

The Catholic **TIMES**

The Diocese of Columbus' Information Source

September 26, 2021 • 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME • Volume 70:26

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Blue Mass at St. Timothy: Police, firefighters, first responders and emergency personnel participated in the Blue Mass celebrated by Bishop Robert Brennan on Friday, Sept. 10, the eve of the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, at Columbus St. Timothy Church, Page 11



CHRIST THE KING CHURCH HAS SERVED COLUMBUS' EAST SIDE FOR 75 YEARS

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Local news and events

Catholic Men's Luncheon Club resumes meetings on Oct. 1

The Catholic Men's Luncheon Club will return to in-person gatherings on Friday, Oct. 1 at Columbus St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave.

Bishop Robert Brennan will be the featured speaker at the luncheon, which will take place in Patrick Hall immediately after the 11:45 a.m. Mass in the church.

No reservations are necessary. The cost is \$10 for the lunch and meeting. Free parking is available in the church lot or across the street in Columbus State Community College's Grant Avenue lot (25-S).

For more information on the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club, visit www.catholicmensministry.com/cmlc.

Serra Club offers vocations events for young women, men

Young men and women in grades 8-12 or ages 14-18 are invited to upcoming Come & See vocations luncheons sponsored by the Serra Club of North Columbus at the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. Nigh St., Columbus.

The young women's event is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 5 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The young men will meet on Tuesday, Nov. 2 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. A luncheon will be followed by tours of the Josephinum.

Father Bill Hahn, vocations director for the Diocese of Columbus, will host both events.

Interested young women are asked

to RSVP by Sept. 30 to annemallampalli@icloud.net. Young men should RSVP to tim.perrine51@gmail.com by Oct. 28.

Night of Champions event benefits Run the Race Club

The Brian Muha Memorial Foundation's Night of Champions dinner and auction benefiting the Run the Race Club will be held Thursday, Oct. 14 in the Walters Student Commons at St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and dinner begins at 7.

The Run the Race Club, founded in 2000 in memory of St. Charles graduate Brian Muha, provides opportunities for youth that include after-school programs, camps, homework assistance and tutoring, mentoring, programming and meals.

Visit www.bidpal.net/runtherace to purchase tickets, preview auction items, donate or sponsor the event.

Catholic War Veterans begin monthly meetings

The Catholic War Veterans organization held its first meeting of 2021-22 on Sunday, Sept. 19 at the VFW building, 137 E. Dublin-Granville Road in Worthington.

The group meets once a month to discuss activities and plan for upcoming projects. Membership is \$30

a year to cover the cost of national, state and local membership. Those who pay dues for this year will receive next year's dues free.

Catholic War Veterans is a dedicated group of military veterans who share the Catholic faith as a common thread and serve veterans and active-duty personal and families of all faiths. They have served veterans in recreational activities at the Chillicothe VA Medical Center and supported many projects in the Columbus area.

For more information, contact Mary Ann Janning at 614-558-1293.

Bereavement ministry meetings begin Oct. 3

Seasons of Hope Bereavement Ministry will resume in-person sessions starting Oct. 3 and continuing on Sundays through Nov. 7 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Worthington St. Michael Church, 5750 N. High St.

Meetings are for anyone suffering from the loss of a loved one or looking for friends to share in his or her grief and healing.

To register, contact Karen Droll at 614-582-8848 or at ksdroll@gmail.com.

Adrian Dominicans plan vocations weekend for women

The Adrian Dominican Sisters will offer a discernment weekend for single Catholic women ages 19-35 on

Oct. 8-10, at the Weber Retreat and Conference Center on their motherhouse campus at 1257 E. Siena Heights Drive in Adrian, Michigan.

Participants will be able to meet women discerning a vocation, attend Sunday Mass, spend time in prayer and reflection, and learn more about the life of an Adrian Dominican sister.

The Adrian Dominicans are a congregation of about 480 vowed women religious and more than 200 associates who minister in 22 states and in the Dominican Republic, Norway and the Philippines.

There is no cost to attend. Register online at <https://tinyurl.com/ADSDiscern>. For more information, contact Sister Katherine Frazier, OP, at vocations@adriandominicans.org.

St. Elizabeth Church begins Singing Rosary on Oct. 1

St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., will begin the month of October dedicated to the Rosary with seven consecutive nights of a Singing Rosary starting Oct. 1.

From Oct. 1 to Oct. 7, the rosary will begin at 7 p.m. each evening and last approximately 45 minutes. All are invited to attend and sing along the prayers to Our Lady.

For more information or questions, contact the church office at 614-891-0150 between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. weekdays. The parish website is www.stelizabethchurch.org.

St. Michael devotee creating T-shirt, urging prayer to archangel

By Doug Bean
Catholic Times Editor

Tom Goodman can't pinpoint with certainty when his devotion to St. Michael began. Most likely, it started as a teen when he chose Michael as his confirmation name at Columbus St. Catharine Church. His passion for this heavenly host has grown through the years, and now he wants to encourage others to turn to the archangel for assistance.

"St. Michael is our defender at the

right hand of God," Goodman said. "I just always felt we needed him to defend Christ and His Church."

As the feast of Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael approaches on Wednesday, Sept. 29, the universal Church remembers the three archangels at Holy Mass. Some Catholics might have prayed a traditional novena to invoke their intercession leading up to that day. Goodman and countless others recite the St. Michael prayer once or more every day.

"St. Michael the Archangel, defend

us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray. And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell



St. Michael shirt design

Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen."

Goodman would like to see St. Michael become as popular with young people as superhero characters such as Spider-Man and Superman, who are so prevalent in today's culture. One way he'd like to do that is to promote a shirt with an image of St. Michael that resembles a superhero.

See **ST. MICHAEL**, Page 6



Front Page photo:
**CHRIST THE KING
TURNS 75 THIS YEAR**
Christ the King Church, founded in 1946 after World War II, has served Catholics on Columbus' east side for 75 years while evolving into a diverse parish community.

Photo courtesy Andy Mackey

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Change is a constant, but so is God's help

By Lisset Mendoza

“Between morning and evening there is a change of time; before the Lord all things are fleeting,” says the Book of Sirach (Sirach 18:26), and we all experience changes in our personal and professional lives.

Thinking locally, the pandemic has changed the way we live, gather and plan. Mass has changed (we can now see it on our phones), we hesitate to hug someone and large parties and gatherings are taking place with caution.

Personally, I have lived through change. The biggest was becoming a wife and moving cross-country, away from my family and into the unknown. The unknown was whether I was making the right decision to move to a state where I did not know anybody and had no job or professional connections.

Ohio didn't sound that appealing, and after my first visit and seeing what looked to be a convention of horse-drawn buggies in one place, I knew it was going to be a difficult transition. I prepared myself mentally and prayed a lot, but little did I know the great things God had planned.

I landed my first job without looking for it three months after my move, and we have been blessed with friends from our parish whom we now call “our family” – or, as we refer to one another, “the crew.”

Second, becoming a mother to Mateo and Isabella: I believe no one can prepare oneself for parenthood, especially when one of your children is diagnosed with special needs.

Mateo, our first-born, was the perfect baby in our eyes, but after his second birthday, I noticed he was developing differently from the other children at daycare.

We spoke with his physician, and the autism evaluations started. For six months, we met with a specialist, psychologist, therapist and many other professionals who would look at our son, ask questions and give us no answers.

My son at this time was nonverbal, and I remember after leaving one appointment with five different professionals, Mateo didn't want to leave. He wanted to stay and play with the cool toys they had used for his evaluation, and I knew this transition was going to be a difficult one, too.

Mateo left crying and kicking, and I couldn't hold my purse and him at the same time. One of the staff members offered to help me to my car while I carried my son, who continued screaming, kicking and crying. I was not angry, but rather saddened, because I didn't know how to help him. I remember that long drive home, and I cried just as he did.

I prayed and prayed, asking the Lord to give me wisdom to help my little guy. Mateo was diagnosed with autism shy of his third birthday. I am happy to share that these days he is fully verbal in both Spanish and English. The road has not been easy, but God didn't leave us alone and brought people into our lives who knew exactly how to help him and us.

Last, I think of the changes that are affecting all of us in our diocese – my place of work. We are undergoing a deep dive into our parishes. Some of my colleagues are no longer on the diocesan staff, and others have joined our team.

In all of these instances, I have prayed and asked our Father to guide me through it. Some changes have been easy, and others have brought me to my knees. However, in the midst of everything, I know God has a plan and that I must trust in Him and, hardest of all, be patient.

Being a Diocesan Commission member of the Real Presence Real Future campaign, I have heard and learned so much from our parishioners and parishes. I have read comments that many of you, too, are facing “change” in our parishes, and this, at times, can also be uncomfortable, but as we read in Deuteronomy 31:8, “The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.”

As we continue to see changes unfold, are we really trusting in God's plan for us? Or are we stuck in the idea that change is never easy?

Let us continue to have faith just like I was called to do when I moved from California, became a mother and became an advocate for my autistic son. Our Lady of Guadalupe, help us see the good in all things and trust in a better possible tomorrow. Amen!

Lisset Mendoza is a manager in the diocesan Office for Hispanic Ministries.



Real Presence Real Future

Reflections

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sept. 26, 2021

Real Presence, Real Future reflections:

The Joy of God's Wisdom,

Lori Dulin, Office of Catholic Schools

Today's psalm, “The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart,” is an incredible reminder of how true joy lives deep within our heart. Christ's precept to reveal Him to others is work that brings great joy. As each of us becomes fully formed, we are implored to share the Gospel message as missionary disciples. In that, we are faithful. In that, we impart His truth and wisdom. The message and the work are enduring and sanctify us as we love God with our whole heart and our neighbors as ourselves. The result: true, lasting joy and the great reward of heaven and eternal life!

For more about growing together in the life of faith and discipleship in the Diocese of Columbus, visit www.RealPresenceRealFuture.org.

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 3, 2021

Real Presence, Real Future reflections:

Humility and Collaboration,

Joseph Zaino, St. Margaret of Cortona Parish

& RPRF Commission Member

Humility allows us to fully love one another. No greater act of humility is possible than Jesus becoming man. Jesus calls married couples to emulate His humility. When two people become one, God calls them to put aside their personal egos to be one each other. This very special call to marital collaboration is a shining example of how we can be collaborative in life, including our Diocesan Real Presence, Real Future initiative. Today, let us pray that as this initiative progresses, we will be inspired to be of one mind and one heart in the Lord as we work together.

To read more about how we are growing together in the life of faith and discipleship in the Diocese of Columbus, visit www.RealPresenceRealFuture.org.

XXVI Domingo del tiempo ordinario, 26 de setiembre, 2021
Reflexiones Presencia Real, Futuro Real: El gozo de la sabiduría de Dios, Lori Dulin, Oficina de escuelas católicas

El salmo de hoy, “Los mandamientos del Señor alegran el corazón”, es un increíble recordatorio de como el verdadero gozo anida en lo profundo de nuestro corazón. El precepto de Cristo de hacerlo conocer a otros, es un trabajo que brinda gran gozo. Mientras cada uno de nosotros estamos trabajando en nuestra formación, se nos pide compartir el mensaje del evangelio como discípulos misioneros. Por ello, somos fieles. Por ello, impartimos Su verdad y sabiduría. El mensaje y el trabajo continúan y nos santifican si amamos a Dios con todo nuestro corazón y a nuestro prójimo como a nosotros mismos. El resultado: alegría perpetua y la gran recompensa del cielo y la vida eterna!

Para leer más acerca de cómo podemos crecer juntos en la vida de fe y discipulado en la Diócesis de Columbus, visita: www.RealPresenceRealFuture.org

XXVII Domingo del tiempo ordinario, 3 de octubre, 2021

Reflexiones Presencia Real, Futuro Real: Humildad y colaboración, Joseph Zaino, Parroquia Santa Margarita de Cortona y miembro de la comisión PRFR

La humildad nos permite amar a los demás sin reservas. No hay acto más grande de humildad que Jesús se hiciera hombre. Jesús invita a las parejas casadas a imitar su humildad. Cuando dos personas se unen, Dios les llama a dejar a un lado sus egos para ser uno solo. Este llamado muy especial a la colaboración marital ofrece un deslumbrante ejemplo de cómo nosotros podemos ser colaboradores en vida, incluyendo nuestra iniciativa diocesana, Presencia Real, Futuro Real. Hoy, oremos para que conforme esta iniciativa progresa, seamos inspirados a ser una sola mente y un solo corazón en el Señor, mientras trabajamos juntos.

