitor with his Mission of the Seventy-Two apostolate. He encourages attendees to stop by to learn more and to help promote his mission.

## SOMERSET, continued from Page 4

tion City St. Patrick Church in Perry County, was one of many from outside the parish who came to Somerset for the Mass and procession. Among those traveling to Somerset were parishioners at Columbus St. Patrick Church, which, like St. Joseph Church, is staffed by Dominican friars.

"I wanted to be a part of the pilgrimage, which is outstanding," McClary said. "I loved every minute of Adoration, Mass and the procession with the Blessed Sacrament that followed. Seeing so many people here loving Jesus really gives me hope -- tremendous hope."

Father Don Franks, a retired priest of the diocese whose family has roots in the Somerset area, reflected on the historic nature of the stop at St. Joseph Church.

"Bishop Fernandes was truly anointed tonight as he talked about how, in 1808, the first Mass was celebrated here in Somerset," Father Franks said. "The faith of those who have deep connections to this church community is still very strong, and it's alive. It's filled with the love of Jesus."

The Seton Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, which includes five young adults known as "perpetual pilgrims" and four religious sisters who are traveling more than 1,100 miles in 65 days, continued through the diocese until Sunday, June 30, making a number of stops along the way before moving on to the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

"As we begin this pilgrimage in the Diocese of Columbus, He fills us with His grace, He fills us with the Holy Spirit that we might bear witness to Him,

to the God who is love, whose love is stronger than death, and whose love comes to us through the Blessed Sacrament," Bishop Fernandes said in his homily.

The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage began on the East Coast in May and has traveled through eight states and the District of Columbia. Its most recent stop before arriving in the Diocese of Columbus was in the Diocese of Steubenville, where one of the Eucharistic events featured the Blessed Sacrament traveling down the Ohio River on a boat.

Three others pilgrimage routes, which form a cross across America with Indianapolis in the center as the final destination for the National Eucharistic Congress on July 17-21 at Lucas Oil Stadium, started in Minnesota (Marian Route), California (St. Junipero Serra Route) and Texas (St. Juan Diego Route).

The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and National Eucharistic Congress were initiated by the U.S. Catholic bishops as a means to help revive and restore belief that Christ is truly present in the Eucharist.

"Many visitors came for all-day Adoration and the Holy Mass, which I think impressed upon our own parishioners a renewed devotion to the Holy Eucharist and the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass," Father LaCasse said. "It was truly a memorable day for the Catholic community of St. Joseph's here in Somerset."



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15th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B

## Walking as a witness to love

Amos 7:12-15  
Ps. 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
Mark 6:7-13

Many in the Church today who are most fervent in their faith seem to have missed the instructions that Jesus gave to His Apostles as He sent them out two by two. Jesus expressed the kind of response that was meant to be given when the message they were preaching in His Name was not being accepted.

“Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave. Whatever place does not welcome you or listen to you, leave there and shake the dust off your feet in testimony against them.”

Notice that Jesus did not tell them to argue or even try to persuade beyond the initial proclamation. He invited them to leave the conversion sought for another day.

An interesting note: to shake the dust from the feet was a visual action that did not need words to be interpreted. It was not necessarily an expression of anger but a “testimony,” an act with prophetic meaning.

Prophets in the Hebrew tradition gave the “Word of the Lord” in both speech and symbolic actions. The latter played the same function as the parables in the Lord’s proclamation to the crowds that He later explained to His disciples at home.

Most modern translations take this prophetic action as completely negative as we hear in the New American Bible, “Shake the dust off your feet in testimony against them.”

However, the Greek words can be understood differently. They are transliterated: *ektinaxate ton choun ton hupokatō tōn podōn humōn eis marturion autois*. The literal meaning is, “Shake the dust which is under your feet as wit-

16th 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.



ness (martyrdom) to them.”

Thus, it is more about the disciples learning how to relate to others who express hostility toward them than a judgment of those who refuse to hear. Shaking the dust from under their feet is a symbolic action that would appear to mean that the disciples had never been there at all, leaving room for testimony – perhaps by others – at a future date.

