

The Catholic **TIMES**

The Diocese of Columbus' Information Source

April 11, 2021 • DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY • Volume 70:14

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Volunteers at the Bishop Griffin Center, located in the former rectory at Christ the King Church on Columbus' east side, work in the food pantry helping serve those in need especially during the pandemic, Page 10



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY FOLLOWS CELEBRATION OF EASTER

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Bishop Robert J. Brennan

Easter Sunday: 'He is truly risen, alleluia!'

Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Happy Easter!

Welcome one and all to the Cathedral of St. Joseph this Easter Morning! A warm welcome with gratitude for your understanding to those in our overflow in the undercroft and I welcome those who join us through our usual media of St. Gabriel Radio and livestream, but this year again I am very grateful to the local NBC affiliate, Channel 4, for broadcasting this Holy Mass.

"Do you not know that a little yeast leavens all the dough? Clear out the old yeast, so that you may become a fresh batch of dough."

It seems like a strange image for Easter Sunday, doesn't it? But St. Paul is connecting us this Easter to the Jewish celebration of the Passover. You see, St. Paul would have been VERY familiar with the Passover customs of his day, which included clearing out all the old bread, all the old yeast in the household so as to be able to make the unleavened bread that recalled the hurried escape of the Jewish people as God rescued them from slavery in Egypt centuries before. The Passover traditions allowed God's people to relive their liberation from slavery and the beginning of a new life, a life of freedom and a new identity as people consecrated to the Lord. (Cf Montgomery, Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture.) Leaving even a little yeast around will get into, corrupt, infect the new batch, and will spread so that you no longer have the unleavened bread necessary for the feast.

St. Paul goes on, "For our Paschal lamb, Christ has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us celebrate the feast, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth."

Hearing this today we are exhorted to get rid of the bitterness and malice that might infect our hearts, that we might celebrate today with sincerity and truth. Bitterness, anger, disap-

pointment, guilt, hurts and wounds can certainly weigh us down. And let's be honest, these can be very valid. We may be hurting with very good reason. But I have some news for you: CHRIST IS RISEN! Yes, Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead. He has conquered sin and death. There is no evil, no power stronger than He. Through his cross and Resurrection we have been rescued from slavery to sin and death and begin a new life, a life of freedom and a new identity as people consecrated to the Lord. His resurrection changes everything. So yes, get rid of the old yeast of bitterness, malice and wickedness and let yourself be formed into a new creation in Jesus Christ.

We just heard the Easter proclamation of the empty tomb. Think of Jesus' appearances after his Resurrection. Think of Mary Magdalene – in her grief she couldn't get away from the tomb. The angel asked her, why do you seek the living among the dead? Think of the disciples locked in fear and doubt. They were wallowing in grief having let Jesus down, and let's face it, what would become of their lives now? They felt let down themselves but by Him and by God.

But Jesus makes his way through the locked doors and closed hearts with his message of Shalom: peace, conciliation, trust. He appears to Mary and calls her by name. And he wants to break through the things that weigh us down to give us life.

On this Easter Sunday, we recall something past and something true – Jesus rose, but not just that. We celebrate the future – we too will rise and live forever, but not just that. We celebrate Jesus risen and alive today. He comes to us today to cast out the old yeast, to make us new, to give new direction and hope to our lives. Let us celebrate this feast then with sincerity and truth. For Christ our Passover has been sacrificed. He is truly Risen, Alleluia.



Bishop Robert Brennan sprinkles holy water on the congregation after the renewal of baptismal promises during the 10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday Mass at St. Joseph Cathedral.

CT photos by Ken Snow



Members of the congregation stand and pray on Easter Sunday during a televised Mass at the Cathedral.



Front Page photo:

DIVINE MERCY

Sister Bozena Tyborowska of the Little Sister Servants of the Immaculate Conception and Pope St. John Paul II Early Childhood Learning Center students Elizabeth Jaminet and Matthew Davalla pray before a Divine Mercy image in the convent chapel. CT photo by Ken Snow

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Friends' faith carries them through cancer

The following story is the sixth in a series on missionary discipleship in the Diocese of Columbus. Video interviews with the missionary disciples are available on the diocese's YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts.

By Tim Puet

Catholic Times Reporter

Sam Severance and Luke Tortora have been friends since they met about 15 years ago when Severance entered fourth grade at Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare School. Since then, they have provided support for each other and for other people through experiences including the amputation of Severance's leg because of osteosarcoma, a form of bone cancer. Both young men say their Catholic faith stands at the core of their relationship and strongly influences their outlook on life.

"I think Luke has been someone who has strengthened my faith over the years we have known each other," said Severance, 25, the younger of two sons of Jim and Julie Severance of Dublin, who is in his second year of



Luke Tortora (left) and Sam Severance

Photo courtesy Andy Mackey

pre-theology studies at the Pontifical College Josephinum. "Luke is an extremely intelligent man, although he humbly would tell you he's not, and I respect that about him. His conviction as a Catholic has helped me solidify my faith.

"We've had numerous conversations about specific faith-oriented things, and I always feel like we are trying to get to the truth, which always leads us to the holy faith. Luke has been a reliable friend I can always count on, especially while I went

through cancer treatments. I think his care for me and others is a byproduct of this faith."

"Sam definitely has a strong faith, and he has for a long time," said Tortora, 24, a teacher in the early childhood education program at Columbus Our Lady of Bethlehem (OLB) School and Childcare. He and a younger sister, Madison, are the children of Steve and Louwana Tortora of Columbus. "Being around Sam has been very beneficial to me. You see people like Sam whose faith permeates their whole life, and it makes you question why you believe what you believe.

"The happiness and strength and honesty of Sam and others like him affects other people they know. My own sense of faith and belief and hope always has been there. Sam has given me a chance to bring that out and to share it with others. That's what Pope Francis' idea of missionary discipleship is about."

Severance, although from a Catholic family, attended St. Paul Lutheran School at Chuckery in Union County before becoming acquainted with Tor-

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Real Presence Real Future

Reflections

Sunday, April 11, 2021:

New Horizons

Deacon Tom Berg Jr., Columbus St. Andrew Parish

Today's gospel recounts the Apostles experiencing our Lord's glorified presence following his resurrection and how, through His presence and signs, their faith was reinforced, enabling them to look to and move toward the new horizons of their missionary discipleship. We too, in the Diocese of Columbus, are called to do the same, which is the goal of our Real Presence, Real Future planning and evangelization campaign. Today, we also celebrate our Lord's endless Divine Mercy. God's forgiving love empowers us to start again when we make mistakes so we can always move forward as faithful and

true missionary disciples.

El evangelio de hoy nos relata lo que los apóstoles experimentaron ante la presencia de nuestro Señor glorificado después de su resurrección y cómo a través de Su presencia y signos, la fe de los apóstoles fue reforzada, haciéndoles ver y moverse hacia nuevos horizontes en su discipulado misionero. Nosotros también, en la Diócesis de Columbus, estamos llamados a hacer lo mismo, lo cual es la meta de nuestra campaña de planeación y evangelización, Presencia Real, Futuro Real. Hoy, también celebramos la infinita divina misericordia de nuestro Señor. El amor de Dios que todo lo perdona, nos fortalece para empezar nuevamente cuando cometemos errores, y avanzar siempre como fieles y verdaderos discípulos misioneros.

Sunday, April 18, 2021:

Live What We Believe

Pam Harris, New Albany Church of the Resurrection and Real Presence, Real Future commission member

Today's Gospel invites us to live as missionary disciples who serve Christ in the work of the Church. We believe in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. When He appeared in the Upper Room, the disciples' initial response was confusion and fear. Their anxiety dwindled upon seeing His wounds and after he ate, their minds opened to the meaning of Scripture. Then Jesus commissioned them to preach salvation to all. Through our baptism, we are called to be witnesses to the Gospel, living what we believe with open hearts and minds. May the Peace of the Risen Christ be with you!

To read more about how we are growing together in the life of faith and discipleship in the Diocese of Colum-

bus, visit www.RealPresenceRealFuture.org.

El evangelio de hoy nos invita a vivir como discípulos misioneros que sirven a Cristo en el trabajo de la Iglesia. Creemos en la vida, muerte y resurrección de Jesús. Cuando Él se aparece en el cuarto de arriba, la respuesta inicial de los discípulos fue de miedo y confusión. Su ansiedad disminuyó al ver Sus heridas y luego de verlo comer, sus mentes se abrieron y comprendieron las escrituras. Entonces, Jesús les encargó que predicaran la salvación a todos. Por medio de nuestro bautismo, hemos sido llamados a ser testigos del evangelio, viviendo en lo que creemos con corazones y mentes abiertas. ¡Que la paz de Cristo resucitado esté con ustedes!

Para leer más acerca de cómo estamos creciendo juntos en la vida de fe y discipulado en la Diócesis de Columbus, por favor visite: www.RealPresenceRealFuture.org.



Real Presence Real Future



Increasing the presence of Christ throughout the Diocese and upholding the Faith for future generations.

Learn more at:

www.RealPresenceRealFuture.org



Making the connection between missionary discipleship and social concerns

Happy Easter! This is a joyous time in the life of a Christian. There is so much Good News to proclaim. In Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation *The Joy of the Gospel*, he begins, "The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ joy is constantly born anew."

Doesn't our world need this type of joy right now? Who can we rely on to spread this joy? The answer: The person reading this column. You!

Being an evangelizer, a proclaimer of the Good News, the joy of the gospel, can be expressed in many ways. What it requires is putting your faith into action. The Church has a method for missionary discipleship in the form of encounter, accompany, community and send. I've included this method in my reflection with a particular focus on the connection to the social mission of the Church.

Encounter. The primary aim of evangelization is to lead people to encounter Jesus Christ. There are so many ways in which to have a personal encounter with our Lord. Prayer is a good place to start. In fact, prayer should be the starting point of all of our efforts. In your prayers, include intentions for peace and justice, care for the poor and vulnerable, and for the care of God's creation. Encouraging others to pray with you is the work of a missionary disciple.

Encounter Jesus in the sacraments. In the Eucharist, the real presence, Jesus is present to us in the

FAITH IN ACTION

Jerry Freewalt

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



most intimate way. Lead people to spend time in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament to grow closer with Christ. Spending time with our Lord leads to conversion and renewal.

Encounter Christ in the poor and vulnerable, "the least of these" (Mt. 25). By encountering the suffering of the poor and vulnerable, we encounter the suffering Christ. When we serve or advocate for the poor and vulnerable, we serve and advocate for Christ.

Accompany. Jesus accompanies us along the way. He walks with us and listens to us. He hears our joys, sorrows and concerns. Jesus responds to our needs and guides us on our life's journey. We are invited to do the same to those we encounter. The charism of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is to give witness to the love of Christ in their works for and with the poor. I often hear from Vincentians the phrase "walk a mile in their shoes." As missionary disciples, they accompany by serving food to the hungry, clothing the naked and assisting the formerly incarcerated.

Another example is our diocesan Walking with Moms in Need initiative. The aim is for parishes to accompany mothers in need during and after preg-

nancy, providing spiritual and material support.

Community. The work of evangelization is about invitation in its strongest sense. In this invitation, we must welcome others to a part of the Body of Christ and ensure a sense of belonging. Who is missing from our Church community and why? Our faith calls us to leave no stone unturned. This means making sure all have a place at the table, including persons with disabilities, members of the deaf community, those who speak different languages, immigrants and refugees, persons with various ethnic backgrounds, the rich and the poor, the young and the old, among others.

Send. "Go forth, the Mass is ended" are the words we hear at the conclusion of the Mass. The word Mass comes from the Latin word *missa*, which means sending forth. Where are we to go? The ends of the earth. To me, this element of missionary discipleship is most visibly carried out by the many prison ministers in our diocese, especially those who minister to death row or in the prison hospice center. They go forth into the most fortified, guarded and isolated places in our diocese to proclaim the Good News and express our loving care and concern.

I am sure you can think of many more examples to add to this missionary discipleship list. Spend a few moments to prayerfully reflect on ways you can use your gifts and talents to be a missionary disciple. Let this Easter season be a time to proclaim the joy of the gospel. Go forth.

Getting relationships 'Rite' in the Domestic Church

This column is the fourth in a series of eight articles on the "Liturgy of the Domestic Church" that will take you through aspects of making your home a domestic church and living Catholic family life. For questions or to learn more, contact the Diocesan Marriage and Family Life Office at 614-241-2560 or familylife@columbuscatholic.org.

By Dr. Greg Popcak

When Christian families do our best to fill the little tasks everyday life with God's love, family life becomes an act of worship and a path to holiness.

In this column, I have been describing a model of family spirituality called the *Liturgy of Domestic Church Life*. Although participation in the sacraments is essential to the Christian life and parish service is good, the truth is, we don't have to leave our homes to encounter Christ in a meaningful way.

There are three building blocks (i.e. "rites") that make up the *Liturgy of Domestic Church Life*. The Rite of Christian Relationships, the *Rite of Family Rituals* and the *Rite of Reaching Out*. These rites help families practice the priestly, prophetic and royal mission of baptism. In the next few columns, we'll explore each of these rites in detail.

The Rite of Christian Relationship

The Rite of Christian Relationship helps Christian families practice the priestly mission we receive at baptism. A priest offers sacrifice that makes the common holy. When families work to love each

other with Christ's sacrificial love, we consecrate our homes to Christ. God transforms our messy family lives into dynamic, domestic churches; places of grace and healing.

Christians have a very different vision of love than the world does. It isn't enough for Christian families to go to Mass on Sunday and then treat each other the same way every other family does. The *Rite of Christian Relationship* challenges families to practice the Christian vision love in our homes; working for each other's ultimate good and creating the kind of intimate communion that flows from the heart of the Trinity. That's a big job, but four simple practices can help every Christian household cooperate with God's grace to achieve these lofty goals.

1. Prioritize family time

Families can't create close, intimate relationships if they never see each other. Although there are lots of interesting activities for people can be involved in, Catholic families are called to prioritize family time over all those other activities. Work, school, sports, lessons, clubs and even charitable works are all valuable, but if our involvement in those activities makes it hard for us to feel truly connected to each other, then our lives are out of order. An overscheduled life is the most common way we desecrate our domestic churches.

Ask yourself, "How much time does our family need *each week* to feel close and connected?" Work toward prioritizing that amount of family time every week. Schedule everything else around this. *Not the other way around*. Just imagine the difference we could make if every Catholic family put family connection first. Not

only would our home lives be more joyful, we would be working toward a more orderly world as well.

2. Practice extravagant affection

The Word became incarnate so that we could have a real, physical experience of God's love for us. Even after Christ ascended into Heaven, he gave us the sacraments to communicate his love in an intimate, physical way. Christian love is incarnate, embodied and abundant. Christian families, in turn, are called to be appropriately but extravagantly affectionate with one another. Brain researchers tell us that only about 7 percent of children receive the amount of affection they need to thrive. God made humans to crave affection even more than food. When families practice appropriate, extravagant affection, we model Christ's incarnate love and validate each other's dignity as persons.

3. Practice prompt, generous, consistent, cheerful service at home

The Church teaches us that to serve with Christ is to reign with him (*Lumen Gentium*). The primary place the people of God learn Christian service is in the home. Christians aren't meant to serve each other grudgingly. Parents and children are called to be a team that responds to each other's needs promptly, generously, consistently and cheerfully.

4. Practice discipleship discipline

St. John Bosco promoted a method of discipline he called the "Preventive Method." He rejected the heavy-handed child-rearing methods of the day in favor of an approach emphasizing "reason, religion

Learning trust with Divine Mercy and Mary

Spring is well underway — with all its gusty unpredictability, and I'm left with a lot of mud on my hands. It's on our shoes, in the yard, and seemingly on flat surface of my home on some days.

I can't help but be grateful on so many levels.

Mud means spring, and spring means many of my favorite things all at one time.

There's sunshine and new life and outside activity. This all calls for an increase in trust, whether it's when one of my kids is on a 2,000-pound horse or behind the wheel of a moving vehicle.

The trust I have to embrace is pretty huge, but it's nothing like the trust I'm called to have.

The Sunday after Easter was named Divine Mercy Sunday by Blessed Pope John Paul II in 2000, and it was celebrated as such for the first time in 2001, the same year I entered the Catholic Church.

Trust has never been one of my stronger character traits. I could dig back in my personal history and give you a litany of reasons why, but I've come to accept that it's just something I need to work on. Again and again and AGAIN.