Para leer más acerca de cómo podemos crecer juntos en la vida de fe y discipulado en la Diócesis de Columbus, visita: www.RealPresenceRealFuture.org



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Afghan refugees need our help to start new lives

How many times have we celebrated that we are all created in the image and likeness of God? How many times have we been reminded that, as Catholics, we must uphold the inherent dignity of every person?

The U.S. bishops, through Migration and Refugee Services together with Catholic Charities USA agencies, are grateful to partner with the government and non-governmental organizations to welcome and resettle Afghan refugees who had to flee their country for supporting our military.

Pope Francis has said that welcoming the newcomer is “an invitation to overcome our fears so as to encounter the other, to welcome, to know and to acknowledge him or her. It is an invitation that offers the opportunity to draw near to the other and see where and how he or she lives.”

It’s not easy to put ourselves in another person’s shoes, especially those different from us, and this can cause doubts and fears. At a World Day of Migrants and Refugees Mass, the pope said, “While it is normal to be afraid of the unknown, we can’t let this direct how we respond to newcomers in our midst, who should be treated with respect and generosity.”

Pope Francis said having doubts and fears is not a sin. He also said, “The sin is to allow these fears

FAITH IN ACTION

Erin Cordle

Erin Cordle is associate director of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns.



to determine our responses, to limit our choices, to compromise respect and generosity, to feed hostility and rejection.” To refuse to encounter the other, to encounter the different, to encounter the neighbor, would be missed opportunities to encounter Christ.

Nearly 20,000 Afghan refugees await their next steps at military bases across the United States. Some of these refugees are/will be resettled in Columbus, Cleveland, Dayton and Akron. Columbus resettlement agencies are expecting about 350 Afghan nationals in the coming months.

The Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS) should resettle approximately 250 Afghans, and US Together should resettle 95. Plans are still subject to changes dictated by Washington. In lieu of a comprehensive plan by the government, community organizations and residents must step up to meet the needs of these Afghans.

Resettlement agencies hope to meet housing, em-

ployment and medical needs. They want to get kids in schools as soon as possible. They know mental health issues will exist. The refugees are traumatized and will need time to exhale before considering employment to help them rebuild their lives.

As with traditional refugee resettlement, local agencies will receive a onetime \$1,225 to \$2,275 stipend for every person they relocate to pay for the individual’s material needs and the agencies’ administrative expenses. CRIS and US Together are asking communities to create welcome kits so the agencies don’t have to spend stipend dollars on trash bags, laundry detergent, toiletries, etc.

Even as we respond to these immediate needs, our immigration system still must have a comprehensive overhaul. An advocacy campaign for a better immigration policy is being mounted by the U.S. bishops’ Justice for Immigrants Office. To participate, go to justiceforimmigrants.org/category/action-alerts/.

For more information, check the diocesan website, columbuscatholic.org/, or contact the diocesan Office for Social Concerns, socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org or 614-241-2540.

Thank you for upholding the dignity of our brothers and sisters.

Lectionary presents salvation history in orderly manner

Many conversations involve stories. Sometimes we can drop in on a story and not miss anything, but we really want to catch the story at the beginning to appreciate its fullness.

Our most memorable stories are repeated often. Think of family gatherings during the holidays or at reunions. We tell stories not only to entertain but also to learn and remember.

Arguably the greatest story ever told is “His-Story.” His-Story is chronicled in the Holy Bible and repeated at Mass. If you are attentive, you will find yourself in one or more of the participants of that story.

In my most recent column, I wrote about the beauty demonstrated by people united in their physical and verbal participation during worship and how the Church prescribes those in the Missal. Now I would like to highlight the beauty of the Lectionary.

I asked a Protestant minister how he decided the topic for his preaching, and he said the Holy Spirit was his guide. I couldn’t say that was wrong. But what does the Holy Bible tell us, and is that a normal way we gain knowledge?

Our Protestant brethren likely shake their heads in bewilderment that Catholics go to church without their Holy Bible. Scott Hahn writes in his book

AQUINAS CORNER

Richard Arnold

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



Letter and Spirit: From Written Text to Living Word in the Liturgy (which I believe should be in every minister’s library), “At Emmaus, the disciples witnessed the summary of a truth that had long been established in biblical religion: the unity of scripture and liturgy. From the beginning, the two have been united indissolubly. Scripture is for liturgy, and scripture is about liturgy. The liturgy, likewise, proclaims the scriptures even as it interprets and actualizes them.”

Liturgical use along with apostolicity, orthodoxy and catholicity helped determine what makes up the Holy Bible.

The liturgy is the living memory of the Church, and the Lectionary presents it. In the Holy Bible, many authors recall past events in Israel’s history for the current generation to reflect on and learn from. The Holy Bible lays out feast days systematically that the Israelites were to observe. Feasts such as Passover were to remember the Exodus event. Storytelling was one aspect of Passover (see Deuteronomy 12:26-27).

Synagogue services appeared to have a systematic storytelling aspect. In chapter 4 of the Gospel of Luke we read, “And he (Jesus) came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up; and he went to the synagogue, as was his custom, on the Sabbath day. And he stood up to read; and there was given to him the book of the prophet Isaiah. He opened the book and found the place where it was written. ... And he closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant ...”

Because of the Lectionary’s unfolding, the

weeks, seasons and years tell a unified, continuous story and, in the process, teach doctrine. The liturgical calendar and its Lectionary lay out beautifully the course of salvation history. The Lectionary ensures the perpetual remembrance of God’s covenant with humanity.

The Lectionary has seen changes over the years, with arguably the most significant change dealing with the new order of Mass promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1970. The old Lectionary had covered a one-year cycle; the new book covers three years. The old Lectionary’s Sunday readings had been chosen almost exclusively from the Gospels and Epistles. The Sunday Gospels had not been selected in any representative or proportionate way.

How much Scripture is in the Lectionary? Father Felix Just, S.J., Ph.D. has a website (catholic-resources.org/Lectionary) on the Lectionary. Regarding the Old Testament (excluding Psalms), the old Lectionary used only 1% of the verses. The current Lectionary has almost 4% (excluding Psalms), and if you include the weekday cycle, you will have 13.5%.

With the New Testament, the old Lectionary used 16.5%, and the current Lectionary uses almost 41%. If you include the weekday cycle, you will have more than 71%.

And Catholics don’t read the Holy Bible at Mass? Even some of our Protestant brethren have adopted the Lectionary for their worship.

Jesus prays for “oneness.” The Lectionary and Missal provide for unified worship throughout the world. We can go to Mass essentially anywhere and “fit” right in.

“His-Story” is told systematically through the Lectionary and brought to life in the liturgy. Isn’t that beautiful?

Consider subscribing to a liturgically based publication and follow “His-Story” every day because, in many ways, it is our family story.

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Finding beauty and strength to persevere through life's challenges

One of the reasons I like strength training is that it is challenging. Lifting heavy things takes time, patience and practice. Lifting heavy weight is challenging and it can be downright uncomfortable. But it's in that discomfort that we learn to dig deep, to trust the process, to keep trying — and as our bodies get stronger, and as we progress, we find our way through the challenge of lifting something heavy and feel peace and joy in conquering something difficult.

Learning to be (safely) uncomfortable in the gym has helped me approach difficulties in my daily life with more fortitude, whether physical sufferings or life's daily challenges. Even more so when paired with what is most important — living a faith-filled life — can help us find beauty and strength to persevere through life's challenges.

Recently, my siblings and I moved my parents into assisted living. This was not easy as you can imagine, especially with Covid-19 still lingering. There was a lot of physical work as we packed for them, cleaned out their home and made many trips to give items to those in need.

There were even more emotional and spiritual struggles, for each of us in different ways, as we figured out what to do, where to go and how to do it with love — as this was all new to us. My parents both have different forms of dementia so there were times when they didn't understand what we were doing or why they had to leave their home. We prayed to be loving and strong and to respect their dignity while moving forward through this

HOLY AND HEALTHY

Lori Crock



Lori Crock is a parishioner at Plain City St. Joseph Church. Lori leads SoulCore Rosary prayer and exercise at parishes, teaches physical strength classes and writes about faith and fitness at hollyandhealthycatholic.com.

challenge to keep them safe, healthy and to make life easier for them.

There was nearly a year in this challenge, but I believe that remaining faithful to my routine of prayer and exercise (as I really needed both types of strength) helped me to be a loving presence to my parents and to work well with my siblings.

In this challenge, I was strengthened and supported by my husband, family and friends who are on this spiritual journey with me. I most certainly was not in control and was very aware of my great need to rely on my faith, the sacraments, God's grace, Jesus, Mary and the inspiration of the saints to strengthen and guide me — especially in giving me the gentle and loving words to use with my parents and siblings.

Often my Rosary and other prayers were said in the car en route to and from their home. It didn't feel as peaceful as praying in my favorite prayer corners at home or in Adoration, and my mind was often distracted, but I trust that God hears and answers our prayers no matter what we are feeling or doing.

On one of my trips to their home, I remember hearing Father Mike Schmitz in a podcast on Catholic radio remind us that it's OK to feel frustrated,

angry, confused, lonely and afraid, but that it's not OK to despair. It was an important reminder to me to acknowledge all that I was feeling in this process — and that it's OK not to be OK. Jesus knows exactly what we are going through and He loves us through it as he experienced all of it and more in his time on earth. He desires that we lean into his love and trust in him especially in our difficulties.

It's funny that when we are in the midst of a trial, it can feel like it will never end. And, of course, our trials and difficulties really do never end on this side of heaven, they just keep changing until we, God willing, are in our eternal home with Jesus.

St. Faustina said, "In difficult moment I will fix my gaze upon the silent heart of Jesus, stretched upon the cross, and from the exploding flames of his merciful heart, will flow down upon me power and strength to keep fighting."

The image of "exploding flames of his merciful heart" is exactly where I want to be as Jesus strengthens us with his love and mercy so we can keep fighting and stay strong on the path that God is leading us on.

My parents are now in their new home and they are settling in pretty well, enjoying meeting new people and experiencing new activities. We visit them often and I have much peace knowing they are safe and well cared for. Thank you, Jesus and Mary, for helping us in all aspects of this challenge. No doubt, new challenges will arise with their care, but in this present moment, I am simply grateful for all the heavenly and earthly help we received. Thank you, Jesus.

Inviting Jesus into the everyday – the good and the difficult

I sat in wonder as we gathered for dinner. Everyone was home, and the table was filled. Conversation flowed quickly. Everyone sharing bits and pieces of his or her day as food was passed and plates were filled. (It's often the simple meals that get the most accolades in our home.)

My husband had taken a meeting while grilling the meat. I finished up a spelling lesson with two younger kids while making the rice and throwing veggies into the microwave. Two of my children had walked by and seen Dad grilling with his headphones on, mom teaching and cooking and jumped in to set the table.

So, dinner was a team effort, and the atmosphere was filled with laughter and love. I watched as two of my kids scooped food for each other, teased each other, encouraged one another if someone shared a hard moment and then listened as my husband shared current events.

Discussion and opinions became heated, and even my youngest, at age 9, raised her hand to ask a question and was rewarded with a compliment from an older brother on her thinking. I sat back and spoke with Jesus in this moment. "Do you see this?" I asked Him. "Thank you. Help me hold this close when they argue, when I'm tired, when I don't want to make a meal. Help me be grateful."

Sitting back, I felt the Lord speak to my heart. "This is good, my child. This makes me happy, too. This is worth so much. I see your effort in all of this."

ALL THAT WE HAVE

MaryBeth Eberhard



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

His words gave me pause and inspired me to press into this moment.

After dinner, the younger kids took the grass clippings and, by laying them in lines, made a soccer field border in our front yard. We live in the country, and it is always interesting to me how my kids spend their creative energy coming up with games and activities.

As I finished up dinner, my husband and kids had started a soccer game, and it was all hands on deck as they dribbled to the goal. Laughter, sportsmanship, competition and family all mixed in one. Again, I stopped and invited Jesus in. "I see you here, too. Thank you."