Jesus Himself often experienced rejection, but after His Resurrection, some of the very places that first sent Him away without a hearing became the first to respond to the Gospel. Martyrdom is the seed of belief. The Apostles are being taught to die to themselves even as they proclaim the truth.

The proclamation and the actions that Jesus instructs the Twelve to offer are intended to prepare the way for Him to visit. They are not to give something of their own, but simply to preach repentance and to drive out demons and heal the sick with the power Jesus shared with them.

In our day, many religious encounters are likely to miss the central message. They devolve into disagreements about words and gestures that are not at all “salvation issues.”

Instead of driving out demons and healing divisions, they are more likely to drive wedges between people who disagree about externals. Two who are supposed to be walking with each other in agreement as a witness of love instead come across as divided by their faith.

The Christian witness is meant to be

yond what this world offers. Where there has been division, God has revealed, first through the shepherds and prophets who were men after God’s own heart, and finally through Jesus Christ His Son, there will be unity. The Letter to the Ephesians affirms this: “For he is our peace, he who made both one and broke down the dividing wall of enmity ... that he might create in himself one new person in place of the two, thus establishing peace, and might reconcile both with God, in one body, ... He came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near, for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.”

The compassion of Jesus for the crowds who followed Him and His disciples, when they were seeking to find rest for themselves after a time of strenuous ministry, reveals God’s own heart. “When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.”

### THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

7/15-7/20  
MONDAY  
Isaiah 1:10-17  
Psalm 50:8-9,16-17,21,23  
Matthew 10:34-11:1

TUESDAY  
Isaiah 7:1-9  
Psalm 48:2-8  
Matthew 11:20-24

WEDNESDAY  
Isaiah 10:5-7,13b-16  
Psalm 94:5-10,14-15  
Matthew 11:25-27

THURSDAY  
Isaiah 26:7-9,12,16-19  
Psalm 102:13-21  
Matthew 11:28-30

FRIDAY  
Isaiah 38:1-6,21-22,7-8  
Isaiah 38:10-12,16 (Ps)  
Matthew 12:1-8

SATURDAY  
Micah 2:1-5  
Psalm 10:1-4,7-8,14  
Matthew 12:14-21

7-22/7-27  
MONDAY  
Songs 3:1-4b or  
2 Corinthians 5:14-17  
Psalm 63:2-6,8-9  
John 20:1-2,11-18

TUESDAY  
Micah 7:14-15,18-20  
Psalm 85:2-8  
Matthew 12:46-50

WEDNESDAY  
Jeremiah 1:1,4-10  
Psalm 71:1-4a,5-6b,15,17  
Matthew 13:1-9

THURSDAY  
2 Corinthians 4:7-15  
Psalm 126:1-6  
Matthew 20:20-28

FRIDAY  
Jeremiah 3:14-17  
Jeremiah 31:10-13 (Ps)  
Matthew 13:18-23

SATURDAY  
Jeremiah 7:1-11  
Psalm 84:3-6,8,11  
Matthew 13:24-30

### DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION

Mass Schedule: Weeks of July 14 and July 28, 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](http://www.stgabrielradio.com) and diocesan website, [www.columbus-catholic.org](http://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](http://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](http://www.stgabrielradio.com) and diocesan website, [www.columbuscatholic.org](http://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](http://www.stannstmary.org)); Columbus St. Patrick ([www.stpatrickcolumbus.org](http://www.stpatrickcolumbus.org)); Delaware St. Mary ([www.delawarestmary.org](http://www.delawarestmary.org)); Sunbury St. John Neumann ([www.saintjohnsunbury.org](http://www.saintjohnsunbury.org)); and Columbus Immaculate Conception ([www.iccols.org](http://www.iccols.org)). Check your parish website for additional information.

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different. Paul cites a hymn in the Letter to the Ephesians that presents this vision.

“In Him we have redemption by His blood, the forgiveness of transgressions, in accord with the riches of His grace that He lavished upon us. In all wisdom and insight, He has made known to us the mystery of His will in accord with His favor that He set forth in Him as a plan for the fullness of times, to sum up all things in Christ, in heaven and on earth. In Him we were also chosen, destined in accord with

the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intention of His will, so that we might exist for the praise of His glory, we who first hoped in Christ.”

