

The CATHOLIC TIMES

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MARCH FOR LIFE,
PAGES 3-4

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



ROSARY MONTH

Devotion to the rosary was evident throughout October around the diocese with students, groups and individuals praying in a special way to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Pages 14-16



PONTIFICAL HONORS

Msgr. Stephan Moloney and Julie Greer were honored in October for their administrative service to the diocese in the Chancery with Cross Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice awards, Page 2

Diocese issues decrees to clarify parish boundaries

By Father Michael Hartge

The Diocese of Columbus is undergoing a project of clarifying parish boundaries. Several decrees that notably altered parishes by defining questionable boundaries or otherwise unaccounted for territory have been promulgated with more to come.

The understanding of a parish underwent significant reform during the Second Vatican Council. From a legal standpoint, in the 1917 Code of Canon Law, parishes were treated under Book III, which treated “things” in the Church. A parish was understood as a way to support the priest in his ministry, so its treatment in the former Code was in the realm of “things.” A parish was understood as a benefice providing him sustenance for his ministry.

Now, parishes are no longer considered in Canon Law to be “things” but are now treated in the canons of Book II of the 1983 Code that govern “The People of God.” So, the theological focus of what a parish is has changed considerably. No longer is it understood in terms of supporting a priest. Parishes are now described as being a certain community of the Christian faithful stably established in a diocese under the authority of a proper pastor.

The two essential elements of a parish

are: 1) a portion of the People of God 2) entrusted to a proper pastor. It is important to take note that nowhere in this description of essential elements of a parish is a parish church. The parish is the People of God, not a church building. Notwithstanding, the parish is also a separate legal person in Canon Law and the pastor or administrator speaks for that juridical person. A parish is part of a diocese. The diocesan Bishop is the competent ecclesial authority to establish, suppress or alter parishes (with the necessary consultations). Parishes can be either territorial or personal. Parishes are generally erected in a certain territory and include all the faithful there, and in reality, parish priests are to have concern for everyone living in his parish. A personal parish is a parish that is established for the care of the faithful who share in some common rite or nationality.

Parishes are not autonomous from the diocese. A parish is subject to the diocesan Bishop and it depends on unity with the diocesan Bishop, who for instance appoints the pastor. This portion of the People of God is united to the diocesan Bishop, who is the sign of unity with the Universal Church when they gather together and are sanctified at the Eucharistic sacrifice. Parishes flourish to the extent that the faithful in that area

avail themselves of the graces of the sacraments, engage in catechesis and are sent out on mission to evangelize. Pope Francis insists that the parish is not an outdated system because it provides for great flexibility of missionary activity (cf. EG 28). In the 2020 document *On the Pastoral Conversion of the Parish*, the Congregation for Clergy affirmed that in parishes “a renewed vitality is required that favors the rediscovery of the vocation of the baptized as a disciple of Jesus Christ and a missionary of the Gospel, in light of the Second Vatican Council and subsequent Magisterium.” The vocation of the baptized is supported through the parish.

The preparatory document for this current session of the 2024 Synod acknowledged that parish boundaries are readily and easily crossed every day in a more mobile society, that we live in an ever-increasing globalized world with immigrants constantly changing the demographics of a diocese and parish, and that the digital culture continues to shape how the Church dialogues with society. There is some discussion about whether a new way to form a “personal parish” could become law in the Church. We will have to wait for the conclusion of the current Synod for more on this. Still, the concept of parish boundaries remains applicable in the Church for

good order and to ensure that the spiritual needs of the Christian faithful are adequately met.

The parish is an indispensable part of ecclesiastical life. A theme of the current Synod encourages accountability through participative bodies such as a parish pastoral council. In order to effectively participate in such a council, the People of God must be engaged in their parishes. The more engaged parishioners are in the life of the parish, the more the Body of Christ will grow and flourish. It is in this engagement that the faithful are built up and renewed by the sacraments and catechetical formation, which enables them to be more effectively on mission. By this engagement, the pastor is better able to know the needs of the people who are entrusted to him and thus better able to consult with his parishioners about how best to meet those needs. It is frequently in the parish church that this formational activity takes place. However, clearly your parish is much more than the building. The parish is the People of God in an area who are called to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Father Michael Hartge is Moderator of Mission Advancement and Vicar General for the diocese.

Two pontifical awards presented at Cathedral

Two longtime members of the diocese’s Chancery staff were honored with Cross Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice awards at the 5:15 p.m. Mass on Sunday, Oct. 6 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.

Bishop Earl Fernandes presented certificates to Msgr. Stephan Moloney, the

diocese’s longtime vicar general before retiring from that role in July, and Julie Greer, who has worked as the executive assistant to Bishop Emeritus James Griffin, Bishop Emeritus Frederick Campbell, Bishop Robert Brennan and Bishop Fernandes during her 20 years with the diocese.

Msgr. Moloney and Greer also received pins during the 12:05 p.m. daily Mass on Monday, Oct. 7 at the Cathedral and were honored at a reception and luncheon afterward.

The Cross Pro-Ecclesia et Pontifice is bestowed on laypersons and clergy who have given service to the Catholic Church. The papal award was founded by Pope Leo XIII in 1888 and was originally intended to mark his 50th priestly jubilee.

The insignia of the Cross Pro-Ecclesia et Pontifice was later altered by Pope Paul VI to a gold Greek cross with images of Apostles Ss. Peter and Paul in the center. The ribbon is half yellow and half white, the colors of the Holy See.

Msgr. Moloney, 68, is currently the pastor at Columbus St. Andrew Church and the vicar forane for the Northwest Columbus Deanery, which includes eight parishes. He has been at St. Andrew since 2013.

He retired this summer from his ser-

vice in the Chancery, where he assisted the bishops for 36 years with pastoral and administrative governance of the diocese as vice chancellor, chancellor, vicar for spiritual life and vicar general. He also served as diocesan administrator in the absence of a bishop from De-

cember 2021 to May 2022 after Bishop Brennan was appointed to the Diocese of Brooklyn, New York and before Bishop Fernandes came to Columbus.

The Ada native entered seminary

See AWARDS, Page 5



Julie Greer (left) and Msgr. Stephan Moloney (right) receive Cross Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice pins from Bishop Earl Fernandes on Monday, Oct. 7 at St. Joseph Cathedral.

Photo courtesy William Keimig



Front page photo

MASS, MARCH FOR LIFE

Many young people were among the thousands from throughout the state who came to downtown Columbus on Friday, Oct. 4 for the annual Ohio March for Life.

Photo courtesy William Keimig

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Mass, Ohio March for Life attract thousands

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

Several thousand Ohioans filled the streets of downtown Columbus on Friday, Oct. 4 to celebrate the third annual Ohio March for Life.

Individuals from various parts of the Buckeye State gathered in the state's capital to march for preborn children and demonstrate support for the sanctity of human life.

Hundreds of Catholics began the day with a Mass at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral celebrated by Bishop Earl Fernandes. He was joined by several priests concelebrating the Mass and Bishop Robert Pipta of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma.

The standing-room-only cathedral was filled with students from Catholic schools across the state as well as individuals in age ranging from young families to the elderly.

In his homily, Bishop Pipta told the congregation that they are rallying and marching for the Gospel of Life and the sake of unborn children. He said they are called to march for every life regardless of age – preborn or post-born.

The bishop also focused on the importance of mothers, likening them to temples. He explained that, in their wombs, mothers carry a human life with an eternal soul.

“Any woman, any woman to whom God gives the gift, the privilege, the responsibility, and, yes, sometimes the weight of bearing children, that woman is a temple, and in her home is where the human meets the divine,” he said.

“On this particular occasion of remembering the importance of respect for life, we pray for all women, but in a special way, we pray with women, with our mothers, with these special temples, and we ask God to strengthen and protect.”

Bishop Pipta expressed a need and call to repentance. He said, in examining their conscience, all persons will find ways that they have fallen short and failed to respect life.

“The Gospel reminds us of the need to repent, the call of repentance, recognizing how we, ourselves, and those around us have done horrible things to other human beings, even ending the lives of the innocent,” the bishop said.

“We heed this call of repentance. We recommit ourselves to the effort of protecting all human life, and we support one another, not only today but always.”

The morning continued with a rally for life on the front lawn of the Ohio Statehouse followed by a march downtown. Bishop Pipta led the crowd in prayer.

Speakers at the rally included legislative officials, pro-life advocates and leaders, and individuals who chose life rather than abortion. Dave Yost, Ohio's attorney general, was also in attendance.

State representative Josh Williams (R-Sylvania), representing Ohio's 41st district that consists of a portion of northwest Ohio surrounding Toledo, shared his story of becoming a father at age 18 with an unexpected pregnancy.

He said his fiancée considered aborting their son, but he promised to support and provide for the child and his mother every day. He shared that his son recently turned 19.

Williams said he and several of his colleagues in the Ohio legislature are working to help mothers and families in similar situations.

“We want to make sure that women that are going through that difficult decision know that the state legislature, the members that are here with me today, are trying to bring as many resources available to you, that we are there to be a support for you,” he said.

Other speakers included Aaron Baer, the president of the Center for Christian Virtue, which advocates for public pol-



Ohio March for Life participants line up on High Street in Columbus. Photos courtesy Andy Long

icy on issues including school choice, religious freedom and life; and Dr. Peggy Hartshorn, chairman of the board for Heartbeat International, a network of more than 3,500 pro-life pregnancy help organizations.

Baer encouraged the audience to vote pro-life in the upcoming November election and take advantage of early voting, which begins Oct. 8.

He shared recent statistics from the Ohio Department of Health, demonstrating a significant increase in the number of abortions.

“There were over 22,000 abortions in 2023,” he said, “and that number is going to spike dramatically next year. Those are thousands and thousands of lives that's been unjustly lost.”

Hartshorn, who founded Pregnancy Decision Health Centers in Columbus in 1981 with her husband Mike, encouraged those present to be pregnancy helpers.

The Hartshorns began housing pregnant women in their home in 1975.

With decades of leadership in the pro-

life movement, Hartshorn found that a person is the best alternative to abortion. She said pregnant women need someone to listen to them as they experience shame, fear and concerns, and walk with them.

She had a special message for young people in the pro-life movement.

“My advice to you, if God is calling you into this movement: We are not sprinters; we're long-distance runners, and by the end of your race, like mine, you will be passing the baton,” she said. “Our battle is ongoing. It's a battle of good versus evil, and we never give up.”

Two young men involved in the pro-life movement, Mason Bingham, 21, and Travis Bloom, 19, traveled from Cleveland State University to Columbus for the rally and march.

Bingham said the group wants to share with others the fact that life begins at conception and God created life, forming man in His image.

See LIFE, Page 4



A crowd estimated at several thousand turned out for the Ohio March for Life on Friday, Oct. 4 at the Statehouse.



Ohio March for Life participants pray the rosary while accompanied by a banner with the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

LIFE, continued from Page 3

“We’re here to raise awareness because babies are the most innocent form of life that we have because they don’t have a voice for themselves,” Bingham said.

He recognized the difficulties of being pro-life in a culture that is often hostile to it.

“It can be hard sometimes to not give up because I think people can be so stubborn in their beliefs,” he said. “I per-



Bishop Robert Pipta of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma speaks about the sacredness of human life during his homily at the Cathedral. Photos courtesy Andy Long

sonally believe it’s a gospel issue, that people need to turn to Jesus Christ, and that’s how this issue can be resolved.

“As a young person, I think it’s super important for the next generation to step up and share the gospel and share the love of Christ.”

“Just look at the Scriptures,” Bloom added. “John the Baptist leaped in the womb of Elizabeth when Mary, the Mother of God, pregnant with Christ, came to Elizabeth’s home.

“You look at that and you just think, how can we murder babies who are not yet born when the savior of mankind came from a womb?”

The crowd heard from mother-daughter duo Lauren and Bella Buntly. Lauren conceived her daughter, Bella, 15, from rape. She shared that her daughter had a right to live despite the circumstances of her conception.

Lauren countered common arguments that rape justifies abortion. She said her daughter was an innocent victim and aborting her could not undo the crime that was committed.

“Sadly, even some within the pro-life community believe that rape justifies abortion,” she said. “If this is you, remember why you’re pro-life at all. If you believe a living, preborn life deserves protection, how does something that was in no way the baby’s fault change



St. Joseph Cathedral was filled for a Mass on the feast of St. Francis that preceded the Ohio March for Life on Friday, Oct. 4.

their need to be protected?

“I’ll say it again, abortion after rape sentences the innocent victim for the evil of the perpetrator. If you’re truly pro-life, then you cannot support such misguided positions.”

Lauren also voiced support for mothers whose babies were conceived by rape. She encouraged mothers to choose life for their babies, and she shared the beauty and joy that has resulted from choosing life for Bella.

“If you’re currently pregnant from rape, please hear me when I say that the fear you’re feeling is valid,” Lauren said. “It is real. It is daunting. Trust me, I get it, and I empathize with you, but your story is still several chapters behind mine.

“If I can help you finish your story, please let my testimony encourage you to keep your child. I don’t know what’s behind you, but I do know what can be ahead of you.”

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Power of prayer sustains young girl and her family

By Dennis J. Morrison

At an early age, my siblings and I were encouraged by our parents to pray. Our mom would often say, "There's no need to use someone else's words" (referring to prayers we had been taught to memorize). "Just talk to God. He is listening".

For his part, our dad set the example. Known for always carrying a rosary in his pocket, our dad would silently recite "prayers" throughout the day that he alone had composed. As children, we learned, and in some cases witnessed, how our parents' connection with God through heartfelt prayers sustained them through numerous tragedies and misfortunes. Our parents' devotion to God, evidenced in part by their prayerful response to adversity, became a source of inspiration for me and strengthened my faith. Like many other lessons learned from my parents and those my wife learned from hers, she and I raised our two daughters to believe in the power of prayer.

In the spring of 2019, my wife and I welcomed our granddaughter, Thea, into our family. Thea is the firstborn child of our oldest daughter. She is beautiful in every way, but unfortunately, she was born with a genetic disorder that is usually fatal. Shortly after her birth, we were told that if she survived, Thea would require several major surgeries. While our family was devastated with Thea's prognosis, we were undeterred. We immediately began praying for Thea and the extensive team of medical professionals assigned to treat her. Additionally, my wife and I began reaching out to our extended family members,

friends, neighbors, co-workers and business associates to share Thea's story, asking them to keep her in their thoughts and prayers.

The response was overwhelming! With assistance from social media, Thea's story was shared across the country, and in one instance that we know of, in a prayer group extending to other parts of the world! In short, a "Thea prayer network" was born. One of these "prayer warriors" referred to this groundswell of support as "Team Thea." Interestingly, these folks were not only praying for a little girl that they did not know and would likely never meet, they began seeking updates on her progress. Grateful for the support, our family worked hard to keep everyone informed. Thankfully, as "Team Thea" grew in number, Thea gained strength and began to thrive.

A month ago, Thea had open heart surgery to repair an Atrial Septal Defect (ASD), commonly referred to as "a hole in the heart." Thea was born with two holes in her heart, but one closed on its own. The other has grown larger over the years. Thea's medical team advised that if uncorrected with surgery, the ASD would eventually result in heart failure. Surgery was not optional. Prior to her surgery, our family once again called upon those on "Team Thea" seeking thoughts and prayers.

Our prayers were answered! After several hours of surgery, the surgeon reported to Thea's parents that almost immediately after he repaired the ASD, Thea's heart began functioning normally, thereby averting the need for an additional procedure that the surgeon ant-



Thea, who was born with a genetic disorder, is now five years old.

Photo courtesy Morrison family

icipated would be necessary. Thea spent one night in ICU before being moved to a stepdown unit the following day. I was with her and her parents when Thea's crib was wheeled out of the ICU. As the nurse wheeled her down the corridor, Thea maneuvered her body into a kneel-

ing position and began looking around. This prompted the nurse escorting her to remark, "Is this the little girl that had open heart surgery yesterday?" Thea returned home two days after the surgery and is recovering well.

Thea is five years old and living at home with her loving parents and two-year-old twin sisters. She is about to begin her third year of preschool and rides the bus each morning in her specially designed chair. She is a happy child who loves her life. Although unable to speak, Thea responds instinctively to signs of love and affection with a broad smile and an outreached hand.

Thea has touched the lives of many and continues to do so with each passing day. We are truly thankful to have her in our lives. Some might say that Thea's remarkable progress may be attributed to the skill of her treating surgeons, doctors and nurses. While the role these dedicated professionals have played in Thea's journey cannot be understated, I firmly believe that her improved health is also the product of the overwhelming outpouring of love and support she has received in the form of prayers, and surely a sign that our dear Lord has indeed been "listening."

Dennis J. Morrison is a member of Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator Church.

AWARDS, continued from Page 2

after high school and received his undergraduate degree from the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus. He then attended Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and was ordained a priest in 1982 by Bishop Edward Herrmann at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral. His first parish assignment was Columbus St. Peter Church, where he spent his first few years as a priest.

Msgr. Moloney completed his canon law studies at the Angelicum in Rome, earning a licentiate in canon law (JCL, or juris canonici licentia in Latin) in 1988. He was then appointed vice chancellor for the diocese. He also served as vicar for spiritual life during that time.

In November 1997, he was named vicar general and chancellor by Bishop Griffin. He was the chancellor for 10 years and continued as vicar general until this past summer.

Msgr. Moloney was first in residence at Gahanna St. Matthew the Apostle Church while working at the Chancery full time for 20 years until, in 2008, he

was named pastor at Columbus Immaculate Conception Church in addition to working in the Chancery. He served as pastor at Immaculate Conception for five years until becoming pastor at St. Andrew.

In addition to his regular duties in the Chancery, he accompanied Bishop Griffin on ad limina visits with Pope St. John Paul II in 1993, 1998 and 2004 and Bishop Brennan in 2019 to meet with Pope Francis.

Greer, who has a BA in music and communications management from the University of Dayton, came to the diocese in the spring of 2004 as an executive assistant after working for the Columbus Symphony in a similar role and previously for other symphonies and arts organizations around the country.

She is a member of New Albany Church of the Resurrection, where she is involved in choir, the Parish School of Religion (PSR) and Vacation Bible School (VBS).



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Catholic Diocese of Columbus

DECREE NOTABLY ALTERING THE PARISH BOUNDARIES

of St. Mary, Marion

WHEREAS, a parish is defined as "a certain community of the Christian faithful stably constituted in particular church, whose pastoral care is entrusted to a pastor as its proper pastor under the authority of the diocesan bishop" (can. 515 §1);

WHEREAS, "as a general rule, a parish is to be territorial, that is, one which includes all the faithful of a certain territory" (can. 518);

WHEREAS, there has not been an accurate definition of the parish boundaries of St. Mary Parish in Marion County and the custom has been to consider the parish boundaries those of the county lines;

WHEREAS, the recommendation is to define the parish boundaries of St. Mary as those of the present county lines of Marion County;

WHEREAS, having duly consulted with the pastor whose territory is impacted by the proposed alteration (c. 50); having heard the Presbyteral Council which was provided with the necessary information and lawfully convoked according to cc. 127 and 166 on 26 September 2024 and offered genuine consultation according to c. 515 §2 in the form of unanimous agreement with the proposed clarification of the parish boundaries;

WHEREAS, having determined that the good of souls will suffer no harm and will benefit from a more certain definition of parish boundaries of the parish;

THEREFORE, having considered the law and the facts, I, Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes, Bishop of Columbus, decree the following:

- 1) That the territory of St. Mary is defined by the present county lines of Marion County.
- 2) That this alteration shall take effect upon the promulgation of this decree.
- 3) That this decree shall be promulgated by publication on the Diocese of Columbus website and in The Catholic Times diocesan newspaper.

Given at the Chancery Office, 198 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio this 3rd day of October, 2024.

Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus

Deacon Tom Berg, Jr.
Chancellor

Voting as faithful citizens for human dignity

By Will Kuehnle

Political discussions rarely serve as an opportunity to reflect on our convictions or better understand the perspectives of our neighbors. Instead, election season becomes a time of self-righteousness and contention, all the while overlooking human dignity and the common good. During Respect Life Month, we are painfully aware of the way our society so often overlooks dignity at all stages and circumstances.

When Jesus was questioned about politics, it was a trick question from those in opposition of His preaching. "Should we pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" Jesus' response confounded His audience and challenges us still. Our Lord replied, "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God." In this simple phrase, Jesus made clear that His followers would practice faithful citizenship.

As citizens, Christians must fulfill our obligations to our neighbors and communities. The Catholic Church teaches that human beings are relational and social creatures, so we are all are called to participate in the societies in which we live. In the United States, we are privileged to count voting for our elected officials among the ways we can participate.

Merely going to the ballot is not the extent of our faithful citizenship. We are also called to advocate for the common good by knowing and meeting with our local legislators and getting involved to better our communities. However, voting is a direct means of giving to Caesar what belongs to him. So, how do we vote while giving to God what is God's?

This question is particularly difficult when it seems no candidate fully shares our belief in respecting life at all stages and circumstances or our concern for the common good.

What is a Catholic to do? To give both to Caesar and to God what is their due, the Catholic must vote for human dignity. In other words, Catholics must resist the seduction of partisanship, demonization and ideology. Wherever human dignity is threatened, our vote must go to the defense of dignity.

Sadly, we live in a time when human dignity is in grave danger. Therefore, Catholics vote in such a way as to build a world where the poor are fed and the stranger given respect. We vote for the sake of the man on death row, that our justice system would recognize the sanctity of his life. This may not easily lead us to support one candidate or another, as neither party now calls for the repeal of the death penalty.

Human dignity today is threatened by overt violence. Violence from the unrestrained availability of guns has broken our public recognition of the dignity of life. Violence against our common home fails to honor the unique place of the human being in creation, as we all suffer, the poorest most of all, from the harm we continue to permit to our ecology. But Catholics must give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's. So, we advocate and vote but not in pursuit of worldly triumphalism. We advocate and vote for dignity.

The preeminent threat to human dignity today is violence against life in the womb. As Pope Francis reminds us, "Every child who, rather than being born, is condemned unjustly to being aborted, bears the face

of Jesus Christ." During Respect Life Month, we pray and work to build a culture that honors the dignity of life.

The incarnation proves the infinite dignity that God gives to human life from conception to natural death. Jesus' birth to a human mother also reminds us that the violence against the unborn is an assault on the dignity of women. Our society permits mothers to suffer poverty and hopelessness and offers abortion as the solution. Catholics vote to protect the dignity of children and their mothers.