The Divine Mercy image has never really made sense to me. I've never really liked it, to be honest, though I couldn't tell you why. Maybe it's so often made "pretty" and "glossy" and "fancy," while trust seems to be such a dirty and nitty-gritty sort of experience for me. Maybe it's my ongoing learning to appreciate art in various forms. Maybe it's that I don't get why God loves me so much.

But the Divine Mercy Chaplet does resonate with

FINDING FAITH IN EVERYDAY LIFE

Sarah Reinhard

Sarah Reinhard is a Catholic wife, mother, and writer in central Ohio. Get her Catholic take at SnoringScholar.com



me, and it speaks to my heart. When I pray it, I am often overcome with emotion and, however much I may try to speed through it, I am always somehow moved internally by it.

The chaplet's never ousted the rosary in my hierarchy of devotions, but it's become a go-to for me over the years. There's comfort to be had in letting go and trusting God ... if only I remember to do it.

The Divine Mercy Chaplet has taught me a lot about Mary. As I contemplate the words in their cycle, I see her as a guide to understanding God's infinite mercy. The words become a way to keep my restless self busy as my mind delves deeper into the idea of how much God must really love me.

He gave His Son; His Son said Yes to the Cross. Though the language feels old-fashioned, at first, it also reminds me of the timelessness of God. Though it always feels like I don't have time, like I can skip it just this once, like I can save it for later, I need the daily reminder of God's mercy and love.

With so much wrong in the world, the Divine Mercy Chaplet anchors me in hope, with Mary guiding me to a deeper understanding of her Son.

Thank you for reading through the years

It is Easter week, and we are ready to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. Easter is such a joyful and celebratory feast — the pinnacle of our faith — that we get to celebrate for 50 days. Pentecost ends Easter as a specific part of the Liturgical year and calendar, but the Resurrection is something we can never stop celebrating. And Divine Mercy Sunday almost seems "out of place" on the second Sunday of Easter, but there would be no eternal and everlasting mercy and forgiveness from God without the passion, death and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. The whole reason to joyfully celebrate the Resurrection, and to joyfully shout "Alleluia" around the world is to know that eternal life in Heaven is not only a goal but a reality. So we thank God for His everlasting love and mercy, we thank Him for the ultimate gift of His only Son, and we share that love by living and acting as His sons and daughters on earth. We can never forget that we are unique, and that we are made in the image and likeness of God. Because we know that, we believe that, and it is part of the basis of our Catholic Faith, how can we ever sin? That is part of the "beauty" of our humanity. God lets us choose, succeed and fail. He lets us fail so we can take advantage of His unfathomable love, which is perfect. There would be no Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary without sin and failure. There would be no Nativity or Christmas without sin and failure. There would be no Baptism without original sin and failure. There would be no need for a parable about the prodigal son without sin and failure. Most of all, there would be no need to have our God become

EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

Rick Jeric



human in the person of Jesus Christ, nor the need for the Eucharist, nor the need for Easter without sin and failure. We cannot live without the sacraments, but especially the mercy of Confession and Penance, and the ultimate strength of the Eucharist. What else can be said? As my final written words in this publication, whatever our individual situation may be, we can never despair. We only need to take solace in the final words of Jesus Christ, "I am with you always." I may not have an exact quote, but the promise remains the same. He never leaves our side.

I have been writing this column in The Catholic Times for about 15 years now. It started out weekly, adjusted to every other week and then became monthly. As I have stated numerous times, I have never considered myself to be a writer. But it is not about me, so I truly hope that here and

The Chaplet has also made me think about how Mary must have used prayer in her daily life. I'm pretty sure she had a fair share of stress in her life. Life back in those days was hard in a way few of us can appreciate. She wasn't rich, and she didn't have the luxury of sitting down for a few minutes of "Me Time."

I wonder, though, how prayer played a part in Mary's life, how conversation with God — both the talking and the listening — worked in her life.

When she woke up to the silent house, everyone else still barely asleep, did she share those precious still moments with God? As she scrubbed, did she silence herself and wait for the small Voice to pierce through the activity?

As she prepared food, did she laughingly recount Jesus' latest antics to His Father? Before collapsing at night on her bed, did she offer a thankful Psalm of praise?

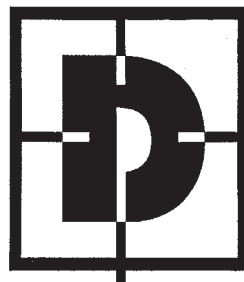
That's my goal: Be more like Mary. (If anyone who actually knows me is reading this, keep laughing. And say another prayer for me, because you know how badly I need it!)

I'm failing daily. Over the years, I've learned that failure is almost necessary; it's a feedback loop that helps me grow. Don't be fooled into thinking I like it, though.

I will be reaching out, yet again this Divine Mercy Sunday, and reminding myself to really believe the message of mercy: "Jesus, I trust in you."

there, and maybe once in a while, I have been able to bring a smile to someone's face, or made a small difference in someone's day. This is my final column, and I want to thank you. I thank each of you for your kind words of support over these many years. I have grown and learned from God's love and inspiration. The challenges and the journey never end. I am blessed with the most wonderful wife, children, daughters-in-law, and now granddaughter imaginable. Thank you, Lord. On May 1, I will begin a new position with the Catholic Foundation of the Diocese of La Crosse, Wisconsin. Please pray for me, as you will always remain in my prayers. Thank you!

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The Easter explosion

Let me adapt to recent circumstances a thought-experiment theologian Hans Urs von Balthasar proposed decades ago:

Imagine that a friend contracts a severe case of COVID-19 and medicine can do no more for him. The doctors inform his widowed mother and us, so we gather with her for the final scene in the drama of this life. The ventilator is removed; the man grows weaker from lack of breath and whispers his final farewells. We hear the death-rattle. Then he expires and takes on the pallor of death.

The mortician prepares the body for burial. With appropriate prayers, we consign our friend to the earth and, taking a cue from our Jewish friends, toss a clod of earth onto his coffin as it lies deep in the open grave. The grave is then closed and we leave for our homes, saddened, perhaps a bit disoriented, remembering our friend's past and unsure about our own futures.

Then two days later, our friend suddenly stands before us, like one just returned from a brief but important journey. He greets us by name. Physical barriers like doors mean nothing to him.

What would happen to us?

We would be stunned, incapable of knowing the appropriate reaction: shock, fear, overwhelming joy? What is happening shatters the boundaries of experience and strains emotion's limits to the breaking point. Reality itself seems to be detonating around us. We wonder: Can this be real? Then our friend shows himself to us again and again, whole and renewed. He explains things as he used to do, eats with us, challenges us to be greater than we typically think we can be. He now seems to live in another dimension of existence –

St. Catherine of Siena: Be true to yourself

I have been deeply praying into the sorrowful mysteries and have been struck by how firm our savior was in His identity even in the throes of agony and torture. The fruit of the mystery when Jesus is crowned with thorns is moral courage.

Being a mother has me praying often for my children to obtain this attribute or even more so to define themselves in this grace. Moral courage to me is that ability to stand firm in your identity even through trials – to know thyself and be true to it.

The life of St. Catherine of Siena, a doctor of our Church, bears witness to the grace of having one's identity rooted in Christ. Her writing is instrumental in forming me in my striving to live my vocation boldly for Christ.

Most well-known for her quote, "Be who God meant you to be, and you will set the world on fire," St. Catherine, from an early age, was rooted in Christ. At 16, when her sister passed away, her parents sought to have Catherine marry her brother-in-law. Her devout prayer life and example persuaded them to let her choose otherwise.

St. Catherine had a generous spirit, always giving to those in need. She was outspoken in politics and extreme in her piety. She used her influence to help restore the papacy to Rome.

I have walked with St. Catherine as a friend for many years, even giving my daughter her name. Both her written and spoken words can help form mothers more strongly in the love of Christ.

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

George Weigel is the Distinguished Senior Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.



thoroughly human, but radiantly more so.

By placing ourselves imaginatively in that situation today, we begin to get some idea of what the friends of Jesus experienced on Easter Sunday and in the period between that explosive day and his leave-taking, 40 days later. But there is more. For slowly and haltingly, those who met the Risen One, and those who believed what his closest friends said about him, came to understand that the now transfigured Rabbi Jesus of Nazareth "truly was the son of God" (Mark 15:39).

A man had returned from a journey to the realm of the dead. Death, relentless in its finality, no longer had the last word about the human condition. What God had had in mind for humanity "in the beginning" (Genesis 1:1) had been reclaimed by the Son of God for all who believed in him and bound themselves to his cause.

So history now seemed quite different to those first believers. History was no longer an arena of ultimate personal defeat. History, and our personal stories, they came to understand, played to a divine melody: everlasting communion with the Creator, disclosed in the Resurrection.

What happened on Easter Sunday was the most explosive experience in human history, shattering all

previous expectations of human destiny. Before Easter, some of the philosophically inclined imagined an immortal human soul; certain Jews expected what they called the resurrection of the dead at the end of history. But no one expected this. For the Risen One was not a disembodied spirit ("...handle me and see, for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see I have" (Luke 23:39), and the Risen One was alive in history, such that history continued in a transformed key.

The first witnesses to the Resurrection were all Jewish and the dramatic ways in which these early Christians changed bear eloquent witness to the explosive nature of their experience of the Risen One. The Sabbath had been sacrosanct; now there was a new "Lord's Day," the Day of Resurrection. They once expected that the "end times" would ring down the curtain on history and the Kingdom of God would begin; now, they understood what Jesus had meant when he taught them that "the Kingdom of God is in the midst of you" (Luke 17:21) – they could live Kingdom life, life in union with God, here and now, through communion with the Lord Jesus in the Eucharist.

And their understanding of their responsibilities changed. What they had experienced demanded to be proclaimed and shared, as they grasped the full implications of Jesus's injunction, "Freely you have received, freely you must give" (Matthew 10:8). They must offer friendship with the Risen One "to all nations" (Matthew 28:19).

The Easter explosion created a communion of disciples in mission. We are their heirs. We can bring light to a darkened world if we believe with the intensity they did.

WALKING WITH THE SAINTS

MaryBeth Eberhard

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



She wrote more than 400 letters, called *Dialogues*, where her example elevates the soul to higher ground. "You are rewarded not according to your work or your time, but according to the measure of your love." I think that St. Therese of Lisieux and St. Catherine are kindred spirits, as doing small things with great love is similarly my mantra.

How often am I called to slow down? It is more important to ask myself from where I am giving rather than to seek acknowledgement for how much I am giving. St. Catherine keeps our hearts oriented toward Christ.

In one of her letters, St. Catherine reminds us, "Love does not stay idle." As I have pondered this in my marriage, I urge myself to not let my marriage grow stagnant. I choose to pour myself into keeping my marriage alive and holy – planning date nights, leaving notes, making breakfasts and praying for my husband fervently. The result is almost 24 years of living in the joy of this sacrament.

As I pore over the saint's letters, I am inspired by her model of hope. "Hope comes from love, because people always trust in those they love." I

speak these words to my children, reminding them that trust is built out of love. "Love transforms one into what one loves." If we love virtue, we seek it and strive to emulate it.

The saints are a gift to us. They are examples given to us of those who strived for holiness in their everyday lives. They do not grandstand. Their campaign is for Jesus. They seek Him and to bring others to His light. May we, by living out the best versions of our creation, set the world ablaze for Christ.

St. Catherine's feast day is April 29. She is the patron saint of nurses and people ridiculed for their faith and for protection against fire, illness and sexual temptation.



St. Catherine of Siena statue at Ohio Dominican University

Good Friday business closing bold testament to Christian values

Sadly, the sign on the shop door looked almost out of place in 21 century America:

**CLOSED
GOOD FRIDAY,
NOON TO 3 P.M.**

Hardly ever these days do you see a business hang a CLOSED sign on the window during the three hours when Christ hung on the cross, suffered and died. A generation ago, Catholics and Christians were more likely to stop what they were doing from noon to 3 p.m. Good Friday and either go to Church or spend time in quiet meditation on the Passion of Our Lord.

And so the notification on the central Ohio store's door last week came as a complete, but pleasant, surprise.

A bold statement, indeed, for a national chain to show an outward sign of faith in today's public square, where people are becoming more fearful by the day of professing their faith or espousing traditional values.

In one U.S. city, the cancel culture has even tried to eliminate Good Friday. Five years ago, Mayor John Hamilton of Bloomington, Indiana, home of Indiana University, signed an order to change Good Friday to "Spring Holiday." That seems a little drastic to take a Christian day of observance off the calendar. If it weren't for the secularization of Christmas and Easter as the Santa Claus and Easter bunny holidays, they might be renamed, too.

More than two decades ago now, the late Cardinal John O'Connor, then-archbishop of New York, was so bothered by the New York Yankees playing

EDITOR'S REFLECTIONS

Doug Bean



a Major League Baseball game on Good Friday afternoon that he swore off baseball for a year despite his passion for the sport.

"I believe that playing on Good Friday, at the very least from 12 to 3, is cheap and cheapens our culture, no matter how big the box-office receipts," Cardinal O'Connor wrote 23 years ago. "It's cheap, and it's cheapening. I resent it. I protest it. I will not go to a game in 1998."

He's right. But few people paid attention. Instead, Cardinal O'Connor's stance was dismissed as being unrealistic.

Some of our Catholic high school and college athletic teams don't appear to take Good Friday seriously, either. Check their spring schedules, and see how many were in action last Friday. You'll likely find quite a few.

Too many Christians want to get to Easter Sunday and celebrate the joy of the Resurrection without stopping to remember the suffering, agony and death of Jesus on the cross. The crucifix reminds us of His sacrifice every time we look at it.

Getting back to the shop closing on Good Friday from 12 to 3, you might be wondering who would be bold enough to do such a thing.

The sign wasn't designed by a graphic artist, and so it seemed logical to assume a local franchise manager made the decision. A query quickly proved otherwise.

The Good Friday policy has always been a corporate practice, the manager explained, put in place at its beginning by the company's founder and owner, who wanted employees to have the opportunity to go to church or observe those three hours in prayer.

By now, you're probably curious to learn the name of the business.

Maybe some of you have been there and seen it for yourself. But for those who haven't, the shop is Arizona-based Discount Tire.

Bruce Halle, a devout Catholic, started the business in Ann Arbor, Michigan in 1960 with six used tires and eventually grew the company into a multimillion dollar enterprise. Despite his success and good fortune, Halle by all accounts was humble and down to earth, gave generously to Catholic charities, practiced the faith and treated everyone he met as if they were his equal. That's a rare quality for highly successful people.

Halle died in 2018, but his stores continue to remain closed from noon to 3 p.m. Good Friday. It's reassuring to know there are business people willing to live their faith in public. We need more of them.

If you own or manage a business, consider a Good Friday shutdown for at least those three hours if you don't already do so. You'll no doubt receive many graces.

As we approach Divine Mercy Sunday and meditate on the blood and water that gushed from the Sacred Heart of Jesus on Good Friday, let's ask Christ to give us the strength and fortitude to never deny Him in public and proclaim his marvelous deeds to a world that so desperately needs to hear His encouraging words.

Moment with Mother Angeline provides a lasting memory

By Mary Dimond

This story should be called "in the hands of a soon-to-be saint." I am referring to Mother Angeline Teresa McCrory, founder of the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm, who have served the elderly in the Diocese of Columbus since 1948. Today, the sisters operate Mother Angeline McCrory Manor, a skilled nursing-care facility, and the Villas at St. Therese assisted living and independent living centers on Columbus' east side.

Mother Angeline founded the Carmelite community on Oct. 7, 1926 with six other former Little Sisters of the Poor – Sister Louise of Belgium, Sister Leonie of Boston, Sister Collette of Ireland, Sister Mary Teresa of Virginia and Sister Alodie and Sister Alexis of Canada.

In 1931, Cardinal Timothy Hayes of New York was instrumental in obtaining approval from Rome that Mother Angeline's community be known as the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and

READERS REFLECTIONS

Infirm. Mother Angeline was 36 and was the order's superior general until she stepped down in 1978.

I became acquainted with the Carmelite sisters in 1962 as a volunteer at the former St. Rita's Home for the Aged in Columbus. We were known as Carmelettes and wore a yellow pinafore as we cared for the aged and infirm. I was there every Saturday, curling the ladies' hair, shaving the men and aiding at their meals. Janet, a schoolmate, joined me, along with perhaps 10 others.

One day while drying dishes at home, my mother said, "You're out at that place. Why don't you just pack your clothes and move out there?" I smiled as I said, "That is what I will do someday."