May we live the mystery revealed to us and proclaim it in word and action. May the world hear from us a united witness of reconciliation and love. May our feet walk in the healing power of Jesus to offer a new vision for the world.

“Lord, let us see Your kindness, and grant us Your salvation.”

## 'There is nothing I shall want' with Christ present in the Eucharist

Jeremiah 23:1-6  
Psalm 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6  
Ephesians 2:13-18  
Mark 6:30-34

“I myself will gather the remnant of my flock from all the lands to which I have driven them and bring them back to their meadow; there they shall increase and multiply. I will appoint shepherds for them who will shepherd them so that they need no longer fear and tremble; and none shall be missing, says the LORD.”

The relationship between God and the world is quite different from the impression that many have. It is proverbial to characterize God as having undergone “a change in attitude” between the Testaments. However, the Hebrew Scriptures present God as One who has always desired to share life with His people, a God of compassion, love and tenderness, not a God of vengeance and punishment.

God intends us for a destiny that goes be-

Our Sunday Gospels in the next several weeks will come from the Gospel of John, chapter 6, which is known as the “Eucharistic Discourse.” As a practical matter, this move from Mark 6 to John 6 serves to give examples of Jesus’ teachings, where Mark is content to simply indicate that “He began to teach them many things.” It also allows the Year of Mark to have a full complement of readings that would otherwise be difficult since Mark has only 16 chapters.

The discourse on the Eucharist will take us through to September, when we will then return to Mark 7. It is fitting that in this time of Eucharistic Revival we hear again Jesus’ own teaching on the Gift of the Bread of Life. The Heart of Jesus is moved by a look at the people who are “like sheep without a shepherd.” Jesus responds as the Lord. “The Lord is my Shepherd” is the response that He desires from our hearts. When we become aware of His compassion and love for us, each of us discovers that “there is nothing I shall want.”

The presence of the disciples at this moment is not secondary to what is happening. They have already become part of the work of ministry along with Jesus, so much so that they are exhausted. Jesus in compassion for them says, “Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.” But then, reacting from the same heart of compassion, He shows them that there is more to give when they see the needs around them.

They will be taught a lesson about what the Lord can accomplish through them as they also learn to love His people. We have the Lord as our Shepherd, and we shall not want when we give of ourselves to those who seek Him.

We are appointed as shepherds, disciples of Jesus who are willing to lead by word (teaching many things) and example (giving even beyond their own capacity to give when it is called for). Let us learn from the Shepherd who gives Himself to us in the Eucharist, the Bread of Life. May we mirror that God who has always loved His people through the love and compassion He teaches us to live.

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A	M	O	H	A	W	K	M	B	O	V	Z	Y	V	B
N	A	S	S	M	A	L	L	P	O	X	X	M	X	A

ALGONQUIN  
DEVOTION  
ECOLOGY  
JULY  
LILY

MOHAWK  
NATIVE AMERICAN  
NEW YORK  
PERSECUTION  
PRIVATE VOW

SAINT  
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**Words of Wisdom**

by Pat Battaglia, aka Dr. Fun

Draw a path from letter to letter to spell the words given in capital letters that completes the wisdom statement.

Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left or diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

Do not stretch the truth ...

S	Y	A	M	T
	N	A	A	I
	P	C	K	T
B	A	U	O	Y

IT MAY SNAP BACK AT YOU

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LEADERS, continued from Page 10

of being part of prison ministry for a morning. I think we all walked away very changed from that, and that was really special."

Bringing the Eucharistic Lord to Mother Angeline McCrory Manor could be considered equally impactful. The pilgrims visited the manor later that day.

A Eucharistic procession was held indoors. A Holy Hour was also offered in the building's chapel. Christy said several came to the chapel for Adoration, and residents in wheelchairs were wheeled to the chapel.

During the Holy Hour, Father Landry held the Blessed Sacrament in front of each person. A few residents present were non-verbal, Christy said, and unable to communicate.

"For those that were unable to move their arms or talk, he would take their hand, and he would put their hand up to the monstrance, and he would tell them, 'This is Jesus, and you can say a prayer in your heart for anything that you want to ask Jesus.'"

"And, sometimes, he would pray for them, and most of them were crying," she said. "It was incredibly powerful and beautiful to see."