This election, we must remember our brothers and sisters who are smallest and weakest, whether in the womb or suspended in an IVF facility. Our preeminent concern is for these little ones. Tragically, candidates in both major parties have clarified that they will not protect the most vulnerable among us.

This leaves the Catholic citizen of the United States in a terribly difficult position. We can observe the dictates of our faith and accept that voting for human dignity is the command of faithful citizenship. But how do we do this in an election where a defense of human dignity cannot be squarely equated with either party?

This is a question that each of us must answer in the chamber of our consciences. In that place where we listen to God's voice, we must ask how to steward our vote in defense of human dignity. Through prayer and a well-formed conscience, each of us can exercise our faithful citizenship by casting our vote for human dignity.

Will Kuehnle is the associate director of social concerns for the Catholic Conference of Ohio.

Women's Care Center helps build culture of life

By Maxwell Herath

The constitutional enshrinement of abortion in Ohio ushered in a new era for the pro-life movement, one that brings fresh challenges but also an opportunity to reaffirm the depth of commitment to supporting life in all its forms.

The decision to enshrine the right to abortion in the state's constitution has made it clear that the pro-life mission must be about more than political engagement; it must be about action that changes hearts and minds through the witness of love, support and compassion.

During Respect Life Month in October, the Women's Care Center in Columbus stands as a testament to that very mission — supporting not just the unborn but also the mothers, families, and communities that give them life.

Too often, the pro-life position is narrowly framed as being solely about opposing abortion. While defending the unborn remains a central

tenet, the Catholic Church teaches that respecting life also means uplifting and empowering the mother, the family and the child well beyond birth. This is where the Women's Care Center has become an essential part of Ohio's pro-life response.

By offering extensive post-birth support, the Women's Care Center works to ensure that choosing life does not leave mothers isolated or overwhelmed but instead provides them with the resources they need to thrive. Thanks to the amazing effort and support from the Center's staff and generous donors, over 2,042 babies have been saved in the last year and 90 percent of the women served chose life for their babies.

At the Women's Care Center, support often starts with the initial pregnancy test, ultrasound and counseling session. Here, mothers find not only practical resources like diapers, baby clothes and nutritional aid but also

emotional and educational support.

As the Women's Care Center has grown, more mothers are utilizing its services during the parenting years.

A new or seasoned mom can find support from the parenting program. Each day the center offers classes and gatherings, including in multiple languages, helping women find community with other women. The Women's Care Center even offers childcare for moms.

This approach reflects the Church's commitment to the dignity of all life, extending compassion and help that makes real differences in the lives of families.

For many mothers, choosing life is an act of incredible bravery — often made in the face of economic uncertainty, social pressure or a lack of support. The Women's Care Center exists to make that courageous choice one that leads to a hopeful future.

Empowerment is a key part of this process. The Women's Care Center staff

See **WOMEN**, Page 10



Catholic Diocese of Columbus

DECREE NOTABLY ALTERING THE PARISH BOUNDARIES

of Our Lady of Guadalupe Star of the New Evangelization

WHEREAS, a parish is defined as "a certain community of the Christian faithful stably constituted in particular church, whose pastoral care is entrusted to a pastor as its proper pastor under the authority of the diocesan bishop" (can. 515 §1);

WHEREAS, "as a general rule, a parish is to be territorial, that is, one which includes all the faithful of a certain territory" (can. 518);

WHEREAS, there is an area south of and adjacent to Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish which is as yet not part of any parish which consists of: to the West - The middle of High Street; to the South - The middle of 11th Avenue between High Street and the CSX RR tracks; to the East - The middle of CSX RR tracks; to the North - The middle of 14th Avenue between High Street and CSX RR tracks;

WHEREAS, the recommendation is to incorporate this area into the territory of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Star of the New Evangelization Parish;

WHEREAS, having duly consulted with the pastors whose territory is adjacent to the current property (c. 50); having heard the Presbyteral Council which was provided with the necessary information and lawfully convoked according to cc. 127 and 166 on 26 September 2024 and offered genuine consultation according to c. 515 §2 in the form of unanimous agreement with the proposed alteration of the parish boundaries;

WHEREAS, having determined that the good of souls will suffer no harm and will benefit from a more certain definition of parish boundaries;

THEREFORE, having considered the law and the facts, I, Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes, Bishop of Columbus, decree the following:

1) That the new territory of Our Lady of Guadalupe Star of the New Evangelization Parish is the following:

Northern boundary:

From the intersection of the Olentangy River and West Dodridge Street; east on the center of West Dodridge Street, crossing north High Street becoming East Dodridge Street, and on east to Findley Avenue; north on the center of Findley Avenue to East Arcadia Avenue; east on the center of East Arcadia Avenue to the Conrail railroad tracks.

Eastern boundary:

The Conrail railroad tracks from East Arcadia Avenue on the north; south to East 11th Avenue.

Southern boundary:

The center of East 11th Avenue from the Conrail railroad tracks west to North High Street; north on the center of North High St. to the intersection of North High Street and West 11th Avenue; the center of West 11th Avenue from North High Street to the intersection of West 11th Avenue and Neil Avenue; then an airline from the intersection of West 11th Avenue and Neil Avenue straight west to the center of the Olentangy River.

Western boundary:

The center of the Olentangy River from the intersection of the straight westward airline from the West 11th Avenue and Neil Avenue intersection north to the center of the intersection of the Olentangy River and West Dodridge Street.

2) That this alteration shall take effect upon the promulgation of this decree.

3) That this decree shall be promulgated by publication on the Diocese of Columbus website and in *The Catholic Times* diocesan newspaper.

Given at the Chancery Office, 198 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio this 3rd day of October, 2024.

+ Earl K. Fernandes

Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus

Tom Berg, Jr.

Deacon Tom Berg, Jr.
Chancellor

Diocese opens Respect Life Office led by Father Penhallurick

By Hannah Heil

Catholic Times Reporter

The Diocese of Columbus is doubling down on its respect life efforts through the creation of its own Respect Life Office.

After Ohioans voted in favor of a constitutional amendment protecting abortion through the ninth month of pregnancy in last November's election, the diocese is strengthening its commitment to protecting and supporting life at all stages.

The office was created in July. Father Bob Penhallurick, the pastor at Columbus St. Catharine of Siena Church, is leading the diocese's efforts by serving as the office's director.

After last November's vote, Bishop Earl Fernandes invited respect life leaders from organizations around the diocese to a summit the following March. The bishop encouraged the pro-life leaders and shared with them the importance of working together to continue building a culture of life.

In response to the defeat at the polls, Bishop Fernandes also announced the establishment of a diocesan respect life office, Father Penhallurick said.

"We need to reenvision what it means to live a culture of life and how do we support community organizations and people in the pews, to do that in a way that shines a spotlight of great beauty, so that, instead of us being seen, by the non-Catholics and general population, as being against something, helping them to realize that actually what we're for is far more important," he said.

The new Respect Life Office will work with respect life leaders as well as coordinators and pastors in parishes to build a culture of life.

Father Penhallurick shared that it is important to change the negative mindset surrounding the right to life. He recognized that the opposition is not limited to the secular public, as many Catholics do not support the right or see it in a positive light.

"We know that there are many Catholics who voted for that constitutional amendment," he said. "Our preference obviously would have been that they voted against, and one of the things I think we have to really do is to communicate in a better way the vision that we have of what is life, the sacredness of human life from conception to natural death."

Moving forward as director of the office, Father Penhallurick is spearheading efforts to help all persons see and support the beauty of life.

He is currently looking ahead to the national March for Life in January. He said the bishop will celebrate several Masses in Washington and "wants to

gather the Diocese of Columbus around him."

Earlier this month, which the Church recognizes as Respect Life Month, faithful across the state gathered for the annual Respect Life Mass and Ohio March for Life in Columbus.

Additional right-to-life initiatives continue in October that include the 40 Days for Life campaign, which is taking place throughout Ohio, and runs from Sept. 25 to Nov. 3. Diocesan parishes are participating by arranging a day or time to pray in front of a local abortion clinic.

In November, Father Penhallurick said, the Respect Life Office will focus on palliative care and hospice. He said hospice can do great things for people at the end of life.

"We have to remember, it's not just the beginning of life issues that are important, although they are fundamental," he said. "We also have to care for people during their life: the disabled, the poor, the marginalized, the infirm and also those who are at the end of life, to give them the dignity across that spectrum that they deserve - and they should be given in all cases."

Father Penhallurick will also work with diocesan parishes on building a culture of life. He said each parish has a respect life coordinator or committee.

"My hope is that, toward the beginning of next year, I can start to go out to the deaneries or to areas and actually try and gather those people together to offer them a time of spiritual strengthening and healing, to listen to them and to hear what their concerns and their needs are," he said.

Father Penhallurick said he wants to develop a "robust" office that serves the people of the diocese well.

He will work with nearby respect life organizations that have shared values, including centers for women and pregnancy care and also Mother Angelina McCrory Manor on Columbus' east side that serves the infirm with nursing and rehabilitation care.

He said the diocese wants to work with such organizations while not "taking over" their programming. He said the office will offer support and "shine the spotlight on what they're doing."

With a background in bioethics and healthcare, Father Penhallurick, who is originally from England, has studied issues surrounding life.

While in seminary, he concentrated in bioethics and healthcare for his master's degree in theology. His thesis focused on the freezing and unfreezing of human embryos, he said, and the moral issues related to that.

"I've always had a real interest around moral theology, but particularly, moral

See OFFICE, Page 30



Catholic Diocese of Columbus

DECREE NOTABLY ALTERING THE PARISH BOUNDARIES

of Saint John the Evangelist, Logan

WHEREAS, a parish is defined as "a certain community of the Christian faithful stably constituted in particular church, whose pastoral care is entrusted to a pastor as its proper pastor under the authority of the diocesan bishop" (can. 515 §1);

WHEREAS, "as a general rule, a parish is to be territorial, that is, one which includes all the faithful of a certain territory" (can. 518);

WHEREAS, there has not been an accurate definition of the parish boundaries of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Hocking County and the custom has been to consider the parish boundaries those of the county lines;

WHEREAS, the recommendation is to define the parish boundaries of St. John the Evangelist as those of the present county lines of Hocking County;

WHEREAS, having duly consulted with the pastor whose territory is impacted by the proposed alteration (c. 50); having heard the Presbyteral Council which was provided with the necessary information and lawfully convoked according to cc. 127 and 166 on 26 September 2024 and offered genuine consultation according to c. 515 §2 in the form of unanimous agreement with the proposed clarification of the parish boundaries;

WHEREAS, having determined that the good of souls will suffer no harm and will benefit from a more certain definition of the boundaries of the parish;

THEREFORE, having considered the law and the facts, I, Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes, Bishop of Columbus, decree the following:

- 1) That the territory of St. John the Evangelist is defined by the present county lines of Hocking County.
- 2) That this alteration shall take effect upon the promulgation of this decree
- 3) That this decree shall be promulgated by publication on the Diocese of Columbus website and in *The Catholic Times* diocesan newspaper.

Given at the Chancery Office, 198 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio this 3rd day of October, 2024.

+ Earl K. Fernandes

Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus

Tom Berg, Jr.

Deacon Tom Berg, Jr.
Chancellor

Ohio's abortion laws make defending, protecting life imperative to protect, defend life

By Kathy Scanlon

As we celebrate Respect Life Month in our churches, we are all reminded and called to cherish, defend and protect those who are most vulnerable. At Pregnancy Decision Health Centers (PDHC), we are called to this every day through our four pregnancy centers and on our hotline.

This year, PDHC celebrated 43 years of *Rescuing Lives and Impacting Generations, One Heartbeat at a Time*, at our Celebration for Life galas in Lancaster and Columbus. At these events, 166 of our church partners were represented. What a mighty room of warriors for life!

We chose Isaiah 6:8 as our theme this year. Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here Am I. Send Me!" It is more important than ever that we stand boldly to protect the sanctity of human life, especially with what is happening in our state and the world around us.

We knew with the passing of Issue 1 last year that many of Ohio's pro-life laws would begin to be challenged through the courts this year, and that is exactly what is now happening. Recently, Common Pleas judges in Franklin and Hamilton Counties issued preliminary injunctions against the 24-hour waiting period and informed consent law, and against the laws governing the distribution of the abortion pill.

Ohio's common-sense pro-life laws were put in place for a reason -- to protect the health and safety of moms and babies during a vulnerable time. Pregnancy centers like PDHC are often the last line of defense between an abortion-minded mom making an abortion decision or making a life decision for her baby. As our founder, Peggy Harts-horn, always says, "The best alternative to abortion is another person," and the individuals on our hotline and in our centers are that person.

Recently, I received an anonymous

letter and the writer asked that I share it where I thought it would be most beneficial. I thought Respect Life Month was the perfect opportunity to show the impact of pregnancy centers in Ohio.

"Hello, I am writing to you because I understand where you are ... so many emotions and thoughts. How do I know? I was in your same shoes. I was confused, scared, embarrassed, and simply wanted it to not be true. I remember all the thoughts that raced through my head. Why me? I am a student. I cannot afford this baby. I will have to change the plans I had. I don't even know who the father is! What will everyone think about me?"

Although my story may not match yours, I hope that the lessons I have learned will help. You see, I was a recent college graduate who could have definitely changed my plans of graduate school and got a job or just taken classes part-time. I could not see any options. I just wanted my "problem" to go away.

Don't get me wrong. I loved babies but was not ready for one. I was dating two different fellas and so when that pregnancy test came back positive, I didn't even know what to do or who to contact. Long story short, I got a phone number for an abortion clinic. I aborted my child 33 years ago.

And you know what? I still am ashamed, embarrassed, and so entirely regretful. My heart aches. My "problem" did not go away that day, but the pain in my heart began and will remain with me forever. I cannot change my decision. YOU CAN!

Do not repeat my mistake! I am telling you there are options and there are ways for you to face the challenge you are in. You were given this child at this very time in your life for a reason. CHOOSE LIFE! I want you to kiss the face of your child. I want you to know that if you choose life, everything will be okay. If your circumstances don't allow you to keep this child, then consider adoption. There is simply no greater gift than that! And I can tell you, this

child that is in your womb is bound to bring much joy to you and/or another family.

Take a deep breath. You are not alone in this journey. Do not make any quick decisions that you will regret. I wish someone would have said these things to me. I want more for you. Pray. God will show you the way. Jesus' Mother Mary was scared too. But God showed her the way. Everything will be okay. I promise!"

Love, Your Friend.

She goes on to say emotionally she is still carrying the scars of an abortion she had 33 years ago, and how she wishes she knew then what she knows now. She said she wrote these words ("with the help of Mary, our most blessed Mother") for young women experiencing unplanned pregnancies.

Pregnancy centers like PDHC provide the ongoing love, hope and support women need to choose life for their babies. Although we were not able to help this individual at the time of her pregnancy, we are so thankful she is boldly using her voice to let others know that support and resources are out there in over 123 pregnancy centers around the state of Ohio.

At PDHC, when an individual does make an abortion decision, we reach out and provide her the opportunity to find a community of support through our Abortion Recovery (aR) programs and services. Men hurt too, and we are able to help both women and men begin their healing journey so they don't suffer in silence for decades like this individual. Our churches are full of people suffering in silence from the pain of abortion. We can help. Call or text our 24/7 Abortion Recovery Careline at 614-721-2100 or visit abortionrecoveryinfo.org for more information.

More information on PDHC can be found at SupportLifePDHC.org. We will be posting the videos of our recent gala guest speakers online soon.

Kathy Scanlon is the president of Pregnancy Decision Health Centers.

Birthright continues legacy of support

Birthright of Columbus, the oldest pregnancy help center in the city, will hold its annual luncheon and silent auction at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 19 in Columbus St. Catharine's Msgr. Sorohan Center, 500 S. Gould Road.

For 52 years, Birthright of Columbus has helped women in crisis pregnancy situations and offered support to new mothers. Birthright

is staffed totally by volunteers, some of whom are in their 90s.

Louise Summerhill founded Birthright in Toronto in 1968 to be a friend to women facing unplanned crisis pregnancies and it has since expanded throughout Canada, the United States and Africa. Birthright of Columbus, which is affiliated with Birthright International of Toronto, opened its doors in October 1972.

Birthright's pregnancy resource center can be found on Columbus' west side in the Great Western Shopping Center, 3445 Great Western Blvd., where it moved in December 2022 from its former Mount Street location.

For more information, visit birthright.org/columbusohmain, call 614-221-0844 or email columbusohmain@birthright.org.



Catholic Diocese of Columbus

DECREE NOTABLY ALTERING THE PARISH BOUNDARIES

of St. Colman of Cloyne, Washington Court House

WHEREAS, a parish is defined as "a certain community of the Christian faithful stably constituted in particular church, whose pastoral care is entrusted to a pastor as its proper pastor under the authority of the diocesan bishop" (can. 515 §1);

WHEREAS, "as a general rule, a parish is to be territorial, that is, one which includes all the faithful of a certain territory" (can. 518);

WHEREAS, there has not been an accurate definition of the parish boundaries of St. Colman of Cloyne Parish in Fayette County and the custom has been to consider the parish boundaries those of the county lines;

WHEREAS, the recommendation is to define the parish boundaries of St. Colman of Cloyne as those of the present county lines of Fayette County;

WHEREAS, having duly consulted with the pastor whose territory is impacted by the proposed alteration (c. 50); having heard the Presbyteral Council which was provided with the necessary information and lawfully convoked according to cc. 127 and 166 on 26 September 2024 and offered genuine consultation according to c. 515 §2 in the form of unanimous agreement with the proposed clarification of the parish boundaries;

WHEREAS, having determined that the good of souls will suffer no harm and will benefit from a more certain definition of parish boundaries of both parishes;

THEREFORE, having considered the law and the facts, I, Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes, Bishop of Columbus, decree the following:

- 1) That the territory of St. Colman of Cloyne is defined by the present county lines of Fayette County.
- 2) That this alteration shall take effect upon the promulgation of this decree.
- 3) That this decree shall be promulgated by publication on the Diocese of Columbus website and in The Catholic Times diocesan newspaper.

Given at the Chancery Office, 198 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio this 3rd day of October, 2024.

Earl K. Fernandes

Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus

Tom Berg, Jr.

Deacon Tom Berg, Jr.
Chancellor

Ohio abortion numbers rise after the fall of pro-life laws

By Beth Vanderkooi

This Respect Life Month, the pro-life landscape is drastically different than it was just one year ago, and we anticipate that one year from now could be horrifically unrecognizable.

On a positive note, we at Greater Columbus Right to Life are pleased to welcome Paul Borchard as our new executive director. He will be taking over the day-to-day efforts at GCRTL as I transition to the role of president. We look forward to introducing Paul to the wider Catholic and pro-life community. Paul has his work cut out for him! Please keep him and our work in your prayers.

The Ohio Department of Health issued the annual abortion statistics report for 2023. The results were grim, but not entirely unexpected.

Abortions throughout Ohio rose from just over 18,000 to 22,000. Much of that increase was due to two factors. The first is that the 2022 figures were impacted by nearly three months where Ohio's Heartbeat Law protected babies with detectable heartbeats. That law was ruled unenforceable during a legal challenge after about three months and was not in effect in 2023. The second is that we saw an extraordinary number of women who traveled from out of state to Ohio to procure an abortion in 2023. The pro-life faithful should be prepared that both the number of women coming to Ohio from other states and the stripping away of Ohio's life-affirming laws is going to continue. Gird your loins.

Last year, 60 babies died each day in Ohio by abortion; 10 of them died in one of two central Ohio abortion clinics. Black women continued to have a disproportionately high number of abortions at about 44%. About 7% of women having abortions reported Hispanic ethnicity. Not only did the number of women traveling to Ohio more than double, but the number of minors – including girls 14 or younger, having abortions nearly doubled. Statewide, about 45% of abortions were via the abortion pill, and in central Ohio 81% of abortions were committed by the abortion pill.

Ohio data also illustrates the risks of abortion. The state reported 79 botched abortions via abortion pill. Surgical abortion complications included lacerations, hemorrhages, hematomas, infections and more. This is likely a low number, as emergency rooms are not required to report abortion complications and in the case of the abortion pill may not even know it was an induced abortion.

Post Article 1, Section 23 (2023 Issue 1), things will only get worse. This fall, a Hamilton County judge issued a

preliminary injunction halting most of Ohio's laws governing the abortion pill. This includes the requirement that only physicians provide them and that they are only distributed in accordance with the FDA's health and safety guidelines (including gestation limits of 10 weeks. Local clinics are already offering the abortion pill beyond 10 weeks).

This not only opened the doors to advanced practitioners like physician assistants and nurses being permitted to provide the abortion pill, but it may also result in them being pressured or forced to. It certainly will allow retail pharmacies, like CVS and Walgreens, which are distributing the abortion pill in other states but had deferred to Ohio law, to start stocking them.

A Franklin County judge issued a similar restraining order against Ohio's waiting period and informed consent law. This law required that women seeking an abortion be given an opportunity to meet with a doctor to get information on their pregnancy and options as well as the right to see an ultrasound or hear the fetal heartbeat before their abortion. It also required that the woman had to meet with the doctor alone to consent to the procedure as one final safeguard against a compelled or threatened abortion. This is not a moot point. In 2010, a Columbus man was arrested and charged with kidnapping and attempted murder when he forced his girlfriend to a Columbus abortion clinic at gunpoint. She was able to tell clinic staff what was happening in private.

Attorneys with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) have also indicated that they intend to pursue additional litigation. While provisions related to Ohio's gestational limits continue through the courts, attorneys with the group and representing abortion providers indicate that they will be bringing lawsuits against Ohio's non-discrimination law that protects unborn children with Down syndrome from being aborted purely based on their disability. They also have specifically mentioned Ohio's insurance prohibitions – likely Ohio's requirement that taxpayers not be required to pay for most induced abortions through state employee healthcare or Medicaid.

Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost has pledged to appeal these decisions, but ultimately these intentionally vague and broad terms will be decided by the Ohio Supreme Court, the makeup of which will be hotly contested this November.

Last year, we traveled the state telling people how extreme and anti-woman the intentionally broad

language drafted by the ACLU was. They used tens of millions of dollars from extremist organizations to mislead Ohioans on the real results. Now they are using the courts, exactly as we said they would, to eliminate the common-sense health and safety regulations that have been keeping women safe. This is not pro-woman. It is pro-profit, pro-abortion and pro-abuser, and it always has been.