True to my word, I entered the Carmelite community on Sept. 8, 1963 along with Janet, in St. Patrick's Home in the Bronx, New York. We were known as postulants, and there were

60 of us. We had the most entrants in religious life on the Eastern Seaboard. Because there were so many of us, half of the postulants were housed at the Mary Manning Walsh Home in New York City.

After six months as postulants, all 60 of us moved upstate to Avila-on-the-Hudson, the novitiate. We were received into the community and given the habit and our new religious names. My name was Sister Mary Noel of the Holy Angels, OCarm. Janet became Sister John Catherine of the Holy Angels, OCarm. Each group of novices received a category; thus we were known as the Holy Angels.

Fast forward to "the day." Sister John Catherine and I were sacristans. The novitiate had been hit with a horrible flu. Only about six of us were able to minister to those who were secluded. We filled ice jugs, placed clean towels and changed beds.

On this particular day, Mother Angeline came to chapel as usual. She would sit in the pew right behind Sister John Catherine and me. After we

lit the candles and made sure all on the altar was perfect, we proceeded to our pew.

All of a sudden, my ears began to ring, and I couldn't see very well. As I stumbled to my place, I half-heartedly tried to sit down when someone pulled me by my shoulders to a sitting position. It was Mother Angeline! A nurse was summoned, and I spent a few days in bed.

The Carmelite Sisters celebrated Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa McCrory's 37th anniversary of death and the 128th anniversary of her birth on Jan. 21. Her cause for beatification and canonization is underway.

It is our hope and prayer that God will grant our great desire to have this woman, courageous in adversity, be numbered among the saints of the Catholic Church and give glory to Carmel and the universal Church.

Mary Dimond is a Columbus Immaculate Conception Church parishioner and was a member of the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm from 1963 to 1966.

For Father Sullivan, 'meaningful worship' is key

By Tim Puet

Catholic Times Reporter

Father Jan Sullivan said his 30 years as a priest, including 21 years as pastor at three parishes, have been based on a foundation with four pillars: worship, service, education and the arts.

"In all my assignments as a priest, the sacred liturgy has been of primary concern," said Father Sullivan, pastor of Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church since 2017. "I have been greatly influenced by Pope St. John Paul II and his emphasis on the Eucharist as what Vatican II described as 'the source and summit of the Christian life.'

"It's always a challenge to make the liturgy more beautiful and meaningful so that it will have the kind of impact on people that will result in a lasting impact on their Christian lives. And it's those four things – worship, service, education and the arts – that are at the heart of a strong liturgical experience. They build on each other.

"Meaningful worship leads to an impulse to serve, which creates a desire to educate others and to express the beauty of Christ through the arts of music, literature, architecture, sculpture, painting and others."

For more than a year, Father Sullivan, 60, has been a pastor without a church building. On Feb. 26, 2020, the Mid-East Ohio Building Department, which inspects all activity regulated by the state building code in Muskingum County, issued an order preventing further use of the 177-year-old St. Thomas Aquinas Church building after inspectors discovered cracks in the roof timbers.

"The inspection was necessary after a nearly 4-foot-long piece of plaster just above the stained-glass window in the sanctuary fell," Father Sullivan said. The hole created by the fallen plaster can be easily seen when looking at the area where the church's altar was located.

The altar and other liturgical fixtures have been moved to the parish's activity center, and the pews have been put into storage, with weekend Masses now taking place in the activity center and weekday Masses at nearby Zanesville St. Nicholas Church. Father Sullivan's church is filled with scaffolding as a decision is awaited on renovation.

"This is the sort of thing that happens to a 180-year-old building," Father Sullivan said, noting that the area where the plaster fell had been

ANSWERING GOD'S CALL

Answering God's Call profiles the life of a priest, deacon or professed religious sister in the Diocese of Columbus.

patched earlier and that the building has survived disasters including a tornado that toppled its steeple in 1912 and the Great Flood of 1913, which left 5 feet of water in front of the church.

Shortly after Easter Sunday 2020, Father Sullivan began placing a repository containing the Eucharist in his office window, where it is displayed every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. He says that since this practice began, passers-by and drivers along the one-way street in front of the office have regularly stopped in front of the Blessed Sacrament for prayer and contemplation, resulting in a unique version of Eucharistic Adoration and an opportunity to express Catholic beliefs in the midst of everyday life.

Father Sullivan grew up on Columbus' near east side, attending Olde Orchard Elementary School and graduating from Walnut Ridge High School in 1979, a few months before he joined the Catholic Church. His parents, James and Betty Sullivan, were not Catholic, but he became interested in the Church through the example of others.

"My uncle Bob Specht was very devout and never missed Mass, and I was impressed by the students who went to my high school and were identifiably Catholic," he said. "Also, I'm Irish, and it seemed all Irish people were Catholic. All of this intrigued me, and I wanted to learn more about it."

Before joining the Church, Father Sullivan didn't go through the usual RCIA process involving a year of classes, usually in a group setting, leading to baptism at the Easter Vigil. "I began instructions with Father Jim Klima, who then was associate pastor at Reynoldsburg St. Pius Church and now is pastor at Pickerington Seton Parish," he said. "I showed up for my first lesson on Monday of Holy Week and was baptized in October," with his father joining the Church not long afterward.



Father Jan Sullivan

Father Sullivan was considering a law career at the time and was attending Ohio State University, but as he became involved in parish life at St. Pius X Church, his thoughts began turning toward the priesthood. He eventually transferred to what was then Ohio Dominican College (ODC) and changed his major to theology and philosophy.

"I was impressed by the work Father Klima and the late Father Rod Damico were doing as associate pastors at St. Pius," he said. "At Ohio Dominican, I saw the lives of some of the Dominican Sisters up close, especially Sister Mary Ann Fatula and Sister Frances Gabriel Mahoney, became much more interested in the religious life and began seriously discerning the priesthood.

"Beyond all that, there was the example of John Paul II, who became pope not long before I joined the Church. He has been the most influential person in my life outside of my parents. I was fortunate to be able to see him several times, most notably on a visit to the papal apartments during the Jubilee Year 2000 and during a pilgrimage with Father Jerry Stluka in 1994 celebrating Father Jerry's 25th anniversary and arranged by Cardinal James Hickey."

After graduating from ODC in 1986, Father Sullivan attended Catholic University of America, receiving a theology degree from that institution in 1991. He was ordained a priest by Bishop Emeritus James Griffin on June 22 of that year and was assigned to Lancaster St. Mary Church as parochial vicar.

"You find out on that first assignment that everybody loves a young priest," he said. "People are excited for you and appreciate your enthusiasm." While at St. Mary, he began an ongoing friendship with Father Stluka, who also was an associate there.

The two have taken part in several pilgrimages together. The last one they led was to the Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany in 2010. While Father Stluka no longer is able to travel, Father Sullivan and Father Craig Eilerman were set to attend the play in 2020 before it was canceled because of the pandemic. They're planning to make that trip when the play is produced in 2022.

As a seminarian intern, Father Sullivan also became friends at Lancaster with the late Msgr. Robert Noon, who was pastor of Lancaster St. Bernadette Church at the time and was the diocese's senior priest, with 69 years

of service, when he died last October at age 97. "He was an extraordinary individual, a wonderful mentor," Father Sullivan said.

Father Sullivan was parochial vicar from 1993-95 at St. Pius X. Msgr. Michael Donovan was pastor there at the time and died unexpectedly on March 1, 1994 at age 55. "I spent a great 7 1/2 months with Msgr. Donovan," Father Sullivan said. "He was a jewel to live with and had great insight into human experience. He told me, 'When someone comes to see you in a moment of difficulty, always try to find what is redeemable in that person.' That's how I try to approach people."

His two years at St. Pius were followed by three years as chaplain at Children's Hospital in Columbus, with residence at Columbus Holy Family and St. Cecilia churches.

"At Children's, I quickly realized the power of the priesthood in a way I never had before," he said. "In a hospital situation, you're immediately connected with people in an intimate way, especially in moments of struggle. That period is when I really became aware of the sacramental nature of being a priest."

Father Sullivan was parochial vicar at St. Cecilia from 1998 to 2000, and then began his first pastorate at Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne Church, where he remained until 2012. "This was a very satisfying period for a number of reasons," he said. "The church was in disrepair, but the people were enthusiastic, and we made many changes to beautify it and to enhance it as a liturgical setting.

"We also installed a new organ and brought in Craig Jaynes as organist, who has created the parish's long-running Concerts in a Country Church series. His music program was so successful that shortly after I left, (another) new organ was installed, completing the transformation of the parish's liturgical musical experience.

"We also established a very vibrant parish life, helped staff supply an outreach to the poor and provided leadership and significant financial and volunteer support to an existing outreach to pregnant mothers."

After 12 years at Washington Court House, he was transferred to Newark St. Francis de Sales Church in 2012. "What was most satisfying about my period there was how the sacred liturgy became the core of the parish

First-team All-Ohio a 'huge honor' for Portsmouth Notre Dame senior

By Doug Bean

Catholic Times Editor

Ava Hassel is as humble and polite as she is talented on the basketball floor.

Named first-team All-Ohio in Division IV last week, the Portsmouth Notre Dame senior deflected praise to her teammates.

"I think it's just like a direct reflection on to the program we have here at Notre Dame and just the team that I get to play with every day," she said. "I'm only the second girl in our program to be named first team and so I've been blessed throughout my career. I'm sad it's over, but it's a huge honor for sure."

The 5-foot-5 point guard became the second Titans player in the past three years selected to the first team. Katie Dettwiller, one of Hassel's teammates during her freshman and sophomore seasons who now starts for NCAA Division I St. Francis (Pennsylvania), received the same honor in 2019.

A handful of players from diocesan high schools also received All-Ohio recognition in 2021.

In Division II, Bishop Hartley 5-10 senior Kami Kortokrax was selected to the second team after averaging 17 points per game this season. She is an Ohio State University softball signee. Hawks teammate Ellie Brandewie, a 6-3 sophomore who averaged 12 points per game, received honorable mention.

In Division I, Bishop Watterson 5-11 senior Kilyn McGuff made the third team. The daughter of Ohio State women's basketball coach Kevin McGuff averaged 16.8 points per game this season while playing with younger sister Keiryn, a sophomore.

In Division IV, Newark Catholic

6-foot senior Harlei Antritt landed on the second team, and 6-3 teammate Chloe Chard-Pelloquin was a member of the third team. The duo averaged 16 and 14 points per game, respectively, for the Green Wave.

Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans 5-10 junior Jenna Carlisle was special mention in Division IV after averaging 17 points per game. Honorable mention selections were Tuscarawas Central Catholic 5-8 senior Sophia Knight (12.9 points per game), Portsmouth Notre Dame 6-0 senior Claire Dettwiller (8.4 ppg), Lancaster Fisher Catholic 6-1 freshman Ellie Bruce (7.7 ppg) and 5-6 senior teammate Paige Gavin (6.5 ppg), and Newark Catholic 5-7 senior Brynn Peddicord (8 ppg).

At Notre Dame, Hassel started all four years of high school and finished as the school's career scoring leader. Earlier this season, her teammates honored her when she eclipsed 1,000 points.

"Ava is a great leader and has set a high bar for her younger teammates to strive for," Notre Dame coach J.D. McKenzie said. "Ava is obviously a great player, but she also made all the players around her better."

In the past four seasons, the Titans have accumulated a 97-8 overall record, four straight Southern Ohio Conference Division I championships and a 56-0 record in league games, four sectional championships, three straight district titles, and a spot in the elite eight in 2020.

"When you look back, it's amazing how much my class accomplished," Hassel said, "and all the memories that I get to hold onto from the sport and just from the girls that are part of it. It's great. I mean, I've never imagined playing anywhere else or going to any other school but here."

The 2020-21 season ended earlier



Portsmouth Notre Dame's Ava Hassel (3) launches a shot. Photo courtesy Hassel family

than Notre Dame expected with a 35-32 loss in the district final to Waterford. Hassel scored 22 of the Titans' 32 points in her final high school game. The team finished with a 22-2 record.

"The loss leaves a sour taste in my mouth, and I do look back on this year and think like, 'What if, like, what else could we have done,' but (there were) so many more memories and good things that came out of my whole career," she said.

Hassel averaged a team-best 20.2 points per game this season and also led the Titans in steals with 100, 3-point shooting at 47 percent and free throw accuracy at 78 percent.

"Notre Dame and myself were blessed to have Ava in our program," McKenzie said. "She is irreplaceable."

Hassel, a three-sport athlete who plays volleyball in the fall and softball in the spring, said she started playing basketball in the early elementary grades and, like many kids, practiced shooting at home and played hoops with peers. In sixth grade, she realized basketball was the sport she wanted to pursue more seriously than the others and started playing on travel teams.

"All my life I've been a point guard, and on my travel ball teams I was more of a facilitator, but during school I was more of a scoring option," Hassel explained. "I like shooting—a lot. I always tried to work on it, making my range a little deeper, and once I got to high school I really had to work on pressure coming at me while I was shooting."

Watching Katie Dettwiller lead the team two years ago and receive all-state recognition gave Hassel a goal to aim for this season, both as a leader and a player.

First-team all-state "was kind of

something I wanted to shoot for, but if it didn't happen it didn't happen," said Hassel, a second-team All-Ohio honoree in 2020 and a four-time all-conference selection. "But I think the way I had to step up this year with my team showed that maybe that was something I could get."

After graduating from Notre Dame this spring, Hassel will continue her basketball career and education at DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana. She committed to the Division III school, which has won two national championships since 2007, in November.

"They have such a great program that I'm excited to be able to add to that," Hassel said.

Hassel, the youngest of David and Amy Hassel's three children, is a member at Portsmouth Holy Redeemer Church in the Scioto Catholic Consortium. Ava has attended Notre Dame since preschool along with many of her teammates and classmates.

During the past year, the coronavirus pandemic has challenged schools and students in many ways, and she is thankful that, for the most part, she and her classmates could be in school together for in-person learning and extracurricular activities.

"I think this school has helped me become the person I am," she said. "It gave me the opportunity to learn people skills and the material being taught in class. Learning the Catholic faith every day in our religion classes is a huge blessing."

"Going to this school is one of the biggest privileges that I could say has happened in my life, and I'm just so blessed that I go here."

3 Fisher Catholic baseball players sign letters



Three Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School baseball players signed letters of intent to continue playing in college. The players and their destinations are (from left): Aidan Harris, St. Xavier University, Chicago; Nick Krooner, Marymount University, Arlington, Virginia; and Mitch Santino, University of Rio Grande (Ohio). Photo courtesy Fisher Catholic

Bishop Griffin Center: Drive-thru aid during pandemic

By Tim Puet

Catholic Times Reporter

In a time of unexpected need, the Bishop Griffin Resource Center (BGRC) has provided food and other necessities to thousands of residents of Columbus' east side in an unprecedented way.

When the COVID-19 pandemic halted or changed many aspects of life in mid-March 2020, the center, located in the former Christ the King Church rectory at 2875 E. Livingston Ave., put safety protocols into effect and moved much of its operations outdoors, changing its method of distribution to a drive-thru model.

With the help of dozens of new volunteers from throughout the Columbus area, the center has served about one-third more families than it did before the pandemic, while more than doubling the amount of food provided to each family.

Center operations manager Kathy Hayden said that each Wednesday from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and Friday from 2 to 4:30 p.m., the cars of anywhere from 75 to 100 families, coming in a steady stream, line up on Wellesley Road and make a left turn onto Dover Road and another left into the center's driveway. During holiday periods this winter, the number of families coming to the center rose to about 175.

When the cars get to the driveway, volunteers are ready to provide the families with about 75 pounds of food in two shopping bags and a box. The bags are filled with nonperishable canned and boxed food, plus staples such as cooking oils, detergent and toiletries. The boxes contain about 20 pounds of perishable items including produce, meat and eggs, as well as milk when available.

Donated clothing also is available from a rack in the driveway, with other donated items on a table next to it. Clothing had been available as part of a free store in the basement of the building housing the center, but volunteer Marge Telerski said that area was closed when the pandemic hit because it was a narrow, crowded space with poor ventilation.

A community garden in back of the building, which had been part of the center since the summer before the building opened, was closed, but there are hopes to revive it as part of an expansion plan that is on hold until the pandemic is under control.

The center partners with the Bottoms Up diaper drive and the Co-



Customer Joyce Thomas (right) is assisted by Bishop Griffin Center volunteer Jean Drummond.