The pilgrims also prayed outside of a Planned Parenthood abortion clinic.

A closing Mass was held on June 30 at an "overflowing" St. Joseph Cathedral, Christy said. Mass was followed by a Eucharistic procession.

"Witnessing the procession of our Lord through the streets of downtown Columbus by Bishop Fernandes revealed how fortunate we are to receive Jesus Christ as Lord, Savior and King," De La Torre said. "It is fitting that every Eucharistic procession begins and ends within the confines of the Catholic Church."

The final Eucharistic procession of the week included rosary stations. Five ethnic communities in the diocese led a decade of the rosary in their native language. Each decade was recited in a different language and followed by a song.

"That was really special to just see the diversity of our diocese all come together in one place," Christy said. "I think probably the most special part of Sunday was just realizing the diversity of our diocese and all the different cultures that we have."

## PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

**CRITES, Lorraine, 92, July 1**  
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

**DEREN, Kathy Ann, 59, June 20**  
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Powell

**DiSABATO, Rosalyn T. (Merendo) "Nonnie," 92, June 21**  
St. Paul the Apostle Church, Westerville

**DOONE, Thomas J., 64, June 28**  
St. James the Less Church, Columbus

**FINAN, Bernard Gregory "Greg," 85, June 21**  
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

**FRANCIS, Joseph Sr., 95, June 26**  
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

**GALYK, Jane Michelle, 62, June 22**  
St. Mary Church, Marion

**HODAKIEVIC, Johanna Rita "Joni" (Dolphin), 78, June 13**  
Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Marysville

**LANCIA, Kay, 82, June 20**  
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

**MCCABE, Vincent E., 87, June 12**  
St. Paul the Apostle, Westerville

**MEYER, Elizabeth A. (Irwin), 94, June 26**  
St. Matthew the Apostle Church, Gahanna

**MONACO, Carlo J., 88, June 19**  
St. Paul the Apostle, Westerville

**MUNHALL, Josephine M. (Barnett), 80, June 25**  
St. Michael Church, Worthington

**PIERONI, Sue A. (Hoyt), 78, June 24**  
Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Marysville

**RYAN, Michael T., 45, June 17**  
St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus

**SHROYER, Anna L. (Westenberger), 85, June 21**  
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

**SIBBRING, Shirley Ann, 89, June 21**  
St. Mary Church, Nashport

**SMITH, Ronald G. "Ron," 90, June 19**  
Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Lancaster

**SMITH, Rose Panaia, 93, June 29**  
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

**TAYLOR, Robert, 80, June 14**  
Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus

**TIMLIN, Gayle M., 69, June 26**  
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

**YUSKEWICH, Susan E. (Essman), 72, June 24**  
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

**ZIFER, Carol (Groh), 85, June 21**  
St. Joseph Church, Dover

### Cynthia Beiter

Funeral Mass for Cynthia Beiter, 73, who died Wednesday, June 19, was celebrated Saturday, June 22 at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption in Lancaster. Burial was at St. Mary Cemetery, Lancaster.

She was born on April 1, 1951 to Faye and Doris McMillen and graduated from Lancaster High School in 1969.

She was the secretary for St. Mary School for 16 years before her retirement and also was employed by the Fairfield

County auditor's office and Lancaster City Schools.

She was a member of Twig 7 and the local Parents League, was a Girl Scout leader and a North School PTA officer and worked for more than 25 years with the Lancaster Festival.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Timothy. Survivors include her husband, Bob; son, Rob; daughters Lauren and Megan; a brother, Steve, and eight grandchildren.

### Deacon Francis A. Paniccia

Funeral Masses for Deacon Francis A. Paniccia, 91, who died Wednesday, June 19, were celebrated Thursday, June 27 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Naples, Florida and Monday, July 1 at Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus, followed by burial at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

Deacon Paniccia was among the first class of deacons ordained by Bishop Edward Herrmann on June 6, 1976 and served at Columbus St. Andrew, Columbus St. Philip and Logan St. John churches before moving to Bonita Springs, Florida in 1988 and to Naples in 2012.