Last year, abortion advocates violated HIPAA laws in revealing that a 10-year-old girl who was raped by someone known to the family traveled to Indiana to get an abortion. They did it to pursue a political agenda. We've noted again and again that little girl was victimized by the man who raped her but also by the doctor who she was told would help her. What she really needed was someone who would protect her and advocate for her. In 2023, 71 young girls age 14 or younger were provided abortions in Ohio. We cannot help but wonder how many of those girls were also the victims of sexual assault and whether or not their cases brought to local law enforcement for investigation and prosecution. Medically licensed persons are mandatory reporters of abuse under Ohio law.

Unfortunately, Ohio has become an abortion tourism state. Women are coming from as far away as Florida and being offered same-day abortions. Pro-abortion advocates are advancing their agenda in the political, legal, and financial sphere – suing for taxpayer funding and raising millions of dollars to subsidize death.

We, however, are not without hope and we are not without recourse. Pro-life volunteers who give of their time to stand witness and offer help outside of the abortion clinics make a difference every single day. They are often the last sign of hope and the first sign of mercy to a woman walking into an abortion clinic. We rejoice when we hear the stories and hold the babies born with their help, and we grieve when we hear the lament, "I wish someone like you had been there that day."

We can no longer count on Ohio's laws to protect unborn children and pregnant women, but I pray that we can count on you. Visit www.gcrtl.org or call 614-445-8508 to get our analysis of the abortion report, sign up for one of our October volunteer training programs, bring a speaker to your church, or volunteer for an hour (or a day) with 40 Days for Life. Thank you for standing for Life.

Beth Vanderkooi is the president of Greater Columbus Right to Life.



Catholic Diocese of Columbus

DECREE NOTABLY ALTERING THE PARISH BOUNDARIES

of St. Brendan the Navigator, Hilliard, of St. Andrew, Columbus

WHEREAS, a parish is defined as "a certain community of the Christian faithful stably constituted in particular church, whose pastoral care is entrusted to a pastor as its proper pastor under the authority of the diocesan bishop" (can. 515 §1);

WHEREAS, "as a general rule, a parish is to be territorial, that is, one which includes all the faithful of a certain territory" (can. 518);

WHEREAS, there is a portion of St. Brendan Parish that is east of the Scioto River consisting of: the middle of the Scioto River from Bethel Road north to State Route 161 on the west; the middle of State Route 161 from the Scioto River to Sawmill Road on the north; the middle of Sawmill Road south from the intersection of State Route 161 and Sawmill Road to the intersection of Sawmill and Bethel roads on the east; and the middle of Bethel Road/Hayden Road from the intersection of Sawmill and Bethel roads to the Scioto River on the south.

WHEREAS, the recommendation is to assign the aforementioned area to St. Andrew Parish, and make the eastern boarder of St. Brendan parish the middle of the Scioto River;

WHEREAS, having duly consulted with the pastors of both parishes whose territories are impacted by the proposed alteration (c. 50); having heard the Presbyteral Council which was provided with the necessary information and lawfully convoked according to cc. 127 and 166 on 26 September 2024 and offered genuine consultation according to c. 515 §2 in the form of unanimous agreement with the proposed alteration of the boundaries of the two affected parishes;

WHEREAS, having determined that the good of souls will suffer no harm and will benefit from this alteration of the parish boundaries of both parishes;

THEREFORE, having considered the law and the facts, I, Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes, Bishop of Columbus, decree the following:

1) That the new territory of St. Brendan Parish is:

Northern boundary:

The center of Rings Road from the intersection of Rings and Cosgray Roads east to Avery Road; then north on the center of Avery Road to the intersection of Cramers Crossing Drive/Rings Road; then east on the center of Rings Road to the terminus of Rings Road; then east on an air-line to the resumption of Rings Road; the east on the center of Rings Road to Dublin Road; then an air-line from the intersection of Rings and Dublin Roads straight east to the center of the Scioto River.

Eastern boundary:

The center of the Scioto River from a point that is directly east on an air-line from the intersection of Rings and Dublin Roads on the north to a point on an air-line directly east of the intersection of Roberts and Dublin Roads on the south.

Southern boundary:

An air-line from the point on the center of the Scioto River directly east of the intersection of Roberts and Dublin Roads west to said intersection; west on the center of Roberts Road to Alton Darby Creek Road.

Western boundary:

North on the center of Alton Darby Creek Road to Scioto Darby Road; then east on the center of Scioto Darby Road to Cosgray Road; then north on the center of Cosgray Road to Rings Road.

2) That the new territory of St. Andrew Parish is:

Northern boundary:

The center of State Route 161 (West Dublin Granville Road) from the intersection of the center of the Scioto River and State Route 161 east to Sawmill Road; then south on the center of Sawmill Road to West Case Road; then east on the center of West Case Road to Godown Road; then south on the center of Godown Road to Bethel Road; then east on the center of Bethel Road to Kenny Road.

Eastern boundary:

The center of Kenny Road from the intersection of Kenny and Bethel Roads on the north to Tremont Road on the south; then center of Tremont Road south to Ridgecliff Road.

Southern boundary:

West on the center of Ridgecliff Road from Tremont Road on the east to Mountview Road; then north on the center of Mountview Road to Swansea Road; then west on the center of Swansea Road to Sunset Drive; then an air-line from the intersection of Swansea Road and Sunset Drive straight west to the center of the Scioto River.

Western boundary:

The center of the Scioto River straight west of the intersection of Swansea Road and Sunset Drive on the south to the intersection of State Route 161 and the center of the Scioto River on the north.

3) That this alteration shall take effect upon the promulgation of this decree.

4) That this decree shall be promulgated by publication on the Diocese of Columbus website and in *The Catholic Times* diocesan newspaper.

Given at the Chancery Office, 198 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio this 3rd day of October, 2024.

+ Earl K. Fernandes

Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus

Deacon Tom Berg, Jr.

Deacon Tom Berg, Jr.
Chancellor

WOMEN, *continued from Page 6*

understands that respect for life must be demonstrated through meaningful support that turns a mother's brave decision into a story of resilience and success. The courage it takes to embrace motherhood, especially in challenging circumstances, should be met with an equal measure of communal encouragement and tangible help.

As Ohio embarks on a new chapter in its legal landscape, it is crucial for the pro-life community to come together and affirm the value of life at every stage. Pro-life values are not about controlling choices but about providing better ones — choices that respect the dignity of life while supporting those who are most vulnerable.

The central message the pro-life movement must convey is that its stance is not one of opposition for the sake of opposition; it is an expression of love rooted in a universal and moral truth. This is not a position that requires defense but rather one that must be shared with conviction and clarity.

Advocating for life at all its stages, from conception through childhood and beyond, aligns with the best of both religious morality and shared human and scientific understanding.

In the face of a state amendment that seemingly moves Ohio farther away from the ideals of a culture of life, it is more important than ever for Catholics to be proactive, not reactive.

Bishop Earl Fernandes recently reminded Catholics that true victory in this mission lies outside the realm of politics — it lies in winning hearts and minds through our unconditional love for mothers and children. Supporting institutions like the Women's Care Center becomes a practical expression of this mission and a way for every member of our community to contribute to building a culture of life.

Respect Life Month is a call to each of us — not just to reflect on the dignity of life but to act in ways that affirm it. This could mean providing financial support, volunteering time and resources, and being present for those in need. It also means engaging in the spiritual practices that remind us of our shared responsibility — through prayer, Eucharistic Adoration, and intentional acts of kindness and sacrifice.

By caring for mothers and children alike, by empowering families and by continuing to advocate for the dignity of every person, we are building a future where life is cherished from its very beginning and where every family has the support it needs to thrive.

With one in every eight babies in Franklin County starting at the Women's Care Center, the Center is leading the way. And as a Catholic community, it is a privilege and a duty to walk alongside them, ensuring that love and support are available to every mother and child in Ohio.

This Respect Life Month, let us reaffirm the commitment to supporting life — not just in theory, but in practice, through our time, resources and prayers. Together, we can continue to make a difference -- one mother, one child and one family at a time.



Catholic Diocese of Columbus

DECREE NOTABLY ALTERING THE PARISH BOUNDARIES

of St. Stephen the Martyr, Columbus
of St. Mary Magdalene, Columbus

WHEREAS, a parish is defined as "a certain community of the Christian faithful stably constituted in particular church, whose pastoral care is entrusted to a pastor as its proper pastor under the authority of the diocesan bishop" (can. 515 §1);

WHEREAS, "as a general rule, a parish is to be territorial, that is, one which includes all the faithful of a certain territory" (can. 518);

WHEREAS, there is a large area on the West side of Columbus presently unaccounted for in any parish boundary consisting of: West – The middle of Interstate 270 between Fisher Road and State Route 4; South – The middle of State Route 4 from Interstate 270 to North Wilson Road; East – The middle of North Wilson Road from State Route 4 to Fisher Road; North – The middle of Fisher Road from North Wilson to Interstate 270;

WHEREAS, there is a recommendation to assign the aforementioned area to St. Stephen the Martyr Parish;

WHEREAS, there is a small area on the West side of Columbus between St. Stephen the Martyr Parish and St. Mary Magdalene Parish consisting of: the northern point at the intersection of Sullivant Avenue and Josephine Road; West – air-line from the north point to Brixham Road, then down to Briggs Road; East – air-line from the north point to Josephine Road where it curves and becomes Race Road., then down Josephine to Briggs. South – Briggs Road between Brixham and Josephine;

WHEREAS, there is a recommendation to make an air-line from the north point down to Briggs Road; the territory on the east of this air-line consisting of the homes facing east belonging to St. Mary Magdalene Parish, and the territory on the west of this line consisting of the homes facing west to that of St. Stephen the Martyr Parish;

WHEREAS, having duly consulted with the pastors of the parishes of the territory in question (c. 50); having heard the Presbyteral Council which was provided with the necessary information and lawfully convoked according to cc. 127 and 166 on 26 September 2024 and offered genuine consultation on each of the two recommendations according to c. 515 §2 in the form of unanimous agreement to the proposed alterations of the parishes;

WHEREAS, having determined that the good of souls will suffer no harm and will benefit from a more certain definition of parish boundaries;

THEREFORE, having considered the law and the facts, I, Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes, Bishop of Columbus, decree the following:

1) The new boundaries of St. Stephen the Martyr Parish area as follows:

Northern boundary:

The center of Fisher Road from Interstate 270 on the west to North Wilson Road on the east.

Eastern boundary:

The center of North Wilson from Fisher Road south to West Broad Street; then the center of West Broad Street east to Derrer Road; then the center of Derrer Road south to Wicklow Road; then the center of Wicklow Road to Josephine Avenue; then the center of Josephine Avenue south to Sullivant Avenue; then an air-line straight south to Briggs Road; then the center of Briggs Road east to Harrisburg Pike (U.S. Rte. 62); then the center of Harrisburg Pike south to Alkire Road.

Southern boundary:

The center of Alkire Road at the intersection with Harrisburg Pike west to Big Run South Road; then the center of Big Run South Road southwesterly to Johnson Road; then the center of Johnson Road west to Norton Road.

Western boundary:

From the intersection of Johnson and Norton roads north on the center of Norton Road north to Georgesville Road; then the center of Georgesville Road northeast to Interstate 270; then the center of Interstate 270 north to Fisher Road.

2) The new boundaries of St. Mary Magdalene Parish are as follows:

Northern boundary:

From Derrer Road at the center of West Broad Street east to Hague Avenue at West Broad Street.

Eastern boundary:

The center of Hague Avenue at West Broad Street south to Vanderberg Avenue; the center of Vanderberg Avenue east to Racine Avenue; the center of Racine Avenue south to Briggs Road.

Southern boundary:

The center of Briggs Road at Racine Avenue west to the air-line that runs straight south from the intersection of Josephine and Sullivant avenues and intersects Briggs Road.

Western boundary:

The air-line that runs straight south from the intersection of Josephine and Sullivant avenues and intersects Briggs Road; then from the intersection of Josephine and Sullivant avenues north on the center of Josephine Avenue to Wicklow Road; then the center of Wicklow Road east to Derrer Road; then the center of Derrer Road north to West Broad Street.

3) That these alterations shall take effect upon the promulgation of this decree

4) That this decree shall be promulgated by publication on the Diocese of Columbus website and in *The Catholic Times* diocesan newspaper.

Given at the Chancery Office, 198 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio this 3rd day of October, 2024.

+ Earl K. Fernandes

Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus

Tom Berg, Jr.

Deacon Tom Berg, Jr.
Chancellor



Catholic Diocese of Columbus

DECREE NOTABLY ALTERING THE PARISH BOUNDARIES

of St. Matthew the Apostle, Gahanna, of St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg

WHEREAS, a parish is defined as "a certain community of the Christian faithful stably constituted in particular church, whose pastoral care is entrusted to a pastor as its proper pastor under the authority of the diocesan bishop" (can. 515 §1);

WHEREAS, "as a general rule, a parish is to be territorial, that is, one which includes all the faithful of a certain territory" (can. 518);

WHEREAS, there is a triangle in the Pataskala area bounded by CSX RR tracks, State Route 310, and Broad Street/State Route 16; Current boundary descriptions have both St. Matthew and St. Pius X claiming this area; On satellite images, this area looks to be a mix of residential and commercial properties;

WHEREAS, the recommendation is to assign this area claimed by both parishes to St. Pius X in order to keep the Pataskala area together in the same parish. It is also recommended that the eastern boundary of that section of St. Pius X parish be moved from South Main Street, Pataskala, to the middle of State Route 310 to clean up a small strip of St. Matthew territory that is south of Broad Street (State Route 16);

WHEREAS, having duly consulted with the pastors of both parishes whose territories are affected (c. 50); having heard the Presbyteral Council which was provided with the necessary information and lawfully convoked according to cc. 127 and 166 on 26 September 2024 and offered genuine consultation according to c. 515 §2 in the form of unanimous agreement with the proposed alteration of the boundaries of the two affected parishes;

WHEREAS, having determined that the good of souls will suffer no harm and will benefit from a more certain definition of parish boundaries of both parishes;

THEREFORE, having considered the law and the facts, I, Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes, Bishop of Columbus, decree the following:

1) That the new territory of St. Matthew Parish is:

Northern boundary:

The center of Morse Road from the intersection of Interstate 270 and Morse Road east to the State Route 310.

Eastern boundary:

The center of State Route 310 from Morse Road south to East Broad Street.

Southern boundary:

West on East Broad Street from the intersection of State Route 310 and East Broad Street to the Conrail railroad tracks; then west on the Conrail railroad tracks to Interstate 270.

Western boundary:

The center of Interstate 270 between the intersection of Interstate 270 and the Conrail railroad tracks and the intersection of Interstate 270 and Morse Road.

2) That the new territory of St. Pius X Parish is:

Northern boundary:

From the intersection of Taylor Station Road and the Conrail railroad tracks; then east on the Conrail railroad tracks to the intersection of the railroad tracks and East Broad Street; then east on the center of East Broad Street to State Route 310.

Eastern boundary:

From the intersection of East Broad Street and State Route 310 south on the center of Township Road to the Conrail railroad tracks; then west on the Conrail railroad tracks to State Route 310; then the center of State Route 310 south to Palmer Road.

Southern boundary:

West on the center of Palmer Road from the intersection of State Route 310 and Palmer Road to Tollgate Road S.W./Palmer Road; then north on the center of Tollgate Road S.W./Palmer Road to Palmer Road S.W.; then west on the center of Palmer Road S.W. until it intersects Interstate 70; then west on the center of Interstate 70 to Brice Road.

Western boundary:

North from the intersection of Interstate 70 and Brice Road on the center of Brice Road to East Main Street; then west on the center of East Main Street to McNaughten Road; then north on the center of McNaughten Road to East Broad Street; then west on the center of East Broad Street to Taylor Station Road; then north on the center of Taylor Station Road to the Conrail railroad tracks.

3) That this alteration shall take effect upon the promulgation of this decree.

4) That this decree shall be promulgated by publication on the Diocese of Columbus website and in *The Catholic Times* diocesan newspaper.

Given at the Chancery Office, 198 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio this 3rd day of October, 2024.

+ Earl K. Fernandes

Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus

Deacon Tom Berg, Jr.

Deacon Tom Berg, Jr.
Chancellor



Catholic Diocese of Columbus

DECREE NOTABLY ALTERING THE PARISH BOUNDARIES

of Sacred Hearts, Cardington

WHEREAS, a parish is defined as "a certain community of the Christian faithful stably constituted in particular church, whose pastoral care is entrusted to a pastor as its proper pastor under the authority of the diocesan bishop" (can. 515 §1);

WHEREAS, "as a general rule, a parish is to be territorial, that is, one which includes all the faithful of a certain territory" (can. 518);

WHEREAS, there has not been an accurate definition of the parish boundaries of Sacred Hearts Parish in Morrow County and the custom has been to consider the parish boundaries those of the county lines;

WHEREAS, the recommendation is to define the parish boundaries of Sacred Hearts as those of the present county lines of Morrow County;

WHEREAS, having duly consulted with the pastor whose territory is impacted by the proposed alteration (c. 50); having heard the Presbyteral Council which was provided with the necessary information and lawfully convoked according to cc. 127 and 166 on 26 September 2024 and offered genuine consultation according to c. 515 §2 in the form of unanimous agreement with the proposed clarification of the parish boundaries;

WHEREAS, having determined that the good of souls will suffer no harm and will benefit from a more certain definition of the boundaries of the parish;

THEREFORE, having considered the law and the facts, I, Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes, Bishop of Columbus, decree the following:

1) That the territory of Sacred Hearts Parish is defined by the present county lines of Morrow County.

2) That this alteration shall take effect upon the promulgation of this decree.

3) That this decree shall be promulgated by publication on the Diocese of Columbus website and in *The Catholic Times* diocesan newspaper.

Given at the Chancery Office, 198 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio this 3rd day of October, 2024.

+ Earl K. Fernandes

Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus

Deacon Tom Berg, Jr.

Deacon Tom Berg, Jr.
Chancellor

Bishop provides update on diocesan initiatives in men's club talk

Bishop Earl Fernandes told the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club in his annual address to the group that the diocese is making progress in the two critical areas he identified – vocations and evangelization – when he was installed and ordained as the 13th bishop of Columbus on May 31, 2022, but more progress is needed.

Speaking at the club's monthly gathering in Patrick Hall at Columbus St. Patrick Church on Friday, Oct. 5, the bishop outlined some of the initiatives the diocese has launched to establish a culture that promotes evangelization and vocations.

A surge in vocations has drawn international and national attention from Vatican News, Our Sunday Visitor and other publications. After there were no ordinations to the priesthood in 2022, this May the diocese celebrated five new priestly ordinations. Another three men are to be ordained priests in May 2025.

Along with the ordinations, the number of seminarians has dramatically increased. Three years ago, there were just 17 men in seminary for the diocese. Last year, the diocese welcomed 16 new seminarians. And in August, another 10 entered, swelling the ranks of diocesan seminarians to 40 overall.

"We are beginning to create a culture of vocations, and we need your help to continue to build that culture," Bishop Fernandes told the men assembled for the luncheon.

"A couple years ago, I spoke at a SEEK conference in St. Louis about being a spiritual entrepreneur," the bishop continued. "The spiritual entrepreneur is one who doesn't wait for people to come to him; rather, he goes out, he seizes the initiative, he's willing to take risks against competition. He's also a person with integrity and good character who is able to build other people up and develop their skill set. And finally, he is a servant leader who's willing to sacrifice himself before others."

With such a dramatic increase in vocations, the diocese initiated "A Good and Growing Need" collection last February to help offset the cost of seminary formation. During the upcoming weekend of Nov. 2-3, which marks National Vocation Awareness Week, there will be a special collection for Columbus seminarians.

Bishop Fernandes credited Father William Hahn, the Director of Vocations, who in July also became a vicar general for the diocese, for helping to build a climate conducive to vocational discernment. Father Hahn is assisted by newly ordained Father Michael Haemmerle, the associate vocation director and parochial vicar at Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church.

The diocese has taken a proactive approach to fostering vocations under the

guidance of Father Hahn. In addition to Come and See Weekends at the Pontifical College Josephinum and the annual Quo Vadis summer retreat for high school students, Andrew Dinners are offered four times a year in different regions of the diocese to give young men an opportunity to ask questions and to hear vocation stories from the bishop, priests and seminarians. The Bishop did a special event at the Basilica in Carey, Ohio, for Spanish-speakers who were unable to attend the Andrew Dinners but who were discerning a call.

Melchizedek Project meetings, led by regional vocation promoters, are regularly held throughout the diocese for young men considering a priestly or religious vocation. Priests have been asked to encourage any young men who might potentially have a calling to think about religious life. And missionary evangelization groups such as St. Paul's Outreach (SPO) and the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) are making an impact on college campuses, particularly at Ohio State University.

Similarly, young women are expressing interest in religious life. Earlier this month, more than 230 young women attended the Serra Club of North Columbus' annual vocations luncheon at the Josephinum. In late October, the annual Marian Dinner sponsored by the diocese will take place at Columbus St. Andrew Church, where representatives of orders will be sharing information about their congregations with young women who are discerning.

In September, Sister Jose Mary Ruffner, an Ohio State University graduate who was involved in SPO during college, professed her first vows with the Order of the Most Holy Savior of St. Bridget (known as the Bridgettine Sisters), who have a convent near Columbus Holy Family Church.

"Father Hahn has deployed these sorts of strategies to try to help build the culture of vocations," Bishop Fernandes said. "We've asked priests to try to identify who they think might make good priests and we ask you (the lay faithful) to do the same."

"If we want to have a strong Church, we need to have strong families, because vocations are born in the family."

In recent years, the diocese has welcomed the arrival of clergy and religious priests and sisters from orders based in India, a host of African nations, Poland, Mexico and many other countries. Each has a particular charism which complements the work of parishes. Many are ministering at parishes, schools and hospitals and offering pastoral care to different language and ethnic groups.

The Bishop welcomed their presence, noting that "We are now mission territory here in the United States."