CT photos by Ken Snow



Volunteers (from left) Bob Trisket, Jean Iannarino and Larry Davis load groceries into a car at the Bishop Griffin Center, located in the former Columbus Christ the King Church rectory on Livingston Avenue.

lumbus Diaper Coalition and last year provided 2,200 packs of diapers with wipes to families with children younger than 3. Diapers always are available at the center. It also distributed 250 blankets before Christmas, handed out 3,000 facial masks during the year and distributed gift cards to the diocesan St. Vincent de Paul Society's thrift store in September.

"None of this would be possible without the very dedicated volunteers who keep on showing up to sort and bag groceries, pick up donations and load food into vehicles," Hayden said. "We are lucky to have such wonderful volunteers who kept things open even during the harsh winter so that the center never missed a day of distribution."

Telerski, who has been a volunteer with the center since it opened in November 2007, said most of the food it provides is purchased from the Mid-Ohio Food Collective, with items also coming from two Kroger stores, a Target store, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farmers to Families program and food drives conducted by east side churches and community groups.

Hayden said the BGRC and other pantries and social service agencies in the Columbus area have a cooperative relationship so that if any of them have extra food, they give it to another agency so it doesn't go to waste. The Griffin center has served as both the recipient and the donor of extra items.

Patti Rinehart, who was the center's director until last November, said that before the pandemic started, about 25 to 30 pounds of food was being distributed to families. That amount increased substantially as a result of larger distributions from the food col-

lective through grants from the federal CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security) Act.

Rinehart moved to northeast Ohio with her husband in November because his employer transferred him there, but she remains in regular contact with the Griffin center and provided figures showing how much the center has expanded in the past year.

For the pandemic year of March 2020 to this past February, the center served 10,552 individuals in 3,117 families, making a total of 10,068 visits, or about three per family. At 75 pounds of food per visit, that means nearly 755,000 pounds of food was distributed. In the year 2019, 1,956 families made 5,441 visits.

Rinehart said about half the families served by the center in any given year, including 2020, come there only once because the BGRC from its beginning has been meant to offer a stopgap service to families. She said the largest percentage of increases in aid requests during the pandemic have come from senior citizens. The center served 1,377 seniors last year, nearly double the number it aided in 2019, with the number of grandparent households (grandparents with custody of grandchildren) seeking help increasing by 150 percent.

The center's opening 13 ½ years ago was the result of plans first discussed almost a decade earlier by Telerski and other members of Christ the King's peace and justice committee. The center also is a special work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. The building is named for Bishop Emeritus James Griffin, who encouraged planning for the center before his retirement in 2005. Families from ZIP codes 43209, 43213, 43219, 43227

and 43232 may visit the BGRC twice a month for food and other items.

The increase in the number of families and individuals the center served during the past year indicates that many were first-time visitors. One of those people is Richard Friesenhengest of Whitehall, who attends Columbus Holy Spirit Church.

"I don't live very far from here, but I never knew this place existed," he said. "Then one day a neighbor said he'd just come back from shopping. I asked what store he went to, and he said it was the Griffin Center. 'What's that?' I asked. 'You go there, and the people are very generous and helpful. It's much better than going to a supermarket,' he told me, and he was right. The place is fantastic.

"I'm on Social Security and barely making it," he said. "Some days it's been a case of, 'Do I buy medicine or food?' I don't know how a poor family with four or five kids can get by. In coming here, I save a quarter to a half on my food bill and get quality things. Thank God for a place like this."

Delilah Eskins, who is 79 and lives by herself, said she has been coming to the center since it opened. "This has been one of the most important places for me to go and to help me keep my independence," she said. "The people here are so kind. They know who I am, and they have helped me tremendously.

"Especially at a time like this, I don't want to go to grocery stores because I'm afraid of picking up the virus, and now I don't have to because I can get everything I need right here."

Joyce Thomas lives near the center

GRIFFIN CENTER, continued from Page 10

and said she has been coming there since the pandemic began. “Everyone’s friendship has been so important,” she said. “They give you good things – not just the food but personal hygiene items like a big bottle of hand sanitizer and some lovely masks. Today I asked if I could have some Pampers for my grandson and granddaughter, and they were happy to provide them. The volunteers here really care about you and listen.”

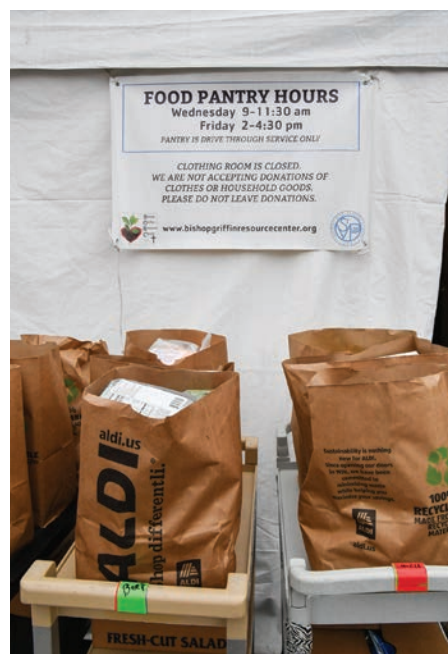
Two women who started at the center as volunteers during the pandemic have become its only paid employees. Hayden is operations manager, and Nyisha Miller is her assistant.

“I had volunteered here before when my children were smaller,” said Hayden, who lives nearby and is a member of Columbus St. Catharine Church. “I’ve always been an advocate for the center. I’ve also volunteered with the Columbus chapter of Food Rescue US,” an organization that picks up surplus food from restaurants and businesses and distributes it to social service agencies.

“I was doing some of that work, delivering milk to Patti Rinehart and loading it in the refrigerator one day, when she asked me if I knew of anyone who might be interested in taking her place because she was moving. That sounded like something I could do, so I asked her to consider me. I guess I was at the right place at the right time.

“So many people have been of great help to the center in the past year, and being able to have an impact here has been of great help to me. I’d been looking for more purpose in my life and always have been interested in food insecurity and preventing food waste, so coming here meets a great need personally.”

Miller said she became a volunteer at the center after being laid off by a real estate company where she worked. “I’d never been without a job before, and it was hard to find work



Donated food is waiting to be distributed at the Bishop Griffin Center food pantry, which is open on Wednesday mornings and Friday afternoons. CT photos by Ken Snow

at that time, but I didn’t want to sit and sulk. I emailed Patti about volunteering here, and she said she’d love the help, so I responded and I quickly came to love the people here.

“I had to stop volunteering for a couple of months because I was hired as a classroom aide at St. Catharine School, but I came back when school started and was offered the assistant manager’s job after an interview,” she said. Telerski said having two paid staff members at the center was a necessity so it could meet Mid-Ohio Food Collective and state Health Department guidelines.

Miller said that because of her experience at the center, she would like to continue in the social service field once the pandemic subsides. “I enjoy giving back to people,” she said. “It’s a blessing to be a blessing. God gives us the gift to help others, and every day I can see how much I’m helping people here.”

DOMESTIC CHURCH, continued from Page 4

and loving kindness.” Don Bosco also promoted his method as a spiritual exercise that encouraged caregivers to model the prayerful spirit and virtues we wished to inspire in our children.

When we practice the gentleness, self-control and charity required by loving guidance discipline, we model the compassion the Good Shepherd shows for his sheep when we stray. I discuss more of this approach in my book, *Parenting with Grace*.

The Church father, Tertullian, fa-

mously quoted the pagan observation, “Look at those Christians! See how they love one another!” The Rite of Christian Relationships helps Catholic families call the world to Christ through our loving witness.

Dr. Popcak is the author of many books and the Executive Director of the Peyton Institute for Domestic Church Life (PeytonFamilyInstitute.org).



Longtime volunteer Marge Telerski is always ready to lend a helping hand.

The 2,500-square-foot center was built in 1954 as a rectory and served for 30 years as a children’s center but is inadequate for the needs of the people it serves now. A capital campaign to raise \$3.5 million for a new 11,500-square-foot center has been underway for the past few years and has reached the \$2.4 million mark

with the help of several generous benefactors.

Kimball Midwest recently made a \$300,000 challenge gift to the center “to shine a light on this project and invite others to contribute in a meaningful way,” said Father David Schalk, pastor of Christ the King Church.

Once fundraising for the new center is completed, the current center will be torn down and the new building will take its place. During the construction period, the center’s operations will take place at a temporary location to be determined.

Telerski said the new building would be a one-stop social services area similar to the Reeb Avenue Center at the former Reeb Avenue School on Columbus’ south side, which includes offices for several social agencies.

“We will partner with other human services agencies, enabling us to offer wraparound services to our neighbors,” Father Schalk said. “Such services are critical for a more holistic approach to caring for people in need.

“We do not want to remain just a safety net. We want to be a center where people’s lives are transformed for the better. We want to equip them to break the cycle of poverty and to be a beacon of hope for the entire city.”

For more information about the center and the campaign, go to www.bishopgriffinresourcecenter.org.



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Divine Mercy Sunday offers indulgence

By Tim McAndrew

In the diary of St. Faustina, Christ said, “Humanity will not have peace until it turns with trust to my Mercy.” (Diary 300)

Our Lord made it clear to St. Faustina the urgent need to proclaim His message of mercy as a preparation for His second coming.

Our Lord speaks: “Speak to the world about My Mercy. ... It is a sign for the end times. After it will come the day of justice (Diary 848). ... You will prepare the world for My final coming (429). ... Tell souls about this great Mercy of Mine, because the awful day, the day of my justice, is near.” (965)

Our Lord speaks: “Before the day of justice, I am sending the day of Mercy (Diary 1588). ... I am prolonging the time of Mercy for the sake of sinners. But woe to them if they do not recognize this time of My visitation (1160). ... While there is still time, let them have recourse to the fountain of My Mercy (848). ... He who refuses to pass through the door of My Mercy must pass through the door of My justice.” (1146)

Christ himself gave a greater indulgence than that of a plenary indulgence for Divine Mercy Sunday. Only He can take the sin away as if it had never occurred. The greatest indulgence the Church can grant is a plenary indulgence, which removes all punishment due to sin.

However, only Christ can take away sin Himself, whether the sin is known or unknown to the penitent. This is the grace Christ promises to give.

To receive the complete forgiveness

of sin and punishment on Divine Mercy Sunday, the individual must go to confession (the day of or before Divine Mercy Sunday), perform an act of mercy and partake of Holy Communion, and that person will leave as if he or she has received a second baptism. Like a newborn baby. All is forgotten as if it has never occurred! (Refer to Catechism of the Catholic Church 1471 on plenary indulgences.)

Our Lord speaks: “Ask of My faithful servant (Father Sopocko, St. Faustina’s spiritual director) that, on this day, he tell the whole world of My great Mercy; that whoever approaches the Fount of Life (Holy Communion) on this day will be granted complete remission of sins and punishment. ... The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. ... On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened.” (Diary 299, 300, 251)

Picture the whole parish, diocese and the whole Catholic world leaving their churches as if they never sinned. That is Divine Mercy incarnate! This is not human mercy but God’s Divine Mercy!

Christ made the remission of all sins and punishment contingent on the reception of Holy Communion on the Feast of Divine Mercy. To effect a complete forgiveness of sin and punishment, the Holy Communion received on the Feast of Divine Mercy must be received worthily and in the state of grace.

If God bestows this cleansing grace through the sacrament of baptism, why would He not bestow it – if He



The first Divine Mercy painting by Eugeniusz Kazimirowski hangs in the Divine Mercy Sanctuary in Vilnius, Lithuania.

Alma Pater/Wikimedia Commons

wishes – through the Eucharist, which is the greatest sacrament?

Image on Divine Mercy Sunday

Just as the Ark of the Covenant was used in battle by the Israelites against their enemies, God, who loves us so much, continually provides weapons for what His people need in their present time of battle against Satan and his demons.

And today, one of the great heavenly signs that protects us during spiritual combat is the Divine Mercy image. We can say it is heavenly because Jesus appeared to St. Faustina asking for a special painting of Himself. St. Faustina calls the image the throne of mercy on earth (Diary 1).

During the time of Moses, when everyone was sick and dying because

they were bitten by serpents, God came to their rescue by providing a sign for their healing if they would but gaze upon it – a pole with a bronze serpent. (Numbers 21:4-9) This sign was also a prefiguration of Jesus on the cross, which would heal and restore all of humanity.

Jesus gives us His image to venerate, just as He gave Moses the pole with the bronze serpent. He gives this for our protection and to increase our trust in Him, not the world. The Divine Mercy image provides healing graces for conversion and forgiveness of sins and protects us from the poisonous bite of Satan. Jesus told St. Faustina, “My gaze from this image is like My gaze from the cross.” (Diary 326)

Our Lord speaks: “I demand the worship of My mercy through the Solemn Celebration of the Feast (Divine Mercy Sunday) and through the veneration of the Image which is painted.” (Diary 742)

Our Lord speaks: “By means of this Image I shall be granting many graces to souls; so let every soul have access to it.” (Diary 570)

Our Lord speaks: “The graces of My mercy are drawn by means of one vessel only, and that is trust. The more a soul trusts, the more it will receive.” (Diary 1578)

All the divine floodgates of mercy are available every year on this one day for the asking.

“On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened.” (Diary 299)

See DIVINE MERCY, Page 23

Diocesan Divine Mercy Sunday events

The following parishes in the Diocese of Columbus have scheduled programs for Divine Mercy Sunday, April 11:

Chillicothe St. Peter – 12:30 p.m., Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; 2 to 4 p.m., Sacrament of Reconciliation; 3 p.m., Chaplet of Divine Mercy; 3:30 p.m., Veneration of Divine Mercy image, with First Communion class members offering their love to Jesus, readings from St. Faustina Kowalska’s diary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Circleville St. Joseph – 2 to 3 p.m., Exposition, Reconciliation; 3 p.m., Chaplet.

Columbus Holy Family – 12:30 p.m., Exposition, followed by Reconciliation; 2:30 p.m., solemn blessing and veneration of Divine Mercy image; 3 p.m., Chaplet; 4 p.m., Benedic-

tion; 5 p.m., Mass.

Columbus Our Lady of Victory – 1 to 3 p.m., Exposition; 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., Reconciliation; 3 p.m., Chaplet, Benediction.

Columbus Sacred Heart – 2:30 p.m., Exposition; 2:35 p.m., Reconciliation; 3 p.m., Chaplet; 3:50 p.m., Benediction.

Columbus St. Catharine – 2 to 3 p.m., Reconciliation; 3 p.m., Chaplet and other prayers.

Columbus St. Cecilia – 3 p.m., Chaplet, led by soloist; 3:20 p.m., blessing of Divine Mercy image, followed by Exposition; 3:30 to 4:15 p.m., Reconciliation; 4:30 p.m., Benediction; 5 p.m., veneration of Divine Mercy image. Reconciliation also will be available from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 10.

Columbus St. Leo the Great –

10:30 a.m. High Mass followed by the Chaplet and Benediction.

Gahanna St. Matthew – 3 p.m., Divine Mercy talk by Aaron Richards; 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., Exposition, Chaplet, Reconciliation; 4:30 p.m., Benediction. Parish also is praying Divine Mercy Novena at 3 p.m. daily through April 11 in the church.

Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help – 1 p.m., Exposition; 2 p.m., Rosary; 2 to 3 p.m., Reconciliation; 3 p.m., Chaplet, followed by Benediction.

Lancaster St. Mark – 3 p.m., Exposition, Chaplet, Benediction, Mass, followed by reception.

Logan St. John – 2 p.m., movie about history of the Divine Mercy devotion in church hall, followed by Exposition, Reconciliation and singing of Chaplet in church.

Mattingly Settlement St. Mary –

3 to 4 p.m., Exposition, Benediction and Chaplet.

Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul – 3 p.m., Exposition, prayer, Reconciliation and Chaplet.

Newark Blessed Sacrament – 3 p.m., Chaplet.

Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton – 3 to 4 p.m., Chaplet, Exposition.

Plain City St. Joseph – 2 p.m., Exposition; 2:05 to 2:45 p.m., Reconciliation; 3 p.m., Chaplet; 3:30 p.m., blessing and veneration of Divine Mercy image, followed by Benediction.

Reynoldsburg St. Pius X – 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Exposition, Reconciliation, Chaplet, Rosary; 12:30 p.m., Benediction.

Sunbury St. John Neumann – Noon, Chaplet and Reconciliation.