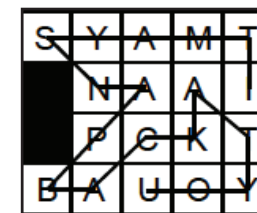
He was born in Jackson, Michigan on April 24, 1933, to Bernardo and Anna (Camastro) Paniccia and received a Bachelor's degree in business administration and mathematics from Western Michigan University in 1955.

He spent most of his working career in Columbus as the founder of Panic Lighting and Paniccia Business Co. before moving to Florida.

Before becoming a deacon, he and his wife of 65 years, Sandy (Ramsay),

were active in the Cursillo, Teens Encounter Christ and Marriage Encounter movements. He was selected as Catholic Man of the Year for 1973 by the diocesan Catholic Men's Luncheon Club. He served as co-director of the diocesan Office of Family Life from 1977 to 1981. He also was a member of the Ohio National Guard for 20 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, brothers Dominic and Rocco and a sister, Mary Lowry. Survivors include sons Bernie, Greg (Celia), Paul, Peter, Nick and Tony, daughters Lauri (Greg) Gierhart, Tammy (Bill) Pancake and Maria (Doug) Sweeney, 14 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren.



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# St. Dominic Church celebrates Juneteenth

**By Charlene Brown**  
For *The Catholic Times*

Prayer, remembrance and the roots of faith and family were all part of Columbus St. Dominic Church's third annual Juneteenth celebration.

With a theme of "Finding Our Roots: Faith and Family," the celebration looked back to June 19, 1865. On that date, enslaved African Americans in Galveston, Texas finally got the official word from Union soldiers that they were now free — more than two months after the end of the Civil War and more than two years after Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, freeing slaves in all states that seceded from the Union.

Someone combined the words "June" and "nineteenth," and Juneteenth was born.

St. Dominic's celebration follows a long tradition of African Americans celebrating that long-awaited freedom day. In Galveston, they began holding large

public celebrations beginning in 1866 that included — much like St. Dominic's — picnics, prayer services and gatherings to joyfully remember how freedom arrived and look ahead to true equality and justice.

This year's celebration at St. Dominic began with a blessing and prayers of thanksgiving for freedom led by Father Ramon Owera, pastor at St. Dominic, and praying the Our Father. It also included a special Juneteenth prayer asking God that "... we may never tire of ensuring a flourishing life for all people, but most especially, those brothers and sisters whose growth has been stifled by the trauma of being enslaved."

St. Dominic's resident chef, Michael Hostin, and some of the parish's best cooks prepared a hearty lunch of barbecue chicken, grilled corn on the cob and an assortment of salads, fruits and desserts.

During a roll call of all 54 African nations, attendees stood proudly as they heard the names of their countries of or-

igin, including Ghana, Nigeria, Togo and Cameroon, which has a large community at St. Dominic.

The highlight was a hands-on lesson on how to begin tracing your family roots from Nettie Ferguson, a trustee of the Franklin County Genealogical and Historical Society. She shared tips from her 30 years of experience using every available resource to unearth family histories.

During the celebration, parishioner Tina Moody received the Deacon Bob Neely Award for service to the parish, presented by Grace Neely, widow of the second African-American deacon ordained in the Diocese of Columbus. The late Deacon Neely served at St. Dominic for many years and embodied the spirit of faith, dedication and tireless service

that the award represents.

Bishop Earl Fernandes, who attended St. Dominic's first two Juneteenth celebrations, was unable to be there this year. He sent an eloquent letter that was read at the celebration and echoed the sentiments expressed in the Juneteenth prayer.

"Give thanks to God for the freedom you enjoy," he wrote, "but ask Him for the grace to use your freedom for excellence, for a more just society, for building the civilization of love, for advancing the Kingdom of Christ — a kingdom of truth, goodness and love."

Planning is underway for next year's Juneteenth celebration as well as spreading the word that Juneteenth is American history, which includes everyone and welcomes everyone.

## Parish celebrates Father Hammond's 35th anniversary



Parishioners from Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul and Danville St. Luke churches celebrated the 35th anniversary of Father Mark Hammond's ordination to the priesthood with food and fellowship in the St. Vincent de Paul School gym on Saturday, June 22, after the Vigil Mass. Father Hammond, the pastor of the recently merged St. John the Baptist Parish that includes St. Vincent de Paul and St. Luke churches, was ordained on June 24, 1989.