In addition to priests and religious, lay

missionaries and ecclesial movements play an active role in the diocese as well. There are approximately 180 of them engaged in a variety of ministries throughout the Diocese, including on college campuses, such as FOCUS at Ohio State and Ohio Northern University and SPO at OSU, and in parish communities, including the Missionary Servants of the Word (Misioneros Servidores de la Palabra) and Urban Encounter Ministries. Among the lay ecclesial movements present in the Diocese, in addition to the MSPs, are Communion and Liberation and Columbus Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

"To give you an indication of how effective these missionaries are, at Ohio State two years ago 20 people entered the Church and last year there were 30," Bishop Fernandes said. "This year, they have 35. ... Every Sunday now, they tell me 1,000 students come to Mass. We renewed the worship space and created a new student lounge and a coffee shop, so they get their coffee and evangelize, and this peer-to-peer evangelization appears to be working."

"At Ohio Northern, the last five years almost no one entered the Church. This year, with the FOCUS missionaries there, 13 people are entering the Church, and 10 are university students."

SPO has around 40 college-aged students living in their households at Ohio State who are praying together. Urban Encounter Ministries missionaries are living in the Hilltop area of Columbus and bringing Christ to the poor and addicted in an economically depressed area. The Missionary Servants of the Word are spread throughout the Diocese in Columbus, Cardington, and Portsmouth.

Lay ecclesial movements (Communion and Liberation, Columbus Catholic Charismatic Renewal, etc) and young adult groups at several parishes as well as Young Catholic Professionals are active in the diocese.

"Their work is bearing fruit," the bishop said. "But, in addition, if we want to have a strong Church, we need strong families."

Strong families begin with strong marriages, and the diocese is implementing a new catechumenal model of marriage preparation that parallels the OCIA process. The goal is not only to equip couples with knowledge of the Catholic faith and the Sacrament of Matrimony but to insert them into the life of a parish community through mentoring and accompaniment.

"Building up families, the community of believers, is important as secularization sets in," the bishop said.

Faith formation begins with parents as the primary educators of their children and continues in Catholic schools.

"We now have chaplains and religious

in our high schools who are starting to make inroads to bridge the gap between the institutional church and the charismatic church so young people have the faith," Bishop Fernandes said.

Educating children in the faith sometimes involves educating parents who have not received catechesis; thus, today we speak of evangelizing catechesis. "They are largely cultural Catholics who want a private school but not necessarily Catholic school," the bishop said. "The push will be toward evangelizing beyond the students to the parents and the families with family-based catechetics."

"Our Catholic school teachers have been very intentional about trying to form (students) as Catholics," he continued. "Our Catholic schools are not simply private schools plus religion class. I have zero interest in providing private education for the wealthy who have no interest in the life of faith or the Church. I do have great interest in having schools for the underprivileged who can come to the faith."

There's so much interest in Catholic schools that almost all of them in the diocese are at capacity. Some of the schools are blessed with a rich diversity of cultures with families who are Eastern rite Catholics, including the Syro-Malabar, Eritrean, Byzantine, Maronite, and Melkite Catholics, as well as Latino and African and African-American Catholics.

"We are growing so rapidly that our schools are at capacity," Bishop Fernandes said. "We're at the point where we're going to need to build new Catholic elementary schools, but we need \$10 million or \$15 million or maybe more for each new elementary school."

"We've done a feasibility study for a new high school that could cost \$30 million to \$35 million just to build. There are some who want an all-girls' high school here in Columbus, and it's a great idea, but you've got to have \$30 million. That's the kind of money it's going to take."

Bishop Fernandes also spoke about some of the challenges the diocese faces to accommodate rapid population growth expected in central Ohio that includes the influx of immigrants.

He noted that there were an estimated 278,000 Catholics in the diocese in 2022 when he arrived here, but the numbers have continued to rise to 344,000 in 2023 and more than 500,000 this year.

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission forecasts the population in the 15-county central Ohio region to reach more than 3 million in the next 25 years with the addition of 725,000 new residents.

To illustrate the diversity in the diocese, Columbus St. Stephen the Martyr Church, whose future was uncertain



Catholic Diocese of Columbus

DECREE NOTABLY ALTERING THE PARISH BOUNDARIES

of St. Aloysius, Columbus, of Holy Family, Columbus

WHEREAS, a parish is defined as "a certain community of the Christian faithful stably constituted in particular church, whose pastoral care is entrusted to a pastor as its proper pastor under the authority of the diocesan bishop" (can. 515 §1);

WHEREAS, "as a general rule, a parish is to be territorial, that is, one which includes all the faithful of a certain territory" (can. 518);

WHEREAS, each parish's boundary description states as a boundary the east side of Central Avenue between McKinley and Sullivant avenues;

WHEREAS, the recommendation is to change the boundary of each parish from the east side of Central Avenue to the middle of Central Avenue;

WHEREAS, having duly consulted with the pastors whose territory is adjacent to the current boundary (c. 50); having heard the Presbyteral Council which was provided with the necessary information and lawfully convoked according to cc. 127 and 166 on 26 September 2024 and offered genuine consultation according to c. 515 §2 in the form of unanimous agreement with the proposed alteration of the boundary affecting both parishes;

WHEREAS, having determined that the good of souls will suffer no harm and will benefit from a more certain definition of parish boundaries of both parishes;

THEREFORE, having considered the law and the facts, I, Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes, Bishop of Columbus, decree the following:

1) That the new territory of St. Aloysius Parish is:

Northern boundary:

The center of Fisher Road from North Wilson Road on the west to the Scioto River; then the center of Scioto River east to a point on an air-line directly north of the northern terminus of North Central Avenue.

Eastern boundary:

From the point of the Scioto River north of the northern terminus of North Central Avenue straight south on said air-line to said terminus; then south on the center of North Central Avenue, crossing West Broad Street and continuing south on the center South Central Avenue Sullivant Avenue.

Southern boundary:

The center of Sullivant Avenue from South Central Avenue on the east to South Hague Avenue on the west; then the center of South Hague Avenue north to West Broad Street; then the center of West Broad Street west to North Wilson Road.

Western boundary:

The center of North Wilson Road between West Broad Street and Fisher Road.

2) That the new territory of Holy Family Parish is:

Northern boundary:

The center of the Scioto River beginning at the point on an air-line directly north of the northern terminus of North Central Avenue a point where Central Avenue would intersect on an air-line to a point in the river directly east of the intersection of Griggs and Harmon Avenues; then an air-line straight west to the intersection of Griggs and Harmon Avenues.

Eastern boundary:

The center of Harmon Avenue between Griggs Avenue and Frank Road.

Southern boundary:

The center of Frank Road from Harmon Avenue to Harrisburg Pike (U.S. Route. 62).

Western boundary:

The center of Harrisburg Pike (U.S. Route. 62) from the intersection of Harrisburg Pike and Frank Road north to West Mound Street, at which point the road's name changes to South Central Avenue; then north on the center of South Central Avenue to West Broad Street, whereupon the road's name changes to North Central Avenue; then north on the center of the road to the terminus of North Central Avenue; then an air-line straight north to the center of the Scioto River.

3) That this alteration shall take effect upon the promulgation of this decree.

4) That this decree shall be promulgated by publication on the Diocese of Columbus website and in *The Catholic Times* diocesan newspaper.

Given at the Chancery Office, 198 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio this 3rd day of October, 2024.

+ Earl K. Fernandes

Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus

Tom Berg, Jr.

Deacon Tom Berg, Jr.
Chancellor

Faithful group gathers to pray rosary monthly at host's home

By Elizabeth Pardi

For more than 5 ½ years, Ann Marie Cubberly has opened up her Columbus home once a month to anyone who wants to come and pray the rosary as a group.

She never really knows for sure who will be there. There are nine faithful women who consistently attend, but oftentimes men, other women and children randomly show up.

"At first, I was picturing it being a group of people my age," said Cubberly, who was in her mid-20s when she began the group. "But people kept cancelling and the ones who came were not who I expected."

Uncertain about whether to continue the group, Cubberly consulted her mom, Kay, who had once hosted a regular rosary group of her own.

"My mom was like, 'Ann Marie, you need to think about why you're doing this,'" Cubberly said. "Is this about you or is this about bringing people to the Blessed Mother?" And I was like, 'Oh, wow. You're right.'"

Cubberly, who teaches second grade in Upper Arlington, decided to continue hosting the rosary and not worry about who should attend.

"I just pray now, '(God), make it whoever you want to come,' so then the pressure's off," she said.

The prayer warriors gathered

again to pray during the month of October, which is dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary, whose feast day is celebrated on Oct. 7.

Although the group meets on the second Tuesday of the month and the sorrowful mysteries are typically prayed on Tuesdays, Cubberly and her guests decide together whether they want to use a different set of mysteries.

"Usually, we request which mysteries people want to pray so that we aren't saying the sorrowful every single time," Cubberly said.

Sabrina Wenzke, a fourth grader at Columbus St. Andrew School, attends with her mom and older brother and occasionally leads decades of the rosary.

"Sabrina will lead a decade and everyone just eats her up," Cubberly said.

Reflecting on her experience, Sabrina said, "I think this group is special because you learn how to pray the rosary and you get closer to God. You meet new people and learn what they're going through."

As hostess to between 15 and 30 people for each session, Cubberly provides snacks as the attendees begin the evening by catching up with one another about what's happening in their lives.

"Then we all gather in my living room and we go around and

See ROSARY, Page 15

Rosary procession at St. Patrick



Altar boys lead a rosary procession around the block outside Columbus St. Patrick Church on Sunday, Oct. 6 while carrying a statue of Our Lady. Behind them are Dominican sisters and parishioners. The Dominican order, whose friars reside at St. Patrick, observes the first Sunday of October as Rosary Sunday and presents blessed roses at all Masses. Photo courtesy St. Patrick Church.

Group rosary brings Cristo Rey students together in prayer

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

A rosary group is bringing students closer to Christ at Cristo Rey Columbus High School.

While October is the month on the Church calendar dedicated to the holy rosary, students at Cristo Rey in downtown Columbus have an opportunity to pray the rosary regularly after school.

The group was started earlier this academic year by Chris Carrillo, who serves as the school's spiritual life coordinator.

Students, faculty and staff are invited to gather after school in the building's chapel to pray the rosary together. The chapel, located on the fourth floor, features a large image of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Carrillo said he had interest in starting a rosary group for students since he began in his role at Cristo Rey two years ago. He said he felt now was the time to make it happen.

Carrillo shares a similar background with students at Cristo Rey, which has a large Hispanic population.

He said he prayed the rosary almost daily growing up. He thought the rosary would resonate with students, many of whom pray the centuries-old prayer at home as he did.

"The hope was to be able to get the students who prayed the rosary often to come in and pray here, so they didn't feel like they had to do it at home alone," he said.

"What we're finding is that there are a lot of students who are not Catholic and have never prayed the rosary who want to learn how to pray it. I think that is something that's really great, that the rosary draws not just Catholics but all people to come in and pray."

The group meets on Wednesdays and Thursdays every other week.

Juniors and seniors at Cristo Rey participate in a professional work-study program one day during the week. Holding the group on two different days gives more students an opportunity to join.

"We are starting to get a nice flow of people that come and join us, and not just students, but teachers," Carrillo said. "We have teachers that come in and pray with us all the time, too."

If more students continue to join, the group might be-



Cristo Rey Columbus High School students pray the rosary with Bishop Earl Fernandes at St. Joseph Cathedral on Oct. 7.

Photo courtesy William Keimig

gin meeting weekly rather than every other week.

Eventually, Carrillo said, he hopes students will take over and lead the group. For now, he is working to invite students and spread the word.

Praying the rosary is a tangible way for students to practice the faith that they are learning in class. Carrillo said it is important that students do not simply believe the Catholic faith but practice it.

"If you have faith and you believe in what you believe, but you don't have a prayer life, the things that you believe in have no practice," he said.

Carrillo wants students to exercise their faith through praying regularly. He found that prayer might be intimidating to some students, and the rosary is a good way to dive in.

"Maybe prayer is scary because it's like, 'Oh, I have to come up with a prayer every time,' or 'I have to do it on my own.' This is an easy way to say, 'No, I can pray, and it's easy and repetitive, and I don't really have to think about it. I just go,' he said.

"My hope is that, for the students, they develop a stronger prayer life because of it."

Students appear to enjoy meeting after school to pray.

For junior Kelly Reyes Morales, the rosary has taken on new meaning. She had prayed it before with her family at home.

"We pray the rosary every time we lose a loved one, but praying the rosary now, it's something I like because it doesn't have to be always about grieving or sadness," she said. "It can be about anything really."

She also appreciates the deeper connections that have resulted with the Lord and her teachers.

"I always felt like I lacked the connection with God, so I definitely wanted to do this," she said.

"It's a very close community between us and our teachers praying the rosary. It's something I enjoy."

Once students are gathered in the chapel for the rosary, Carrillo welcomes any prayer intentions. For those who would rather offer one privately, a basket with slips of paper is available for students to write down their intentions.

Reyes Morales said she appreciates being able to bring an intention to prayer.

"The intentions that we do, that we write down, it helps me clear my mind of things that may be bugging me," she said. "Plus, praying and the intentions I hold in my heart are very special to me, and it allows me to express myself in more than one way."

Lenny Aoba, also a junior, has appreciated praying with other members of the Cristo Rey community.

"What I like about it is that we can just come all together and pray the rosary in one place," he said.

Aoba added that he feels better connected to his classmates. While he gets to know them during the school year, they get to know each other better through a shared experience like praying the rosary.

"Praying brings us closer," he said. "It's like, you get to know them and pray with them and pray for them as well."

A bit farther east of downtown, Columbus Bishop Hartley High School is in the process of beginning a rosary group for its students.

Theology teacher David England is planning to start an after-school group for students there to gather and pray the rosary as well. More details will be forthcoming.

ROSARY, continued from Page 14

share prayer intentions," Cubberly said. "Sometimes, if someone was praying for something the month before, we all ask follow-up questions about that. Then we pray the rosary."

In order to get the word out about the rosary, Cubberly, who has a strong devotion to the Blessed Mother, speaks freely about the group wherever she sees an opportunity.

"I recruit wherever I can," she said. "The dentist office, volleyball, the grocery store — I always just tell the Blessed Mother to bring whoever is meant to come. I also always tell the group that they can always invite anyone they think may want to come. Some people bring kids, friends, co-workers."

Cubberly, a cradle Catholic who attended Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare School, was not enthusiastic about her faith until she witnessed a talk by Leah Darrow, a former supermodel turned Catholic motivational speaker.

"Growing up, a lot of the people I knew were practicing Catholics, but I didn't see myself in them," Cubberly said. "When I saw

Leah Darrow, I was like, 'Oh, my gosh. I could see myself in her.'"

Since Cubberly chose freely to embrace the faith once she found it attractive, she is now thoughtful and respectful with how she presents the rosary group to others.

"I do feel very strongly ... that it should always be the person's choice," she said. "I never want anyone to feel pressure to come. I am always OK with the fact that it may not be everyone's thing (or) within their comfort zone."

As for the future of the rosary group, Cubberly believes the Lord will continue to form it as He sees fit.

"My goal is always that it is a place where people feel closer to the Blessed Mother, as we know she is always pointing us to Jesus," she said. "I also want it to be a place where all feel welcome and cared about. Hopefully, they leave with a peace they don't even understand, which we know is one of the fruits of praying the rosary — 'where two or more are gathered!'"



Ann Marie Cubberly (center) hosts a group that prays the rosary every month in her Columbus home.

Submitted photo

St. Cecilia honors Our Lady in October with rosary in English, Spanish

By Jessica Schira

“Continue to say the Rosary every day in honor of Our Lady of the Rosary, to bring peace to the world ...” Message of Our Lady of Fatima

“Do you remember the first time you prayed the rosary? What memories does it bring back? Who taught you to pray it?” Laura Kreber, organizer of a bilingual rosary at Columbus St. Cecilia Church, asked me with a smile.

At that moment, I remembered being at a neighbor's house in my hometown, surrounded by children, all joyfully learning to pray the rosary. Each child took a turn leading a mystery. That neighbor would reward us with ginger tea and cookies at the end of the rosary. Best of all, she would prepare a beautiful nativity scene in her house to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas and invited all the kids in the neighborhood.

Then, Kreber shared that she also has memories of when she was a little girl, that she used to dress in white and it was the time of the feast of the Virgin of Guadalupe, and they would go as a family to honor the Virgin in her country, Mexico, with flowers.

Every Monday during October, a month dedicated to the rosary, parishioners of the English and Spanish communities are meeting at 6 p.m. at St. Cecilia Church to pray and then have a get-together. They do this to give thanks and to remind the communities that they are united in prayer and that next year they will pray the rosary again. It is also a way to share what they like and how they can improve each year.

So that the children at St. Cecilia would also have beautiful memories to cherish, Kreber is motivated by the parishioners that a rosary be made as a bridge to unite the two communities and that the chil-



Spanish- and English-speaking Catholics are gathering on Mondays in October at Columbus St. Cecilia Church to pray the rosary in both languages. Photo courtesy Jessica Schira

dren would have the opportunity to remember that they prayed in community and with their families and brought flowers to our Heavenly Mother.

Lisa Cornelison, off and on parishioner for at least 65 years, said, “It is beautiful to participate in the bilingual rosary. It is such a sharing and camaraderie with everybody. Adding flowers to the Blessed Mother is just beautiful. The flowers and the statue of Mary touch my heart deeply. The rosary is so needed. Our world needs it, our families, children, and churches need it now, and we need it. We also pray the chaplet and Patriotic rosary, and we often see our prayers being answered.”

“I don’t have any specific testimony,” she further explained, “but I can tell you that I feel peace.”

Yolanda Phillips, a parish member for 50 years, commented, “I think the rosary being prayed in English and Spanish is a

great idea. I am fully attracted to the Virgin Mother and the rosary. I get immense joy from attending this rosary. I have a great devotion to the Blessed Mother, so usually when things come up with family, I always tell them to trust in her and talk to her for answers.”

Before starting the rosary on the first Monday of October, everyone wrote their intentions and put them in a basket. A little girl carried the basket to the statue of the Blessed Mother.

Kreber, who led the rosary with patience, love, and devotion, invited everyone to open their hearts and pray with love. At each mystery, all those who felt the desire, including the girls present, to bring flowers to Our Lady lined up and delicately placed them in front of the statue of the Virgin Mary. Most of those who participated were women and girls of different ages and cultures. There was

a man with his family as well.

The English and Spanish communities demonstrated openness and joy in sharing one of the best-known devotions to Our Lady. The joy was contagious, and the most beautiful thing was when they ended with a prayer of consecration. I felt peace.

Zuni Gomez, a volunteer and mother of two girls, was motivated by her youngest daughter to participate in the rosary. “To welcome the people at the parish and then say goodbye to them, and also hear them say, see you next Monday, without having to tell them anything, is a great satisfaction,” she said.

Veronica, leader of the adult Bible courses, shared, “I love to pray the rosary a lot!

“Right now, Mexicans are the highest population participating in the parish events more than people from other countries. There are many people from Central America, but evangelization is needed for them to give service. Evangelization is very important to increase the participation of more people in church events.”

Sisters Donays Salazar-Vialet, 14, and Daiana Salazar-Vialet, 15, said they feel more connected with God every time they come to church to pray as a family. Their mother, Yesenia Vialet, who has been a member of the parish for two years and helps with hospitality, said, “I am here to give thanks to the Blessed Mother, and I invite more people to join us.”

There weren't many children present on the first Monday of the month. Many of them prayed the rosary in the morning at school. But there's hope that those present this time will spread the word and more families will join. The invitation is open to all those interested in praying with them from other parishes during the month dedicated to the rosary.

Schools participate in virtual rosary with Bishop Fernandes



On Oct. 7, the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, students in diocesan schools joined Bishop Earl Fernandes (above) in praying the rosary. Student representatives traveled to St. Joseph Cathedral to pray for peace, the dignity of the human person, vocations from among students, spiritual and temporal needs of all members of school communities, and for the bishop and clergy of our diocese and their intentions. At the schools, students and staff gathered in parish churches, school gyms, classrooms and chapels to pray the joyful mysteries with Bishop Fernandes. A statue of Our Lady of Fatima was a focal point of the livestream, accompanied by a heart-shaped bouquet of roses, with one rose representing each school. The feast of Our Lady of the Rosary was established by Pope St. Pius V. It commemorates the historic Battle of Lepanto, after which Christians credited their miraculous victory to the intercession of Mary through the prayers of the rosary. Pope Francis asked all of the faithful to pray for peace, especially on Oct. 7. Photos courtesy William Keimig and Office of Catholic Schools



Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School



Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School



Columbus St. Mary Magdalene School



Worthington St. Michael School

Diocese offers Sacred Music Workshop

A two-day program designed to introduce and encourage the use of Sacred Music for worship in the diocese will culminate with the annual Gold Mass for musicians on Saturday, Oct. 26 at Columbus St. Andrew Church.

The Sacred Music Workshop begins Friday morning, Oct. 25 at St. Andrew with a session for clergy and resumes the following day for anyone who is interested.

Saturday's itinerary includes a continental breakfast at 8:30 a.m., a morning session from 9 a.m. to noon, lunch, and afternoon instruction and rehearsal starting at 12:30 p.m. At 2 p.m., the bishop will celebrate the Gold Mass with music provided by a choir of participants in the workshop.

Dr. Richard Fitzgerald, the Diocesan Director of Music, invites pastors, school administrators, parish and school choir directors, music teachers and anyone who wants to learn more about beautiful liturgical music to attend the event, which is sponsored by the Morosky Family Foundation. There is no cost.

"I've been encouraging anybody that's interested in Sacred Music to come because it will be extremely informational," he said. "And even Catholics, in general, would benefit from it. It's about church teaching on sacred music, which is important, and it's certainly important to our bishop.



Dr. Richard Fitzgerald (right) is the diocesan director of sacred music and also the director of music and organist at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral. *CT photo by Ken Snow*

"This is the direction that we'd like to go with liturgical music. Obviously, it's a pretty big change for some parishes, but this seems like a way to introduce Sacred Music incrementally and in a way that's not overwhelming."

The workshops will be led by Adam Barlett, the founder and creator of Source & Summit, with assistance from Dr. Fitzgerald.

Source & Summit provides beautiful

Sacred Music resources to parishes through its print and digital products.

"The type of music that this resource produces is very much in line with Church teaching on music," Fitzgerald said. "It's very chant based, but there's also good traditional hymnody available, e.g. Crown Him with Many Crowns, Holy God, We Praise Thy Name, etc."

Fitzgerald credited Barlett for successfully adapting and simplifying Gregorian chant for parish musicians.

