

# The Catholic **TIMES**

The Diocese of Columbus' News Source

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A CELEBRATION OF THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS



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Bishop Robert J. Brennan

## Church encourages faithful to vote with well-formed consciences

Friends,

As Catholics, we take very seriously the right and responsibility we have to take part in the political process, certainly by voting, but also by engaging civic and party leaders in the development of public policy. The Church does not engage in partisan politics, but individual Catholics play an important role in both major political parties as in the various smaller parties and political groups. That



is a good thing. We need Catholic voices in the dialogues “scrutinizing the signs of the times and of interpreting them in the light of the Gospel.” (Second Vatican Council Pastoral

Constitution on the Church in the Modern World #4). For most of us, the opportunity to exercise this responsibility is by voting with a well-formed conscience and an understanding of the important issues before us.

While the church does not engage in partisan politics, it does witness to the truth of the dignity of every human person, created in the image and likeness of God from conception until natural death and at every moment in between. This truth is the foundation of all principles in our political engagement, from the rejection of abortion, euthanasia and racism, breaking the cycle of poverty, care for the environment, the sanctity of marriage and

Excerpts from the U.S. bishops’ “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship” can be found on Page 10, or visit [uscbb.org](http://uscbb.org) to read the entire document.

the family, religious liberty, efforts to end the use of the death penalty, genuine comprehensive immigration reform and respect for every person. Among the matrix of human rights that flow from our God-given dignity, the right to life itself is foundational, as in the cases of abortion and euthanasia, because without it all other rights collapse.

Application of this understanding requires the making of a prudential judgment based upon a conscience formed in the truth of the Gospel. Please take the time to review the USCCB document Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship (<https://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/forming-consciences-for-faithful-citizenship-introductory-letter>) and especially the Introductory Letter. You will have already seen the document the bishops of Ohio issued earlier this year and included in parish bulletins. (<https://www.ohiocathconf.org/Portals/1/Election/FC-Reflection-2020.pdf?ver=2020-07-06-150022-443>)

Finally, please join me in praying for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in our discernment that we as a nation, state and particular communities might choose leaders and representatives who hear God’s word, live His love and keep in the ways of His truth. We pray for fair, honest and safe elections and that all people of good will come together in unity behind those elected to build the common good.

Most Reverend Robert J. Brennan  
Bishop of Columbus

## Msgr. Robert Noon, 97, passed away on Oct. 15

Msgr. Robert Lee Noon, who had the distinction of being the oldest priest of the Diocese of Columbus, died Oct. 15 at age 97 while in palliative care at Mount Carmel East Hospital.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Thursday, Oct. 22, at Lancaster St. Mark Church by Bishop Robert Brennan and priests of the diocese, with Father Jan Sullivan, pastor of Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church, as the homilist. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery.

Msgr. Noon, son of the late Charles Leo and Elizabeth (Schreiber) Noon, was born on May 15, 1923, in Zanesville. His stepmother was the late Teresa Burkhart Noon.

Initially in studies for the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), Msgr. Noon began his priestly formation at Providence (Rhode Island) College from 1941-1943 and received a philosophy degree in 1947 from Columbus St. Charles Borromeo Seminary as a seminarian for the Diocese of Columbus, followed by a theology degree from Mount St. Mary of the West Seminary in Cincinnati in 1951.

He was ordained a priest at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on May 26, 1951, by Bishop Michael J. Ready.

During nearly 70 years of dedicated service, Msgr. Noon served as an instructor at the former St. Joseph Academy and Holy Family High School in Columbus.

He served in many parishes as an associate pastor, including Columbus St. Peter, Marion St. Mary, Columbus St. Aloysius, Lancaster St. Mary and Coshocton Sacred Heart.

He also served as pastor of Waverly St. Mary, Queen of the Missions Church, founding pastor of Columbus St. Elizabeth Church and pastor of Lancaster St. Bernadette Church until his retirement in 1993.

After retirement, Msgr. Noon assisted for more than 20-plus years at many parishes and also served as administrator pro tem at Pickerington St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish and Chillicothe St. Peter, Newark Blessed Sacrament, Lancaster St. Mary and St. Bernadette, and Columbus St. Catharine of Siena churches.

Early in Msgr. Noon’s priesthood, he received permission to work for a period of time with the Carmelite Fathers of Chicago at their mission in Sicuni, Peru.

He also served for one year as pastor in residence at the North American College in Rome

and was involved in the Cursillo movement, Columbus Cum Christo, Charismatic Renewal and the Knights of Columbus.

Interest in the liturgy led to his involvement with the National Liturgical Conference and the National Association of Pastoral Musicians.

In recognition of Msgr. Noon’s devoted service to the Church, Pope John Paul II bestowed on him the title Prelate of Honor in 1992. The Holy Father elevated him to the title of Protonotary Apostolic in 1999.