Divine Mercy touches former commandant of Auschwitz

By Marc Massery

Though the infamous commandant of the Auschwitz concentration camp, Rudolf Höss, oversaw the murder of millions of innocent people during World War II, in the end even his horrific sins weren't bigger than God's mercy.

Höss was born in 1900 in Baden-Baden, Germany, to strict Catholic parents. His father wanted him to become a priest, but after his father's death, Rudolf joined the German military instead.

'Final Solution'

In the early 1920s, after hearing Adolf Hitler speak in Munich, Höss renounced his Catholic faith and became an early member of the Nazi Party. First, he served at the Dachau concentration camp. Having proved himself, in 1940 he was named the first commandant of Auschwitz, which he converted into one of the largest death camps in history. SS leader Heinrich Himmler put Höss in charge of carrying out in Auschwitz the "Final Solution" – the extermination of all Jews in Europe.

Though Höss denied ever killing anyone by his own hand, he was responsible for streamlining the execution process by introducing the lethal poison Zyklon B, which enabled the murder of as many as 2,000 people per hour.



Auschwitz commandant Rudolf Höss

A calm killer

Despite overseeing the execution of millions, eyewitness accounts identified Höss as someone who always seemed calm and collected. He lived in a house with his family mere yards from the Auschwitz crematorium, kissing his wife each morning before work and tucking his five children into bed at night.

After the war, Höss wrote: "The gassing was carried out in the detention cells of Block 11. Protected by a gas mask, I watched the killing myself. In the crowded cells, death came instantaneously the moment the Zyklon B was thrown in. A short, almost smothered cry, and it was all over. ... I must even admit that this gassing set my mind at rest, for the mass extermination of the Jews was to start soon."

Also under Höss' watch, in the basement of Block 11, prisoner No. 16770 was committed to a starvation cell before dying by lethal injection. That prisoner was the priest and mar-

tyr St. Maximilian Kolbe.

During these same years, however, Höss met a priest who would have an impact on him. The Gestapo had arrested several Jesuits living in Krakow, Poland, and sent them to Auschwitz. The community's superior, Father Władysław Lohn, SJ, was absent at the time of the arrest.

When he found out what happened to his religious brothers, he snuck into Auschwitz to find them. When the guards noticed Father Lohn, they took him to Höss to decide his fate. Impressed by the bravery of Father Lohn, Höss released the priest unharmed.

The end and a new beginning

After the war ended and Höss was captured, he was arraigned at the International Military Tribunal in Nuremberg and sentenced to death. Following his sentencing, Höss did not appeal for leniency. Having spent time in a Polish prison, he experienced something that would lead to a conversion of heart. He wrote:

"In Polish prisons, I experienced for the first time what human kindness is. Despite all that has happened, I have experienced humane treatment which I could never have expected and which has deeply shamed me."

In prison, Höss realized that everything he had lived, worked and killed for was based on a flawed ideology, and he repented. He said:

"I have inflicted terrible wounds on

humanity. I have caused unspeakable suffering for the Polish people in particular. I am to pay for this with my life. May the Lord God forgive one day what I have done."

On Good Friday, April 4, 1947, awaiting execution, Höss asked to see a Catholic priest. The authorities had trouble finding a priest who spoke German, but Höss remembered the name of one: Father Władysław Lohn, the Jesuit he had once spared.

Though it took many days, Höss' captors finally found Father Lohn in nearby Krakow. He happened to be praying at the Shrine of Divine Mercy, where St. Faustina, the Polish religious sister and mystic responsible for spreading devotion to the Divine Mercy, was laid to rest.

On April 10, 1947, the Thursday after Easter, three days before Divine Mercy Sunday, Father Lohn heard Höss' confession. The next day, Friday, Höss received Holy Communion. Afterward, he knelt in his cell and wept.

On April 16, Höss was hanged outside the gas chambers he had built in Auschwitz. The official report of his death said that Höss remained "completely calm right up to the end and expressed no final wishes."

"It was a hard struggle," Höss had written toward the end. "But I have again found my faith in my God."

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Importance, power of Divine Mercy devotions explained

By Emily M. DeArdo

Understanding Divine Mercy

Father Chris Alar, MIC

Marian Press

\$14.95

If I asked you to describe God, how would you do it? You could give many answers, but "love" would probably pop up, especially because Scripture tells us that God is love.

God's love in its highest form is His mercy. In the new book *Understanding Divine Mercy* Father Chris Alar takes a deep dive into Divine Mercy: Why is it important? What's the Divine Mercy Chaplet? And what is the Feast of Divine Mercy, which the Church celebrates this weekend?

Father Alar discusses all of this and more in his small but powerful work. The book is broken into five chapters: What is Divine Mercy; St. Faustina's Life and Spirituality; the Feast of

Divine Mercy; The Image, Novena, Chaplet, and Hour of Divine Mercy; and God's Mercy in the Midst of Suffering and Loss.

Each chapter plumbs the depths of Catholic teaching in an accessible, well-written way. The first chapter amounts to almost a mini-book on the power and importance of the Mass, while the second gives the reader a brief history of St. Faustina Kowalska, who was canonized April 30, 2000 by Pope St. John Paul II.

St. Faustina, who joined the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in Poland when she was 19, experienced visions, revelations and mystical graces throughout her short life (she died at the age of 33). From these revelations, written about in her *Diary*, come the Divine Mercy chaplet and image, as well as the inspiration for the Church's Feast of Divine Mercy, celebrated on the Sunday after Easter, and the hour of Divine Mercy.

These devotions work together to create a rich tapestry of God's mercy that is available to all of us, if we trust in His will for our lives and surrender ourselves to him. Father Alar walks the reader through each of these practices and discusses how Pope St. John Paul II was instrumental in spreading Faustina's message during his papacy.

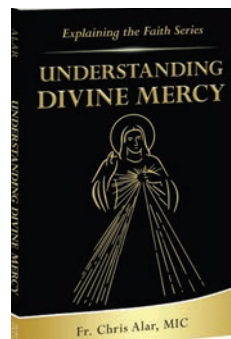
This book is also an excellent way to appreciate the Catholic faith more and deepen your prayer life, especially if you've been absent from in-person Mass and the sacraments due to COVID-19. Confession, contrition and indulgences are also discussed in-depth, allowing a deeper understand-

ing of these Church practices.

The fifth chapter (on suffering) is very important, because the question of why God allows suffering has bothered people since Eden. Father Alar's previous book, *After Suicide: There's Hope for Them and For You*, shows that he has the perfect background to talk about suffering and loss, and he handles those subjects with a deft and assured touch that gives the reader hope.

The Divine Mercy devotions appear simple, but they pack a spiritual punch. If you've never heard of the devotions or have practiced them for years, this book will educate you on their lasting importance and power. It's the perfect read for the Easter season.

Emily M. DeArdo, <http://emilymdeardo.com>, is the author of *Living Memento Mori: My Journey Through the Stations of the Cross*, published by Ave Maria Press.



Second Sunday of Easter Year B

Mercy: To each his own, via God

Acts 4:32-35
Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24
1 John 5:1-6
John 20:19-31

Mercy comes to each soul uniquely, tailor-made for the need of that soul. For some, it is forgiveness, for others, healing. For all, it is life – the presence of the living God to that unique person. God alone knows what our true need is.

Divine Mercy Sunday, the Octave of Easter, is an invitation to “get practical” about the mercy of God as it has been revealed to us by Jesus’ suffering, death and resurrection. There is a popular way of explaining this that speaks of the “A, B, C’s of Divine Mercy.” There are three “steps” in this process:

- Ask for mercy. First you have to know you are in need of it. Do you really know your own plight?

- Be merciful. Pass on to others what you receive for yourself.

- Completely trust in the mercy that is available. Keep growing in your understanding of the depth of mercy. Pope Francis often comments that God never tires of offering mercy, though we may tire of asking for it.

The Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy provide a “map” for us in our efforts to put mercy into practice.

The Spiritual Works of Mercy:

- Admonish sinners.
- Instruct the uninformed (the ignorant).
- Counsel the doubtful.
- Comfort the sorrowful.
- Bear wrongs patiently.
- Forgive offenses.
- Pray for the living and the dead.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Father Timothy Hayes

Father Timothy M. Hayes is pastor of Chillicothe St. Mary and St. Peter; and Waverly, St. Mary, Queen of the Missions.



The Corporal Works of Mercy:

- Feed the hungry.
- Give drink to the thirsty.
- Clothe the naked.
- Shelter the homeless.
- Comfort the imprisoned.
- Visit the sick.
- Bury the dead.

These actions are meant to take up our attention as Catholics and as Christians. We are to do them for one another and for others. In this way, our lives serve to make known to others the beautiful truth that God wants to share His life with us, the active, fruitful, glorious life of the Trinity.

We taste it in time through the sacramental life. We will experience this life forever. What begins now, begins in our experience through faith, which St. John of the Cross describes as “the proximate means of union with God.”

Thomas expresses something of the modern mind. “Show me!” We have bought the false idea that we need to see it, hear it, touch it, taste it or smell it, or it is not real. But notice what happens when Thomas is confronted with the risen Lord, Who still carries the signs of His Passion: “My Lord and My God!” Jesus continues with the blessing of all believers who accept the testimony of the apostles: “Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.”

With Thomas and the other apostles

See MERCY, Page 15

Third Sunday of Easter Year B

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19
Psalm 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9
1 John 2:1-5a
Luke 24:35-48

We pray: “Lord, let your face shine on us.” What happens when the Lord looks upon us? He shines, first into our hearts, then into our lives, then into the world through us.

We can watch this happen in those who saw Jesus first after His resurrection. On the very evening of the resurrection, while they were still speaking

about what had taken place on the way to Emmaus and how Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of bread, He stood in their midst and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

He showed them the wounds of His Passion. He took a piece of baked fish and ate it in front of them. He opened their minds to understand the scriptures. And He said to them, “Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in His name to all

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

4/12-4/17

MONDAY
Acts 4:23-31
Psalm 2:1-9
John 3:1-8

TUESDAY
Acts 4:32-37
Psalm 93:1-2, 5
John 3:7b-15

WEDNESDAY
Acts 5:17-26
Psalm 34:2-9
John 3:16-21

THURSDAY
Acts 5:27-33
Psalm 34:2, 9, 17-20
John 3:31-36

FRIDAY
Acts 5:34-42
Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14
John 6:1-15

SATURDAY
Acts 6:1-7
Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19
John 6:16-21

4/19-4/24

MONDAY
Acts 6:8-15
Psalm 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30
John 6:22-29

TUESDAY
Acts 7:51-8:1a
Psalm 31:3cd-4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17, 21ab

John 6:30-35

WEDNESDAY
Acts 8:1b-8
Psalm 66:1-3a, 4-7a
John 6:35-40

THURSDAY
Acts 8:26-40
Psalm 66:8-9, 16-17, 20
John 6:44-51

FRIDAY
Acts 9:1-20
Psalm 117:1bc, 2
John 6:52-59

SATURDAY
Acts 9:31-42
Psalm 116:12-17
John 6:60-69

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION

MASS SCHEDULE: WEEKS OF APRIL 11 AND 18, 2021

SUNDAY MASS

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

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

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

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

and midnight).

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

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

DAILY MASS

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

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

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

We pray Weeks II and III, Seasonal Propers, of the Liturgy of the Hours.

Let Christ shine through you to enlighten others

the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.”

We are at a new moment in our life as Church. It is time to awaken. We are a family, and we have a gift for welcoming. We have learned the truth of Jesus Christ, and we are members of the Church. She is our mother, and she is willing and able to teach us a better way than the world can give.

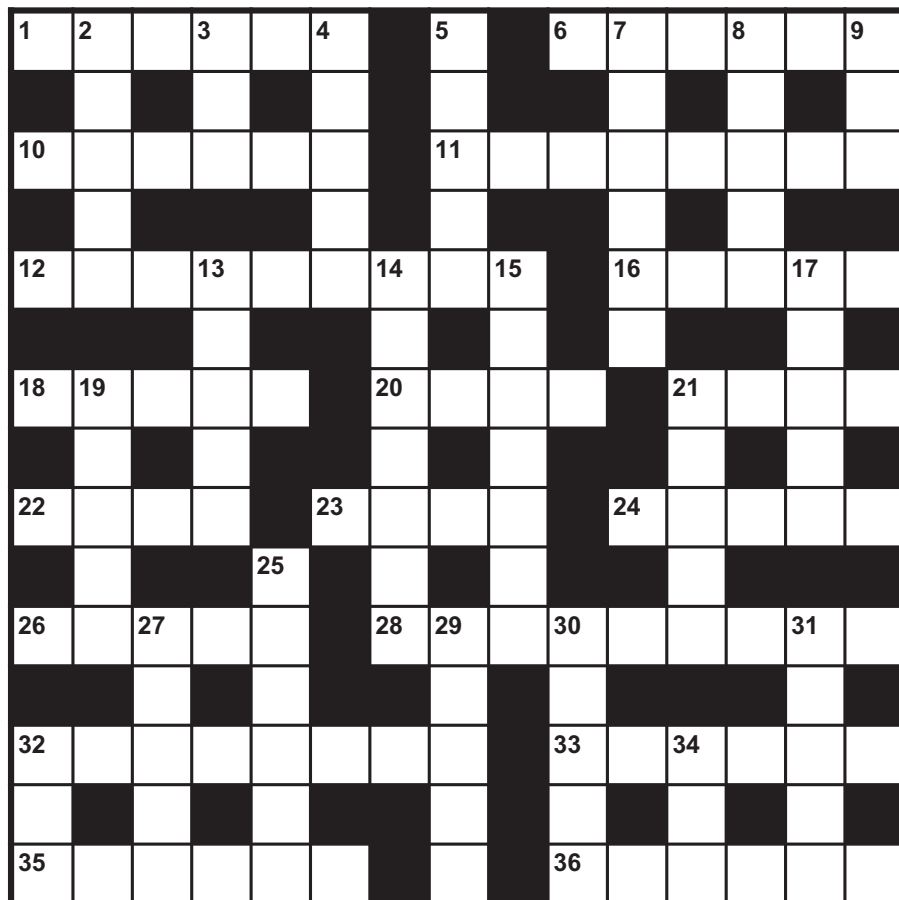
Think of what the Church means to you. What did you miss most during the time of “lockdown”? What are you most grateful to experience once

again? Relish it. Savor it. Taste it thoroughly. Embrace it as your own. Let it penetrate your heart so that you will not let it go, no matter what the world throws at you.

Now, think about those you encounter in your daily life who do not have that or who have set it aside for something that does not satisfy. *You are witnesses.* What does Jesus ask of you? What is the story you have to tell? Who

See CHRIST, Page 15

CATHOLIC CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Catholic actor of "The Honeymooners" fame
- 6 The women brought these to anoint Jesus' body
- 10 Level of reverence reserved to God alone
- 11 A high priest
- 12 Right granted by a bishop to a priest, enabling the exercise of ministry
- 16 Second pope
- 18 The Hebrews fled from here
- 20 The ____ of Ars, the patron saint of priests
- 21 "____ homo"
- 22 Judge who had thirty sons who rode thirty donkeys (Judg 10:4)
- 23 Recent pope, affectionately
- 24 Apostles' or Nicene
- 26 Chief apostle
- 28 Visible appearance of God
- 32 Teresa of Avila's Castle
- 33 Brother of Peter
- 35 First word of a Latin hymn
- 36 Gregory I sent missionaries to convert these barbarians

DOWN

- 2 Confirmation gesture
- 3 Abner's father
- 4 What you do not use in unleavened bread
- 5 President Johnson's daughter who converted to Catholicism
- 7 What you should not cast before swine
- 8 Catholic singer and songwriter George M.
- 9 Female members of religious orders (abbr.)
- 13 The ____ Room, where the disciples experienced the Holy Spirit
- 14 Words added at the beginning of a Scripture reading in the Lectionary
- 15 Mass
- 17 Ishmael, to Jacob
- 19 God's life in us
- 21 "... thy will be done on ____"
- 25 Early landing place
- 27 Donate a portion of money to church
- 29 City that was the home of Abram
- 30 Archdiocese in Nebraska
- 31 Dinah, to Esau
- 32 OT prophetic book
- 34 Heroic St. Bernard animal

MERCY, continued from Page 14

who served as witnesses to the resurrection, we look at Jesus as He is in glory, as He reveals Himself in our humanity. He comes to His disciples with a word of forgiveness and wholeness: "Shalom. Peace."