"It's rooted in a tradition, but it's an updating of that tradition," Fitzgerald explained. "And that's good, because when making a transition from a praise and worship band to chant, for instance, this situation can be quite shocking. But Mr. Bartlett introduces chant in a very thoughtful and successful way; the resource is very accessible to both

the church musicians and the congregations."

Source & Summit offers traditional hymns, prayers and responses accessible to parishes and schools for purchase. There is also an online platform that provides liturgical music, including a new beta resource that generates worship aids automatically.

"Bishop Fernandes and I are really big supporters," Fitzgerald said. "I just think it's the best resource that's available right now."

Fitzgerald, who also serves as Director of Music and Organist at St. Joseph Cathedral, views his role as four-fold in the diocese: teaching what Sacred Music is, communicating the theory and philosophy of Church teachings on Sacred Music, showing musicians and parishes how to implement it at the most practical levels, and collaborating with them.

He hopes to hold an annual workshop or retreat for the diocese as more parishes incorporate Sacred Music into their liturgies.

"I think as Catholics, it's incumbent upon us to learn about all different types of Church teaching," Fitzgerald said, "and Sacred Music is an important topic because it is integral to the Mass."

To reserve a spot for the workshop, email Fitzgerald at rfitzgerald@sjhcc.org by Monday, Oct. 21.

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Red Mass tradition continues in diocese

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

The annual Red Mass for legal, judiciary and government professionals was celebrated Tuesday, Oct. 1 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.

The Mass, which is open to the public, invites the faithful to pray for their brothers and sisters serving in the legal profession, interceding for their guidance, strength and recommitment to the highest principles of the profession for the good of all citizens. The tradition dates to 1245, when it was started by Pope Innocent IV.

This year's Mass was attended by several local attorneys, judges and state office holders, including justices of the Supreme Court of Ohio and Secretary of State Frank LaRose.

Several legal professionals participated in the Mass, including lectors Sean McCarthy, assistant director for the Ohio Department of Veteran Services; and Edgar Vidales, auditor for the diocesan tribunal, which hears cases of marriage nullity.

Bishop Earl Fernandes served as the celebrant.

The Red Mass is so called because of the color of the vestments. Red is a liturgical color associated with the Holy Spirit and martyrdom. Historically, robes worn by attending judges were a bright scarlet color.

At this year's Red Mass, the Thomas More Society of Columbus awarded Bishop Emeritus James Griffin the Lifetime Achievement Award. Bishop Griffin, who celebrated his 90th birthday in June and served as bishop of Columbus from 1983 to 2004, holds both civil and canon law degrees.

Bishop Fernandes accepted the award for Bishop Griffin, who was unable to attend.

The celebration began with a procession by the Columbus Police and Fire Pipes & Drums followed by a fanfare performed by the Cathedral Brass.

The Red Mass is organized by the lo-

cal chapter of the Thomas More Society. Established in 1998, the society is a national public interest law firm working to preserve the heritage of American liberty by defending life, family and freedom.

Its namesake, St. Thomas More, the patron saint of lawyers, served as lord chancellor of England in the 1500s. He opposed King Henry VIII's separation from the Catholic Church.

Hundreds of noblemen at the time sided with the king to save their lives. Sir Thomas More would not betray his conscience, which ultimately cost him his life.

The Thomas More Society's Columbus chapter consists of about 100 members. Members represent various disciplines of legal practice.

The local chapter restarted the practice of celebrating a Red Mass in 1985. The Mass was well attended for many years, but the celebration took a hit after the COVID-19 pandemic and numbers have since dwindled.

Kim Shumate, who began this year as president of the local Thomas More Society, said the organization is working to spread the message that, while the Mass is celebrated for legal professionals, all are invited to attend.

She described the Red Mass as "one of the times on the calendar that the Catholic Church really wants to celebrate the role that all of these critical people play in our society and support it, and invite everyone to participate."

The society welcomes individuals to "come and support the lawyers and the judiciary and elected officials who are doing work for them every year" and "pray that they all do the best that they can for the people of Columbus," Shumate said. "Everybody should want to do that."

The organization is in the process of discerning its next steps. Shumate said leaders would like to brainstorm new ideas while maintaining the mission of and honoring St. Thomas More.

Although event attendance has declined, she said the local Thomas More Society continues to receive positive support.

"We've always had good support, which is nice," she said. "The Catholic lawyers in town really do support the organization."

"We just need to really start thinking about more ways to be visible and sort of live out that mission a little more fully through the year."

The society primarily supports the Red Mass and an Evening of Reflection. For the latter, members gather for dinner and a legal professional is invited to speak on an issue of faith and law.

The Red Mass is an especially unifying event for the Thomas More Society's members.

The Mass is intended to be a celebration, Shumate said, and a time to think about the Catholic faith's meaning in regard to the legal profession.

"One of the things that essentially binds the members is this commitment to celebrating the profession every year and bringing people together in a reverent way to think about the higher calling and higher purpose of all of the work that we do all year, especially public officials," she said.

The Evening of Reflection is also a key event. As its name suggests, the evening provides members an opportunity to reflect on an aspect of the practice of law as a Catholic attorney.

"Lots of other legal issues come up from time to time," Shumate said, "and, 'How do they think those things through? From a faith perspective, how do you practice law?'"

She said the event addresses questions such as living the Catholic faith in the legal profession and the pressures that often accompany that.

"Those are really interesting questions. And, I think, also something that the society members share is a real interest in that and sort of thinking those issues through," she said.

The Evening of Reflection has not taken place for several years. Shumate said the society will focus on "reinvigorating" the event.

"There's certainly capacity to do more,



Kim Shumate, president of the local Thomas More Society, presents a lifetime achievement award at the Red Mass for Bishop Emeritus James Griffin that is accepted by Bishop Earl Fernandes. Photos courtesy William Keimig

but we just have to sort of think about what those members are excited about, and certainly what any new members are excited about," she said.

Before serving as president, Shumate was the organization's vice president for several years. She said she has been part of the organization for about 10 years.

Outside of being an officer for the society, Shumate works as the associate vice president for strategic initiatives in the Office of Human Resources at Ohio State University. She leads a group of employees in charge of managing human resource operations at the university.

Shumate previously served in Ohio State's Office of Legal Affairs as in-house counsel for 16 years.

As an attorney representing the university, Shumate said, she was in charge of labor and employment and labor and employment litigation practice. In that role, she managed employment-related cases for the university.

She also worked as an attorney at the Porter Wright law firm, which has locations in several Ohio cities and other states.



Columbus Police and Fire Pipes and Drums lead the procession for the Red Mass on Tuesday, Oct. 1 at St. Joseph Cathedral.



Judges were among those from the legal profession attending the Red Mass.

Bishop celebrates feast day at St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church

Bishop Earl Fernandes celebrated the divine liturgy, according to the Byzantine Rite, on Sunday, Oct. 6 with the Byzantine (Ruthenian) Catholic community and the Eritrean Catholic community of the Ge'ez Rite, at St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church for the feast of the Protection of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary.

The bishop was joined by Father Robert Jager, the parish pastor, for the liturgy, as well as Father Weldit Tesfazghi Abay of the Eritrean Catholic community.

The Byzantine Ruthenian church and Eritrean Catholic Church are two of the Eastern Catholic churches in full communion with the pope and the Roman Catholic Church. [The Eritrean Catholics have worshipped at St. John Chrysostom for over two decades.] Some of the differences between Byzantine and Latin-rite Catholics include the presence of icons and the use of leavened bread in the Byzantine liturgy rather than unleavened bread for the consecration of the Body of Christ. While the Byzantine Ruthenian church is made up largely of members from the Austro-Hungarian Empire who came to the new world in the 19th century, the members of the Eritrean Catholic Church worship according to the Alexandrian Rite but in the Ge'ez language.

The feast of the Protection commemorates the appearance of the most holy Theotokos in the Church of Blachernae in Constantinople in the 10th century. While

the multitudes of the faithful were gathered in church, Epiphanius, a friend of St. Andrew the Fool-for-Christ, beheld the Virgin Mary above the faithful as she spread out her veil over them, signifying her unceasing protection of all Christians.

The annual feast is celebrated as a day of gratitude, with prayers to Our Lady to never cease sheltering the faithful in her mighty prayers. Bishop Fernandes venerated the icon of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, which was given as a gift to the community by Bishop Brennan. The feast has taken on a special importance to highlight the plight of persecuted Christians around the world and to ask for the protection and prayers of the Mother of God.

The Most-holy Theotokos, which is a title used for the Mother of God, is recognized in the Byzantine rite as the patroness and protectress of the Christian people, whose intercessory prayers implore God's mercy for sinners. The help of the Most-holy Mother



Bishop Earl Fernandes presents his homily at the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, Oct. 6 at Columbus St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church. Photos courtesy William Keimig



Father Robert Jager gives Holy Communion at St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church.

of God has been revealed on many occasions to individuals and to nations.

In Bishop Fernandes' homily, reflecting on the Gospel of Martha and Mary, he asked the congregation to reflect on the fact that Jesus had friends and that Martha, Mary, and Lazarus were friends of Jesus, inviting them to deepen their friendship with Jesus.

Commenting on Jesus' words to Martha: "You have need of only one thing," the bishop said, "He is the answer to all your questions. He is the answer our world needs. He is the Prince of Peace, and He is born the son of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Ever-Virgin Mary, the Theotokos, who is the protectress of persecuted Christians."



Bishop Earl Fernandes and Father Robert Jager are at the altar for the consecration.

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New Mount Carmel president vows to continue legacy of care

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

Tauana McDonald was commissioned as the 24th president and CEO of the Mount Carmel Health System on Monday, Sept. 30.

The ceremony was held in the Siegel Center at Mount Carmel Hospital East.

In attendance were Bishop Earl Fernandes; Msgr. Joseph Hendricks, the bishop's delegate for community relations and a member of the Mount Carmel Foundation Board of Trustees; and Sister Suzanne Brennan, representing the Sisters of the Holy Cross of Notre Dame, Indiana, who founded Mount Carmel's first hospital building in Columbus.

Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity at Stella Niagara, New York, representing the order that founded Mount Carmel St. Ann's Hospital, were also present.

Sister Suzanne, as a member of the founding congregation, led the rite of commissioning. She asked McDonald a series of questions to which she responded, "I do."

McDonald assumed the position of

president and CEO at Mount Carmel Health System on July 1.

She joined Trinity Health, Mount Carmel's parent company, in 2003. McDonald most recently served as president and chief operating officer of Mount Carmel Grove City. She previously was Mount Carmel's chief administrative officer.

The commissioning ceremony included a reading from the Gospel of Mark, which recounted Christ healing a paralytic man in Capernaum. The passage recalled, with great effort, several men carried a man and went as far as removing a roof to bring him to Jesus for healing.

McDonald connected the gospel story to her role and Mount Carmel's mission of healing.

"I am honored to be the president and CEO of Mount Carmel Health System. This is a big job, leading Mount Carmel Health System, and caring for this great community is a huge responsibility, and I don't take it lightly," she said.

"Our gospel reading today involved people who work together, focused on caring for someone with a profound need. The compassion – the radical compassion they showed – allowed for a healing expe-

rience beyond everyone's expectation.

"As leaders, we know that none of us can do what we do by ourselves. It takes diverse and engaged talent and effort by many to produce the advancements and improvements that we are seeing every day."

McDonald discussed two projects currently underway at Mount Carmel.

A new hospital, Mount Carmel Dublin, is set to open in April 2025. The five-story hospital will offer a suite of services, including cardiology, neurology, orthopedics, primary care and surgical and outreach services.

Mount Carmel New Albany will also expand to offer an emergency department and additional services.

McDonald recognized and expressed gratitude to the health system's founders.

"Years ago, I had the privilege of going to the motherhouse for the Sisters of the Holy Cross, meeting so many of the women who served at Mount Carmel and dedicated their lives to the service," she said. "That legacy inspires and informs my leadership today."

She credited the Sisters of the Holy Cross for shaping Mount Carmel's commitment to compassionate care. "This is the kind of care that we were founded on, a care rooted in the gospel. I call it radical compassion," she said. "The radical compassion still happens today in every corner of our ministry."

Bishop Fernandes offered a blessing and remarks.

He described McDonald's commissioning as a cause for celebration, which is ultimately a celebration of God's goodness. The bishop said God's grace, which has guided Mount Carmel since its founding in 1886, is a witness to His goodness.

"Today, we continue the healing mission of Jesus through our work, through our efforts as a community committed to the dignity of every human person," Bishop Fernandes said.

"Tauana is no stranger to God's blessing. I know that it is something she relies



Bishop Earl Fernandes congratulates Tauana McDonald after her commissioning as the 24th president of the Mount Carmel Health System on Monday, Sept. 30 in the Siegel Center at Mount Carmel Hospital East.

Photo courtesy Ira Graham III

on and has relied on throughout her life. Today's blessing is but one more ... and yet, today's blessing also stands out because of your leadership."



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Blessed Sacrament visits Ohio Statehouse for Adoration

Jesus came to the Ohio Statehouse on Oct. 1 and spent four hours there while 125 people stopped in to visit Him and countless others were exposed to His presence.

A state capitol building is not where you might expect the Blessed Sacrament to be found, but the Eucharistic Lord was there in all His splendor inside the Governor Thomas Worthington Center on the lower level of the historic building.

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on a Tuesday, a steady stream of adorers came to pray and adore, some of them kneeling on the floor before the monstrance containing the Sacred Host that was set up on a makeshift altar at the front of the small room.

Among those stopping to pray were several state legislators and members of legislative staffs.

Michelle Duffey, associate director of communications for the Catholic Conference of Ohio, said the idea came as part of the Year of Mission for the National Eucharistic Revival, which was initiated by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2021 to rekindle devotion to the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

“The Catholic bishops of Ohio envisioned Adoration at the Statehouse as an opportunity to Go on Mission as Faithful Citizens and pray for our nation, state and government leaders, as well as the upcoming election,” she said.

A prayer guide, which was made available at the Statehouse, included those intentions as well as intentions to prayer for the community and the poor and vulnerable.

The Museum of Catholic Art and History provided the monstrance and candleabras, and the altar, altar cloths and kneeler came from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.

Father Daniel Bowen, O. de M. a priest of the Mercedarian Order from Columbus Holy Family Church, brought the Blessed Sacrament for Exposition and also led Benediction and the praying the Angelus at noon. Father Paul Keller, OP, director of the diocese’s Office of Divine Worship, planned the event.

Father Bowen said he was approached several weeks ago about the opportunity and “I was like, absolutely. What a great thing to bring our Eucharistic Lord to our state capitol.”

Not only did Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament provide a chance to pray in a public setting, it was a moment for evangelization to Catholics and non-Catholics.

“We had people waiting there before we were even ready to begin, maybe a quarter till 10,” Father Bowen said. “They couldn’t wait.”

After singing the O Salutaris Hostia (O Saving Victim) at the start, the next four



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Governor Thomas Worthington Center at the Ohio Statehouse on Monday, Oct. 1 attracted more than 100 people who came to pray from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The state’s Catholic bishops initiated Adoration at the Statehouse as an opportunity to pray for the national and state government leaders as well as for the upcoming election. *CT photos*

hours were spent in silence except when Father Bowen led the Angelus at noon.

“It was wonderful because you had every people of every age there,” he said. “It wasn’t just representatives. It extended beyond the statehouse to the faithful who wanted to come and make a holy hour, half hour or whatever. You had mothers there with newborns, little infants. You had elderly folks, the whole gamut.”

“It was obviously beautiful and wonderful. Any time spent with Our Eucharistic Lord is time never wasted. It was great to see the support of the people.”

As Ohio’s bishops declared in their statement, one of the primary reasons for the statehouse Adoration was to pray for political leaders.

“It really is our duty and responsibility to be involved in the civil affairs,” Father Bowen said. “Thankfully, we live in a country, in a state where our faith is not persecuted, and we are able to openly practice our faith even to the point where we can bring our Lord in the

statehouse. The fact that that could be possible and was welcomed and invited, we should thank God for that.”

There’s no telling what the impact of the public witness might have on policymakers and the upcoming November election.

“There’s no substitute for the citizens themselves being face to face in front of the representatives to say let’s get rid of the death penalty, let’s make sure that people coming out of prison have a way to come back into society, that women in an unexpected pregnancy can choose to have their child,” Father Bowen said. “It’s all very, very, very important.”

“On so many occasions in history where He’s been brought forward in that way, it made a difference. I know it made a difference for me in the four hours being there personally, but beyond that, perhaps even the whole building.”

The Catholic Conference of Ohio reserved the space and date through the Ohio Statehouse Capital Square Review and Advisory Board after determining

that the Governor Thomas Worthington Center was best suited for Adoration.

Duffey said the Adoration was well received and could be offered again in the future.

“That was absolutely amazing that it could actually take place,” Father Bowen said. “I was blown away. And I hope it’s something that can continue.”

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School administrators value annual retreat as time for prayer, renewal

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

Diocesan Catholic school administrators received an opportunity to “remain in” Christ during an annual administrator retreat held Sept. 26-27 at Cherry Valley Lodge in Newark.

The Office of Catholic Schools’ theme for the 2024-25 school year, “I am the Vine, You are the Branches: Growing in Community and Educating for Eternity,” comes from Christ’s words: “Remain in Me, and I in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit of itself but must remain in the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in Me” (John 15:4).

The two-day retreat gave administrators an opportunity to heed Christ’s words, “Remain in Me,” through a time of prayer, including Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

“Following the example of the Master Teacher, who instructed His disciples to step out of daily life to rest in the Lord, the Office of Catholic Schools has organized administrator retreats each of the last four years,” said Dr. Adam Dufault, superintendent of diocesan schools.

“This is a time for prayer, for fellowship and for renewal. It is a time to refocus on our ministry of Catholic educational leadership and to be reinvigorated in our service to the Lord and the people of God in our schools.”

Several administrators spoke during the retreat, offering reflections on Gospel passages that draw parallels to their lives and experiences in education. Administrators also had an opportunity for small-group discussion after each reflection.

On the second day of the retreat, administrators spent time in Adoration. Josh Caton, the principal at Newark Blessed Sacrament School, offered a reflection on the Eucharistic Lord.

He encouraged administrators to remember that the same Lord who healed a woman who touched His cloak (Mark 5:25-34) is present before them. He pointed out that God can provide the same healing to them, too.

Caton also told his peers that they can do more than touch Christ’s cloak – they have an opportunity to receive Jesus Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Eucharist.

Cecelia Pitt, principal at Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul School, offered a reflection based on the Gospel story of the wedding feast at Cana (John 2:1-11), when Christ performed His first miracle upon request from His mother.

Pitt asked administrators to reflect: Do we hear the Lord? Are we listening?

She said Christ “challenges us to follow Him,” but “rarely is it easy.” She also noted that there will be times in life “when we don’t hear God.”



Administrators from diocesan schools gather for an annual retreat on Sept. 26-27 at Cherry Valley Lodge in Newark that included talks by superintendent Adam Dufault (left photo) and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (right photo).
Photos courtesy Office of Catholic Schools

Pitt explored a time in her life when she endured a spiritual drought or desert. She said she now recognizes that season was a time of desolation.

She spent her first year teaching at Lancaster St. Mary School before teaching for eight years at a Newark middle school. The switch to public education was difficult.

Pitt recalled meeting with a priest who encouraged her to draw a cross in Sharpie marker on her hand. He told her, “Remember who you work for.”

Years later, now a Catholic school principal, Pitt said she no longer needs the Sharpie cross on her hand. She has a crucifix hanging in her office that she sees daily. The crucifix is a constant reminder of who she serves.

Before coming to St. Vincent de Paul, Pitt earned a master’s in educational administration. She said she was initially hesitant about interviewing for the Catholic school principal position. However, she enlisted the help of St. Therese of Lisieux and prayed a nine-day novena to her.

On the final day of the novena, she received roses at the middle school where she was then teaching. The roses included a note, “When you go through deep waters, I will be with you.”

Pitt shared how she tried to track down the sender. After numerous text messages to friends, she could not find who sent the roses. She said she even called the floral shop. The shop told her they had no record of who bought them because it was a cash purchase.

Pitt said she left her former school with a sense of peace.

She reminded her fellow administrators that sometimes God asks for challenging things. She asked them: What are you willing to do for God?

Pitt also encouraged them to think, in their vocation as a Catholic school administrator, how many people they are leading to God who might not have known Him otherwise.

The retreat included a panel discussion moderated by Lori Dulin, principal at Columbus Our Lady of Bethlehem School, with principals Laura Corcoran, Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School; Mike DeMassimo, Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator School; and Chris Kowalski, Columbus Bishop Hartley High School.

The panel discussion was based on the Gospel story of Jesus walking on water (Matthew 14:24-33). His disciples were filled with fear when they saw the Lord coming toward them on the water and thought it was a ghost.

The panelists discussed their own fears and difficulties of administration.

Kowalski acknowledged that principals must be willing to be disliked. He explored some of the burdens or weights that come with administration. For one, leadership entails making decisions that not everybody will agree with or favor.

Kowalski encouraged principals to “claim their time spiritually.” He shared that he often visits the school’s chapel and spends time with the Lord there, repeating, “Jesus, I trust in you.”

He also encouraged principals to remember their “why.”

Kowalski described his students as his greatest joy next to Jesus. He said they are the “great reminder” that keeps him grounded in his work.

Near the conclusion of the retreat, Father Kyle Tennant, pastor at Columbus Our Lady of Peace Church, celebrated Mass for the administrators. He was assisted by Deacon Chris Campbell, principal at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School.

Father Tennant asked administrators to reflect on where they find strength to deal with new challenges.

Celebrating Mass on Sept. 27, the feast of St. Vincent de Paul, the patron of Catholic charities because of his apostolic work with the poor, Father Tennant reminded administrators of their own poverty. He told them, “We are always poor.” God is the source and giver of all.

Father Tennant said, in poverty, the Lord is always generous. God will give His people what they need. He emphasized that God has already conquered all things. Challenges will arise, he said, but no one has what it takes to overcome them alone. He encouraged administrators to come to the Lord with their burdens.

To conclude the retreat, Dufault offered closing remarks.

He described the annual administrator retreat as a highlight of the year and told administrators that their time together was a gift.

He reminded them that they are called to a mission of Catholic education, which, he said, is something to celebrate.