*Photos courtesy St. Vincent de Paul Church*



Genealogist Nettie Ferguson teaches how to begin the search for family roots during Columbus St. Dominic Church's third annual Juneteenth celebration, "Finding Our Roots: Faith and Family."

*Photo courtesy Juana Hostin*

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## Catholic Social Services provides assistance for veterans

Catholic Social Services (CSS) staff who work with veterans know that their return to the home front is often not a smooth one. Many have experienced trauma, which is then compounded by the perils of everyday life, ranging from debt, mobility issues, difficulty accessing military benefits to mental health crises, substance abuse and homelessness.

CSS is there for them.

Take Audrey. After serving in the Army and losing her ability to drive, she struggled to get to her doctor's appoint-

ments. With the help of a Catholic Social Services, Licking County transportation program for vets, she is able to receive the assistance and care she needs.

"The staff really care about me," she says, "and I know I can call them when I need help."

CSS also works with seniors and families in central and southern Ohio, offering a consistent hand-up to those in need. That includes 14 various programs and services such as workforce services, education services, food pantry, case management, senior companion-

ship and more. We know that the road to self-sufficiency is not necessarily a straight path and that it can look different for everybody.

CSS is there for veterans and for all members of the community who need compassionate care and assistance to become the people God intends them to be.

Last year, CSS served over 10,000 people who live in our community – your community and perhaps your neighbors. CSS is there.

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accompany CSS in this mission, from donating to volunteering. Its dedicated staff and volunteers make this work possible.

To join CSS in service and to learn about all the ways it is there for our community, visit [colscss.org](http://colscss.org).

The Catholic Social Service Charities network of 168 agencies are members of Catholic Charities USA, which together help millions of people in need each year.

### ROAD, continued from Page 8

Seton's pastor.

After a Thursday morning Mass, approximately 40 Seton parishioners and the perpetual pilgrims on the Seton Route along with pilgrimage chaplain, Father Roger Landry, assembled outside the church to begin a procession that covered approximately 2½ miles.

Father Landry, whose priestly assignment is as chaplain at Columbia University in New York, carried the monstrance to start the procession while Liz Christy, associate director of the diocese's Department of Evangelization & Catechesis and longtime Seton parishioner, led the way.

As the procession passed the entrance to McLeod Parc, a neighborhood about a quarter-mile from Seton Parish, several residents were waiting and kneeling respectfully in anticipation of the Eucharist's passing.

Pam Scarsella, a Seton parishioner, said that when she found out about the procession through Flocknote, the parish's communication software, she immediately wanted to participate.

"I just love the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration," she said. "I had to be a part of this. I'm just so grateful for the weather since it's been rainy lately."

A police escort accompanied the pro-

cession and traffic slowed as the Eucharist passed by while drivers observed the group.

"This is exactly what the world needs," Scarsella said.

Another Seton parishioner, Alex Rospert, attended with his wife, Sarah, their three young children and Alex's father and grandparents, who had traveled from Norwalk, Ohio, to be part of the procession.

"They came down just because of how special this event is," Rospert said of his grandparents' two-hour drive. He also expressed his excitement "(to be) able to witness to our faith and to show the Real Presence of Jesus not only to the people of our parish and to those that believe but to those out in the community."

Brother Lazarus Vina, CFR, one of the Seton Route pilgrims, walked closely behind the Eucharist playing guitar and leading hymns. He said he intentionally chose songs with joyful, triumphant connotations, the first being *O Sacrament Most Holy*.

"The procession is a particularly joyful, triumphant moment in the life of the Church," he said. "We're with our Lord proclaiming his presence – that he is alive, that he is present in the world – and so I enjoy leading music on the guitar and singing songs that have a particular triumphant, exciting, rhythmic joy to them."

Zoe Dongas, one of the pilgrims on the Seton Route, helped Brother Lazarus with the music for the procession.

"There's a lot of in-the-moment strategy," she said. "Our strategy (for this walk) was ... since there was such a diverse age range, we wanted to make sure we sang hymns that were familiar to people."

Dongas also said she was struck by the interest that many drivers showed as the procession passed.