He comes to invite a sharing in the mercy that is revealed through His passion, death and resurrection. All is written, all is told that we may have life in His name. The life that Jesus offers is the fullness of life. We are invited to share His mind and heart and the fullness of resurrected life in Him.

The mercy of God is infinite. It is offered and it is poured out in abundance this weekend. We have seen it manifested in the Easter liturgies. As we

observe Divine Mercy Sunday, let us pray also for the healing of our world, and let us renew our commitment to share with others the wonderful gift of life with our merciful God. Let our life together be a sign to the world that Jesus Christ is risen.

We can ask for whatever we want, but we have to let go of the temptation to measure God's response according to our own personal desires. We think too small. God bursts the boundaries. He raises Jesus from the worst kind of death, and then He shares His life with us. Let us become aware of our own need and ask God to pour out His mercy on us and on the whole world.

CHRIST, continued from Page 14

needs to hear it from you?

God is with us on our journey. He walks with us along the way. Many deny God because they miss this simple point. God is God, but He does not Lord it over us. He is interested in us for our own sake, for the sake of His love for us.

What are you concerned about? Tell Him. He listens, and He hears. He knows the cry of your heart, and He understands your longings and desires better than you understand them yourself.

The disciples of Jesus are witnesses of the action of God. We are disciples. As a disciple, walking with Him on the way, what do you see? Whose cry do you hear? What are the longings of your heart that point to a life beyond this life? Can you open your world to the Lord and invite Him to stay with you?

There are two ways of being in reaction to all the burdens that we carry. We can close in on ourselves in selfishness, in a vain effort to protect and preserve

what we have. Or we can open and allow what God offers to flow freely through us.

As disciples, our prayer is: "Lord, let your face shine on us." When we open our faces to the sun, we begin to glow. When we open our lives to God, the truth of the resurrection begins to shine in us. God opens our minds to understand the scriptures not merely by teaching us with words, but by opening up our human experiences to reveal the divine. The Word of God, once associated with the "stuff" of our lives, lifts us up and takes root in us.

Whoever keeps His word, the love of God is truly perfected in him. The Word speaks to us. We hear it, receive it into our hearts, and we live it. And then, the risen Lord lives in us, for time and for eternity. God wants us to be witnesses of what He can do. Are not our hearts burning, as He speaks to us on the way?

In the marriage case styled DAVID ALLEN DARNELL and MICHELLE LYNN GEMINDEN, the Tribunal of the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio is currently unaware of the present address of MICHELLE LYNN GEMINDEN. The Tribunal herewith informs her of the case and invites her to contact REVEREND MONSIGNOR JOHN JOHNSON, JCD, Presiding and sole Judge, no later than 26 APRIL 2021 - or call phone 241-2500 Extension 3. Anyone who knows of the whereabouts of MICHELLE LYNN GEMINDEN is herewith asked to make this Citation known to her or to inform the Tribunal of her current address.

Given this 23 MARCH 2021;

REVEREND MONSIGNOR JOHN JOHNSON, JCD
Presiding Judge

Sue Ulmer
Notary

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PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

BALDERSON, William N., 83, March 29
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

BRADY, Margaret J. "Peggy" (Johnson), 57, March 20
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

BRESSLER, Carolyn A. (Cox), 85, March 23
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

CAMPBELL, Robert H. Jr., 69, March 24
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

CLARK, Anna M. (Westall), 91, March 19
St. Patrick Church, Junction City

CSETRI, Dr. Csaba, 89, March 19
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

CULICHIA, Geraldine, formerly of Columbus, March 21
St. Mary Church, Tiffin

DeFRANCISCO, Rene (Bolon), 74, March 18
St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury

DOUGLAS (FLOOD), Agnes P. (Donovan), 92, March 27
Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus

GIBSON, Patricia J. (Grimes), 90, March 18
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

HAUSFELD, Mary J. (Johnson), 93, March 21
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

JESTER, Sylvia A. (Bryan), 79, March 28
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

KESSLER, Thomas H., 86, March 17
St. Paul Church, Westerville

KOCH, Edward A., 89, March 29
St. Patrick Church, Columbus

KOTLINSKI, Paul T., 64, March 19
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

KOWIS, Lillian G. (Schwindt), 85, March 23
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, Columbus

MARGELLO-RAMSEY, Julia (DeAscendis), 93, March 21
Resurrection Cemetery Chapel, Lewis Center

MARTIN, Chris A., 66, March 23
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

MELINO, Mary T. (Cassan), 79, March 21
St. Mary, Mother of God Church, Columbus

SPILLERS, Virginia, 91, March 22
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

Sister Ruth Fecke, SNDdeN

Sister Ruth Fecke, SNDdeN, 76, died Aug. 10, 2020 at the Mount Notre Dame Health Center in Cincinnati.

She was born on Aug. 26, 1943 in Dayton to the late Ralph and Alice (Hare) Fecke.

She received a Bachelor of Science degree in education from the University of Dayton in 1967 and a Master of Education degree in educational administration from Ohio State University in 1977.

She entered the congregation of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur on

Sept. 8, 1961 and professed her first vows on Aug. 13, 1964, taking the name Sister Alice Julie, and her final vows on Aug. 12, 1971.

In the Diocese of Columbus, she taught from 1972 to 1977 at Columbus St. Augustine School. She spent the rest of her 26-year teaching career in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, following that with 19 years in the archdiocese serving her congregation and various business and social service agencies in clerical positions. She was at Mount Notre Dame from 2014 until her death.

Sister Damienne Grismer, SNDdeN

Sister Damienne Grismer, SNDdeN, 91, died Friday, Jan. 15 at the Mount Notre Dame Health Center in Cincinnati.

She was born Janet Grismer on July 6, 1929 in Dayton to the late John and Eugenie (Stomps) Grismer.

She received a Bachelor of Science degree in education from the University of Dayton in 1965, a Master of Arts degree from Manhattanville College in Purchase, New York in 1967 and a Master of Science degree from Wright State University in 1978.

She entered the congregation of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur on

July 26, 1947 and professed her first vows on Jan. 28, 1950 and her final vows on Aug. 13, 1955.

In the Diocese of Columbus, she taught at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral School from 1951 to 1956. She was in charge of a high-school equivalency diploma program at a halfway house in the Chicago area for five years and spent the rest of her career in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, including 31 years as a teacher at Dayton Chaminade-Julienne High School. She was at Mount Notre Dame from 2013 until her death.

Sister Gwen Koza, SNDdeN

Sister Gwen Koza, SNDdeN, 93, died Dec. 29, 2020 at the Mount Notre Dame Health Center in Cincinnati.

She was born on May 4, 1927 in Hammond, Indiana to the late Thomas and Mildred (Stevens) Koza,

She was a 1945 graduate of Columbus St. Joseph Academy and received a Bachelor of Science degree in education from Our Lady of Cincinnati College in 1960 and a Master of Arts degree in teaching mathematics from Mundelein College in Chicago in 1976.

She entered the congregation of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur on

Aug. 14, 1945 and professed her first vows on Jan. 24, 1948, taking the name Sister Rose Julia, and her final vows on Aug. 13, 1953.

In the Diocese of Columbus, she taught at Columbus Bishop Hartley High School from 1972 to 1976. She also was a teacher at elementary and secondary schools in the Cincinnati and Chicago areas and at community colleges in Arizona and Florida. She began performing community service at the Mount Notre Dame Health Center in 2003 and was in residence there until her death.

Sister Diane Reed, SNDdeN

Sister Diane Reed, SNDdeN, 88, died Sept. 29, 2020 at the Mount Notre Dame Health Center in Cincinnati.

She was born on July 24, 1932 in Columbus to the late William and Mary (Mahaffey) Reed.

She was a 1950 graduate of Columbus St. Joseph Academy and received a Bachelor of Science degree in education from Ohio Dominican College (now Ohio Dominican University) in 1961 and a Master of Arts degree in religious studies from Mundelein College in Chicago in 1976.

She entered the congregation of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur on Sept. 8, 1950 and professed her first

vows on March 28, 1953, taking the name Sister Mary Peter, and her final vows on Aug. 13, 1958.

In the Diocese of Columbus, she taught at Columbus St. Aloysius (1957-1961, 1972-73), Westerville St. Paul (1961-1962) and Columbus St. Christopher (1970-1972) schools and was religious education coordinator at Columbus St. Catharine Church (1973-1976). She also was a teacher in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and the Chicago area and served in parish ministry and as a volunteer at parishes in the Cincinnati area. She entered the Mount Notre Dame Health Center in 2020.



To have an obituary printed in the Catholic Times, send it to: tpuet@columbuscatholic.org

PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of heaven, blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in necessity. Oh, star of the sea, help me and show me herein, you are my Heaven and Earth. I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to secure me in this necessity. There are none who can withstand your powers. Oh, show me herein you are my Mother. Oh, Mary conceived without sin, pray for us, who have recourse to thee. (Repeat three times) Oh, Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hand. (Repeat three times) Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads that I can obtain my goals. You gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me, and in all instances in my life, you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer three consecutive days, after three days, the request will be granted. GW

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rfinn@columbuscatholic.org

Watterson student collects diapers for Bottoms Up



Columbus Bishop Watterson High School sophomore Ellie Metzler collected 2,655 diapers and 144 baby wipes for the Bottoms Up diaper drive. She is shown with Jo Welsh, Bottoms Up president. Another sophomore at the school, Helen Hughes, collected \$270 in donations for Bottoms Up. All Watterson sophomores are required to do a service project with a nonprofit agency. Each student chooses the nonprofit they want to work with.

Photo courtesy Bottoms Up

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POSITION AVAILABLE

BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH Newark, Ohio

COORDINATOR OF MINISTRY AND FAITH FORMATION

Blessed Sacrament Parish, Newark has an opening for a full time Coordinator of Ministry and Faith Formation. Under the direction of the Pastor, this position has responsibility for coordinating the parish pastoral ministry to parishioners, including directing youth ministry and young adult programs, and overseeing faith formation programs. There is a special emphasis on family ministry. It will be necessary that a portion of the employee's work time will be on weekends and evenings.

The ideal applicant must be a practicing Catholic and exhibit an attitude and behavior for cultivating lifelong learning and development in faith. A BS or BA is preferred in a relevant degree in theology or religious education. 3 to 5 years of youth ministry experience or similar is required. Capacity to lead parish programs and work with volunteer team members with strong writing skills, excellent speaking and teaching skills, along with the ability to speak to a diverse audience from priests, to parents, to young people is required. Computer, audio/visual, social media proficiency, and video production skills is required.

Job offer is contingent on the successful passing of the mandatory background screening and completion of the VIRTUS "Protecting God's Children" program. Compensation is commensurate with experience and ability. Full complement of benefits offered: health, dental, vision, life, short & long-term disability, and matching 403(b). Benefits are according to Diocesan policy.

Send cover letter, resume, salary requirement, and references (3) to Deacon Patrick Wilson at deacon394@outlook.com.

POSITION AVAILABLE

BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH Newark, Ohio

BOOKKEEPER

The parish community of Blessed Sacrament, located in Newark, Ohio, is seeking a full time Bookkeeper who, under the direct supervision of the Business Manager, will be responsible for performing routine and repetitive bookkeeping and accounting duties in the areas of Accounts Payable, General Ledger entry, Census contribution entry, and Annual Budgeting. Certain projects may require more hours.

The ideal applicant would possess a college degree (preferred) with a degree in a related field and a minimum of three years prior experience is required. Ongoing working knowledge of computer software including QuickBooks and Microsoft Office. Knowledge of Catholic Church and its mission is required. The candidate should be self-motivated to complete the responsibilities of the job with minimum supervision; have the ability to communicate effectively; ability to multi-task and establish priorities; ability to maintain flexible attitude and approach towards assignments and successfully operate under appropriate guidelines. Additionally, have the ability to read and comprehend simple instructions, write short correspondence, and memos and to exercise discreet judgment in maintaining all information highly confidential.

Job offer is contingent on the successful passing of the mandatory background screening and completion of the VIRTUS "Protecting God's Children" course. Compensation is commensurate with experience and ability. We offer a full complement of benefits, including health, dental, vision, life, short & long-term disability, and matching 403(b). Benefits are according to Diocesan policy.

Send cover letter, resume, salary requirement and references (3) by Thursday, April 15, 2021 to Jim Weisent, Business Manager, at busmgr@bbsac.net.

Travel

Crosby's Fish & Shrimp Co.

Legendary family business thrives along South Carolina coast

By Aaron Leventhal

For the past three winters, my wife Beth, our white Labrador Lily and I have stayed in a small, vacation home rental on the South Carolina island of Folly Beach, 12 miles south of historic Charleston. Being in the height of the coronavirus pandemic, we ate many of our meals at home and were happy to be just a short drive from Crosby's Fish & Shrimp Co.

The legendary family market just off the sandy shores of the Atlantic Ocean is renowned for providing the freshest of shrimp and seafood to residents and visitors in Folly, Charleston and surrounding islands.

In February, we had the opportunity to meet twin sisters Ellie Berry and

Joanie Cooksey, 52. Over the past 30 years they have worked tirelessly to turn their late father's bait and tackle shop into a major landmark attraction. They both are obviously hard-working and committed, while at the same time gracious, genuine and warm. Their spirit infuses the market, making it a welcoming and fun shopping experience.

The family saga begins in 1974 when brothers Horace and Steve Crosby, both avid fishermen and small business entrepreneurs from James Island, purchased an acre of land along Folly Creek where they built and operated a popular bait and tackle shop. Five years later the brothers expanded to include a retail, carry-out seafood market. They constructed docks so local commercial fisherman could

Chris Berry, Crosby's Striker



Chris Berry and travel writer Aaron Leventhal at Crosby's sea market docks

Like his mom Ellie, Chris Berry, 20, has worked in the family business since early adolescence. Today he is a "striker," a term meaning the boat captain's assistant. He told Beth and me that Crosby's has two shrimp boats and two fishing boats that operate year-round from their docks. He and his cousins also recently added Castaway Island Excursions to Crosby's offerings, providing guided boat tours.

"It's hard work since we are inland and need to navigate for about a mile up Folly Creek to Folly River before reaching the Atlantic. We sell only wild seafood in our store, never farmed. Wild fish taste fresher and better, and our customers appreciate the quality we offer. Sometimes we're out fishing for up to a week if we head down to Florida. Depending on the season and weather, a good day's catch can yield up to 2,000 pounds of fish and/or shrimp. "Year-round, our four boats can average 5 to 6 tons weekly," said Chris.



Twins Ellie Berry and Joanie Cooksey own and manage the legendary South Carolina sea market, just off the entrance to Folly Beach Island.

pull their boats up to Crosby's and sell them their fresh catch of shrimp, oysters, snapper, flounder, grouper and more.

With the business booming, Uncle Steve left to open a wholesale seafood market in downtown Charleston, selling Crosby's excess supply to restaurateurs and the general public. But in 1988 a fire raged out of control and essentially destroyed the entire operation. The family was devastated. What to do now?

Horace turned to the twins, who had worked at Crosby's since early childhood, and offered to rebuild the business if they and their brother Tim would take over as owners and managers. They were 20 years old when they reopened the seafood market as Crosby's Fish & Shrimp Co.

Tragically, within a year their beloved father died. Then on September 21, 1989, Hurricane Hugo devastated the coastal area and their business. They courageously rebuilt Crosby's from scratch with support from their family, suppliers, and island communities. During the following three decades, they built Crosby's into a dynamic, family enterprise that continues to grow and evolve with new facilities and services. In fact, soon after we arrived, they closed for a few days to rebuild their aging docks.

One of their early innovations was to expand their inventory of local fish and shrimp by entering into agree-

ments with outstanding seafood suppliers up and down the Atlantic coast. Today customers can purchase lobsters, mussels and scallops from Maine; oysters, and clams from Virginia; and shrimp from Florida. It's estimated about 30 percent of sales comes from suppliers and the remainder from their own boats.

When I asked if it was true that Jimmy Buffett stopped by when he was in the area, they smiled and nodded affirmatively.

Ellie and Joanie were both quick to answer why Crosby's has become such a popular, treasured landmark. "If it's Crosby's, it's quality first. We stay close to our customers and appreciate their loyalty."

Crosby's also offers a public fishing pier with its own docks and an extensive line of products such as Lowcountry Carolina rice, sauces, delicious made-in-store fish and crab dips, and souvenirs. A food truck sells fish and seafood tacos, sandwiches and platters, Friday through Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Kayak and paddleboat rentals and boat tours are offered March through November.