Dufault announced that diocesan administrators will have a special celebration in 2025. He said that as part of the Catholic Church’s Jubilee Year 2025, they will travel to Rome from Oct. 28 to Nov. 3 with financial help from The Catholic Foundation.

The Jubilee Year – the 2,025th anniversary of the Incarnation of the Lord – will include several opportunities for the faithful to participate in events at the Vatican and in dioceses around the world. A jubilee for educators in 2025 is set for the end of October through the beginning of November.

Bishop Hartley students fill Boxes of Joy



Columbus Bishop Hartley High School students are partnering with Cross Catholic Outreach in October to assemble and deliver more than 100 of Boxes of Joy to children in developing countries. These boxes provide much needed items to children in places like Guatemala, Malawi and the Dominican Republic. Filled with toys, clothing, school supplies, and other essentials, the boxes will be delivered before Christmas. Bishop Hartley will bring more than 250 eighth-grade students to its campus from Columbus All Saints Academy, Holy Spirit, St. Catharine, St. Joseph Montessori, St. Mary German Village, Gahanna St. Matthew, Reynoldsburg St. Pius and Grace Christian Academy campus to help complete this service tasks. Bishop Earl Fernandes, who serves as a member of the board of directors at Cross Catholic Outreach, said, "I am very proud that Bishop Hartley High School is participating in the Boxes of Joy initiative. It really is a way of growing in solidarity, empathy with the situation of others, and developing a sense of social responsibility and engagement in our common home." In 20 years of service, Cross Catholic Outreach has assisted more than 90 countries, provided more than \$4 billion in total aid and delivered more than 646,000 Box of Joy gifts to children around the world.

Photos courtesy Bishop Hartley High School

DeSales students earn national recognition



Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School juniors and seniors received National Recognition Awards from the CollegeBoard after scoring in the top 10 percent on the PSAT or by earning a 3+ or higher score on two or more Advanced Placement exams in ninth and 10th grades. In addition, they have a B+ or higher cumulative GPA and identify as Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, or First Generation. The students are (from row from left) Queenie Le, Annabelle See, Nana Diaby, Adwoa Chrappah, Sarah Seidu, Pauline Gyamfi, Malynn Saka, Eno Frimpong; (second row from left) David Albrycht, Erick Mensah, Isaac Stewart, Frank Lamboni, Matthew Evans, Cameron Ellis, Gabe Arbona and Micah Frazier. Not pictured is Chelsea Asiamah.

Photo/St. Francis DeSales High School

DeSales students participate in Salesian youth council

Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School seniors Eunice Otu-Danquah and Aylin Mai and sophomores Afia Oduro and Faith Fekru traveled to New Jersey in September with Sister Nicole Daly and DeSales teacher Beth Mitevski for the Salesian Youth Provincial Council. Along with students from four other high schools, the DeSales representatives shared with Mother Chiara, the Mother General of the Institute of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (Salesian Sisters of St. John Bosco), the challenges that young people face in the U.S. to live their faith in a world with conflicting messages. Mother Chiara provided thoughtful encouragement and reassured the students that they are actually surrounded by many people who have walked the same path before them. Pictured are (from left) Mai, Oduro, Sister Monique (who was at DeSales for the last few years and recently moved to a Florida school), Otu-Danquah and Fekru.



Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School

26th Annual HollyDay Craft Bazaar

Brought to you by the Church of the Resurrection Women's Group

Saturday, November 2nd: 9-3pm

Church of the Resurrection - Ministry Center
6300 East Dublin - Granville Rd
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No strollers please. Service animals only.

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

29th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B

Service to the Lord should be sacrificial

Isaiah 53:10-11
Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22
Hebrews 4:14-16
Mark 10:35-45

Fallen human nature includes an instinct to seek our own benefit in every endeavor we undertake. Neither James nor John, nor any of the first disciples of Jesus were immune to this. Imagining an earthly kingdom and glory, the brothers asked for places of honor in the exercise of power. The rest of the disciples heard this and became indignant, wanting such places for themselves. Jesus responded with a vision of another way of being. He showed His disciples that their ambitions were set too low.

Jesus' response to all the disciples reveals that He clearly understands the way of the world: "You know that those who are recognized as rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones make their authority over them felt. But it shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all. For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."

When we see through the eyes of Jesus, we understand the contrast between a worldly view of power and the Christian way of being. Nonetheless, we continue to be influenced by the ambitions of the world. We miss what the Lord wants us to see when we are caught up with the question "What is in it for me?" If we want to follow Jesus, we must reverse the perspective: "How can we be of service to others in need?"

30th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B

Jeremiah 31:7-9
Psalm 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6
Hebrews 5:1-6
Mark 10:46-52

"Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!' The disciples were amazed at his words."

The world tends to view earthly success as a sign of favor from God. He has promised to bless us, and we see material prosperity as the blessing. Jesus offers the real blessing, a relationship with God that begins in this world and lasts into eternity. The kingdom of God is among us, but it is entered by detaching ourselves from what we think we possess.

Human beings are body, mind and spirit. Unless we give the spirit primacy, our material reality and our emotional and mental states can dominate us and keep us from entering the relationship that is offered. The Spirit works through nature

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Father Timothy Hayes

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



To be great is to learn to respond with God's humility. The world belongs to God. Yet He has shared it freely with us. In Jesus, God also shares His own being. The way to enter the life that God wants to share with us is to serve and to commit ourselves to respond to others' needs before our own desires.

The nature of service can be misunderstood. It is not merely a service of earthly and physical needs. It is a sacrificial service, meeting spiritual needs too. The suffering servant of Isaiah is the model; "If he gives his life as an offering for sin, he shall see his descendants in a long life, and the will of the Lord shall be accomplished through him. Because of his affliction, he shall see the light in fullness of days; through his suffering, my servant shall justify many, and their guilt he shall bear." Through willingly accepted suffering, the servant takes on the world's brokenness.

Taking on the guilt of others means bearing wrongs patiently and lifting up a prayer for mercy, even as the suffering is endured. The antiphon of the Responsorial Psalm shows the attitude of the willing servant: "Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you." The servant is in solidarity with the guilty, asking for mercy to "be on us" and the servant's attitude is a model of relationship with God, "as we place our trust in you."

The Letter to the Hebrews offers a perspective of service that reveals a priestly

and the material world but always leads us beyond what is visible.

Relationship with the living God is more like a rollercoaster ride than an experience of smooth sailing. We experience challenges that are beyond us. With God, we meet them and we grow in our capacity for relationship with God and with others. God can fill us with His love only when we clear out space for that love. Attachment to things and to our own desires blocks us. Acknowledging God's gifts to us, we put our trust in Him to be generous, even when we have to let go of those gifts.

The interchange between Peter, who speaks about our experience, and Jesus, who explains the truth about the life He offers, illustrates the steps that must be taken so that the Spirit may lead us into the depths of real relationship with God. "Peter began to say to him, 'We have given up everything and followed you.'" He starts to speak of the cost of discipleship, what he feels that he and the others who follow Jesus have al-

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

10-21/10-26 MONDAY	THURSDAY	10/28-11/2 MONDAY	THURSDAY
Ephesians 2:1-10 Psalm 100:2-5 Luke 12:13-21	Ephesians 3:14-21 Psalm 33:1-2,4-5,11-12,18-19 Luke 12:49-53	Ephesians 2:19-22 Psalm 19:2-5 Luke 6:12-16	Ephesians 6:10-20 Psalm 144:1b,2,9-10 Luke 13:31-35
TUESDAY	FRIDAY	TUESDAY	FRIDAY
Ephesians 2:12-22 Psalm 85:9-14 Luke 12:35-38	Ephesians 4:1-6 Psalm 24:1-6 Luke 12:54-59	Ephesians 5:21-33 Psalm 128:1-5 Luke 13:18-21	Revelation 7:2-4,9-14 Psalm 24:1-4ab,5-6 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12a
WEDNESDAY	SATURDAY	WEDNESDAY	SATURDAY
Ephesians 3:2-12 Isaiah 12:2-6 (Ps) Luke 12:39-48	Ephesians 4:7-16 Psalm 122:1-5 Luke 13:1-9	Ephesians 6:1-9 Psalm 145:10-14 Luke 13:22-30	Wisdom 3:1-9; Psalm 23:1-6 Romans 5:5-11 or Romans 6:3-9 John 6:37-40

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION

Mass Schedule: Weeks of October 20 and October 27

SUNDAY MASS

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

Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 7:30 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus and 10:30 a.m. on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18, Zanesville. Mass from St. Francis de Sales Seminary, Milwaukee, at 10 a.m. on WWHO-TV. Check local cable system for cable channel listing.

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Spectrum Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or Breeze-line Channel 378). (Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).

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

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

DAILY MASS

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

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

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

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

role, both for the suffering servant himself and for those who benefit from His service. Acknowledging that the Son has passed through suffering into glory, we are encouraged to see the power of our confession of faith in Him. "Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been

tested in every way, yet without sin. So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help."

Faith in Jesus as our High Priest, and response to His invitation to serve as He does, we enter true power, accepting the priestly role that is ours as members of the Body of Christ. We are freed from our selfish ambitions and drawn into the flow of grace that opens to true glory and power to bring the world to Christ.

'What do you want me to do for you?'

ready paid. He never gets to finish his statement and the litany of losses that he wants to convey. The Lord interrupts with a statement that covers everything.

Jesus responds acknowledging what has already been sacrificed but indicating also that there will be an even great price to be paid: "Amen, I say to you, there is no one who has given up house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands for my sake and for the sake of the gospel who will not receive a hundred times more now in this present age: houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and eternal life in the age to come." The Paschal Mystery is learned by plunging into it with all that we are.

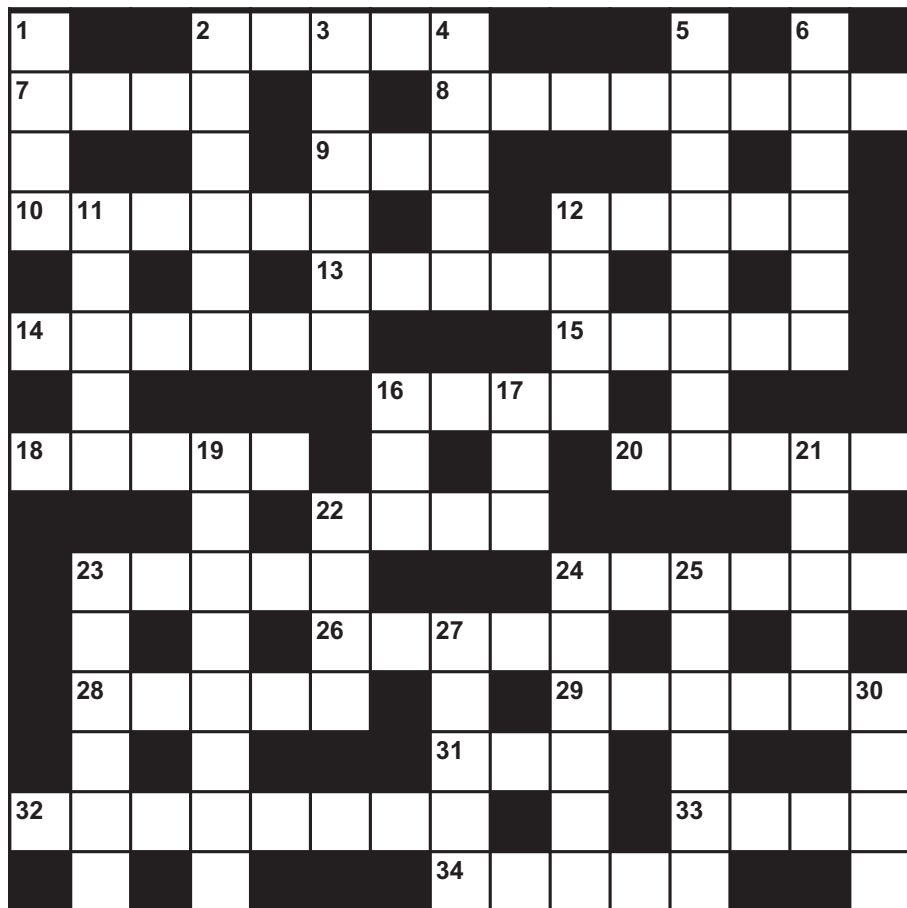
God offers great rewards in this life. Places to live, experiences that are unimagined and relationships as deep as family are promised. Anyone who has chosen to respond to Jesus' invitation to follow Him will meet new friends who

become as dear as brothers and sisters, parents and children that are part of natural relationships.

Along with these "good things" that may be experienced in time, Jesus includes the hard truth that there will be persecution and suffering that remind us that this life is not our goal. These experiences serve to stretch us and to open the inner recesses of our heart. They forge relationships that are built on trust, commitment, and mutual responsibility. Eternal life, God's own reality, is given a place in the very being of any person open to receive what is offered. Union with God includes a greater capacity for unity among His children.

Fulfilling God's will for this life prepares us to respond to an invitation. Jesus looks at each one of us, loves us and tells us how to enter the kingdom: "You are lacking in one thing. Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." How do we respond?

CATHOLIC WORD SEARCH



www.wordgamesforcatholics.com

- ACROSS**
- 2 Tradition says Bartholomew preached here
 - 7 Parable of the ___ in the fish
 - 8 Governor of Judah during the Restoration
 - 9 Original or actual ___
 - 10 According to Proverbs 11, a gracious woman gets this
 - 12 Destroyed, in the Douay
 - 13 Road to the altar?
 - 14 Oddly enough, there have been only 5 popes by this name
 - 15 Along with Timothy, he was a disciple of Paul
 - 16 Wife of Jacob
 - 18 St. Edith's surname
 - 20 Friend of St. Francis of Assisi
 - 22 David played one
 - 23 "Cheer, cheer for old ___."
 - 24 It is given after the Gospel
 - 26 Monastic press?
 - 28 ___ Youth Day
 - 29 St. Angela ___
 - 31 Convent dweller
 - 32 Declare 11D
- DOWN**
- 1 Biblical trial word
 - 2 An element of moral culpability
 - 3 Patron saint of prisoners
 - 4 Father-in-law of Caiaphas
 - 5 Describes the soul
 - 6 They fed Elijah
 - 11 Holy one
 - 12 Fourth man
 - 16 Not ordained
 - 17 "___ Maria"
 - 19 Teresa of Avila's Castle
 - 21 Article of clothing or bone of a saint
 - 22 "...and ___ us not into temptation..."
 - 23 Catholic convert who became a cardinal, author of "Lead, Kindly Light"
 - 24 Service book
 - 25 Sister of Aaron
 - 27 "...of my ___ and flesh of my flesh..." (Gen 2:23)
 - 30 "Dies ___"

Solemnity of All Saints, November 1

Christ makes salvation attainable for 'every nation, race, people, tongue'

Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14
 Psalm 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6
 1 John 3:1-3
 Matthew 5:1-12a

SCRIPTURE READINGS

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



We who know Jesus and who have heard about the promise of Heaven can fall into a temptation to believe that it is only for "our kind." Everyone has heard the joke about non-Catholics who are asked to whisper when they pass by the door into "Catholic Heaven" because the Catholics think they are the only ones there. This joke has, of course, been changed depending on the group being addressed, but it makes the point; we can fall prey to a false perspective that allows salvation only to those who are like us.

The Book of Revelation has one revelation: that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world, and that all human history is under His authority. He is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He is the Lamb, once slain, who has risen from the dead, and who puts an end to all evil in the end.

John is given a glimpse into the fullness of salvation that will be accomplished at

the end of time. He tells us of what he hears and sees:

"I heard the number of those who had been marked with the seal, one hundred and forty-four thousand marked from every tribe of the children of Israel. After this I had a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue. They stood before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice: 'Salvation comes from our God, who is seated on the throne, and from the Lamb.'"

Note that symbolic numbers and images are used to express the inexpressible. However, they point to a fact that is often missed by those who read them while under the illusion of belonging to a group

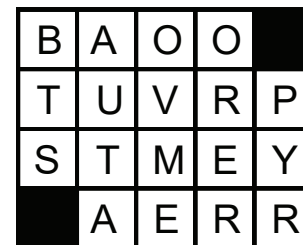
See SALVATION, Page 28

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.

Money is a good servant ...



BUT A VERY POOR MASTER

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Sister Alice Thome, OSF

Funeral Mass for Sister Alice Thome, OSF, 97, who died Sunday, Sept. 29, was celebrated Thursday, Oct. 3 at the Holy Family Convent in Manitowoc, Wisconsin. Burial was at the convent cemetery.

She was born on Oct. 8, 1926 in New Richmond, Wisconsin to Federick and Mary Elizabeth (Prock) Thome.

She entered the convent of the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity in Manitowoc in 1943 and professed her vows in 1946. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Holy Family College in Manitowoc.

She was a teacher at Zanesville St. Nicholas School in the 1947-1948 aca-

ademic year and spent most of her career in education as a teacher and principal in Wisconsin. She later was involved in various works of service in Wisconsin and Arizona. She had been a resident of the St. Rita Health Center in Manitowoc since 2015.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers Michael (Georgia) and Frederick (Christine); and sisters Marie (Leonard) Hisdahl, Anotonette (Joel) Wise and Maebelle. Survivors include a brother, Joseph; sisters Margaret, Dorothy (James) Zoch and Kathryn Cunningham and nieces and nephews.

Sister Mary Faith Dargan, OP

Funeral Mass for Sister Mary Faith Dargan, OP, 93, who died Thursday, Sept. 26, was celebrated Wednesday, Oct. 9 at the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Burial will be at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born in 1931 in West Haven, Connecticut to Robert and Marie (Murphy) Dargan.

She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish in 1953 from Albertus Magnus College in New Haven, Connecticut; a Master of Arts degree in 1960 from Boston College and a doctorate in the classics in 1970 from Ohio State University.

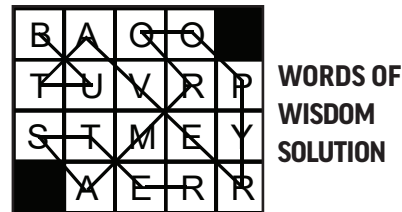
She entered the congregation of the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace) in 1960, taking the name Sister Jerome Marie.

She was an eighth-grade teacher at Columbus Holy Spirit School in the 1962-1963 academic year and taught classical literature at St. Mary of the Springs College (now Ohio Dominican University)

while attending Ohio State. She also was a high school Latin teacher in New Haven for two years. She spent 45 years (1970-2015 with a one-year break for study and travel) as a professor of classics at Albertus Magnus College, where she also was dean of academics from 1974 to 1984.

She moved to the Motherhouse after her retirement and had been at the Mohun Health Care Center since 2016.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her brothers, Father Peter Dargan of the Archdiocese of Hartford, Connecticut; Richard and Robert. She is survived by her sister, Virginia Doyle, and nieces and nephews.



PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

ALVAREZ, Patricia A. (MacWood), 80, formerly of Columbus, Sept. 26
Ascension Church, Chesterfield, Mo.

BARTHELMAS, Elizabeth A., 66, Oct. 7
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

CORONA de GAMINO, Josefina, 44, Sept. 8
St. James the Less Church, Columbus

CUDAK, Margaret L. "Lu" (Martin), 94, Oct. 4
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

DeLANY, Agnes E., 90, Aug. 29
St. Peter Church, Columbus

FERRIS, Edward P., 85, Sept. 23
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

GUINSLER, Douglas Charles "Doug," 72, Oct. 3
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

HALLEY, Robert F., 84, Oct. 2
St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus

HEGARTY, John W., 31, Sept. 28
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

HEMMETER, Paul A., 84, Sept. 29
St. Mary Church, Delaware

JACKSON, Eleanor L. (Pedry), 93, Sept. 14
St. James the Less Church, Columbus

KILLEN, Elaine L. 79 (Lubanski), Sept. 27
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

NUGENT, Helen M. (Nagy), 82, Sept. 25
St. Paul the Apostle Church, Westerville

PERRINI, Irene R., 97, Oct. 2
St. Catharine of Siena Church, Columbus

PROSE, Flora "Sue", 90, formerly of Columbus, Sept. 17
St. James the Less Church, Columbus

RATERMAN, John Richard, 89, Sept. 25
St. Joseph Church, Circleville

REDMOND, Carole M. (Jacobs), 95, Sept. 29
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

RICHARDS-TRAPP, Margarite, 90, Sept. 29
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

ROSSING, Eleanor M., 95, Sept. 28
St. Paul the Apostle Church, Westerville

SANDFORD, Mary-Ellen (Sheldon), 73, Sept. 25
St. Matthew the Apostle Church, Gahanna

STICKFORD, George H. Jr., 84, Sept. 26
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

SWANICK, Charles, 90, Aug. 10
St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

TRAPP, Mary A., 98, Oct. 5
St. Catharine of Siena Church, Columbus

WARNER, Catherine "Jenny" (Contini), 94, Sept. 30
St. Joseph Church, Dover

WOODRUFF, Charlene V., 84, Sept. 28
St. Paul the Apostle Church, Westerville

Dr. Gordon B. Snider

Funeral Mass for Dr. Gordon B. Snider, who died Monday, Oct. 7, was celebrated Saturday, Oct. 12 at the Lancaster Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption. Burial was at St. Mary Cemetery, Lancaster.

He and his late wife, Mary Louise, were honored in 2010 "for their lasting contributions and commitment to faith in future generations" as longtime supporters of Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School. They also were active in support of the Fairhope Hospice and Pickering House in Lancaster.

In 1960, Snider became Lancaster's first internal medicine physician. He was the founding medical director and instructor for the paramedic program at the Lancaster Fire Department and played a key role in establishing the intensive care and coronary care units at Fairfield Medical Center, where he became director of medical education and physician in charge of employee health services after retiring from active practice in 1993.

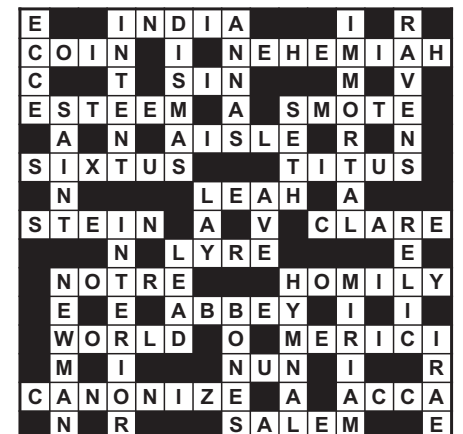
He also was an avid golfer, winning several club championships at the Lancaster Country Club and the Monarch Country Club in Stuart, Florida.