After the game, we grabbed drinks and headed for showers and the bedtime routine for the smalls. Teeth brushed, showers taken, pajamas on and stories read, we said prayers and tucked into bed. As I shooed brothers out of their sisters' rooms with snapping towels and grabbed tutus off the dogs running through the cacophony, I watched as my husband blessed each child as he tucked them in.

"Bless this man as he leads us," I asked the Lord. "I see him," the Lord spoke to me. There is such

peace in these conversations. Staying in conversation with Jesus through my days brings me balance. I wish they were longer, and sometimes they are, but often I'm on the move parenting these kids.

I walked down the stairs singing my Ave to the kids as a final goodnight. My oldest son sat on the couch. He looked up from his phone and smiled, reached out, gave me a hug and told me he loved me a lot. I sat with him for a moment and listened and then went to tuck myself in.

My bed corner was pulled down as I walked in my room, a silent gesture from my husband to say he was thinking of me as he went to bed. The light still on, I see he tried to wait up, but sleep won out as he gives so much through our days. I felt the urge to kneel by my bed and say a prayer of gratitude for the love He has grown in this marriage, family and home.

This glimpse into my family life seems ideal and, in that moment, indeed it was. But the reality is that there is deep suffering, daily arguments, long hours and hard work that also fill our days. The depth of it can seem overbearing at times. We call on Jesus then, too.

From the depths and from the heights He is with us and wants to be part of our lives. Inviting Him into the hard and celebrating the good strengthen the friendship we are building with the Lord.

This week, take a moment to invite the Lord into your hard moments and look for glimpses of good to share. He is with us always.

Catholic 'beliefs' and the abortion debate

Do Catholics “believe that human life begins at conception” — a formulation that’s become ubiquitous in recent weeks?

Well, yes, in precisely the same sense that Catholics “believe” that the Earth is spherical, not flat; that Venus is the second planet in the solar system; that a water molecule is composed of two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom; that blood circulates through the body; that the human heart has four chambers; and so forth and so on.

Catholics, as they say, “believe the science.” Catholics do not “believe” that human life begins at conception in the same sense in which Catholics “believe” in the Incarnation of the second person of the Trinity, or in the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, or in the remission of sins through the sacrament of Penance, or in the Real Presence of Christ — body, blood, soul, and divinity — in the Eucharist. To “believe” in these truths, is, for Catholics, a matter of the assent of faith. And that’s why it’s an unforced error for Catholics — including bishops, priests, religious, and laity — to use the language of “belief” in regard to the beginning of human life. The correct answer to the question of when human life begins is not a matter of faith; it is a matter of scientific fact. The product of human conception, an embryo with a unique genetic character, is “a whole living member of the species *Homo sapiens* in the earliest stage of his or her natural development” (to quote Robert George and Christopher Tollefson). One learns this, or used to, in high school biology. The human being who begins at conception develops through various

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

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



life-stages — embryo, fetus, child, adolescent, adult — through its own internally directed functioning, which begins immediately at conception. That is not, to repeat, a matter of faith or “belief.” It’s an empirical fact: a human life, and nothing other than a human life, begins at conception.

Big Abortion, its cultural allies, and its political water-carriers have muddied these linguistic waters for decades, arguing that the “Catholic belief” that life begins at conception is a sectarian claim with no scientific foundation. That is objectively, demonstrably false, and to make that argument is to traffic in a lie. Some tell this lie deliberately. Others, including those in high public office, tell it out of ignorance, stupidity, or convenience. Whatever the motivation or cause, the argument is scientifically ignorant: the functional equivalent of claiming that Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin really landed in the Arizona desert on the Apollo 11 mission.

And it should be called out as such.

The real question in the abortion debate is, was, and always will be this: What does a just society owe the indisputably human life that indisputably begins at conception? Properly catechized and coherent Catholics answer that question by citing a first principle of justice that anyone can grasp by

reason: innocent human life deserves the protection of the law in any just society. Properly catechized and coherent Catholics will then go on to argue that a just society will support women caught in the dilemma of unplanned and unwanted pregnancy. And apostolically alert Catholics will help those women find the help they need, which is readily available at crisis pregnancy centers throughout the country.

What serious and coherent Catholics — presidents, governors, legislators, members of Congress, clergy of all ranks, and engaged citizens — will not do is ignore the science and claim that the matter of when human life begins is a disputed question. Nor will serious and coherent Catholics reinforce that spurious claim by speaking of the Catholic “position” on when life begins as a matter of “belief.” To do so is to play one of the duplicitous language games that have distorted the American debate on the abortion issue for far too long.

The hysteria displayed by supporters of the abortion license as the Supreme Court prepares to hear *Dobbs vs. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, a case that affords an opportunity to correct the grave constitutional errors the Court made in *Roe vs. Wade* and *Casey vs. Planned Parenthood*, will intensify in the months ahead: a sign, I suspect, of how weak Big Abortion and its allies know their arguments have always been. No serious or coherent Catholic will buttress those crumbling arguments by speaking of a Catholic “belief” in when life begins. Serious and coherent Catholics know when life begins.

Not because they’re Catholics, but because they know the science.

ST. MICHAEL, continued from Page 2

The Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes Church parishioner has developed prototypes and worked with fellow Columbus Bishop Hartley High School graduate Steve Fowler of Quality Stitch Embroidery on printing, but Goodman would like to improve the image. To do that, he’s seeking a Catholic artist to help him design a superhero-type St. Michael that conveys faith and strength to the younger generation.

“I want people to look at the shirt and say, ‘Whoa, St. Michael, is he a superhero in the comic books?’” Goodman said. “And the answer is, ‘No, this is real.’”

Eventually, he would like to add other “superhero” saint shirts and donate the proceeds to charitable causes. But St. Michael the Archangel remains the first order of business for the owner of a horticultural sales and marketing company in Marysville.

In addition to developing the shirts, Goodman has encouraged priests and bishops to recite the St. Michael prayer after Mass or through private devotions.

Some priests and bishops throughout the world have allowed the faithful to pray to St. Michael together at the conclusion of Mass. Others have

asked that the prayer remain silent. And some contend that the prayer, according to Church guidelines, is not to be added at the end of Mass.

Msgr. Charles Pope, a priest in the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., pointed out in a column for the National Catholic Register that more parishes throughout the country are reciting the St. Michael prayer because “this is raising concern about the presence and activity of demonic forces in our world and in our families and communities.”

He also explained that Mass ends after the final blessing and, in some instances, a priest will lead the St. Michael prayer before leaving the sanctuary. A controversy recently emerged in the Archdiocese of Chicago about this issue.

“While it is arguably problematic that the prayer to St. Michael is added after the words of dismissal, one should note that there is also no mention of a hymn that is to be sung as the priest and others leave the sanctuary,” Msgr. Pope wrote.

“But this is a very widespread custom in parishes, especially on Sundays. No recessional hymn has ever been prescribed in the Roman rite. It is merely a custom about which the

General Instruction (of the Roman Missal) is silent. It is neither forbidden nor prescribed.

“For a liturgical purist, however, additions or accretions are to be avoided. But if that be the case, then the recessional hymn, sung nearly everywhere, is a violation of this principle. Should this practice be ended?”

Historically, one particular intercession from St. Michael appears to be relevant in the midst of the current COVID-19 pandemic. During a Roman plague in 590, there’s a tradition that after Pope Gregory I saw a vision of St. Michael drawing and sheathing a sword, the disease supposedly ended at that moment.

In 2018, Pope Francis asked the faithful to say the St. Michael prayer in October of that year to defend the church against the devil and various scandals. His call renewed interest in the prayer among Catholics.

“We pray to St. Michael to defend us from battle, but it’s not a battle of flesh and bone,” Goodman said. “It’s a battle of the spirits. You’re not encouraging people to go out and attack other people and asking him to strike someone down. You’re trying to have Michael fight the evil spirit and protect us from wickedness. So it’s a spiritual battle.”

In the Traditional Latin Mass, the prayer to St. Michael was initiated by Pope Leo XIII in 1886 and is still recited immediately following the end of the Low Mass along with other prayers. After the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s, the prayer was eliminated from the new Mass said in native languages rather than Latin.

On the Latin Mass calendar, Sept. 29 remains reserved solely for St. Michael rather than for all three archangels. The feasts for the Archangels Gabriel and Raphael are celebrated on March 24 and Oct. 24, respectively.

Locally, Columbus St. Leo Oratory, 221 Hanford St., will offer two Traditional Latin Masses dedicated to St. Michael at noon and 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 29. St. Leo Oratory is nearing the one-year anniversary under the care of the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest order, which was invited to the diocese last year by Bishop Robert Brennan.

The evening Mass at St. Leo will be followed by a presentation at Columbus St. Ladislav Church, 277 Reeb Ave., from visiting Canon Aaron Huberfeld on the Society of the Sacred Heart. He is the national chaplain of the society, a lay association within the spiritual family of the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest.

Sister always 'ready to go wherever Jesus goes'

By Tim Puet
For *The Catholic Times*

Sister Therese Wong, CFR, has moved four times in 10 years since graduating from Franciscan University of Steubenville.

The former central Ohio resident is just getting used to life in New York City, where she now lives in east Harlem with the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal after three years in England. But she's set to pack her bags again at a moment's notice if called elsewhere to fulfill her mission of bringing Jesus to those who need Him.

"I have no idea how long I'll stay in New York because we as sisters are given assignments for a year at a time in our order. That's part of the adventure of living with Jesus," she said. "He was always on the move and left an impact wherever He went. I'm ready to go wherever Jesus goes and do what He wants me to do."

Sister Therese's current assignment is at a convent named for Blessed Solanus Casey, a Capuchin friar who lived there before moving to Detroit, where he became well-known as an instrument of God's spiritual and physical healing powers.

"We do a lot of work in the streets," she said. "The sisters take meals to the homeless a few times a week, or they will come to our door for food and clothing. In the words of St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta, we want 'to love one person at a time, and see Jesus in everyone.'"

The sisters sponsor a youth group known as the Upper Room that meets on Thursday afternoons for Eucharistic Adoration, catechesis and songs. Sister Therese said 15 to 20 youths usually participate. The sisters also host a discernment program for young adults known as The Samuel Group, which meets once a month on Sundays for several hours and focuses on a particular theme through Mass, song, prayer, talks, discussion and reflection.

"One encounter I've had here in New York that especially touched me occurred a few months ago when I answered the door," Sister Therese said. "I was greeted by a homeless man who felt very discouraged, so I invited him in to talk. After a few minutes, I felt called to tell him the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe and how she consoled St. Juan Diego in his discouragement. When I finished, he just started crying.

"That was such a beautiful, humbling moment, to be able to be the

ANSWERING GOD'S CALL

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

agent of bringing God's restoring hope to someone. I wish I knew what happened to the man, but what was most important was that I was there."

Before coming to New York, she spent three years in Leeds, England on her first assignment as a sister. "One thing that was quickly apparent between living there and being in America was the language barrier," she said.

"We may have spoken the same language, but there's quite a difference between English as spoken in Leeds and as spoken in New York – not just the accent, but so many different expressions for the same thing.

"One thing I certainly learned was how to enjoy a good 'cuppa' – what we call a cup of tea. Another difference is, there seems to be a bit more spiritual darkness in England than here. There's still faith in England, but Christianity is more a part of the culture here, even though it's facing more of a challenge from the secular culture."

The Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal were founded in 1988 as a parallel community to the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal by the late Father Andrew Apostoli, CFR, who also was well-known as the first promoter of the sainthood cause of Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen.

The sisters wear a simple gray tunic, a black veil and sandals. Around their waist are a rosary and a rope with three knots representing the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience.

"It's very touching – the response we get to what we wear," Sister Therese said. "People know we're sisters, and they respond accordingly. Many times when I go on a walk, people will come right up to me and ask for prayers or share a personal story. That's certainly not the kind of recog-



Sister Therese Wong, CFR

nition most people would get, but the habits we wear are a visible sign that God is present in our everyday actions. I experience a sense of spiritual motherhood through that response."

Sister Therese, 32, is the daughter of Sharon and Allen Wong of Westerville, who named her Julie. She has an older brother, Mark. Her first change of residence came when she was 6 years old, when her parents moved from her birthplace of Salt Lake City to Columbus.