Crosby's Fish & Shrimp Co, 2223 Folly Rd., Charleston, SC 29412, 843-795-4049, crosbysfishshrimp.com.

Columbus travel writer Aaron Leventhal is a frequent contributor to The Catholic Times. Photos by Beth Ervin Leventhal.

St. Charles announces award winner

Tommy Trinh, a Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School senior, is the recipient of the school's inaugural S.J. Dilenschneider Award, recognizing a junior or senior at the school who has made a meaningful and positive impact upon the St. Charles community.

The honoree exemplifies the greatest qualities of the Borromeo spirit with his service to others and the way he has upheld the ideals of St. Charles Borromeo. It also acknowledges the recipient's exceptional personal character, leadership and civic-mindedness.

More than 25 percent of the senior and junior class applied for this award, which was established by Robert Dilenschneider, a 1961 St. Charles graduate, in honor of Dilenschneider's father, S.J. Dilenschneider, who was instrumental in the merger of The Columbus Citizen and the Ohio State Journal into the Columbus Cit-

izen-Journal in 1959. It is accompanied by an engraved plaque and a \$10,000 cash honorarium.

Robert Dilenschneider lives in New York City, where he is chief executive of one of the nation's leading public relations firms. He has long been active in programs for St. Charles students and graduates.

Trinh is an honor roll student and a member of the school's wrestling team and audio-visual staff. He plans to study computer engineering at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. His parents came to the United States from Vietnam soon after the Vietnam War to be able to give their children a better future.

Since his freshman year at St. Charles, he has helped children in his diverse, low-income neighborhood learn about coding and building computers and has repaired electronic items for older adults at no charge.



St. Charles senior Tommy Trinh

Photo courtesy St. Charles Preparatory School

Bishop honors server award winners



Joshua Richter (left) and Benjamin Reinhart received Serra Club altar server awards for Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church from Bishop Robert Brennan at the parish's celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation. The two, who were the bishop's servers for the Mass, were unable to receive the award last year because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Photo courtesy Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

St. Bernadette Stations of the Cross

During Lent, students at Lancaster St. Bernadette School participated in the Stations of the Cross, with one grade level leading the Stations while the other classes followed in prayer. The kindergarten class is shown taking its turn leading the devotion.

Photo courtesy St. Bernadette School



DIRECTOR OF EVANGELIZATION

St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church

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St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Westerville, OH is a Catholic parish of 4,000 households committed to the New Evangelization from the Heart of the Church. We are enthusiastically Catholic and strive to be a parish that joyfully embraces dynamic orthodoxy. Our parish mission statement is "Inspired by Saint Paul, Centered on Christ, Called to Holiness" and we are committed to living this mission through the singular purpose of forming missionary disciples of Jesus Christ. To this end, we are establishing the Director of Evangelization position.

The Director of Evangelization will provide leadership and supervision to all evangelizing and catechetical activities within the life of the parish. The Director of Evangelization will lead and oversee the Evangelization Office staff and volunteers. Major areas of programming include all Children, Youth, Young Professional, Marriage Ministry, Family Ministry, Adult Faith Formation, and all Outreach Ministries. This includes Sacramental Preparation, Parish School of Religion, Middle School and High School Youth Ministry, Young Adult Ministry, R.C.I.A., Parish Athletic Association, and Adult Faith Formation.

The Director of Evangelization will work closely with the pastor in overseeing the liturgy as the principal place of encounter with parishioners. The Director of Evangelization will work collaboratively with the principal of Saint Paul School in order that the school's mission and the parish mission remain aligned and integrated. The Director will report directly to the Pastor and will serve in conjunction with the Director of Parish Administration and the School Principal as a member of the Pastor's Leadership Team.

Position qualifications: Education: Master's degree in Catholic Theology or equivalent is required. Knowledge and understanding of the Catholic Church and its mission is also required, particularly regarding the Parish and the vital role it plays in a Christian's personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Experience: Practicing Catholic in good standing with minimum of 10 years parish and/or diocesan ministry is strongly preferred. Individual should be able to demonstrate familiarity with the various aspects of ministry including liturgy, catechesis and faith formation, youth ministry, charity, parish outreach activities and the day to day operations of the parish business office. Above all, the desired candidate must manifest a missionary disciple identity, be able to share their own testimony of Christ, proclaim the kerygma, and form other disciples.

Job Related Skills: Experience in ecclesial/ministerial visioning/planning including familiarity with Church structures and systems, experience collaborating with clergy/staff/volunteers, and possessing exceptional interpersonal skills such as listening, conflict resolution, collaboration, written/oral communication, management/supervision, effective platform skills and presence.

Compensation & Benefits: Compensation is commensurate with experience and ability. We offer a full complement of benefits, including health, dental, vision, life, short & long-term disability, and matching 403(b) through the Diocese of Columbus.

Interested parties: Please submit cover letter, resume, and references to: Evangelization@stpacc.org. We are receiving applications through Friday - April 16, 2021. We anticipate a start date in June 2021.

Stay the Course helps students overcome obstacles to degree

When a person enrolls in community college, he or she embarks on a journey – one that can end prematurely due to non-academic obstacles, making the goal of graduation a distant dream.

Only 39 percent of students receive some degree or certificate within six years of enrolling in community college. For low-income students, this “completion crisis” can have lasting consequences.

Low degree-completion rates can block critical social advances for these students, threatening their long-term employment opportunities and earning potential. After all, 65% of U.S. jobs require postsecondary education and training. Failure to earn a degree most often perpetuates the poverty into which many students were born.

Compared to their university counterparts, many low-income community college students face disproportionate barriers to completing an education. These students carry the burdens of poverty that routinely pull their energies away from academics and toward survival.

College students aren't often equated with homelessness. One might envision “college kids” living in dorms, sharing off-campus apartments with roommates or living at home with Mom and Dad. But the reality is, nearly 1 in 5 (18 percent) community college students experiences homelessness – sleeping on a friend's couch, in a car, a local shelter or even a storage unit.

Other common challenges that affect academics include transportation, parental responsibilities and financial stressors.

When such obstacles arise, community college students can be hard-pressed to envision attaining their degree. Or, maybe their hope exists, but the step-by-step path to get there is unclear. This is where Catholic Social Services (CSS) comes in.

While struggling community college students are often sized up by their deficits, such as the lack of a good job or a stable home, CCS looks at them differently, holistically. CCS sees students full of strengths, drive and heroic qualities that, when tapped, can lead to realized dreams. CCS sees people who, with help, are capable of overcoming the challenges of integrating life and school.

That help comes through CSS' Stay the Course (STC) program. The program, launched in 2019 in partnership with Columbus State Community College, provides support for students struggling to complete their degree. Every participating STC student is paired with a Navigator (case manager) who supports, mentors and advocates for the student. The Navigator is a “traveling companion,” providing guidance and personal assistance in degree completion.

When a student joins the STC program, his or her Navigator does an initial strengths-based assessment using a tool called a “Strengths Map.” Together, the student and the Naviga-

tor explore topics such as:

- Financial freedom: including having a savings account and a living-wage income, and dealing with debt and budgeting.
- Education: identifying goals, careers/jobs, trainings and courses of action.
- Support systems: identifying strengths and opportunities in the areas of child care, family, transportation, housing, food, employment, legal residency and legal aid.
- Well-being: accessing areas of relationship health, emotions, behaviors and mental and physical health.

In using this Strengths Map, the Navigator helps each student understand opportunities for growth while also recognizing unique strengths. Sometimes students need help believing in themselves before they can believe in their dreams. The Navigator reminds them of all that they have going for them and assists in setting goals and developing actions plans.

The Strengths Map aims to create momentum. Completed actions compel students forward and build confidence. Challenges can be managed when not faced alone. What seems like a Herculean feat can be accomplished when broken down into simpler tasks. Meet Jacob

The benefit of this step-by-step approach is evident in Jacob, a student who joined the STC program in August 2020.

Jacob lives with his mother but longs to find his own place. After

completing his Strengths Map, Jacob set a goal to secure a job with a stable income. Once a position piqued his interest, he and his Navigator created a resume. With a polished resume in hand, ready to be shared with potential employers, Jacob had completed his first action step.

He was so excited that he texted his Navigator to celebrate. He was empowered and on track to apply for the job he wants. It's a small step, but a big deal.

Like Jacob's first polished resume, completed action steps serve as reasons to celebrate and realistically sustain hope through an entire college education. Students realize it can be done by recognizing and relying on their strengths, trusting in the support of their Navigator and approaching the goal one determined and right-sized step at a time.

Through the STC program, 120 students will launch their journey with critical assistance that can make a difference in the trajectory of their lives. Like Jacob, each student will be provided with a “map,” a trusted Navigator and a fortified sense of his or her potentials and strengths.

In this way, the STC program provides vital resources and support structures that allow students to remain on their life-changing journey, advancing toward a completed college degree, along with the promising career and life opportunities that follow.



PONTIFICAL COLLEGE
JOSEPHINUM

OPEN POSITION: DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT

The Pontifical College Josephinum is accepting applications for Director of Advancement (DOA). The DOA is a full-time fundraiser within the Josephinum's Advancement Office who reports to the Vice President for Advancement. Candidates should have a fluency in the donor continuum with 2+ years of experience in relationship management; face-to-face asking; and Annual Fund direct-mail appeals and telethons. For a full description of this opportunity please go to the Josephinum website: www.pcj.edu

The Advancement Office requires a personal commitment to the mission of the Josephinum and the magisterium of the Catholic Church, as well as the ability to be a persuasive advocate for private philanthropy in support of seminarians being formed for the priesthood. The Josephinum offers a competitive salary and excellent benefits. Deadline for applications is May 1, 2021. Applicants may send a cover letter, any examples of fundraising appeals, and resume to:

Search Committee: Director of Advancement
Pontifical College Josephinum
7625 North High Street
Columbus, OH 43235
Fax: 614-885-2307
E-mail: dstein@pcj.edu

Seton Parish

600 Hill Road North
Pickerington, Ohio 43147

Employment Opportunity

Position: Custodian

Deadline: April 15, 2021 Status: Non-Exempt (Hourly) Practicing Catholic: Preferred

Seton Parish, Pickerington, Ohio, seeks qualified candidates for the position of custodian. Full and part-time positions are available.

The custodian is responsible for general cleaning, setup, and tear down of assigned areas within the parish facilities.

Duties include and are not limited to: sweeping, vacuuming, mopping, scrubbing, with industrial vacuum cleaners and scrubbing machines; using ladders; dusting and washing walls; cleaning ceilings; dusting and polishing light fixtures; washing and replacing blinds; washing windows; moving objects as needed to clean areas; removing stains from surfaces using chemicals and cleaning solutions; sweeping walks; raking leaves; removing snow and performing other incidental seasonal tasks; emptying trash cans and replacing liners; emptying recycling containers; and refilling soap, paper towel, and toilet paper dispensers.

Applicants must be able to work independently, pay close attention to detail, and perform all physical aspects of job duties. Previous custodial experience is preferred, but not required. Some non-standard hours may be required.

Job offer is contingent on the successful passing of the mandatory background screening and completion of the VIRTUS “Protecting God's Children” course.

Please forward resume, references, and compensation requirements by April 15, 2021 to Jim Hamilton, Director of Maintenance, at jhamilton@setonparish.com, or call the parish office at 614-833-0482.

Local news and events

Greater Columbus Right to Life to be part of oratory contest

Greater Columbus Right to Life will be participating as a qualifying chapter in the 2021 Ohio pro-life oratory contest for high school juniors and seniors.

The first-prize winner will receive \$100 and represent central Ohio in the state contest. The second-prize winner will be awarded \$75 and honorable mention will be worth \$50.

The contest is open to students in their final two years of high school or its equivalent who live, attend church, or go to school in Franklin, Delaware, Morrow, Union, Madison, Fairfield, Pickaway or Licking counties.

Students outside of those counties who do not have a local contest in their community also may be eligible to participate. For more information, contact Greater Columbus Right to Life at (614) 445-8508.

High school seniors invited to college success summit

High school seniors are encouraged to attend a college success summit supported by the diocesan Office of Catholic Schools and the six Franklin County Catholic high schools.

The event will take place on Saturday, April 17 from 10 a.m. to noon in the Robert C. Walter Student Commons at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St. In accordance with health and safety regulations, attendance is limited to 280 seniors. Registration is required. To register go to <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2RFX1v8hIkqeX-LAFXGn3w4OmLocIOR5Cks3IT-PU1DytUNzM3U1dZRT1ERVR-CUFBPTzhRQzU1MU9COC4u>.

The event will include the following presenters and their topics: Father Vincent Nguyen, pastor of Columbus St. Mary Mother of God, Corpus Christi and St. Ladislav churches, "Continue Your Faith Journey in College"; Bill Leaman of the admissions and advancement staff at Notre Dame College in South Euclid, "College Success 101"; Walter Distelzweig, Columbus Bishop Hartley High School safety director, and Columbus police officer Jeremy Grimes, resource officer at St. Charles, "Safety Precautions of College Life"; and Kathleen Wiant, mother and anti-hazing advocate, "The Hazing Trap."

St. Charles to sponsor father-son Mass and luncheon

Columbus St. Charles Preparato-

ry School will host its annual father/son Mass and luncheon on Saturday, April 24. This event is open to male students from fifth to ninth grade and their fathers, St. Charles graduates and their fathers, and alumni fathers with their sons. Participants will wear masks, socially distance and follow all required safety measures.

The day will begin with a campus tour at 9 a.m., followed by Mass at 10:30 celebrated by Father Michael Hartge, a St. Charles graduate and vice chancellor of the Diocese of Columbus. The featured speaker for the day will be St. Charles alumnus Chuck Strickler, a longtime news anchor for WBNS-TV.

His talk will be followed by a box lunch in the school's robotics and mentoring center. Tours of the building, as well as the athletic and training facilities of West Campus, also will be provided.

There will be a number of other activities during the day, including several athletic competitions and demonstrations by the school's robotics team. Registration is required no later than Wednesday, April 21 and attendance is limited to 325 people.

To register, visit the "Father/Son" post on the St. Charles home page (www.stcharlesprep.org) and click on the event's SignUp Genius page live link. If you have any questions, contact Louis J. Fabro at lfabro@scprep.org.

Wilderness Outreach expedition site changed

The Wilderness Outreach organization has changed the site for its 50th Western mountain expedition, which was announced in the March 28 *Catholic Times*.

The expedition now will be in the Huston Park or Encampment Wilderness in Wyoming, a site to the west of the Platte River area in the same state, where the organization worked last year on reclaiming a hiking trail. A severe forest fire later in the year scorched the area to such an extent that the U.S. Forest Service is not reopening it at this time because of safety concerns.

Wilderness Outreach director John Bradford said 12 men are signed up for the expedition, with six more possibly coming. It will begin no later than Friday, July 19. The Huston Park area is 2 ½ hours from Laramie, Wyoming and 4 ½ hours from Denver, but Bradford recommends that participants fly to Denver because it will

cost much less.

For more information, go to wildernessoutreach2560@gmail.com or call Bradford at (614) 679-6761.

St. Charles football team sponsors 5K run/walk

The Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School football team is sponsoring its inaugural Game Day 5K run/walk on Friday, April 30, with a staggered start at 6 p.m.

The 5-kilometer run and 1-mile walk will start and end at the school, 2010 E. Broad St., and go through the streets of north Bexley. It will be a family-friendly event with participants encouraged to enter as teams. The team with the most registered members will be recognized.

The school's football boosters also are organizing a Back the Brotherhood Club. Members of the club will be asked to select a particular jersey number to sponsor in return for a \$300 donation.

Sponsors will receive a T-shirt with the number they selected, recognition on a banner displayed at all home football games and a ticket for the first home game of the 2021 season.

All donations to the club are tax-deductible. Registration is open at www.stcharlesfb.com.

ODU physician assistant grads have test success

For the seventh consecutive year, Ohio Dominican University (ODU)'s fall 2020 graduating class of 47 physician assistant studies students has achieved a 98 percent first-time pass rate on the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam (PANCE). This exceeds the national average first-time pass rate of 95 percent for the year.

The PANCE is a computer-based, multiple-choice test with questions that assess general medical and surgical knowledge. Passing it is required for those who wish to become certified physician assistants by receiving certification from the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA).

Students who do not pass the exam on their first attempt may take it a second time 90 days later. Excluding ODU's most recent class of graduates, 100 percent of ODU graduates who have taken the PANCE have passed on their first or second attempts.