Msgr. Noon is survived by cousins in Baltimore, Maryland; other relatives in Canton and Tiffin, Ohio; and brother in memory, Richard Noon.



### CORRECTION

A picture in the Sept. 27 *Catholic Times* showing new Pontifical College Josephinum seminarians who received their cassocks did not identify Zachary Goodchild of Pickerington St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish. He is pictured fifth from the right in the first row.



Front Page photo:

### JUBILEE RECOGNIZES MARRIED COUPLES

Couples will be honored for their commitment to marriage at the rescheduled Jubilee of Anniversaries on Sunday, Oct. 25 at Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church.

Photo courtesy Diocesan Marriage and Family Life Office

## Catholic TIMES

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## 10 candidates to be ordained as permanent deacons

Bishop Robert Brennan will ordain 10 men as permanent deacons for the Diocese of Columbus at 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 7 in Westerville St. Paul Church, 313 N. State St. Attendance will be limited to those with tickets due to social distancing restrictions.

The ordination will be livestreamed through the diocesan website, [www.columbuscatholic.org](http://www.columbuscatholic.org), and broadcast on St. Gabriel Radio.

Candidates are Daniel Dowler and Victor Nduaguba of Columbus St. Andrew Church; James Elchert of Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes Church; Jesus Figueroa Jr. of West Jefferson Sts. Simon & Jude Church; Jeffrey Hurdley of Lancaster St. Mark Church; Nicholas Klear of Ada Our Lady of Lourdes Church; Mark O'Loughlin of Columbus St. Cecilia Church; Christopher Walsh of Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church; Eric Wright of Newark St. Francis de Sales Church; and Douglas Yglesias of Sunbury St. John Neumann Church.

Their ordination completes four years of training in the diocese's Diaconate School of Theology. It will give the diocese 120 permanent deacons, two of whom are serving outside the diocese and 39 of whom are retired, plus three men who were ordained as deacons and are preparing for ordination to the priesthood.

Applicants for the diaconate can be between 32 and 60 years old. Prospective deacons, also known as inquirers, must be endorsed by the pastor of their home parish and be willing to serve the diocese somewhere other than that parish, if needed. They also must at some point have completed six prerequisite classes in Scripture, philosophy, theology, and Church history at an accredited Catholic college. Fulfilling that requirement or having a theology degree does not guarantee acceptance at the diaconate school.

Applications for a new diaconate class are accepted at least one year before training begins. A new class of deacons will begin training in 2021 and will be ordained in 2024.

The first year of the diaconate school's cycle is known as the aspirancy period. During this time, all necessary forms are completed, including a criminal background check and having a deacon candidate complete the diocesan Protecting God's Children program if he has not already done so.

Each candidate also takes a set of psychological inventories and participates in an interview with a counsel-

ing professional. He (and his wife, if needed) also take part in a series of extended interviews conducted by the Office of the Diaconate. A team of clergy and laypersons evaluates the prospective deacon. The bishop ultimately makes the decision on whether a man is accepted as a candidate for ordination to the diaconate.

Once a man is accepted into the Diaconate School of Theology, there is no guarantee he will be ordained. Like the formation program for a seminarian, the diaconate formation program is a period of discernment. The candidate may find as he learns more about himself and the diaconate that he is not called to ordained ministry.

Periodic evaluation of each man by his pastor and teachers, in addition to regular self-evaluation, allows the formation staff to assist individuals in the discernment process. These may result in the student or the school's formation faculty suggesting that the formation relationship be ended.

The four years of formation are not only academic, but also spiritual and ministerial. A man in diaconate formation meets regularly with a spiritual director. He and his wife also develop a mentoring relationship with members of the diaconate community.

Diaconal candidates, following the same path as men studying for the priesthood, are installed in the ministries of reader and acolyte in due time after their acceptance as candidates.

Before each installation, they take part in ministry projects in their parish related to the deacon's threefold ministry of Word, Sacrament and Charity.

Classes for the diaconate school take place at the Pontifical College Josephinum in winter, spring and fall.

During the summer of their second through fourth years of formation, candidates go on retreat and take part in individual assessments and conferences. The fourth-year conference is an interview with the bishop.

At the end of the fourth year of formation and before ordination, a candidate must sign an oath of freedom and a profession of faith and formally petition to be ordained, saying he is about to receive the order of the diaconate freely and of his own accord. A married candidate's spouse also must sign a statement of consent. Unmarried candidates are required to take a vow of celibacy.

A few deacons work in parishes and schools, but most active deacons have jobs in the secular world and serve the Church in parishes, hospitals, schools and prisons at other times.



# Help Them Be Heard

The Diocese of Columbus is exploring new ways to evangelize by seeking input from those who have moved away from the Faith. To assist, ask those who have fallen away to participate in a brief survey. Participants may be a loved one, a friend, an acquaintance – anyone who is not currently active in the Church.