Her mother has managed the gift shop at Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church in the 10 years since the building has been open and worked for several years in the previous church's gift shop. She also has a home staging business. Her father is a retired employee of the quality assurance department at Abbott.

Sister Therese attended St. Paul School and Genoa Middle School and graduated in 2007 from Westerville Central High School and in 2011 from Franciscan University, where she ma-

jored in theology and catechetics.

She said she began thinking about becoming a sister during her first year at Franciscan. "One day after receiving Jesus in the Eucharist, I felt Him saying, 'Be my bride,'" she said. "For the next few years, I spent a lot of time in Eucharistic Adoration, and that was the best thing I could have done."

During her third year at the university, she visited the Sisters of Life, another order that serves in New York City. "I saw the beauty of their lives," she said. "They were so filled with joy and fulfilled because they were doing God's will. But I wasn't sure of the next step to take."

After graduating from Franciscan, she spent one year in Washington, D.C. and one year in Charlottesville, Virginia with FOCUS, the Fellowship of Catholic University Students, a nationwide network of young lay evangelists on college campuses.

"I loved working with other young people, but the question, 'What about religious life?' persisted," she said. "I kept feeling the gentle pull to discern more actively, so I visited the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal for the first time. I felt their joy and authenticity. It gave me a sense of peace and of coming home."

She entered the community in September 2013 and pronounced her first vows in 2016. Sisters in her order may not take their final vows for a minimum of five years after first vows, so Sister Therese is anticipating making a permanent commitment to her order later this year or sometime in 2022.

"Contrary to what the secular culture may say, following Jesus has been the greatest joy in my life," she said. "I feel so much gratitude for His plan for me and for His faithfulness. He's trustworthy to me, and I place all my trust in Him."

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Prominent Catholic author: Save your soul, save the world

By Doug Bean
Catholic Times Editor

Prolific Catholic author Peter Kreeft flipped the script from the topic of his latest book, *How to Destroy Western Civilization and Other Ideas from the Cultural Abyss*, to discuss some of the ways to save the modern world during a public presentation sponsored by the Columbus chapter of the Order of Malta on Saturday, Sept. 18 at the Pontifical College Josephinum's Jessing Center.

Kreeft, 84, a longtime philosophy professor at Boston College who has authored more than 80 books and is considered one of the most widely read Christian writers today, not only addressed the moral decay sucking the life out of society but ways to save western civilization.

Saturday's talk was the second of two given by Kreeft last weekend. On Friday, Sept. 17 at the Josephinum, he was the featured speaker at the Order of Malta's third annual Hospitaller Dinner to benefit the local chapter's Center of Care located at Columbus Holy Rosary/St. John Church.

Kreeft was forthright in his assessment of the current state of affairs, saying on Friday evening that "if we don't restore the soul of our culture, it's gone."

He went on to state more optimistically that "we can't give up hope. And the only possible way to do that is to, first, restore one's own soul, to first be a saint, to first say to Jesus Christ, 'Be my absolute lord and master. Tell me exactly what to do. Your will be done, and your kingdom come, 100% of the time in my life.'"

Kreeft specifically addressed the Order of Malta's project to assist the needy at its Columbus Center for Care, which opened in 2017 as a free clinic that provides medical and dental care and medical/hygiene supply bags in conjunction with the Catholic Medical Association of Central Ohio.

"Your charism embraces service to the sick and poor but especially the spiritually poor," he said. "As you work to heal people's bodies, you bring them closer to knowing God's love is real."

And therein lies the root of all evil today, Kreeft continued, quoting Pope St. John Paul II, who said, "The crisis today is in anthropology. Once you forget God, you forget that you are the physical and spiritual manifestation of God's image."

During Saturday's talk, Kreeft referred to John Paul and Mother Teresa on several occasions while assessing, as a physician would, the symptoms, diagnosis, prognosis and treatment for what ails civilization.

"As Mother Teresa said, when a



Catholic author Peter Kreeft speaks at the Order of Malta's Hospitaller Dinner on Friday, Sept. 17 at the Pontifical College Josephinum. CT photo by Ken Snow

mother can murder her own baby, what's left of western civilization to save," Kreeft pointed out. "And maybe the most single disastrous symptom of all is that Mother Teresa's foundational common sense sounds shocking to most of us.

"Honesty and common sense and awareness and repentance and confession – these can undo any evil in the world."

Kreeft recalled his childhood in the 1940s and '50s growing up in blue-collar Paterson, New Jersey, when kids played and moved freely throughout town without their parents being concerned about violence and drugs. Divorce was extremely rare, children were valued and not viewed as an inconvenience, mass shootings almost never happened and teen suicide rates and emotional distress were nothing like what has exploded as a widespread problem in recent times.

"And what hope is there for society when half the people commit suicide by divorce," Kreeft said, adding, "Nobody ever said, 'I wouldn't think of bringing a child into this terrible world.'"

"Virginity was not a joke or a mythic beast like a unicorn. It actually existed as a collective norm and an expectation. Mothers did not legally murder their unborn babies. Today, the womb is the single most dangerous place in the world. ... And a woman (today) has about a two of out three chance of being raped or abused in her lifetime. Welcome brave new world. ..."

"We are living in a culture of death. The cancel culture is the most recent pimple or wart to surface."

Education and the media are aligned with propaganda that promotes evil and death, Kreeft warned, including "suicide, sodomy, skepticism, secularism, selfishness, objectivism, subjectivism, socialism and anything that causes destruction, deconstruction, damnation, doom, disaster, despair,

decadence, decay and death."

Instead of a unified nation and communities, America now has "330 million separate and autonomous individuals" who no longer give primacy to the common good.

"Nations and cultures and civilizations have life because they have that soul – that something that holds them together and unifies them.

"Hating your founding fathers, hating your ancestry, that's cultural suicide."

Not long ago in civil society "there was no such thing as political correctness or hate speech of embarrassment about patriotism or the cancel culture or wokeness," Kreeft said.

The 1619 Project initiated by The New York Times to re-examine American history is "turning the story of our own founding totally upside down" and seeks to redefine "the very essence of America as racism and slavery, and all the moral and religious principles of our Constitution, our Declaration of Independence, as well as the virtues of Washington and Adams and Jefferson and Martin Luther King as aberrations and exceptions," Kreeft said.

Remember, Kreeft said in reference to political divisiveness, that as Catholics and Christians we don't worship

the Elephant or the Donkey but the Lamb of God.

"When the center cannot hold, the battle is lost," he said. "That's true in military science, and that's true in the culture. Any vegetable or animal or family or nation dies when the soul dies. The soul holds nations together and unifies them. Clearly, the soul of America is dying."

Further evidence that souls are dying can be found in the Catholic Church, where "somewhere between 20 and 30 percent of people who call themselves Catholics now believe that Jesus Christ is really present in the Eucharist and not just a symbol," Kreeft said.

"And 90 percent of all Catholics neither believe or practice the Church's teaching on birth control."

Those are among the reasons, Kreeft noted, that John Paul II called for a new evangelization.

"For every new Catholic in America, there are six ex-Catholics. In Europe, it's 10 to 1," he said. "The richer and more successful the Church is anywhere in the world, the more dead it is in both belief and practice. There are more heresies and scandals.

See AUTHOR, Page 11



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Bishop thanks first responders during Blue Mass

Bishop Robert Brennan commended the bravery, commitment and sacrifice that police, firefighters, first responders and emergency personnel make each day in their public service at the annual Blue Mass on Friday, Sept. 10 at Columbus St. Timothy Church.

The Blue Mass took place one day before the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks that claimed nearly 3,000 lives in New York; Washington, D.C.; and Pennsylvania. Concelebrating with Bishop Brennan were Father David Poliafico, pastor at St. Timothy; and Fathers Leo Connolly, Mark Ghiloni and Dan Ochs.

Among approximately 250 in attendance were representatives from Franklin County Sheriff's Office SWAT, Bomb Squad, K9, Mounted Unit and Honor Guard; Columbus Division of Police SWAT, K9, Mounted Unit, Helicopter Unit, Therapy Dog Unit and Honor Guard; Columbus Division of Fire Engine 19 and Honor Guard; Columbus Police and Fire Pipes & Drums; Ohio State Highway Patrol Honor Guard; Emerald Society; Scout Troop 295; and Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus.

"The Blue Mass is part of a great tradition which dates back many years," Bishop Brennan said in his homily. "But this year it takes on a special significance as we remember the terrible events that occurred on 9/11 in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C., 20 years ago.

"It rips the hearts of all of us and reminds us so somberly of the sacrifices that our police, firefighters and EMS make daily, every one of you, because it is a life-affirming service that you provide."

Bishop Brennan, who has family members working in law enforcement, compared the kind of service that these men and women provide with St. Joseph's devotion.

"In the opening prayer, I invoked the name of St. Joseph," he said. "This year is, as Pope Francis has declared, the Year of St. Joseph, who is the guardian, protector and patron of the universal Church. And I thought it worthwhile to reflect upon the way that he served as a guardian and still serves as a protector.

"St. Joseph was the protector of Mary and Jesus, and he did so in a way that was discreet, humble and silent. And he did so with tremendous



Franklin County Sheriff Dallas Baldwin (left foreground) and members of police, fire, first responders and Emerald Society organizations attend the annual Blue Mass at Columbus St. Timothy Church.



Bishop Robert Brennan compared the work of those who protect and serve the public in their daily work to the dedication of St. Joseph to the Holy Family.

CT photos by Ken Snow



Members of the Columbus Police and Fire Pipes and Drums play Amazing Grace at the end of the Blue Mass on Friday, Sept. 10 at St. Timothy Church.

courage. Think of the courage that must have been mustered when being asked to take on this role in the midst of so much confusion.

"With great courage he trusted the voice of the Lord and said, 'Yes.' Yes to whatever it might mean. And it took great courage to carry out the Lord's will, time after time after time."

The bishop said Joseph was willing to leave his business and put himself in a position of ridicule to honor Mary's integrity.

"I mention this because those virtues of courage and sacrifice at great personal cost come to mind in speaking to all of you," Bishop Brennan said. "I honor all of you whose willingness to step into harm's way comes with many inconveniences and, potentially, great sacrifices to yourselves and your families.

"Holiness is not about being 'out there' somewhere. Holiness is about being faithful to God in the situation in which we find ourselves, here and

now. It might come in the midst of somebody else's disarray, in someone's tragedy. But in listening to God's will while being vigilant and attentive to the dangers that lurk and to the cries of people in need, we are able to experience God in every moment.

"St. Joseph served in his time as a protector and continues to serve in today's communities, quietly offering himself as a model of bravery and generosity. And I believe that you can see traces of this in your own lives as you protect those whom you serve."

Franklin County Sheriff Dallas Baldwin expressed his thanks for the Blue Mass, saying it "means everything. We can't do our jobs in the community if we don't have the community with us."

"Although the tragic events of 9/11 are now 20 years behind us, we can still see images of people running from the scenes of terror and destruction. Yet it was the first responders,

the men and women in uniform, who were the ones running equally hard toward, not away from, the danger.

"That's what cops, firefighters, EMS and all first responders do. And they do it all the time, running to help, often without knowing if the victims are complete strangers, friends or neighbors."

He quoted John 15:13, which says, "Greater love hath no man than one who lays down his life for one's friends."

"And I believe this is very true," he said. "There's no doubt in my mind that if 9/11 reoccurred tomorrow, these men and women would be running right towards that danger and, if necessary, sacrifice their lives. That's why we, in law enforcement, firefighting and EMS, don't call it a job. We call it a noble calling. It's what we're meant to do, and it's in our hearts."

Baldwin acknowledged that the pandemic and civil unrest have made the 18 months challenging for first responders and law enforcement.

"Immediately following 9/11, patriotism and support for first responders could not have been at a higher level," Baldwin said. "But fast forward 20 years, and how quickly that has faded. Especially during the past year and a half, everything has turned upside down: protests occurring, demands for reform and reimagining of the roles of first responders. It's hard, as a law enforcement officer, to grasp this.

"Yet, every day, I get phone calls and letters from members of the community telling me how grateful they are for our first responders and what a great job they are doing. So I know that the support of the community has been there all along. And we deeply appreciate that support. We could not do our jobs without it."