ODU launched central Ohio's first physician assistant master's program in 2012. The program has more than 340 alumni and a current enrollment of 96. An additional 50 students will complete the program in August. For more information on the program, visit ohiodominican.edu/PA.

Grove City parish to present talks on encyclical

Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3730 Broadway, will sponsor a seven-week presentation and discussion series on Pope Francis' latest encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*, on Thursdays from April 8 to May 20. Moderators will be Sister Nancy Miller, OSF, and parish administrator David Frea.

In *Fratelli Tutti*, the third encyclical of his pontificate, Pope Francis invites the Church to live the call to universal fraternity and social friendship. The encyclical offers a way of life marked by the flavor of the Gospel and shares the vision for humanity the pope has emphasized throughout his papacy.

Anyone in the diocese is invited to join, either at the parish or online via Zoom. COVID-19 precautions will be in place for those attending in-person.

Those interested may register by emailing FratelliTutti@OurLadyOfPerpetualHelp.net. Seating will be limited, so please indicate if attending in-person or virtually. You may download the encyclical from www.vatican.va for free or purchase it for \$13.95 from USCCB.org or smile.amazon.com. There is no cost for the presentation itself.

More information is at ourladygc.org/fratellitutti-event.

DeSales offers summer basketball camp for boys

Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School will conduct a summer basketball camp on Tuesdays and Thursdays in June for boys entering grades 5-9 in the fall.

The camp will consist of 10 games and a single-elimination tournament. Included are three clinic/practice days.

Cost is \$200. For details and to register, visit <https://www.stallionpride.com/stallion-summer-league>. For more information, contact DeSales boys basketball coach Pat Murphy at patmurphy@desales.co.

FRIENDS' FAITH, *continued from Page 3*

tora on entering St. Brigid School as a fourth-grader. Both played on school athletic teams together and had classes together, and both say Cindy Lombardo, their eighth-grade theology teacher, had an important role in their faith journey.

"Mrs. Lombardo made me much more interested in learning about Christianity. When you're young, that's something you don't think about much, but she made me want to understand and analyze the reasons for the Church's beliefs," Tortora said.

"She challenged us with deeper concepts," Severance said. "That's what got the ball turning in my head about the priesthood for the first time. She planted the seeds." More seeds were planted at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School by teacher Michael Fry in theology classes.

"He had a way of making faith more real to students through things like choosing a saint of the day and telling that saint's story," Severance said. "Mr. Fry made me realize that faith and science were closely connected with each other. At that point, I was starting to think about becoming a priest, but the thought scared me. I put it in the back of my brain and hoped it would go away, but it didn't.

"In my senior year at Watterson, I started to go to chapel during study hall and sit in front of the Lord in the Eucharist. You do that enough, and He starts speaking to you," Severance said. But he wasn't ready at that point to make a commitment to the priesthood. After graduation from Watterson, he attended Otterbein University, where he majored in sports management and was on the baseball team.

While at Watterson, he and Tortora were involved with different activities but continued to be friends. Tortora majored in English at Ohio State University and worked during vacations with Our Lady of Bethlehem's summer program for children age 3

through sixth grade. During the regular academic year, the school is for students 6 months old through kindergarten.

Joining Tortora as teachers at the school during some of those summers were Severance and Jacob Saliba, a friend of Tortora and Severance who joined the Catholic Church in college and is pursuing doctoral studies at Boston College. "Having the three of us to lean on each other was important," Tortora said. "It kept us grounded. It was just nice to be around other Catholics who shared the same principles."

"Luke, Jacob and I talked often about politics, religion and other serious topics," Severance said. "We disagreed on certain things but had no problem explaining what made us believe in different ways. That's the sign of a mature friendship and is something you don't see much of these days when people just seem to be shouting at each other.

"I was around children all the time at OLB and could see they thought of me as an adult to look up to. When you have kids watching you constantly, you tend to be more aware of your own behavior."

Tortora and Severance both said that while in college, they did not lose their Catholic faith but became indifferent to it for a while. "My faith was in neutral or reverse," Tortora said. "I stopped going to Mass in college but still considered myself a Catholic. I felt I didn't need to practice my faith, but now I realize that's not true. As a teacher at OLB and working with children all day, I realize that I'm a role model not just in the classroom, but all the time."

Severance said Father Stash Daley, pastor at Columbus Holy Family Church, which his family now attends, was a key person in helping him revive his faith. "He said I should focus on the right things, not on what I do but on what Jesus is telling me to do," he said. "He said to go to Mass, confession and Eucharistic Adoration regularly and Jesus would open Himself and make His will for me known."

While discerning the possibility of being a priest, Severance continued his baseball career and transferred from Otterbein to the College of Wooster after two years. He said that at Wooster while trying to choose a major, he decided to stop running from the thought of being a priest and to surrender to God's call. Severance said Dr. Ron Hustwit, chair of the college's religious studies department at

the time, was instrumental in the decision.

"Dr. Hustwit also was a Catholic and put me in philosophy classes right away, so I hit the ground running," he said. "Wooster isn't a Catholic college, but I believe it's no accident that it happened to have a Catholic in charge of the religious studies department at that time."

Severance was playing baseball despite pain in his foot that began in his senior year of high school and would not go away despite constant treatment.

After redshirting at Wooster for his junior year, he had surgery at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus and learned he had an osteoblastoma – a benign bone tumor that had to be removed by surgery at Ohio State's James Cancer Hospital. Severance was told the tumor had a 20 percent chance of coming back. When it did return, he had a second surgery.

While healing from that operation, he went to the James for a routine checkup and was told on Jan. 5, 2018 that he had osteosarcoma and had few treatment options, the most severe of which was amputating his right leg.

Severance determined that losing the leg would be the best thing for him and, 20 days after he was told he had cancer, the leg was amputated.

Two months later, there was concern that he might have developed a blood clot in his heart, so he had a cardiac magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) examination at Ohio State's Ross Heart Hospital.

"The only thing I had in my hand at that time was a rosary," he said. "I was sitting with people all around me, wondering what I was going to do and saying to myself, 'How did I get here?' It was overwhelming. I thought, 'Here I've finally realized I want to be a priest, and this happens.'"

"I said to myself, 'Lord, I've got nothing. I need you more than ever.' I realized that I can't be a good priest without the Lord's presence and prayed, 'Lord, give me the grace to handle the situation.'" Severance said the MRI determined that any possible clot had dissolved.

Six weeks after the amputation, he received a prosthetic. He spent several months in recovery and returned to Wooster in fall 2018, played baseball for the Fighting Scots in spring 2019 and graduated from the college. "I got more used to the prosthetic as the season went on," he said. "I didn't play much in the field, but did some pinch-hitting and got a hit on my last

at-bat, against Wabash in the North Coast Conference playoffs."

He began his seminary studies at the Josephinum in fall 2019. Severance said he has been cancer-free for three years and will have his next checkup in July.

"When you got diagnosed, and you told me you were going to have your leg cut off, you were almost excited," Tortora told Severance during a conversation between them for The Catholic Times and the Diocese of Columbus' video series on missionary disciples, which is available on the diocese's YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts, "You told me your quality of life was going to go up. After the amputation, you started to travel like crazy.

"What happened to Sam affected me in ways I never would have expected," he continued. "The path between my return to being an active Catholic and Sam's illness converged. It was sort of like being back in school with Mrs. Lombardo or Mr. Fry and realizing there was no separation between eighth-grade math and eighth-grade religion.

"When someone you care about gets sick, you definitely start to pray more," Tortora said. "You're praying not for yourself, but for your friend. You can't imagine what it's like for him. What happened to Sam gave me greater insight into many things and made me realize how much I was not appreciating life as I should."

Severance said he and his Josephinum classmates are very aware of their potential impact as priests. "Most of the guys I go to school with think of this frequently," he said. "It's a huge weight on our shoulders. Because I'm going to be a priest, I've got to be sure I hold myself accountable all the time so I can be the man I'm going to be for the Lord.

"The biggest thing I can do as a priest is to learn to rely on God completely. This is the most important thing I learned through my cancer. If I say the Mass reverently, everything flows through that.

"I've also come to realize I can't sit back passively," especially with young people, Severance said. "The Church needs to engage young people, for they want to talk about religion, even in a hostile culture.

"Many who are rebelling against the culture just want somewhere to go. What we need is to be ready for that moment. We don't have to be afraid of responding to any topic if everything flows from the Lord."



Bishop Robert J. Brennan

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

“So be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us...” – Ephesians 5:1-2a

Dear Friends,

With April being National Child Abuse Prevention Month, we have the opportunity to embrace the vital truth that our children and young people are a most precious and valued gift in the Church. They are integral members of the Church now, and as they grow and mature, they will shape the future of the Diocese of Columbus and the world. With deep sadness, though, I also acknowledge the fact that millions of children have and are suffering abuse and neglect.

Abuse and neglect are serious problems affecting every segment of our community. Child abuse can have long-term psychological, emotional and physical effects that have lasting consequences for its victims. Finding

DIVINE MERCY, continued from Page 12

Grace is God’s very life being poured out for us, and He is inviting us to share in this life of love and mercy. This is why this day is to be a great celebration.

Excerpts taken from Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska: Divine Mercy in My Soul © 1987 Congre-

SULLIVAN, continued from Page 8

school,” he said.

“Through focusing on the liturgy, the students became of one heart and one mind. It was wonderful to hear the children in First Communion classes and at all-school Masses enthusiastically blasting out responses and singing with great joy. We also re-established a children’s choir that sang at school Masses and Christmas and Easter celebrations. The example the children set helped lead to a renewal of faith life by the entire parish and much more attentive participation in the Mass.”

Father Sullivan was at the Newark parish for five years, and then was asked by Bishop Emeritus Frederick Campbell to become pastor at St. Thomas Aquinas in 2017 when the diocese took over pastoral care of the parish, which had been handled by Dominican priests for nearly 200 years. The Dominican Province of St. Joseph said the decision was made because the province wanted to refocus its ministries in larger groups of friars.

“Bishop Campbell said I would be a

solutions requires input and action from everyone. Prevention remains the best defense for our children and families, and we can prevent abuse and neglect. We can do this by promoting behaviors that increase protective factors in the lives of our children. Protective factors are conditions that reduce or eliminate risk and promote the healthy social, emotional and developmental well-being of children.

We have learned that we cannot solve this problem by ourselves. Effective child-abuse prevention activities succeed because of the partnerships created among child welfare professionals, education, health, community and faith-based organizations, as well as businesses, law enforcement agencies and families. As a community, we must make every effort to promote programs and activities that create strong and thriving children and families.

We acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase

gation of Marians of the Immaculate Conception, Stockbridge, MA 01263 All rights reserved; reprinted with permission.

Tim McAndrew is a nationally known promoter of the Divine Mercy devotion who lives in the Columbus area.

good fit for the parish, and the transition was smooth,” he said. “My first 2 ½ years here were filled with re-establishing an active parish life, before the church was declared unsafe and the pandemic hit.”

Father Sullivan said that besides the priests mentioned earlier in this story, two other priests who have inspired him are the late Msgr. David Sorohan, who died on Christmas Day of last year, and Father Eilerman, pastor of Lancaster St. Mary Church. “Msgr. Sorohan was a gem – someone who in his witty and wise way was a model for priestly ministry. Father Eilerman was a great support and another model since our days together at St. Cecilia,” he said.

“I also greatly admire the young priests who have been ordained in recent years, especially Father Brett Garland (parochial vicar at Delaware St. Mary Church), whom I’ve always felt close to because I taught him to be an altar server at Washington Court House,” Father Sullivan said. “His vocation inspires me.”



Blue pinwheels are a symbol of child abuse prevention and child abuse awareness.

awareness about child abuse and to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment. I ask all of you to join me in recognizing this month and to dedicate ourselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children

and families.

As we enter this new Easter Season, let us also continue to undertake our efforts to protect our children and young people with that same joy and hope!

Most Reverend Robert Brennan
Bishop of Columbus

VALLEY does VALLI

VALLEY DALE BALLROOM

Mother's Day, Sunday May 9, 2021

Doors open at 1:00 PM Brunch from 1:30 to 3:00 PM
Show at 3:00 PM Dancing after the show
Tickets price: \$59.00 with VIP \$69.00
Show only and dancing, no table \$30.00

THE RICK BRUNETTO BIG BAND
presents
Broadway performer

Nick Cosgrove
Star of the hit musical, "JERSEY BOYS" as Frankie Valli on
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For Tickets go to Valleydaleballroom.com

Information email Valleydale1941@gmail.com or 614-441-1907
www.valleydaleballroom.com or www.rickbrunetto.com

Foundation grant upgrades HVAC at Portsmouth church

A little technology can go a long way. At least that is the case for Portsmouth Holy Redeemer Church.

In the 2020 Responsive Grants cycle, The Catholic Foundation gave Holy Redeemer a grant to help fund the installation of an automated smart system for the HVAC in the church and office center.

The improvements allow the priests and staff to control building temperatures remotely, leading to energy savings and freeing up time to better serve the parishioners. The church is part of the Scioto Catholic consortium.

Father Joseph Yokum, church pastor, said, "Due to only having two priests covering all four parishes in the consortium, time and energy is precious. These safety and energy efficient capabilities allow us to manage our equipment in all our buildings from anywhere we want. I can control the lighting and alarm system from anywhere – which is very handy when trying to cut down on time and energy costs."

Additionally, the grant included funding to run new tech lines to increase Wi-Fi capability. Now, the church itself has Wi-Fi capability,

which enables ministries such as the music department to access music online and for the parish to livestream Mass and other events.

Livestreaming has been particularly important during the pandemic, because churches have been closed or have limited in-person access. Livestreaming Mass has been integral to keeping the parish thriving and connected during these unprecedented times. Additionally, Wi-Fi allows the church to get creative with engaging their parishioners, and the church has introduced a livestreamed Wednesday-afternoon cooking show called "Cooking with Fr. Joe."

"This is a great way to connect with the community and offers parishioners a way to see us in a different light," Father Yokum said. "It's less formal, and it's a really cool and exciting thing. I also envision this to be a permanent change because livestreaming is our future; it's not going anywhere anytime soon."

"Working with the Foundation was very easy," Father Yokum said. "We are quite a distance from downtown (Columbus), so most communication is through email and phone. The Founda-



Father Joseph Yokum serves as the pastor at Holy Redeemer.



Portsmouth Holy Redeemer Church

Photos courtesy The Catholic Foundation

tion provides us with opportunities that we wouldn't be able to find on our own.

"This smart system alone was almost \$25,000, and we received \$21,200 from the Foundation. We would have never been able to do that on our own. These projects are necessary for parishes like ours, and we have already seen energy

cost savings. In three years, it will pay for itself. We are very grateful for those who give to the Foundation."

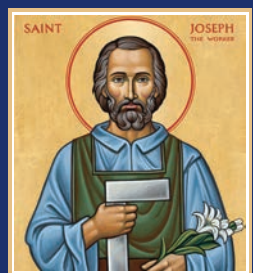
To support Holy Redeemer Church or your own parish through The Catholic Foundation, contact Scott Hartman at (614) 443-8893 or shartman@catholic-foundation.org.

CATHOLIC MEN'S MINISTRY

CENTERED ON CHRIST • CALLED TO BE SAINTS • INSPIRED BY ST. JOSEPH

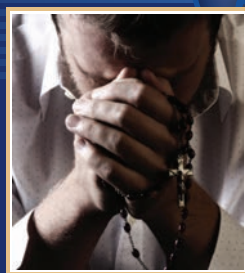
RESOURCES

TO HELP EVERY MAN'S FAITH



Catholic Men's Ministry
CONSECRATION TO SAINT JOSEPH

Weekly and Daily Studies



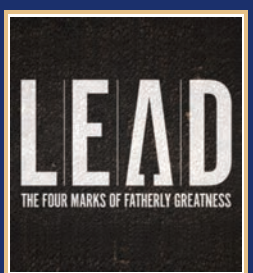
Catholic Men's Ministry
THE MOST HOLY ROSARY

Every First Wednesday at 6:30am



Catholic Men's Ministry
EDDY LEVIN SHARPENS IRON PODCAST

Hosted by St. Gabriel Radio



Catholic Men's Ministry
CATHOLIC MAN'S MINUTE

Hosted by St. Gabriel Radio



Catholic Men's Ministry
SAINT OF THE MONTH

Monthly Blog from Fr. Jonathan Wilson



Catholic Men's Ministry
TESTIMONY TUESDAY VIDEO STORIES OF FAITH

...from OUR BROTHERS in Christ