"Some cars would slow down and be really interested and they'd roll down their windows and wanted to know what was going on," he said. "Some people were honking because they had seen us earlier that week and had gotten to pray with us."

"It's just really beautiful to see how the people of Pickerington responded to this

Eucharistic procession."

Father Landry, who commemorated the 25th anniversary of his first Mass after ordination that same day, called it a privilege to carry the Eucharist.

"(I can) look through the slight little glass sliver in the monstrance and see in front of me," he said. "I look at the whole world almost through a Eucharist lens, which is exactly what a priest should be doing."

The procession concluded in the parking lot at a Steak n' Shake restaurant, where participants had arranged for rides home.

"(I appreciated) the silence and reverence we had in the parking lot of a Steak n' Shake," Dongas said, laughing. "(While) Jesus was being transferred from the procession to our mobile tabernacle, it was really beautiful to see how our Lord was being honored."

From there, the pilgrims headed west toward their next stop in Columbus and ultimately their final destination, the National Eucharistic Congress.

*Elizabeth Pardi is a Columbus resident and a contributor to The Catholic Times.*

### Order of Malta members renew commitment



The Columbus Region of the Federal Association of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta held its annual Mass for the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, the patron saint of the order, on Friday, June 21 at Columbus St. John the Baptist Church with Bishop Earl Fernandes as the celebrant. During the Mass, members renewed their commitment to the Order, part of which includes to "promise, calling on the name of God, in chivalrous fidelity, always to bear witness to the Catholic faith, to defend the Church and to lead my life in accordance with the teachings of Holy Mother Church. I declare myself ready as a member of the Order of Malta to care for our lords the sick and the poor with all my strength and ability." This encompasses the Order's charisms of defense of the faith and service to the sick and the poor. Members and candidates in attendance were (from row from left) Marilyn Dono, Kay Gibbons, Teresa Kenney, Dr. Brian Kenney, Jerry Woodhouse and Christine Woodhouse; (second row from left) Jason Thomas, Dr. Marian Schuda, Len Barbe, John Reiner, Dr. Richard Mena, Bishop Fernandes, Don Brey, Jeff Kaman, Mary Parker, Teresa Parker and Albert Navarro. Members, candidates and guests gathered for a dinner with Bishop Fernandes and Father Thomas Blau, OP, the region's chaplain, after Mass. *Photo courtesy Order of Malta*



Matthew Connolly (left), Christopher Doherty (center) and Emiliano Bell stand next to the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage van and trailer. They traveled from the East Coast to join the pilgrimage. *CT photo by Ken Snow*

### New St. Patrick pastor installed



Father Paul Marich, OP, was formally installed as pastor of Columbus St. Patrick Church at a Mass celebrated by Bishop Earl Fernandes on Saturday, June 29 at the downtown parish. Father Marich became the pastor in June after Father Stephen Alcott, OP, the pastor at St. Patrick for 7 1/2 years, was reassigned to St. Barnabas the Apostle parish in Bellmore, New York, where a new Dominican community staffed by friars from the Province of St. Joseph has been established in the Diocese of Rockville Centre. Father Marich, a native of the Youngstown area, had served for two years at the parish as a parochial vicar and also for a year before his ordination to the priesthood.

Photo courtesy Rachel Magree

### Serra Club witnesses Rite of Candidacy



The Serra Club of Columbus held its annual installation of officers on Tuesday, June 18 at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School. Bishop Earl Fernandes celebrated Mass in Mother of Mercy Chapel and a dinner followed in the Robert C. Walter Commons. Also during the Mass (left photo), Bishop Fernandes admitted seminarians Michael Rhatican (left) and Christopher Dixon to the Rite of Candidacy as they publicly expressed their intention to receive the Sacrament of Holy Orders as a deacon and ultimately as a priest. They were joined by Father William Hahn (second from left), the diocesan vocations director. Serra Club officers (right photo) pictured with Father Hahn and Bishop Fernandes are (from left) Steve Wood, Mary Pardi, Chris Vollmer, Mary Girard, Charles Kielkopf and John Swisher. The Serra Club's mission is to support and pray for vocations for priests, religious and seminarians.

Photos courtesy Serra Club of Columbus



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