The Blue Mass dates to 1934 in Washington, D.C., when about 1,100 police and firefighters dressed in blue uniforms and marched into St. Patrick Church for the first Blue Mass. Police, firefighters, emergency medical services, public safety personnel and those who have given their lives in service to their communities are honored.

St. Timothy Church Knights of Columbus Council 14345 and the parish have hosted the Blue Mass in Columbus for the past 13 years.

AUTHOR, continued from Page 9

"The poorer and more persecuted churches anywhere in the world, the more aligned and faithful and orthodox and obedient it is."

Islam is spreading throughout the world, the professor observed, because non-violent Muslims are suc-

ceeding where Christians are failing with their embrace of the family, openness to new life, rejection of the sexual revolution and obedience to God's commandments.

For Catholics and Christians, Kreeft identified the diagnosis and cure as

supernatural – conquering the devil that John Paul II labeled as the culture of death.

The real prescription for salvation of souls and the world, Kreeft said, can be found not in freedom to do as humans wish but in free will, "which

can't be taken from you, and in freedom from sin, and especially freedom from eternal death.

"And the Holy Spirit is the freedom from our own addiction to our sins. If we're not in touch with God, we don't have those deeper freedoms."

Christ the King Church thrives during 75 years of change

By Tim Puet
For *The Catholic Times*

The year 1946 brought significant changes to the Diocese of Columbus and to the city of Columbus and surrounding areas of Franklin County.

Soldiers and sailors were coming home after World War II ended in the previous year. They needed places to live, so houses were rapidly built, mainly in northern Franklin County and what were then the northern and eastern fringes of Columbus, to accommodate the growth in population.

Three churches – St. Michael in Worthington, Our Lady of Peace on Columbus' north side, and Christ the King on the city's east side – were established in Franklin County in 1946 in response to that growth.

All three have been celebrating their 75th anniversaries this year with special events. Christ the King's celebration will conclude Sunday, Nov. 21, with Masses celebrated by Bishop Robert Brennan at 10 a.m. in English and 12:30 p.m. in Spanish, followed by receptions.

Because this is the Year of St. Joseph, as proclaimed by Pope Francis, the parish consecrated itself to St. Joseph in March and had a walking pilgrimage, attended by about 100 people, on Saturday, June 26 from the church to Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, a distance of about 4 ½ miles. A bus trip is planned to Somerset St. Joseph Church, which is Ohio's oldest Catholic church, and to Dover St. Joseph Church on Saturday, Oct. 9.

There will be a sale of 75th anniversary items, including lapel pins, brass Christmas tree ornaments and laser-cut wood ornaments, after Masses on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 16 and 17. The parish's annual novena to Christ the King, leading up to its patronal feast day on Sunday, Nov. 21, will take place daily beginning Friday, Nov. 12.

Throughout the year, in its vestibule and online, the parish has displayed collages related to various activities. The display changes each month. For September, the themes are Mexican Independence Day, athletics and the parish's former Labor Day festival.

Other anniversary activities that have been completed include a sale of anniversary T-shirts, hoodies and sweatshirts in October 2020; distribution of cards with an anniversary prayer in January, of a booklet with reflections for Stations of the Cross in February, and of an anniversary magnet in April; a parish service day in May; a tamale and sub sale and a raffle with a top prize of \$7,500 in June; a sale of children's T-shirts in July; and distribution of keychains with the anniversary logo in August.

The demographics of the neighborhood surrounding the Christ the King



A Eucharistic procession on the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary leaves Columbus Christ the King Church on Sunday, Aug. 15. The east-side parish is celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2021.
Photo courtesy Andy Mackey

campus have changed dramatically through the past 75 years. "My family was the third African American family in the parish when we moved here in 1967," parishioner Jeff Corbin said. "Today the parish has evolved into a multicultural mecca with a diversity that's one of its greatest assets."

Anne Jupinko, who joined the parish in 1970, said her son's class at the former Christ the King School, now All Saints Academy, had one Black member. During the 1980s and '90s, the parish added more Black families; then as the 20th century ended and the 21st began, a large number of Latinos began living on the east side.

"We have about 1,200 families, about two-thirds of whom are Spanish-speaking and one-third are English-speaking," said Father David Schalk, diocesan vicar for Hispanic ministry, who came to Christ the King as parochial vicar in 2010 and became pastor the following year and is fluent in both languages.

"Our Latino community comes not just from Mexico but from El Salvador, the Dominican Republic, Argentina, Guatemala, Colombia – just about every Latin American nation. Our large Black community includes many people who speak French because they come from Haiti or from African nations that once were French colonies."

The parish has a Mass in French once a month celebrated by Father Fritzner Valcin, Father Stan Benacki, Father Jesse Chi Chick or other priests living in the diocese who speak French. The cover of its bulletin is in English, Spanish and French, and the announcements on the inside are in English and Spanish.

"Our parish life is full. We have a vibrant parish, one that's open to receiving folks, and our geography makes us an urban parish with a mission to minister to everyone in this corner of the kingdom of God," Father Schalk said.

Jatnna Garcia came to Columbus

from her homeland of the Dominican Republic about 3 ½ years ago to serve as a workers' compensation administrator for the state of Ohio, and earlier had lived in several states. "I searched several churches in the city and found a community here at Christ the King that welcomed everyone, no matter a person's origin," she said.

"I was very shy in the beginning and stayed in the back of the church, but started talking to people who drew me more into parish life. It's special to be part of a parish community and a community of my brothers and sisters from other nations and to be able to use both my language skill sets."

The parish's weekend schedule includes Masses in English at 4 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. Sunday and in Spanish at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, and a bilingual Mass at 6 p.m. Sunday. Weekday Masses are at 7 a.m. Monday through Friday in English and 7 p.m. Thursday in Spanish. Eucharistic Adoration takes place from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays and 3 to 6 p.m. Fridays, with all-night Adoration from 10 p.m. Friday to 6 a.m. Saturday on the first Friday of each month.

Father Schalk is assisted by Father Michael Fulton as parochial vicar. Deacon Pete Labita recently retired after 40 years of diaconal service to the parish. Pontifical College Josephinum seminarian Jason Fox also aids with parish activities.

A congregation of 1,200 people fills the church's pews each week for the 12:30 p.m. Sunday Mass. "It's a young group (at that Mass) with lots of families," parishioner Carol Cuahonte said. "One great thing about our gradual transition as a parish is that so many Latino families have joined the people with roots here going back to the early days who have grown up and grown old here. The change over time was so gradual that most people adjusted to it well, and the parish is much better off for it."

Earlier this year, Father Schalk was

appointed pastor of nearby Columbus St. Thomas the Apostle Church while retaining his current post. The two parishes, located about 3 miles apart, have begun collaborating on programs.

A Marian procession led by Father Schalk carrying the Blessed Sacrament from Christ the King to St. Thomas took place on Sunday, Aug. 15, the Solemnity of the Assumption, with about 300 people participating. The procession, which also marked the end of a 33-day program of consecration to Mary at Christ the King, included a stop for prayers at Columbus St. Catharine of Siena Church, also on the east side.

"All of the parishes recognize our call to each other to be fraternal and realize we are part of something bigger, with strong roots in the past while trying to lay the foundation for the future. We recognize our place in time and in the community and are responding to the needs related to that," Father Schalk said.

Since late 2013, he and other priests serving the parish have been assisted by sisters belonging to the Missionary Servants of the Word order, who live in the Christ the King convent. Its current residents are Sister Rosio Hernandez, HSMP, who has been in Columbus for four years, and Sister Esmeralda Urenda, HSMP, who is leaving shortly for a parish in Providence, Rhode Island after being in Columbus for a year.

Two other sisters of the order – Sisters Sandra Bello, HSMP, and Sister Sarah Grimaldo – live on Columbus' west side at St. Stephen the Martyr Church, which also is staffed by priests of the order. In addition, the sisters have a formation house at Columbus Corpus Christi Church.

The Missionary Servants are based in Mexico and specialize in the United States in conducting door-to-door evangelism and Bible studies in areas with a significant Latino population. Sister Esmeralda said September is a month in which the order places particular focus in the Bible. For the month, it has made a video featuring members of some of the parishes the sisters serve in California, New York, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Ohio.

On Sunday, Sept. 19 at 2 p.m., the sisters are sponsoring a Bible parade from Christ the King to St. Thomas. The parade will tell the history of salvation from Adam and Eve to Jesus, with participants dressed as significant Biblical characters and decorated vehicles featuring displays representing important moments described in the Bible.

The sisters have trained many St. Stephen missionaries to join them in

CHRIST THE KING, *continued from Page 12*

door-to-door evangelization through a program known as CERS (Community Evangelizers for Reconciliation and Service), which meets monthly.

Sister Esmeralda said the group has about 120 trainees at Christ the King. Its annual national retreat, which brings people together from all of its parish chapters, took place this month at Columbus St. Cecilia Church. At Christ the King, the sisters also sponsor groups for men, women, young adults and children.

The church had as many as 2,000 families in the early 1970s before other parishes were created within its boundaries. The church building at 2777 E. Livingston Ave. was dedicated in 1968 and is a local landmark because of its octagonal shape, outdoor tower with four bronze bells and marble statue of Christ the King standing in a reflecting pool.

The large parish campus includes a convent shared by the Missionary Servants and the Bethesda Healing Ministry, which assists people dealing with the effects of abortion; All Saints Academy, in the former Christ the King School; and a former rectory, now the Bishop Griffin Resource Center.

All Saints Academy was formed in 2004 with the merger of Christ the King, St. Thomas and St. Philip schools. The school's opening for

this academic year was delayed until Wednesday, Sept. 8 to allow for completion of replacement work on its heating and cooling systems and the addition of a new boiler and air conditioning.

Principal Laura Miller, in her 12th year in that position, said enrollment of more than 400 students, plus 25 in preschool, rose from 343 and 15, respectively, last year, and is the school's largest enrollment since it assumed its current identity. It has added two English as a Second Language teachers, plus aides and tutors, and has increased the number of Spanish-speaking teachers. Miller said about 49 percent of its students and 46 percent are Latinos, with the number of Catholic and non-Catholic students about equal.

The Bishop Griffin Center has been a ministry of the diocesan St. Vincent de Paul Society and Catholic Social Services since 2007. It operates a food pantry that also provides clothing, diapers, housewares and personal care items to residents of the 43209, 43213, 43219, 43227 and 43232 ZIP codes in east and southeast Columbus. Hours of operation are 9 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays and 2 to 4:30 p.m. Fridays.

The COVID-19 pandemic had an immediate impact on the parish when it put a halt to nearly all activities

statewide in March 2020. The parish usually has its annual festival in the school gym in March, and the 2020 festival was to have taken place one week after churches, schools and businesses were ordered closed. There also was no festival in 2021, but plans are being made to resume the event in 2022, when it will celebrate its 50th anniversary.

While churches were closed for 2 ½ months, Father Schalk and Father Fulton kept in touch with parishioners through YouTube, Facebook and Instagram, and weekend Masses were livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube. Livestreaming of the 4 p.m. Saturday and 12:30 p.m. Sunday Masses continues.

The annual summertime Appalachian project for young people from Christ the King and St. Catharine churches also did not take place in 2020. This past year, it raised funds for a soup kitchen in Scioto County but did not travel there. Jupinko, who coordinates the project, anticipates its resumption next summer.

The beginning of the school year and the return of a number of activities that had been halted by the COVID pandemic are making September a busy month at Christ the King. The parish plans to resume its weekly presentation in two languages of the Alpha course, which provides a

fresh look at basic Church teachings for all adults and includes a meal, a presentation and discussion as part of the program.

A weekly women's book study is underway on Zoom, featuring discussion connected with a personal retreat based on the teachings of St. Therese of Lisieux. A new ministry for young adults, known as The Table, was set to begin on Saturday, Sept. 11 with a cookout. English as a Second Language classes are being offered in cooperation with the Dominican Learning Center in the church basement from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays.

The parish women's club will sponsor a day of recollection at the Our Lady of Consolation shrine in Carey on Saturday, Oct. 30. After a one-year pause, the club is resuming its annual Aunt Hattie's Raffle and Auction, which raises money to provide Christmas dinners for families in need and for special parish projects. The event will be on Sunday, Nov. 14. The group also will host a parish day of reflection on Saturday, Jan. 22, 2022.