He was a 1946 graduate of Marysville High School and earned undergraduate and graduate medical degrees from Ohio State University. He completed his residency and fellowship at Mount Carmel Hospi-

tal in Columbus and Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, then served as a physician in the U.S. Army at Fort Stewart, Georgia.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Dr. James and Rose Snider; his wife of 58 years, Mary Louise; and brothers Billie and James. Survivors include sons John (Mary) and James (Tammmy); daughters Mary Katherine (Jim) Nevins, Cynthia (Art) Pearsall and Martha (Kevin) Downs; four grandsons, four granddaughters and six great-grandchildren.

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LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS

Josephinum to host talk on 'Woke Crisis'

Author Noelle Mering will speak on "Unmasking the Woke Crisis: Addressing its Spiritual, Anthropological, and Civic Impact and Crafting Pastoral Responses," at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 23 in the Jessing Center at the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St, Columbus.

Mering is a fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, where she co-directs its Theology of Home project. She is the author of the book *Awake, Not Woke: A Christian Response to the Cult of Progressive Ideology* and co-author of the *Theology of Home* book series.

The talk is the first presentation of the college's 2024-25 Building Spiritual Bridges to the Community lecture series. For information, go to www.pcj.edu.

Luncheon club will hear from conference director

Brian Hickey, executive director of the Catholic Conference of Ohio, will speak to the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club about the conference's mission and func-

tion after the noon All Saints Day Mass on Friday, Nov. 1 at Columbus St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave.

No reservations are necessary. A \$12 donation for lunch is requested.

The club's next meeting will be on Friday, Dec. 6 with Father David Johnstone, parochial vicar at Worthington St. Michael the Archangel Church and chaplain at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School. He is one of five priests ordained for the Diocese of Columbus in May and will speak about his vocation.

The luncheon has no sponsor. If you are interested in sponsoring this or another luncheon, contact David Kilanowski at dkilano@aol.com.

Dufault to speak to Record Society

Dr. Adam J. Dufault, superintendent of schools for the Diocese of Columbus, will speak about the diocesan school system at the next meeting of the Catholic Record Society, scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 17 at 2 p.m. in the first-floor meeting room of the Catholic Center, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus.

Dufault oversees 39 elementary and 11 secondary schools educating nearly 18,000 students across the 23 counties of the diocese and supervises the diocesan CYO athletic program. He has been superintendent since May 2018 and previously was Interim superintendent and associate superintendent of schools in the Archdiocese of Denver for two years.

After his talk and a short break, there will be a brief business meeting.

Parking is available in the lot adjacent to the building and a ramp leads from ground level to the door. If you have questions, call Mark Gideon at (614) 312-8026.

Scout plans holiday gift drive

Cassius Purdy, a junior at Columbus

St. Charles Preparatory School and a member of Scout Troop 85 sponsored by Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church and a current junior at St. Charles Preparatory School, is sponsoring a holiday gift drive as his Eagle Scout project.

He asks people to come to the church parking lot, 313 N. State St., from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 16 and bring a new, unwrapped gift suitable for a teenager.

The gifts will go to young people served by Home for Families, a local nonprofit organization that supports 500 families with gifts during the holidays and helps 1,200 families annually to avoid or overcome homelessness.

**ST. JOHN NEUMANN
HOLIDAY CRAFT BAZAAR**
Nov. 9, 2024 from 9 am to 2 pm
Homemade crafts, bake sale,
baskets raffled and food served.
Carters Corner Rd & St. Rt. 36/37, Sunbury
Questions? Email sjnholidaybazaar@gmail.com

**51ST ANNUAL
HOLIDAY CRAFT BAZAAR**
Saturday, Nov. 9, 9 am-3 pm
Ss. Simon & Jude Church
9350 High Free Pike, West Jefferson, Ohio
(corner of SR 142 and I-70)
Home-made crafts and gifts, baked goods
and basket raffles • Free entry

ST. BRIGID OF KILDARE, DUBLIN
CHURCH AND SCHOOL SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR

St. Brigid of Kildare Church and School, located at 7179 Avery Rd in Dublin, is seeking a part-time Safe Environment Coordinator to work onsite for an average of 20 hours per week.

OVERVIEW:
The Safe Environment Coordinator will manage the compliance of Diocesan Safe Environment Policies for St Brigid Church and School for all staff and ministry volunteers, especially those involving minors. This person will report directly to the Pastor. The ideal candidate will have experience in law enforcement, the military or criminal justice, and be an effective communicator and collaborator.

RESPONSIBILITIES:
Review existing safety protocols across campus to ensure best practices and procedures are implemented. Communicate and train staff to adhere to newly established safety protocols; direct contact and communication with key ministry leaders to establish and enforce procedures so that relevant information can be quickly communicated and potential issues resolved in a timely manner. This may require attendance at select ministry meetings; communicate Safe Environment requirements to volunteers through established communication channels; manage the database of all campus volunteers and staff, confirming compliance with all

Diocesan policies before any contact with minors. This includes verification of BCI/FBI/Selection, Virtus Protecting God's Children training, and any other training according to Diocesan, Athletic Association and/or Scouting policies; screen and direct follow up with staff and volunteers, ensuring compliance with all policies before involvement with minors; Coordinate Protecting God's Children and other training programs on our campus at least twice a year; prepare for and ensure all requirements are met for the annual and three-year Diocesan Safe Environment audits by maintaining accurate and organized records; attend and report current activity and issues at monthly staff and quarterly Steering Committee meetings.

DETAILS:
This is a part-time position, expected to average 20 hours PER week. There will be times when work demands are higher and other times much lower. This position starts at \$30/hour and is not eligible for benefits. Candidates must be at least 21 and must be PGC/BCI compliant via completing a Protecting God's Children training and a BCI fingerprint background check.

Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter to Becky O'Connor, at boconnor@stbrigidofkildare.org.

ST. BRIGID OF KILDARE, DUBLIN | EVENING SUPPORT STAFF

JOB DESCRIPTION: This position involves working directly with the Facilities Manager and Office Manager to determine evening needs for all campus activities. This person supports parish staff, ministry chairs and coaches with their evening meetings and special events. This person will also canvas the property to ensure safe environment policies are enforced, ensure the facilities are returned to pre-event status, and secure the buildings at the end of the evening.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Parish and School evening event support: Confirm room and technology set up before and during each event, adjust as needed; help parish staff and ministry chairs with event readiness; assist with tear-down, clean-up, prep for next day, lights out and secure area; ensure Safe Environment Policies are always in effect; point of contact for any issues that arise in the evenings or weekends; report issues to Facilities Manager or Safe

Environment Coordinator as needed. Additional duties: Miscellaneous repairs and maintenance as assigned by Facilities Manager; ensure technological equipment is in working order and is functional; ensure smooth transition to overnight school cleaning crew; emergency cleaning as needed.

QUALIFICATIONS: Knowledge of or willingness to learn Diocese Safe Environment policies, building policies, and ability to learn how to use building technology and equipment. Proven record of managing own schedule and completing all tasks and duties without direct supervision. Candidates must be at least 21 and PGC/BCI compliant via completing a Protecting God's Children training and a BCI fingerprint background check.

Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter to Becky O'Connor, at boconnor@stbrigidofkildare.org.

ST. BRIGID OF KILDARE, DUBLIN | WEEKEND SUPPORT STAFF

JOB DESCRIPTION: This position involves working directly with the Facilities Manager and Office Manager to determine weekend needs for all campus activities. This person will set up rooms and restock bathroom facilities in preparation for meetings and special events. This person will also ensure the facilities are returned to pre-event status and secure the buildings at the end of the evening.

RESPONSIBILITIES: PConfirm room and technology set up before and during each event, adjust as needed; Help parish staff and ministry chairs with event readiness; Emergency cleaning as needed; Assist with tear-down, clean-up, prep for next day, lights out and secure area; Point of contact for any

issues that arise on the weekends; Report issues to Facilities Manager as needed; Be aware of Safe Environment policies and report any issues to the Safe Environment Coordinator.

QUALIFICATIONS: Proven record of managing own schedule and completing all tasks and duties without direct supervision. Candidates must be at least 21 and must be PGC/BCI compliant via completing a Protecting God's Children training and a BCI fingerprint background check.

Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter to Becky O'Connor, at boconnor@stbrigidofkildare.org.

Walking with Jesus in nature

In this beautiful month of October, I've been outdoors more than ever praising God on daily walks and exercising in nature. The beauty of God's creation moves my heart and reminds me that simple things like a walk in the woods are freeing, healing and truly a haven to talk with and to listen to God.

My husband, Al, broke a foot early in the summer and ended up with one leg on a scooter for two months. Walking was something we both took for granted until he couldn't do it anymore. We persevered, but now that his foot has healed and he is walking again, we are both so grateful and more determined than ever to stay active, healthy and to be outdoors as much as possible enjoying the peace and beauty of God's creation.

St. John of Damascus said, "The whole earth is a living icon of the face of God."

In looking at the trees, the trails, the ponds and long stretches of color in the park across from our house, I see God so clearly. He has given all of this to us. Do I take the time to enjoy it? This year, I am thriving in it. I get outdoors in every season, but just as in the spiritual life, some seasons are light and easy, and others weigh a bit heavier. The lightness of the current season is a welcome respite.

We are in this wisp of time where there is a gentle cool-

HOLY AND HEALTHY | Lori Crock

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



ness, dancing leaves, sparkling blue skies, ever-changing tree tapestries and, yes, the lush, dewy grass which I still enjoy barefoot.

Praying my rosary is ever more glorious in October, the month of the holy rosary, walking with Jesus through Mary, on an easy, breezy day. My heart naturally lifts up to Him through her, like a little child, skipping happily in the vast expanse of His love enconced by nature.

At times, I become very aware of the physical detachment from the secular world and from the problems and challenges that come with it when I'm alone in nature. There is a special freedom of mind and heart — as Matthew Kelly would say — with a sense of carefree timelessness.

Scripture resounds with the praises of nature. From Psalm 96:11-12, "Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice; let the sea and what fills it resound; let the plains

be joyful and all that is in them. Then let all the trees of the forest rejoice before the Lord who comes. Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them; let all the trees of the forest sing for joy."

As I walked a well-worn path in the woods and fields with a friend recently, it was all new to her. She noticed things that I had walked right by. Low hanging tree limbs overhead, mushrooms below and milk-pod plants all around — things I've seen many times, but nary a thought. Her joy reminded me that as I walk with Jesus, I should pause, give thanks and ask Him to give me new eyes to see.

St. Augustine said, "Some people, to discover God, read books. But there is a great book: the very appearance of created things. Look above you! Look below you! Note it. Read it. God, whom you want to discover, never wrote a book in ink. Instead, He set before your eyes the things that He had made. Can you ask for a louder voice than that?"

As the winter approaches, I remain committed to walking with Jesus and praying and talking to Him in nature often. A friend and I are discerning a call to walk the Camino, so the walking may increase, but with it so will the blessings of walking with Jesus in nature. Lord, give me eyes to see the things that You have made!

Reflect on importance of Christ's passion

In the fourth article of St. Thomas Aquinas' Catechetical Instructions titled "Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried," St. Thomas begins, "It is just as necessary for the Christian to believe in the passion and death of the Son of God as it is to believe in His Incarnation. For, as St. Gregory says, "There would have been no advantage in His having been born for us unless we had profited by His Redemption."

"That Christ died for us is so tremendous a fact that our intellect can scarcely grasp it; for in no way does it fall in the natural way of our understanding. The grace of God is so great and His love for us is such that we cannot understand what He has done for us. Now, we must believe that, although Christ suffered death, yet His Godhead did not die; it was the human nature in Christ that died. For He did not die as God, but as man."

It would seem Jesus anticipated the lack of understanding when He said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do (Lk 23:34)." What is this lack of understanding? It could mean the love that God has for us. This is what you can tell your Protestant friend as to one reason why we have crucifixes in our homes and churches.

As you ponder the love of God on the cross, consider this from St. Teresa of Calcutta, "When you look at the crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host, you understand how much Jesus loves you now." Or do we?

St. Thomas goes on, "But what need was there that the Son of God should suffer for us? There was a great need;

AQUINAS CORNER | Richard Arnold

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



and indeed it can be assigned to two reasons. The first is that it was a remedy against sin, and the second is an example of what we ought to do. It was a remedy to such an extent that in the passion of Christ we find a remedy against all the evils which we incur by our sins. And by our sins we incur five different evils.

"The first evil that man incurs by sin is the defilement of his soul. Just as virtue gives the soul its beauty, so sin makes it ugly.

"Secondly, we commit an offense against God.

"Thirdly, we have been weakened by sin. When a person sins once, he believes that he will thereafter keep away from sin, but what happens is the opposite. This is because by that sin he is weakened and made more prone to commit sins, and sin more and more has power over him. After the fall, our nature was weakened and corrupted, and we were made prone to sin. Christ, however, lessened this sickness and weakness, although He did not entirely take it away. So now man is strengthened by the passion of Christ, and sin is not given such power over him. Moreover, he can rise clean from his sins when aided by God's grace conferred by the Sacraments,

which receive their efficacy from the passion of Christ."

Frequent confession and communion are called for if we want help.

"Fourthly, we incur the punishment due to sin. For the justice of God demands that whosoever sins must be punished. This punishment, however, is in proportion to guilt. But the guilt of mortal sin is infinite, because it is an offense against the infinite good, namely, God, whose commandments the sinner holds in contempt. Therefore, the punishment due to mortal sin is infinite. Christ, however, through His passion has taken away this punishment from us and borne it Himself."

Again ... frequent confession and communion are called for.

"Fifthly, we incur banishment from the kingdom of heaven. Those who offend kings are compelled to go into exile. Adam was driven out of paradise immediately after his sin, and the gate of paradise was shut. But Christ by His sufferings and death opened this gate and recalled all the exiles to the kingdom."

Finally, St. Thomas, citing St. Augustine says "that the passion of Christ can bring about a complete reformation of our lives. Whoever wishes to live perfectly need do nothing other than despise what Christ despised on the cross, and desire what Christ desired. There is no virtue that did not have its example on the Cross."

Charity (love), patient suffering, humility, obedience and contempt for earthly things. Can we learn this from Christ's passion?

SALVATION, continued from Page 25

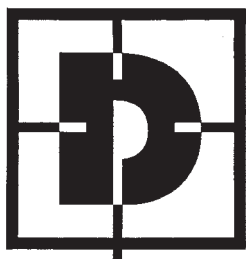
that is exclusively promised salvation. God destines human beings to belong to Him fully and to share life with Him in eternity.

"Every tribe of the Children of Israel" includes all descendants of the sons of Jacob. The 144,000 means that the full community established by God as His own People will be part of salvation. This has always been the hope of Israel and continues to be held by their descendants among the nations of the world. Then, "a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue" presents a picture that corresponds to our present-day experience

of the encounters taking place in every nation on earth. The interdependence of peoples and nations is admitted by all who can see the truth. The offer of salvation is not exclusive.

As we celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints, we must keep our eyes fixed on the goal. If we want to "be in that number, when the saints go marching in," we must open our eyes to see all who are to be included. We must also continue to share the invitation by our own welcome to all the descendants of Israel and to the multitude "from every nation, race, people, and tongue."

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How long do you stay in purgatory?

Dear Father,

How long does a person stay in purgatory? I'm asking because a friend who was baptized Catholic died recently but wasn't going to church. Will purgatory be longer for him? Do non-Catholics go to purgatory or do they go straight to heaven since they don't believe in purgatory?

-Anne

Dear Anne,

Purgatory, I imagine, probably will seem like forever, even if it is temporary.

I hate lines. Sometimes I think of purgatory as being in backed up traffic on a crowded freeway for dozens of miles with no one moving an inch on a hot, humid day, without air conditioning in the car with no nearby exits whatsoever, and I need a restroom badly. One minute can feel like an eternity.

Waiting to see someone we love very much may seem endless. Waiting to see God will be bittersweet because we know we will see Him for whom our heart longs, but waiting while we suffer the effects of our sins will be very painful.

There is no time in purgatory as we know time. Purgatory is a state of purification rather than a place, as Pope Benedict pointed out in his encyclical *Spe Salvi*.

It's difficult to think of ourselves in a state of being without also thinking of being somewhere in that state. That's because we are both spiritual and physical. We have a soul and a body. At the moment of death, we are bereft of our body. During our entire life, we have only known ourselves as being somewhere. That's why it is nearly impossible for us to imagine ourselves as not being in a place.

SACRAMENTS 101

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

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



Yet, that is exactly what happens when we die. We are incomplete at death. We are now only our souls. After our death, we await the resurrection of our bodies so that we may enjoy eternity with our glorified bodies and souls.

The point here is that purgatory cannot be a physical place. We use the concept of being in a place because it's easier to imagine.

In addition to purification, Pope Benedict spoke about healing in order to "mature the soul for communion with God." This is the most important aspect of purgatory. We are being prepared for the intimacy with God that we, in various ways, avoided in our life on earth.

You can't really quantify maturation, especially maturation that allows for communion with God. Some people, well past retirement age, act like adolescents. They seem impervious to growing up. On the other hand, there are very young people who are extremely mature in their actions and outlook on life.

At the moment of death, as Pope Benedict pointed out, our life-choice becomes definitive. We have no more choices to make. That means that the character we have developed, what we have made of our life, is set. "There can be people," the pope said, "who have totally destroyed their desire for truth and readiness to love, people for whom everything has become a lie,

people who have lived for hatred and have suppressed all love within themselves."

One excellent measure of maturity is the ability to live for others rather than for only oneself. Christian maturity goes a step further: one lives more for Jesus and others than for oneself. This gives an insight into the meaning of Christ's words: "For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it" (Matthew 16:25).

Concerning your friend who died: The "time" we spend in purgatory depends on the way we lived our lives. You said your friend didn't go to church. Because we don't know why your friend didn't go to church, we have to leave the question of the depth of purgation needed in God's hands. Only He knows the depths of our heart and only He can judge us aright. Only He can provide what is necessary for our entrance into His brilliant and shining glory.

And that goes for every single soul that God has created, Catholic or not.

Only those go straight into the presence of God who have loved Him completely in their lives on earth. That includes people who have committed horrific crimes but lived a life of repentance and died a holy death. Think of the Good Thief crucified next to Jesus.

I'll never forget the vivid image that Sister Arthur (a Felician Sister, in her dark brown habit) gave us when I was preparing for my First Holy Communion. She said that purgatory was like going through a car wash with hard bristles scrubbing the stains off our souls. To this day, I wonder how many miles of car-wash bristles my soul will need when I die.

I hope that I don't have to wait for very long when it's my time to see God face to face. Let's pray for each other that we can be purged of our earthly attachments now and be ready for heaven we die.

'Crossing the Threshold of Hope' after 30 years

On October 20, 1994, something unprecedented in the modern history of the papacy took place: The reigning pope published a book that was not an act of the papal magisterium but rather a personal reflection on Christian faith, prayer, the divinity of Jesus, the problem of evil, salvation and eternal life, world religions, Christian ecumenism, the necessity of Vatican II, the right to life, Mary, and other subjects. It was entitled *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*, and in four years, it had sold millions of copies in 40 languages. Given what editors wrote about it, *Threshold* was likely instrumental in making John Paul II Time's 1994 Man of the Year: "In a year when so many people lamented the decline in moral values or made excuses for bad behavior, Pope John Paul II forcefully set forth his vision of the good life and urged the world to follow it."

Curiously (or, as John Paul would have insisted, providentially), *Threshold* was born from something that never happened. Plans were afoot for the first-ever live papal TV interview, in which the pope would discuss the 15 years of his already historic pontificate with journalist Vittorio Messori. But the relentless papal schedule intruded, the interview couldn't be filmed and edited in time for the 15th anniversary, and Messori, who had sent the pope the questions he would raise, thought that was the end of the matter.

It wasn't.

Some months later, John Paul's press spokesman, Joaquín Navarro-Valls, called Messori with this message from the pope, which is worth quoting in full for what it reveals about Karol Wojtyła, his respect for oth-

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.



ers' freedom, his insatiable curiosity, and his passion for helping late modernity find answers to the questions many were raising:

"Even if there wasn't a way to respond to you in person (i.e., in the canceled TV interview), I kept your questions on my desk. They interested me. I didn't think it would be wise to let them go to waste. So I thought about them and, after some time, during the brief moments when I was free from obligations, I responded to them in writing. You have asked me questions, therefore you have a right to responses. I am working on them. I will let you have them. Then do with them what you think is appropriate."

On its 30th anniversary, *Crossing the Threshold of Hope* remains eminently readable as food for thought. Considering contemporary controversies and conflicts, one of its most penetrating passages comes in the pope's discussion of Islam. John Paul praised the regularity of Muslim prayer and urged fallen-away Christians, "who, having deserted their magnificent cathedrals, pray only a little or not at all," to follow that example of piety. Yet he also drew a sharp distinction:

"In Islam, all the richness of God's self-revelation, which constitutes the heritage of the Old and New

Testaments, has definitely been set aside. Some of the most beautiful names in the human language are given to the God of the Koran, but he is ultimately a God outside of the world, a God who is only Majesty, never Emmanuel, God-with-us. Islam is not a religion of redemption. There is no room for the Cross and Resurrection. Jesus is mentioned, but only as a prophet who prepares for the last prophet, Muhammad. There is also mention of Mary, His Virgin Mother, but the tragedy of redemption is completely absent. For this reason, not only the theology but also the anthropology of Islam is very distant from Christianity" (emphases in original).

And then there was this about Christianity and Judaism:

"... the New Covenant serves to fulfill all that is rooted in the vocation of Abraham, in God's covenant with Israel at Sinai, and in the whole rich heritage of the inspired Prophets who, hundreds of years before that fulfillment, pointed in the Sacred Scriptures to the One whom God would send in the 'fullness of time' (cf. Gal 4.4)."

In *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*, John Paul II spoke to the world as one who, over a lifetime of reflection, had found the truth that makes other truths make sense in Jesus Christ, the fulfillment of God's self-revelation to the world. He did not speak as an oracle whose views on the issues of the day had special salience, thanks to the office he held, because he knew that playing the oracle would cheapen his evangelical witness. And being a witness to the Gospel was the prime directive that the Lord had given Peter and his successors.