Also planning to resume regular activities are the parish men's ministry, the That Man Is You! program, Knights of Columbus Council 13705 and eucharist and bridge groups.

For more information about the parish, go to www.christthekingcolumbus.com or call (614) 237-0401.

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 Presented by Saint John the Baptist Italian Catholic Church
 168 East Lincoln Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215 www.columbusitalianfestival.com

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www.COLUMBUSITALIANFESTIVAL.com
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Assistance Joining A Parish Council:
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Chris Sarka - (614) 546-6357



Deacon Steve Venturini's memorial homily for Msgr. Carl Clagett

A memorial Mass was celebrated on Saturday, Sept. 11 at the Columbus Church of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal for Msgr. Carl Clagett, 90, who died April 4, 2020, when public Masses were suspended because of the COVID-19 pandemic. He served at a number of parishes in the diocese.

On behalf of the members of Father Carl's family, many thanks to all of you who were able to join us today in memory of Msgr. Carl Proctor Clagett, affectionately known to us as Father Carl and to his family as Bus or Uncle Bus. Thanks, also, to Father Carl's classmate, Msgr. John Cody, for graciously agreeing to preside, and to our pastor, Father Jim Coleman, for opening up the Church of Our Lady for this special day.

As a person: Father Carl was pretty much a jack-of-all-trades. His ability to do things was just short of extraordinary. In his lifetime, he had developed a lot of skills many of us wish we had. He was a mechanic – we found him in the parish garage one day replacing the shocks on his car.

He was a welder – he made a huge Advent wreath stand out of steel, so heavy he constructed it in two pieces, requiring two of us to handle it each year. And, when he made something like that, it was guaranteed not to fall apart.

He did plumbing and electrical work – both here and at his 20-acre retreat house in Knox County. He was never one to shy away from something that had to be done.

Father Carl named his retreat "Something for Nothing." Much of what went into building it was stuff he found or was able to finagle from someone who was getting rid of it. It began as a run-down trailer home the staff named his "Snuffy Smith" shack.

From the outside it looked level, but a marble on the floor in one room would roll to the west corner, in another room to the south corner. The whole trailer creaked when you walked, but it was home, and it was comfortable.

Father Carl spent most Wednesdays there – his day off. In season, he would climb into a deer stand he had built in one of his trees. Sometimes he'd get a deer. Sometimes he'd share some of it with the staff (I always got the liver and some ground venison).

Once a year, he invited the entire staff and our families to a cookout, starting with an outdoor Mass and ending with a bumpy ride through the property in a trailer with Father Carl on the tractor. Before the day was

over, we would go through his woods to select the rectory Christmas tree. His generosity was unparalleled.

Father Carl eventually got rid of Old Snuffy and had a double-wide put in. He finally had a real house; and the annual cookout with the staff continued in a little more formal setting. Sadly, picking out the Christmas tree came to a halt due to fire regulations – no live trees in a place where the public might gather.

One of his frequent pleasures was playing his piano. Father Carl did not read music but had developed a numerical notation that nobody else understood – something like 1-3-3-4-1-2. No matter, we all enjoyed his playing from a wide range of songs.

Although it wasn't apparent when he first came to Our Lady, Father Carl was a people person, a welcoming presence to any and all who came to the door. That included people who came to us in need, people who we did not know and would probably never see again, such as the fellow who benefited getting a new muffler at Father Carl's expense.

A few took advantage of it, like the fellow who claimed to be a minister and needed gas money to get to Pittsburgh because his mother died – she died four times over several years, as I recall. But as Father Carl always told us, that's a small price to pay for helping people who really do need help.

As a pastor: Carl Clagett took his role as pastor seriously. He was one to make sure things always went right. He was also one of the fairest people I've ever known. He was a real team leader and was always open to suggestions from the staff.

For much of his time here at Our Lady, his staff – the team – consisted of our secretary, Marty Wiler; our custodian, Curly Reiser; our other deacon, Joe Poland; our housekeeper, Mary Jones (who occasionally answered the phone, "Church of Our Lady, Mary speaking"); our PSR coordinator, Sandy (my wife); our music director, Bobbi Nagy; and two of us pastoral associates, Anita Remy and me.

During the several years when we were promoting Small Church Communities – I think we had 14 or 15 of them – the parish team was one of them. We would meet once a week and throw out our thoughts about the readings for the coming Sunday and many other subjects. We learned a lot about each other, always under the banner of trust and confidentiality.

To say Father Carl was one of the

fairest people I know is exemplified in how he handled assignments and problems. If one of us, in his opinion, was the right person to deal with it, he would place complete trust in us and ask us to take care of it. He never micromanaged but simply let us do our job. He was there to help if need be, but the task was essentially ours.

If there was a difference of opinion (read, "argument") between a couple of us, his counsel was to go and talk to the other person and see if you can work it out. (Remember how Jesus told us to handle disagreements?) He would only step in if absolutely necessary.

And, once the issue was taken care of, it was forgotten. He was never one to "throw anyone under the bus." In all his dealings with the team, there was always a more-than-subtle presence of Christ. It was against his nature to be otherwise.

As a priest: Father Carl honored his ordination in many ways. He was a deeply spiritual person, but he never flaunted it. It was not something you would visibly be aware of, but more of an aura. You could not always see it, but you could sense it – it was always there. He took his ministry se-

riously – liturgy was important and should be done well and with proper respect.

But he was not always in a serious mood. He had a folder full of jokes, about an inch thick, many about priests and bishops, but when telling them he always respected their station in life. Jokes he would tell never demeaned anyone, clergy or lay.

His liturgical presence on the altar was simple yet meaningful. There was nothing ostentatious about Father Carl. One of his typical habits was to organize his homilies into points – usually three – with a brief conclusion.

And, whatever he said, it was always direct and from his heart. He never pulled his punches. In honor of his three-point homilies, you may have noticed that this homily in his memory has three parts: Father Carl as a person, as a pastor and as a priest. And it will have the obligatory conclusion.

The Easter Vigil was the high point of the year for Father Carl. He, Anita, Deacon Joe and I would plot the course, crossing the I's and dotting the

See HOMILY, Page 19

SEEKING THE 72

“After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go.”

- Luke 10:1

Catholic Men's Ministry Leadership is looking for "the 72."



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26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Put aside divisions; seek unity

Numbers 11:25–29
Psalm 19:8, 10, 12–13, 14
James 5:1–6
Mark 9:38–43, 45, 47–48

We live in a world built on separation. Divisions are all around us – in families, in society, among nations. Even within ourselves we experience contradictory attitudes and feelings. We can feel isolated and separate based on our differences. Selfish tendencies lead us to “store up treasures” for ourselves at others’ expense.

James reminds us that when we do this, we are destined to lose all: “*You have stored up treasure for the last days. Behold, the wages you withheld from the workers who harvested your fields are crying aloud; and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on earth in luxury and pleasure; you have fattened your hearts for the day of slaughter.*”

In the vision God has for human beings, on the other hand, there is an invitation to approach this from a new perspective, from God’s point of view – to consider how God sees us in Christ. The call to unity is a call to see others as our own, as part of us. We can find the core that is the same stuff, human nature as such. We can discover wisdom all around us if we have the eyes to see it.

We are not left to our own devices in this regard. We have the example of the Lord and of His disciples who were taught by Jesus Himself to open to the broader vision of faith. We can share the same Spirit. We can experience each person’s unique gifts and learn to depend on one another. It really is possible to find unity. This is

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 very premise of the Gospel.

That is not to say that it will be easy. Challenges exist that are quite literally beyond us. But it is our responsibility to try to find it in our hearts to be open to God and to one another.

What is the answer? It is to open our hearts to the Spirit of the living God and to follow His promptings. The Spirit of unity will help us find a way. Following God’s guidance opens us to joy: “*The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.*”

We can always find excuses not to try, often based on our perception of the differences among us. “Kids today don’t understand,” say those who are wounded by life’s journey. “Older folks don’t understand us,” say the younger generations about those who are trying to share wisdom. But we are all equally without sense if we give in to the spirit of this age, which is all about division and separation: “we and they,” “us and them.”

In the face of Joshua’s jealousy about his sharing in the Spirit, Moses cries out, “*Would that all the people of the LORD were prophets! Would that the LORD might bestow his spirit on them all!*” Moses’ prayer is answered by Jesus’ sharing of His ministry with His disciples and with His Church today.

Each of us must be convicted by the Spirit. We must admit when we are party to the spirit of division – and then cast it out. The Holy Spirit invites us to reach out beyond our comfort

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

9/27/10/2

MONDAY
 Zechariah 8:1-8
 Psalm 102:2,16-23
 Luke 9:46-50

TUESDAY
 Zechariah 8:20-23
 Psalm 87:1-7
 Luke 9:51-56

WEDNESDAY
 Daniel 7:9-10,13-14 or
 Revelation 12:7-12a
 Psalm 138:1-5
 John 1:47-51

THURSDAY
 Nehemiah 8:1-4a,5-6,7b-12
 Psalm 19:8-11

Luke 10:1-12

FRIDAY
 Baruch 1:15-22
 Psalm 79:1b-5,8-9
 Luke 10:13-16

SATURDAY
 Baruch 4:5-12,27-29
 Psalm 69:33-37
 Matthew 18:1-5,10

10/4-10/9

MONDAY
 Jonah 1:1–2:2,11
 Jonah 2:3-5,8 (Ps)
 Luke 10:25-37

TUESDAY
 Jonah 3:1-10

Psalm 130:1b-4b,7-8
 Luke 10:38-42

WEDNESDAY
 Jonah 4:1-11
 Psalm 86:3-6,9-10
 Luke 11:1-4

THURSDAY
 Malachi 3:13-20b
 Psalm 1:1-4,6
 Luke 11:5-13

FRIDAY
 Joel 1:13-15;2:1-2
 Psalm 9:2-3,6,8-9,16
 Luke 11:15-26

SATURDAY
 Joel 4:12-21
 Psalm 97:1-2,5-6,11-12
 Luke 11:27-28

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION

MASS SCHEDULE: WEEKS OF SEPT. 26 AND OCT. 3, 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.

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 Proper, Liturgy of the Hours.

zones. We don’t have to agree. But we can be with those who are against us, united by our common humanity.

God’s plan is for us to live with the other for all Eternity. In time, this is a preparation for heaven – learning

to be open to one another in order to relate to the Wholly Other, the Holy One, God Himself.

Jesus tells us that it is possible to live and work with those who are “*not part of our company.*” Do we trust Him?

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

God wants us to reach out to others and to Him

Genesis 2:18–24
Psalm 128:1–2, 3, 4–5, 6
Hebrews 2:9–11
Mark 10:2–16

“*The Lord God said: ‘It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a suitable partner for him.’*” God has a plan for human beings. He does not want us to be alone.

The family, with husband and wife, children and all its members, is the

model of love that God has established since the beginning of time. We are to meet the struggles and burdens of our time with the awareness that God has made us for Himself. He is with us each step of our journey. We are entrusted to one another.

In Genesis, we hear Adam expressing delight as he steps into a new way of relationship with God and creation when he first meets his “suitable partner”: “*This one, at last, is bone of my*

bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called ‘woman,’ for out of ‘her man’ this one has been taken.’” The Scripture goes on to explain: “*That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one flesh.*”

In the Gospel, we hear Jesus, the new Adam, reminding us who we are in relationship to one another: “*Jesus told them: ‘But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and*

female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. So they are no longer two but one flesh.”

Both testaments express the relationship of husband and wife as the “primordial sacrament,” the foundation for all human relationships. Hearing this, we are invited to receive the

REACH OUT, continued from Page 16

blessing that comes when we “fear the Lord and walk in His ways.”

There is an empty place in our hearts. Each one of us, if we are honest with ourselves, can acknowledge a depth that no one can reach. Those who are single, religious or celibate experience this. There is a longing for communion.

Those who are married know it, too. The husband or wife to whom you have committed your whole being still does not reach that part of you, except perhaps in certain fleeting experiences of unity, and even then, both of you are aware of the deeper longing that neither of you can satisfy in the other.