What a difference a day makes

I have always been interested in music. My sister was in high school when I was born, and so I grew up under the influence of her 45 RPM record collection. There was a song at the end of the 1950s that expressed how quickly things can change. While that is a familiar theme in Scripture, it seemed novel to me as a kindergarten. The song was "What a Difference a Day Makes" by Dinah Washington. It was a love song, but I didn't catch on to that part. I was struck by the bold assertion that "24 little hours" could change the weather, the environment and the mood of our experience of life.

This Labor Day, we visited my daughter in Asheville, North Carolina. We spent a day at the North Carolina Arboretum, enjoyed the New Belgium brewery by the French Broad River, walked in the Biltmore Village and watched the chimney swifts go to bed at the forestry camp restaurant. The pace was relaxed, the scenery beautiful, and the town historic. And all of that remained pretty much the same until Thursday, September 26. And in a little more than 24 little hours, everything changed.

Hurricane Helene, a Category 4 storm, made landfall in Florida late Thursday night and quickly began a devastating path through Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina. By Friday morning, high winds and heavy rains were buffeting Asheville. Trees fell on power lines. Biltmore Village was swamped with floodwaters. The French Broad River rapidly rose and overflowed its banks, bringing rushing water and mud dam-

FAITH IN ACTION | Mark Huddy

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



aging the New Belgium brewery and the adjacent River Arts District. Much of Asheville was without power, water, cell phone service and gasoline. The interstate highways that service Asheville were closed. As of Thursday, October 3, the death toll in Asheville's Buncombe County was confirmed by the Sheriff at 72. My daughter described the scene of devastation there as "apocalyptic."

This week, I contacted Catholic Charities USA to learn about their response to the situation in Asheville and the affected parts of Florida, Georgia and South Carolina. Here is what I learned. Catholic Charities USA is providing direct support to Catholic Charities agencies in east Tennessee; Charlotte, North Carolina; South Carolina; northwest Florida; St. Petersburg, Florida and Venice, Florida as they support their devastated communities. Several tractor-trailer loads of water have been sent to Catholic Charities of East Tennessee and Catholic Charities Diocese of Charlotte. Hygiene kits have been sent to Catholic Charities of South Carolina. Cleaning kits, diapers, children's activity kits, oral rehydration products and blankets are enroute to Catholic Charities Diocese of St. Petersburg. Catholic Charities locations in Acadiana, Louisiana; Biloxi, Mississippi;

Ocala, Florida; and Raleigh and Wilmington, North Carolina have been established as hub locations to distribute goods regionally. Many Catholic Charities agencies outside the affected areas — including Houston, Raleigh and Sacramento, California — are assisting with technical needs, case management and other support services. Catholic Charities USA Disaster Response Team members will be on the ground in Tampa and Charlotte in coming days to support disaster relief and recovery efforts by local Catholic Charities agencies. In the Diocese of Columbus, Portsmouth and New Boston in Scioto County had some flooding in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene. Catholic Social Services is collecting funding to assist Scioto County in its recovery efforts.

What a difference a day makes. Things can change in an instant, but more importantly, love is the force that changes everything for the better. Not an abstract love but a personal one, visible in action. We should know this through Jesus' life, death and resurrection and his call for us to follow him and to love our neighbor, the one in need. The song is about eros, our faith is about agape.

To show some love and compassion for our neighbors in need, you can donate to Catholic Charities USA to support the recovery of hurricane victims in all the affected areas. Go to <https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/what-we-do/disaster-relief/hurricane-helene-response/>. To support local recovery efforts in Portsmouth, go to: <https://colscss.org/>.

Be patient, God is working

I find myself in a time of parenting where the life I desire for my children is different than the one they are choosing. I think I know how this will play out.

I remember well what it was like for me as a young adult spreading my wings and I need to give that same grace to my children as they become young adults. Yet it is so very hard.

My older children have taken the brunt of this learning curve (and continue to do so) as my younger ones experience a mother gentler with her words and patient with understanding the mistakes they make on their path to maturity. Life has a learning curve for us all.

We all desire to be fully known and fully loved, especially when we are still finding our way. (Are we ever not?) These walks are typically where I check in with my kids. What are you working on? How are school, work and friends?

I felt a tug to just listen this time, less of me and more of the Holy Spirit. As I took a walk down our country path the other day with my teenage daughter and listened to her share her heart, I marveled at the gift she was giving me, the opportunity placed before me. Pausing her conversation and our walk, I stopped and told her how beautiful she is to me, how much I value her trust and the time she puts into our relationship, and I told her how proud of her I am. "I know, Ima," she said softly and she hugged me and off she went.

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.



"Ima," her word for mother, said so frequently, fell like rose petals on my heart, and I breathed in their scent. Moments like these are sacred for me because the pace of everyday life can be demanding. It's easy to get caught up in worry and work. We forget to see the gifts before us.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 reminds us to "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

As a mom of eight very unique children, I have so much to be grateful for, and yet I often get caught up in my head desiring my will for their life rather than breathing gratitude for the life they have and the life they are living. Life is such a very treasured gift, and the older our children get, the more we feel the blessings of being part of theirs.

Many of us have felt the pain of being separated from those we love; whether it be by distance, by regrets or by hurt. Thanks be to God for his mercy and his tender heart that calls us back together. And because of this,

we must not take it lightly, this gift of being invited to be a part of living life together.

As I reflect on being a young mother and the plans my husband and I made for our children, I gently smile at those memories. Wisdom and life experience have taught me to be humbly grateful for a hug from my son as he visits home, the gift of a college phone call for tea-time, or a meal shared together with those still at home. There is intention and love, a desire to know the other, and be known by the other and I embrace that fully. Even though the path my children are taking for their lives looks very different than the one I would have had them walk, I see God working in their lives.

One of St. Teresa of Avila's beautiful prayers reminds us, "Let nothing affright you. Let nothing disturb you. All things are passing. He who has God has everything. Patient endurance attains all things. God alone is enough." As our children grow, I think we must make that prayer our breath. May the Lord form our hearts to pray for the "things" that matter for our children; the good, beautiful and eternal. Help us appreciate and savor the moments of connection He gives us.

May we speak words of life and model your joy to those whose lives we've entrusted to you from the beginning and may we always put our trust in your plans rather than our own.

OFFICE, continued from Page 7

issues to do with life, both the beginning of life and the end of life, and all the way in between," he said.

In 2013, he completed a certification course from the National Catholic Bioethics Center near Philadelphia. The center was established to uphold the dignity of the human person by providing education, guidance and resources.

With his background and knowledge, Father Penhallurick has been a resource to local offices and clergy. He said he is sometimes contacted by diocesan offices or

priests seeking advice on an end-of-life question. He said there are many concerns surrounding such issues.

Father Penhallurick also serves as chaplain to the local guild of the Catholic Medical Association. He began in that role about 11 years ago.

While he does not claim to be able to answer every question about right to life issues, he wants to remind people to remain focused on God.

"We don't always have the answer that we want, especially from the world," he said. "From our secular cul-

ture, we certainly have to fight for life.

"There's a passage in Scripture that talks about not placing our trust in princes, and I think we have to be careful not to place our hope always in the things of this world. We have to be focused on eternity and life with God forever, and just by being focused on that, becoming the light that shines on the hilltop, that draws people to it and helps a real culture of life grow in people's hearts."

Cardinal Dolan touts Catholic education in visit to St. Charles

By Hannah Heil
Catholic Times Reporter

If students at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School had any reason to doubt their Catholic education, Cardinal Timothy Dolan was there to remind them of its benefits.

The cardinal, who has been the archbishop of New York since 2009 and was appointed to the College of Cardinals by Pope Benedict XVI in 2012, visited and spoke to students at St. Charles on Oct. 10 about the “value and prize” of Catholic education.

Cardinal Dolan was St. Charles’ featured speaker this year. The school hosts a series of Borromeo lectures named in honor of its patron, St. Charles Borromeo. Previous lectures have focused on

themes including civility, integrity, ethics and service.

The cardinal was also part of “An Evening With ...” event later that day, a key fundraising event for the school. The evening included dinner, entertainment and a message from Cardinal Dolan.

He told students, who gathered earlier that afternoon, that he would go “anywhere” to support Catholic schools. Recalling Christ’s words in Scripture, he described Catholic schools as the “pearl of great price when it comes to the Church’s crown of sanctity and formation.”

From the beginning, Cardinal Dolan pointed out that Christ’s bride, the Catholic Church, has supported education. The Church has founded schools across the world that offer strong academics while transmitting the faith to students.

He also reflected on Christ’s final words in Scripture before He ascended to the Father. Jesus, who was called “Rabbi,” meaning, “teacher,” told his disciples to go forth and teach all nations.

“If you ask why I’m here today to glorify, to laud and to support Catholic education, folks, for somebody who considers Jesus Christ my lord and savior, the Way, the Truth and the Life, the beginning and end of all reality, I better listen to Him,” Cardinal Dolan said. “And if I listen to Him, if I watch Him, He loves the apostolate, the ministry of education.”

The cardinal said it is also part of bishops’ and priests’ “sacred responsibility” to be teachers and support Catholic education.

He told students that, from a worldly

point of view, there are many benefits to such an education.

“If you look at some of the studies ... you’ll see that, just from a worldly point of view, graduates of Catholic schools have healthier lives; they have happier marriages; they are more involved in the community; they’re more likely to volunteer for very worthwhile causes; they’re much more likely to be educated citizens,” he said.

Cardinal Dolan told students that, from a supernatural point of view, the benefits are even greater.

“We always say our Catholic schools don’t exist just to get you into college, our Catholic schools don’t exist just to get you a good job, to get into a good line of work – our Catholic schools exist to

See **CARDINAL**, Page 33

Parishes sponsor holiday craft events

Several parishes in the diocese are sponsoring bazaars featuring vendors selling handicrafts and other items for the Christmas season. The following is a list of such events reported to *The Catholic Times* as of Thursday, Oct. 10:

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CHURCH 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus

- Parish raffle and bake sale Saturday, Oct. 19, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- “Pre-loved” treasures and baked goods available

ST. BRENDAN THE NAVIGATOR SCHOOL

- 30th annual craft show Saturday, Nov. 2, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- 80-booth show sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 11208
- Free admission and parking; hot food and sweets available
- Questions, contact Fred Kierner at sbcraftshow@gmail.com

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany

- 26th annual Holly Day craft bazaar Saturday, Nov. 2, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in parish center
- More than 70 vendors, bake sale, food available in cafeteria, raffle. \$2 admission. Sponsored by parish women’s club. Craft items for sale, gift card raffle, quilt raffle, concessions, including homemade soup. Free admission.
- No strollers; service animals only

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH 386 Buttles Ave., Columbus

- Crafts and collectibles fair Sunday, Nov. 3 after 8 and 11:30 a.m. Masses
- Handmade and collectible items at reasonable prices
- Vendors, contact marti.joy.damm@gmail.com

ST. ANDREW CHURCH

- 1899 McCoy Road, Columbus
- Holiday bazaar Saturday, Nov. 9, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- Table space available for vendors. Rental fee \$50.
- Contact Judy McCombs at judyzumba09@gmail.com or leave a mes-

sage at (614) 446-4812

ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE SCHOOL

795 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna

- Hometown bazaar Saturday, Nov. 9, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- More than 100 vendors and a new area for junior vendors, plus homemade goods, cafe, raffle baskets, and more
- Reduced admission fee of \$3 with a nonperishable food item donation to support St. Matthew Church food pantry

STS. SIMON & JUDE CHURCH

9350 High Free Pike, West Jefferson

- 51st annual holiday craft bazaar Saturday, Nov. 9, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Crafts and collectibles fair Sunday, Nov. 3 after 8 and 11:30 a.m. Masses
- Homemade crafts and gifts, baked goods and basket raffles; free admission

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH 925 E. Main St., Zanesville

- Christmas bazaar Saturday, Nov. 9,

9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- Craft items for sale, gift card raffle, quilt raffle, concessions, including homemade soup. Free admission.
- For more, contact (740) 607-6386

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

584 W. Broad St., Columbus

- Confraternity of Christian Mothers Christmas bazaar Sunday, Nov. 10, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. In church undercroft
- Vendors, children’s activities, chicken and noodles, hot dogs, chips, desserts, soft drinks, water and coffee

ST. MARY CHURCH

82 E. William St., Delaware

- Holiday craft bazaar Saturday, Nov. 16, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Handcrafted holiday décor, home goods, jewelry, bath and body products, fashions and much more.
- Schmidt’s sausage food truck available after 11 a.m.; smoothies and specialty coffee all day
- More at www.delawarestmary.org/bazaar

BISHOP, continued from Page 13

during Real Presence Real Future, is now a predominantly Spanish-speaking parish on the west side of the city, which has 7 Sunday Masses and had 125 young people confirmed in 2024, the same number of confirmations that took place at Westerville St. Paul Church, the largest parish in the diocese.

Large numbers of Spanish-speaking youth also were confirmed at Columbus Our Lady Star of the New Evangelization Parish (at the former Holy Name Church), Columbus St. James the Less, at Columbus St. Agnes Church on the west side of the city, and at St. Mary (German

Village)

“We’re making all kinds of inroads in evangelization,” Bishop Fernandes said, “but the number of people who need to be evangelized is growing and growing and growing. Again, evangelization is not only the work of bishops and priest, it’s the work of the laity.

“And with more people coming here, we need to make our parishes vibrant so that people are engaged in the faith.”

Spearheading those efforts are Father Adam Streitenberger, the diocesan vicar for evangelization and the director of the St. Thomas More Newman Center

at Ohio State University, and Dr. Marlon De La Torre, director of the diocese’s Department of Evangelization.

But Bishop Fernandes noted that spreading the faith takes more than leaders providing direction. “We need boots on the ground,” he said.

The bishop has called on the lay faithful to carry out the mission of evangelization in the parishes, workplaces and daily interactions with fellow Catholics and non-Catholics. He asked the men to use their gifts and talents in their parishes and also to invite someone they don’t know to their church, especially

those from the ethnic groups arriving in Columbus.

“While building a culture of vocations and evangelization, we also need to think about a culture of stewardship, not just financial, but stewardship of our sacred mission,” the bishop said. “If we want our children and our children’s children to have faith, then we have to make sacrifices.

“We know that there are a number of people – all people – who need a living relationship with Jesus Christ.”

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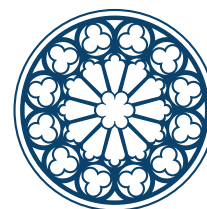
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Nuncio emphasizes need to serve neighbors at CSS breakfast

Catholic Social Services hosted Cardinal Christophe Pierre, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, at its annual Breakfast with the Bishop on Friday, Sept. 13 at the Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel.

Cardinal Pierre addressed the topic “How to Walk as Neighbors in a Modern World” as he applied Pope Francis’ encyclical *Fratelli Tutti* to the work Catholic Social Services does in the community around the theme of neighbors serving neighbors.

He likened the work of Catholic Social Services to that of St. Francis of Assisi, who, like the Good Samaritan, believed that each person is called to be a neighbor to all.

The cardinal focused his remarks on the four central themes of the *Fratelli Tutti*: 1) the gift of time; 2) creating community; 3) rejecting the society of exclusion; and 4) “Rights without Borders.”

With respect to giving time, he explained that this is the most valuable gift we have to give to another person. He said that spending time to focus on another person honors his or her dignity while helping the individual become more human as well.

He added that creating community is also a gift for the giver and for others. Cardinal Pierre encouraged each person to create and expand community by including people who we may have overlooked, or even excluded, in the past.



Cardinal Christophe Pierre (left), Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, and Bishop Earl Fernandes engage in a discussion at Catholic Social Services' Breakfast with the Bishop on Sept. 13. Photo courtesy Catholic Social Services

This sets the stage for the third theme to walk as neighbors: rejecting exclusion. Too often there is a focus exclusively on the accumulation of wealth, materialism and resources at the expense of sharing with and caring for others. Everyone has a universal right to God's creation and a right to what they need to live in dignity.

The cardinal stated that there is a

common responsibility to include others in the life God has intended for all people.

Finally, Cardinal Pierre addressed the theme of “Rights without Borders.” In the community, in doing God's work, we come face to face with real people from different backgrounds and cultures who have real needs.

In the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10), Jesus illustrated how all people are to care for others. Looking at everyone as brothers and sisters, humans are called to the example provided, to be heralds of hope: the Good Samaritan. This calling to be neighbors to others requires co-responsibility in caring for people experiencing poverty, hunger, loneliness, disability and mental health challenges.

Cardinal Pierre went on to say that the Gospel calls everyone to meet the needs of others and treat them in accordance with their God-given dignity.

“Catholic Social Services is very concrete in the way that it applies Gospel principles to the lives of people in your local community,” he said.

“By being involved with Catholic Social Services, you are able to live out the principle of universal fraternity at the local level.”

The Cardinal closed his remarks noting that there are opportunities to become a neighbor to someone in need by giving time, creating community and fostering inclusion and dignity to follow the example of Christ.

To learn more about becoming a neighbor to others through giving of time, talents or resources, contact Julie Naporano at 614-857-1236 or jnaporano@colscss.org.

CARDINAL, continued from Page 31

get you into heaven,” he said.

He said that the schools impart knowledge and wisdom. The cardinal explained that knowledge can be earned, but wisdom is a grace from God.

He also explored faith and reason, which, he said, are the greatest gifts from God. Cardinal Dolan said a Catholic school believes students need both.

“St. Anselm, the great theologian, said, what kind of God would we have if His greatest supernatural gift to us, our faith, was at odds with His greatest natural gift to us, reason?” he recalled. “A place like St. Charles flourishes because faith and reason are working – working together.”

He said sending children to a school where God's name is never mentioned gives them the impression that God is not essential to their life.

In his address to students, Cardinal Dolan also recognized St. Charles graduate and benefactor Bob Dilenschneider and his wife, Jan, who were present.

Dilenschneider, a 1961 graduate, is the founder and CEO of The Dilenschneider Group and author of several books. He has counseled corporations and professional groups around the globe. He served as host and benefactor of the lecture, and has supported the speaker series at St. Charles for years.

Cardinal Dolan said he learned a lot



Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York gives a presentation to students at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School and poses for pictures with some of them during a visit to the campus for the annual St. Charles Borromeo lecture. Photos courtesy Kimberly Rottmayer/Picture the Love

about St. Charles through Dilenschneider.

“St. Charles Borromeo stands for prayer, faith, service, character and hard work,” he said Dilenschneider told him. “Probably the main reason I'm here is because Bob and Jan invited me, and I love them and admire them, and they are great examples of enlightened, committed, passionate, educated Catholics.

“If that's what this school supports, put me on the development list,” Cardinal Dolan added jokingly.

After his address, students had an opportunity to ask Cardinal Dolan a ques-

tion.

Asked why he became a priest, Cardinal Dolan shared that, growing up, he had a fascination with the priesthood.

He said he was blessed to have priests in his home parish who were “happy, effective men.” He also credited his family for never coercing him into the priesthood but supporting his vocation.

“I haven't regretted a day of it,” the cardinal said.

After his lecture, a press conference with Cardinal Dolan was held in the school.

A student asked the cardinal about

discernment, which, Cardinal Dolan said is “a fancy word for figuring out God's will for you.”

He said it might be difficult for a person to figure out what God wants them to do, but the Lord says what not to do. Cardinal Dolan encouraged reading God's word in the Bible, which, he said, will give people an idea of the direction the Lord wants them to go.

He also recommended St. Ignatius of Loyola's guide to discernment and for help in making good decisions.



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St. Catharine pastor installed



Father Bob Penhallurick stands before Bishop Earl Fernandes and renews his vows during his formal installation of pastor at Columbus St. Catharine of Siena Church on Sept. 29. Father Penhallurick assumed his new duties this past summer after serving as pastor at Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator Church. He is also the new director of the diocesan Respect Life Office.

Photo courtesy William Keimig

Lay missionaries gather at St. Catharine



Father Bob Penhallurick blesses the lay missionaries who minister to the faithful in the diocese during a praise and worship evening on Sept. 30 at Columbus St. Catharine Church that included Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Bishop Earl Fernandes was on hand and told the missionaries that “you show forth the face of the loving God ... you who receive Jesus in the sacrament of charity are transformed so that the people of our world know that God is with us.”

Photo courtesy William Keimig

St. Francis pet blessing at St. Timothy



Serra Club hosts young women's vocation luncheon



Sister Elfie del Rosario, FMA, speaks to 230 students from 10 schools at the annual Vocations Luncheon for Young Women on Tuesday, Oct. 1 in the Jessing Center at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus. Sponsored by the Serra Club of North Columbus, the event was titled Hubs and Spokes: Steering into Sanctity and included a presentation by Sister Elfie, a native of Nigeria who was raised in the Philippines and eventually came to New Jersey and entered the Salesian Sisters of St. John Bosco, also known as the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians. Called “The Happy Nun,” Sister Elfie is the vocations director for the congregation’s Eastern Province of St. Joseph. Also in attendance were 21 sisters from eight religious communities in the diocese who spoke with the young women about vocations.

Photo courtesy Serra Club of North Columbus

Bishop blesses St. Vincent Haven chapel



Bishop Earl Fernandes blesses the St. Dismas Chapel at St. Vincent Haven in Newark on Tuesday, Oct. 1. St. Vincent Haven provides shelter for men who are homeless with the goal of building their life skills as a foundation for future growth and stability that will lead to housing security. The Haven opened in 2010 and completed an expansion project in 2023 that nearly doubled the number of beds available to individuals. All residents at the Haven, who must be at least age 18, are at 200 percent or more of the poverty level, with most having no income. Once their immediate needs are met, they meet with a case manager to identify personal barriers in areas including mental and physical health, addiction, unemployment and education. The Haven collaborates with many other Licking County agencies to obtain appropriate assistance for the residents to overcome their barriers and receives support from St. Vincent de Paul conferences in the area. The chapel is named for St. Dismas, the penitent or “good” thief who was one of the men who hung on crosses next to Jesus at Calgary on Good Friday and asked Jesus to “remember me when you come into your kingdom,” with Christ responding, “Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

Photo courtesy William Keimig

A special pet blessing attracted more than 100 people with their animals to Columbus St. Timothy Church on Thursday, Oct. 3, the eve of the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron of animals. Father David Poliafico, the parish pastor, blessed mostly dogs and cats but also a blue parakeet at the first-time event. Also present were officers from the Columbus Police Mounted Unit and a Columbus Police therapy dog.

Photo courtesy Larry Pishitelli



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