Children often express a spontaneous awareness of a person’s open heart. Have you noticed how at times, in a restaurant or a grocery store, a child will smile at a stranger, reaching out and inviting a communion through gestures that are clearly inviting?

It becomes evident in moments like this that human nature itself wants to join together through love. A stranger becomes a friend because the child has expressed a sense of belonging and joy. Laughter and smiles cross language and culture and unite

where the world would try to separate. So the Lord Himself tells us to imitate children, because “the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”

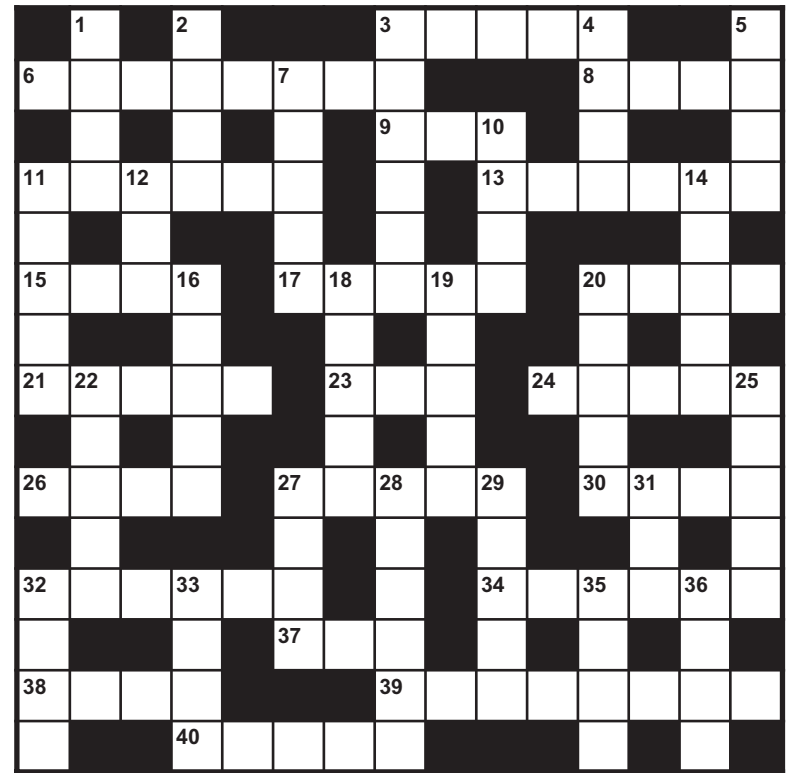
God has designed us for community. Our longing for unity teaches us to acknowledge that the offer of relationship with God and with other human beings is the most beautiful gift we can receive. Living in a world that highlights division, we seek to become persons in relationship, open to one another and ready to move beyond isolation.

Every good story involves suffering. Our connection with the world means that we experience the limits of what the world can offer in our own bodies, minds and spirits. Jesus gave Himself over to this reality, calling us “brothers and sisters” and showing that the path to glory is open to us.

As we choose to follow the Lord’s plan, we share in the transformation that brings about salvation. We are called to respond with our whole being and to bring others with us into the kingdom.

God offers a relationship that never ends. “May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.”

CATHOLIC CROSSWORD



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- | | | |
|---------------|---|---|
| ACROSS | 2 | “He is seated at the right ___ of the Father” |
| 3 | Brother | 3 |
| 6 | Homilist | 3 |
| 8 | How many times each day the soldiers of Joshua marched around Jericho | 4 |
| 9 | “Can any of you by worrying ___ a single moment to your life-span?” (Mt 6:27) | 5 |
| 11 | Jacob’s dream in Genesis | 7 |
| 13 | Village to which Jesus traveled | 10 |
| 15 | Favorite food of Isaac | 11 |
| 17 | Joseph was told in one to flee to Egypt | 11 |
| 20 | NT epistle | 12 |
| 21 | Jesus’ description of the Pharisees | 12 |
| 23 | Patron saint of lawyers | 14 |
| 24 | False gods | 16 |
| 26 | Hebrew month | 18 |
| 27 | A sacramental | 18 |
| 30 | “... is now, and ___ shall be...” | 19 |
| 32 | The Lord’s ___ | 20 |
| 34 | Divine ___ | 22 |
| 37 | Samuel’s mentor | 25 |
| 38 | Bishop saint whose feast day is October 20 | 27 |
| 39 | Holy Spirit | 28 |
| 40 | “He is ___!” | 29 |
| DOWN | 31 | Number of sacraments, in Roman numerals |
| 1 | Catholic columnist Bombeck | 32 |
| | | 33 |
| | | 35 |
| | | 36 |



An appeal to our beloved Pastors...

We are living in unprecedented times. The prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel is sorely needed to invoke Saint Michael’s powerful protection. The prayer to Saint Michael was composed by Saint Leo XIII, September 25, 1888, as a protection for the Church against the attacks from Hell.

Glorious Prince of the Heavenly armies, pray for us,
The standard-bearer of God’s armies, pray for us,
Guardian of the Catholic faith, pray for us,
Champion of God’s people, pray for us,
Defender of the Church, pray for us,

“O glorious Archangel Saint Michael, Prince of the heavenly host, be our defense in the terrible warfare which we carry on against principalities and powers, against the rulers of this world of darkness, spirits of evil. Come to the aid of man...”

If your parish does pray the Saint Michael prayer, God Bless you! If not, why not consider storming heaven to the Guardian Angel of the United States so we may be united as “one Nation under God”!

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. GW

ST. JUDE NOVENA

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us; St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us; St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Thank you, Jesus and St. Jude. BJA

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BONIFIELD, James, 51, Aug. 31
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

BREECKNER, Robert E., 84, Sept. 14
St. Mary, Mother of God Church, Columbus

BROWN, Thomas A., 63, Sept. 14
St. Ladislav Church, Columbus

BROSEMAN, Marlene A. (Decker), 78, Sept. 2
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

BUSCEMI, Michael V. Jr., 72, Aug. 31
Resurrection Cemetery Chapel, Lewis Center

BUSCH, Donna M. (Andrizzi), 89, Sept. 5
St. Edward Church, Granville

CAMPBELL, Josephine E. (Spring), 97, Sept. 11
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

CHAFFIN, Bethany A. (Woltz), 39, Aug. 30
St. Christopher Church, Columbus

COLEMAN, J. Ronald, 80, Sept. 9
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

COOPERIDER, Patricia (Bond), 85, Aug. 29
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

deROCHE, Joseph H., 95, Sept. 6
St. Peter Church, Columbus

deROCHE, Mary J. "Janie" (Koch), 91, Aug. 22
St. Peter Church, Columbus

DiVINCENZO, Evelyn, 98, Aug. 31
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

DOWNING, John E., 90, Aug. 26
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

ECKEL, Charles H., 94, Sept. 5
St. Ladislav Church, Columbus

ELLIOTT, Dale V., 85, Aug. 30
St. Joseph Church, Circleville

EMMERT, Robert J. Jr., 92, Sept. 11
St. John XXIII Church, Canal Winchester

HAGEL, Patricia A. (Storer), 69, Sept. 14
St. Ladislav Church, Columbus

HANSON, James P., 77, Sept. 11
St. Mary, Mother of God Church, Columbus

IMBER, Carroll D., 92, Sept. 12
Resurrection Cemetery Chapel, Lewis Center

JOOS, Stephen T., 85, Aug. 30
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

LEONE, Mike, 78, Sept. 7
St. Joseph Church, Dover

MATHEWS, Donald C., 88, Sept. 10
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

NEFF, Mary A. (Yosick), 89, Sept. 13
St. Joseph Church, Dover

POLCZYNSKI, Patricia L., 74, Sept. 6
St. Peter Church, Columbus

RAMIREZ, Victor H., 97, Sept. 7
St. Matthias Church, Columbus

RICKENS, Jeffrey A., 53, Sept. 2
St. Paul Church, Westerville

RILEY, William M., 78, Sept. 10
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

ROYER, Wayne A., 81, Sept. 2
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

SALMON, Marie (Zerishnek), 80, Sept. 3
Sacred Heart Church, Coshocton

SPELLMAN, Charles, 88, formerly of Columbus, Aug. 31
St. Joseph Church, Cottleville, Mo.

TORR, Herbert E., 92, Aug. 31
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

VICKERS, Mary J. (Shanks), 66, Sept. 10
St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus

FULL-TIME CHAPLAIN NEEDED

Genesis HealthCare System in Zanesville, Ohio is seeking a full-time Chaplain to provide spiritual support, counseling and advocacy for patients, family members and staff. Requirements include Master's in Divinity or related field, 4 units of CPE and board certification as a Chaplain. Ideal candidate is a living witness to the Catholic faith through engagement in parish life and has a deep understanding of the Catholic Ethical and Religious Directives and the ability to promote the organization's Catholic affiliation, teachings and Catholic identity. Qualified candidates are invited to apply online to Job ID #9345 at <https://genesishcs.org> or send resume to keyberger@genesishcs.org.



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Father Maurice Flood, OCSO

Funeral Mass for Father Maurice Flood, OCSO, 85, who died Tuesday, Aug. 24 at the Holy Cross Abbey in Berryville, Virginia, was celebrated Saturday, Sept. 4 at the abbey. Burial was in the abbey cemetery.

He was born Hugh Edward Flood on Oct. 25, 1935, in Lancaster to Ralph and Mary (Aneshabley) Flood.

He was a member of the Order of Cistercians of the Strict Observance, commonly known as the Trappists, for 64 years. He entered the Trappist Abbey of Gethsemani in Kentucky at age 22 in 1957. While there, he served as a secretary to the famed writer and fellow Trappist

father Thomas Merton, OCSO. He made his solemn profession of vows as a Trappist monk on Dec. 8, 1965.

After several years, he moved to the smaller Holy Cross Abbey. He studied at Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, Massachusetts, and was ordained to the priesthood on June 23, 1991. From 1999 to 2014, he served as chaplain for the Cistercian nuns at Redwoods Monastery in Whitethorn, California. He returned to Holy Cross because of health problems.

He was preceded in death by two brothers. Surviving are a sister, Sue Fox, and two nephews.

Mark J. Dosch

Funeral Mass for Mark J. Dosch, 71, who died Thursday, Sept. 9, was celebrated Monday, Sept. 13 at Zanesville St. Nicholas Church. Burial was at Mt. Olive Cemetery, Zanesville.

He was born Feb. 22, 1950 to Francis and Hilaria (Mehling) Dosch.

He was an educator for all of his professional life, mainly at Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans High School, where he taught English and retired as assistant principal. He also was an English teacher at Zanesville West Muskingum High School.

He was a member of Knights of Columbus Council 505, the Southeastern Ohio Council of Teachers of English, the National Council of Teachers of English and the Ohio Catholic Education Association.

He was preceded in death by brothers, Paul, Harry (Virginia), Ralph and John; and a sister, Sister Miriam Dosch, OSF. Survivors include brothers, Howard (Pat) and George; and sisters, Martha Carpenter and Monica (Joe) Tumeo.



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HOMILY, continued from Page 15

T's. Yes, that was intentionally worded. You see, occasionally we experienced a little blip during Mass, as happened at one Easter Vigil.

It was time for the assembly to respond to the six questions in the Profession of Faith. When Father Carl asked the first question, "Do you reject God?" we all dutifully answered, "I do" – not realizing until later what had happened. It took all of us awhile to live that one down. But, that's the way of life: Things happen, you laugh and you move on. That's how Father Carl always wanted it.

The conclusion: As it does for all of us, the time came for God to call home His good and faithful servant, Carl Proctor Clagett. Carl dutifully answered the call, just as he faithfully answered the call to be who he was in this life. No longer is he Msgr. Carl Proctor Clagett or Father Carl or even plain, old Carl. He is in a new place, and he has been given a new name: St. Carl, the title his

demeanor here on earth certainly warranted.

Carl Clagett was a true model of Christ in his temperament, in his generosity, in his welcoming of all people, in his faith, in his conscience. He believed what he taught, and he taught what he believed – derived from the Word of God in Scripture and from the holy tradition of the Catholic Church.

He has one more milestone to mark his passage through life. The resurrection of our bodies lies ahead, when we will have an opportunity once again to see Carl, now glorified in Christ, as we all can be.

Knowing Carl, he will welcome us with open arms, a smile and a loving heart – and maybe one of his famous jokes.

Steve Venturini serves as a deacon at the Columbus Church of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal.



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2. Select appropriate hymns for each Mass and submit hymn numbers and other musical information for the upcoming Sunday to the administrative assistant in time for inclusion in the parish bulletin.
3. Serve as cantor/song leader for the 9:00 AM Mass where no cantor or song leader is present.
4. Accompany all appropriate music offered funerals, weddings, and other private liturgies celebrated in the parish

If you would like to be considered for this position, please contact Fr. Michael Gentry, Pastor of Holy Cross at 614-224-3416 or by e-mail at mgentry@columbuscatholic.org.

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**Diocese of Columbus
Child Protection Plan**

It is the goal of the Diocese of Columbus to make the Church a place of safety: a place of prayer, ministry and comfort. Everyone who enters our churches, schools, or facilities must be confident in this. Not one child or young person should suffer from abuse while at Church. In order to assure the safety of our youth, the Diocese of Columbus has enacted a complete program of protection. As part of this program, the Diocese of Columbus will provide appropriate, just, and pastoral care for anyone who has suffered the crime of sexual abuse of a minor at the hands of diocesan clergy or church employees or volunteers. The Diocese of Columbus will report any and all allegations of abuse reported to it to the authorities and will cooperate fully with those authorities.

Help is available: The Diocese of Columbus wants to hear from anyone who has suffered. If you wish to report an allegation of abuse or need pastoral and/or clinical care in order to begin or continue the process of healing from sexual abuse as a child at the hands of a member of the clergy or a church employee or volunteer, simply call the diocesan Victims' Assistance Coordinator. You can find contact information at the bottom of this notice. If you wish to receive a copy of the diocesan complaint form or any of the diocesan policies and procedures, simply call the number below or visit the diocesan web site at www.columbuscatholic.org.

To contact the diocesan Victim's Assistance Coordinator, call:
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Parish Consultation Sessions Sign Up Today!

Join fellow parishioners for your Real Presence, Real Future Parish Consultation Session in the coming weeks. Two Parish Consultation Sessions will be held in a virtual format via Zoom for each parish in the Diocese.

Facilitators will guide you through important statistical and sacramental information relevant to the Diocese as a whole, parishes in your area, and your particular parish. Your participation in these sessions is critical to help shape the future of the Diocese of Columbus.

Registration is required

Register today to attend and encourage fellow parishioners to do the same! To find the dates for your parish's sessions and to register to attend, go to: www.realpresencerealfuture.org.

For assistance, contact hello@columbuscatholic.org.

www.RealPresenceRealFuture.org



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Josephinum, in 134th year, welcomes 14 new seminarians

The Pontifical College Josephinum's 134th year of forming priests for the Church began officially on Sunday, Aug. 29 with an opening Mass celebrated by Bishop Robert Brennan, vice chancellor of the seminary.

This fall, 14 new seminarians join those already in discernment for the priesthood. The men come from many dioceses and religious orders, including Columbus, Cincinnati, Steubenville, Birmingham, Alabama; Gaylord, Michigan; Jefferson City, Missouri; Joliet, Illinois; Oakland, California; Ogdensburg, New York; Santa Fe, New Mexico; Lugazi (Uganda), the Virgin Islands and the Fathers of Mercy.

The formation programs of the Josephinum are guided by Msgr. Steven Beseau, a priest of the Archdiocese of Kansas City, who begins his third year as rector/president. At the core of his vision is a focus on forming priests with good hearts who strive for sanctity. Candidates for ordination are "regular men with good hearts," he said. "Men who desire to be saints and who want to help others to become saints."

Joining Msgr. Beseau in providing the education and formation for seminarians are 10 full-time priests, most of whom reside at the Josephinum, and more than 20 priests and lay people who serve as full-time or part-time professors.

New to the faculty is Father Peter



Msgr. Steven Beseau kneels before the altar ahead of Bishop Robert Brennan during the procession for a Mass on Aug. 29 at St. Turibius Chapel to open the Pontifical College Josephinum's 134th year.

John Cameron, OP, prior of the Dominican community at Columbus St. Patrick Church, who will teach homiletics. Father Cameron is an award-winning playwright and the founder and artistic director of Blackfriars Repertory Theatre in New York City.

For 24 years, he taught homiletics at seminaries in New York; Washington, D.C.; and Rome. He has written 10 books, served two terms as the director of preaching for his Dominican province and is the founding editor-in-chief of *Magnificat*.

The Josephinum looks forward to opening its doors to the public for many events this semester. Dr. Jonathan Reyes, senior vice president for communications and strategic partnerships for the Knights of Columbus and the seminary's annual Pio Cardi-



Seminarians lead a Eucharistic procession outside the Pontifical College Josephinum at the start of the new academic year. Photos courtesy Pontifical College Josephinum

nal Laghi Chair lecturer, will present "Addressing Poverty and Injustice in the Light of Christ: A Response to the Utopian Temptation of Our Age" on Wednesday, Sept. 29, at 7 p.m. in the Jessing Center.

The Friends of the Josephinum's annual 4-Miler Run/Walk will be held Saturday, Oct. 2, on the grounds of the Josephinum. Proceeds assist Josephinum seminarians with tuition; textbooks; medical, dental, and vision

expenses; and emergency needs. Race participants may register at www.m3ssports.com.

In the wake of the opening Mass, start of classes and a Labor Day weekend retreat, the fall semester is in full swing. Seminarians enjoy a busy daily routine of prayer, study, fraternity and recreation. Ministry at various parishes within the Columbus diocese – a core component of the seminarians' pastoral formation – will soon be added to the weekly schedule. A joyful spirit is alive and well in the House of Joseph!

"At the beginning of this seminary year, we come together with a sense of gratitude, and we turn ourselves over completely to trusting the Lord and trying to seek His will," Bishop Brennan said to the men in discernment.

"Be attentive to that Word of God, which indeed has been planted within you and is nourished through your spiritual exercises, your life of faith, your prayers, your struggles, your academic pursuits and the formation that you receive here at the Josephinum."



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Deacon's book, mission aim to bring inactive Catholics home

By Elizabeth Pardi

As the number of inactive Catholics increases, a deacon in Sunbury is on a mission to bring them back to the faith.

Deacon Carl Calcara, who just self-published a book called *The Mission of the Seventy-Two*, said, "We have a responsibility, a mission, to assist our families, friends, neighbors, fellow Catholics and even strangers in traveling with them on their journey to heaven."

A husband and father of two, Calcara serves at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church.

Calcara said he was raised Catholic and grew up attending Mass at Westerville St. Paul Church. "I loved attending Mass and being fed by God's Word and by the Eucharist," he said.

In his late 20s, however, he stopped going to Mass after his best friend and his mother both died within a year of each other. "I was lost in a world without the two people who were very dear to me ... (and) I drifted away from God," he said. "I just didn't feel close to (Him)."

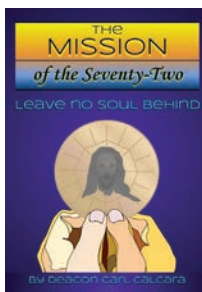
Because of this experience, Calcara says he can empathize with Catholics

who have stopped attending Mass because they feel separated from God.

Calcara returned to the Church after meeting the woman who eventually became his wife, Gloria. "Part of our dating included attending Mass every Sunday," he said. "Gloria didn't know it at the time, but she was truly a disciple of Christ. ... She brought a lost sheep back to His Church."

It is his wife's role in drawing him back to the faith that Calcara hopes to emulate in his mission. "If it wasn't for a disciple of Christ leading by ... example, then who knows where I would be in my faith life?" he said.

Eucharistic Adoration is where Calcara receives much of his inspiration, especially for his mission and book. The title, *The Mission of the Seventy-Two*, is inspired by Luke 10:1: "After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others whom he sent ahead of him in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit."



After some time in Eucharistic Adoration, Calcara was motivated to reach out to fallen away Catholics at St. John Neumann. "My fellow disciples and I personally reached out to hundreds of inactive Catholics ... via phone calls, emails and packages (which included bulletins, magnets with Mass information, pamphlets and inspirational cards) delivered directly to them," he said.

Shortly after, someone working with Calcara proposed creating a card containing guidance on how to start conversations with inactive Catholics and distributing the cards to Mass attendees. The cards were soon produced and given out at St. John Neumann.

Calcara said, "Since the beginning days of the ministry, I have ... preached on the Mission of the Seventy-Two and distributed thousands of (those) cards to active Catholics sitting in the pews."

After a while, Calcara said, "I thought I was finished with the mission, but God had other plans for me. He wanted me to bring his mission not only to our parish, not only to the Diocese of Columbus, but to the world."

As a result, he began writing the book, which details his experience of reaching out to inactive Catholics. Copies have been given

to clergy and active Catholics to help them interact with and invite fallen away Catholics back to the Church.

Calcara hopes to dispel people's fear of having this discussion. "They do not need to be afraid to start this conversation with someone who has been away," he said, "because the Lord is with them, giving them the grace they will need to reach their fellow Catholics, even if all that is accomplished is to plant a seed of faith."

Evangelization, specifically of inactive Catholics, is Calcara's passion. "This will be my mission as long as I draw breath," he said. He believes that active Catholics are shepherds of the Good Shepherd and are called to reach out to inactive Catholics to draw them home to the Church.

"(We should) never give up on inactive Catholics because God never gives up on us," he said. "The salvation of every soul is important to God, and therefore we can leave no soul behind."

The Mission of the Seventy-Two is available from Amazon, Barnes and Noble or Generations Religious Gifts and Church Supply in Columbus.

For more information, email missionofthe72@gmail.com.

Catholic Social Services offers more to seniors than just a ride

Having adequate, convenient and safe transportation can be taken for granted. Many of our elderly neighbors, however, don't have this luxury.

Some cannot drive themselves anymore due to age-related physical or cognitive limitations and struggle to get to their routine medical appointments. This struggle can have major consequences, putting seniors in danger.

Through its Transportation Services, Catholic Social Services (CSS) helps senior citizens and military veterans in Licking County maintain their independence by providing free rides to non-emergency medical appointments. CSS is the only senior transportation service in the county, so the program is vitally important for many elderly there.

At its most basic level, the program helps keep seniors mobile and healthy. The medical appointments to which clients are taken can be life-sustaining, as in the case of chemotherapy or dialysis. They can also be more preventive or related to general wellness, such those for treatment of chronic conditions such as diabetes.

But a deeper service is provided in transporting aging community members who are often vulnerable, under-resourced or ill. That deeper service is rooted in human dignity. CSS always remembers that the service it's providing is a human service, felt deeply as any other.

CSS drivers understand that many clients might not feel well, and the drivers can provide door-to-door assistance if needed. And CSS can offer wheelchair accessible vehicles when needed. All CSS

drivers are extensively trained in safety, but they are also encouraged to display care, compassion and sensitivity to the unique challenges and situations of each individual they transport. The drivers are taught to respect human dignity in their work. It is as much a part of their job as steering the vehicle, navigating the roads and ensuring each client safely reaches his or her destination.

The array of clients who utilize the CSS Transportation Services can present a variety of challenges. Some clients have mental health issues; others, severe physical challenges or limitations. CSS drivers are taught how to handle such situations. The drivers ensure that travel is safe, comfortable and respectful.

Respect for human dignity is one of the Catholic Social Teachings that guides CSS' work in the community. Each person is worthy of respect simply because he or she exists, and, as such, CSS serves its clients with the belief that each one has special, intrinsic value. CSS' service to clients is always grounded in human dignity as a fundamental right.

Having safe transportation available for medical appointments makes it possible for seniors to manage their health effectively, dramatically increasing their quality of life and prolonging the time they can stay in their homes.

As CSS strives to help vulnerable seniors age independently and with grace, it is glad to provide reliable and convenient transportation that contributes to seniors' well-being while also caring for the dignity of each individual served.



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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2021 AT 3 PM

CAMARATA CHAMBER ENSEMBLE DIRECTED BY LUIS BIAVA

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2022 AT 4 PM

"VERDI REQUIEM" DIRECTED BY DR. MICHAEL MARTIN

SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 2022 AT 4 PM

PROMUSICA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

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