[columbuscatholic.org/survey](http://columbuscatholic.org/survey)

# Catholic schools restart strategic planning process

Last fall, the Office of Catholic Schools began a strategic planning initiative working with Catholic School Management (CSM), a consulting firm that specializes in Catholic education. Unfortunately, the process had to be halted due to COVID-19. After several months of delay, the process will now restart. This planning process will focus on ensuring the ongoing excellence and availability of our schools by setting goals in the areas of Catholic identity, governance, academic excellence and operational vitality. These are tough questions, and require careful listening, study, prayer and conversation.

The CSM planning process is based on the National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools ([www.catholic-schoolstandards.org](http://www.catholic-schoolstandards.org)). CSM was chosen to partner with the Diocese of Columbus because they insist that planning be a participative and collaborative process for communities, reflective of the many voices and perspectives that make us unique. As part of the planning process, a wide range of aspects of our Catho-

## HAVE FAITH IN EDUCATION

Adam Default

*Adam J. Dufault is the diocesan Episcopal Moderator for Education and Superintendent of Catholic Schools.*



lic schools will be evaluated, including mission and faith community affairs; administrative, academic and student affairs; and our marketing, communication, enrollment and advancement programs.

Pre-COVID, CSM sent out an online survey to a focus group of more than 400 people. Members of this group included parishioners, current parents of children in Catholic schools, alumni of Catholic schools and the parents of Catholic school graduates. The participants were drawn from parishes and schools both inside and outside of Franklin County. We are grateful to those asked to participate, as their feedback will be a valuable addition to our planning. A second survey will soon be sent out to develop a better understanding of the effects of the

pandemic on our school families.

CSM is next working on setting up three days of in-person focus groups via Zoom with key stakeholders across the diocese. The invited participants include pastors, principals, teachers, members of the Office of Catholic Schools and Bishop Robert Brennan. Additional focus group meetings will be scheduled in January or February to seek the input of our school parents, students, parishioners and others with an interest in Catholic education. Next spring, we are planning to hold a Day of Strategic Conversation in the diocese, assuming COVID protocols will allow a such a gathering. On this day, stakeholders from all areas of the diocese will meet to create a comprehensive vision of the future of Catholic education in the diocese.

More information about the process will be announced as it progresses. Please continue to keep all involved in this process in your prayers! We are grateful for the opportunity to envision the future of the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Columbus.

## Substitute teachers and nurses needed for diocesan schools

Diocesan Catholic schools are in need of talented and dedicated substitute teachers and nurses for our 53 elementary and secondary schools throughout the 23-county diocesan area.

Substitute teaching candidates must possess a minimum of a Bachelor's degree or an appropriate professional, resident educator or substitute teaching license from the Ohio Department of Education.

Candidates with a Bachelor's degree, but without a current teaching license, may substitute teach on a short-term (no more than five days of any teacher's leave) basis. However, candidates with a teaching license may be considered for long-term substitute positions (up to 120 days).

School nurses are critical to keeping

our schools happy and healthy. Candidates must possess at a minimum of a Bachelor's degree in Nursing, hold a valid license with the Ohio Board of Nursing and obtain a Substitute Pupil Services License through the Ohio Department of Education.

Substitute teacher and nurse candidates must have current BCI and FBI background checks (less than one year old), which are sent electronically to the Diocese and/or on file at the Ohio Department of Education, and attend a VIRTUS Protecting God's Children training seminar.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please contact Lisa Axene, Human Resources Manager, at [laxene@columbuscatholic.org](mailto:laxene@columbuscatholic.org) or call 614-221-5829 for more information.



## St. Michael students learn about the sun

First graders at Worthington St. Michael School studied how the sun is the principal source of energy. The students wrote a paragraph on why the sun is so important and then created their own paper sun.

*Photo courtesy St. Michael School*

## Behind the scenes at Plain City St. Joseph



Father Joseph Trapp III, pastor of Plain City St. Joseph Church, showed second-grade Parish School of Religion students and their parents the tabernacle and the altar and explained the meaning of some of the altar furnishings during a "behind-the-scenes" visit to the church building.

*Photo courtesy St. Joseph Church*

## DeSales Merit Scholarship honorees



Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School senior Leah Vanasdale (left) is a semifinalist in the 2021 National Merit Scholarship (NMS) program and (from left) Vigo Bertolo, Mary Polemeni-McGovern and Evelyn Sarle were honored by

the program as commended students. Vanasdale is one of about 16,000 semifinalists who were their state's highest scorers on the NMS qualifying test, which was taken by about 1.5 million students. They represent less than 1 percent of each state's high school seniors and continue in the competition for Merit Scholarships. The commended students were among the 50,000 highest scorers on the test nationwide and can become candidates for other scholarships sponsored by corporations and businesses as part of the NMS program. *Photos courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School*

# October is full of opportunities to be people of life and for life

As Respect Life month, October is a time to stop and reflect on God's amazing gift of life – life in all its stages and circumstances. It's also a perfect time to focus on our mothers.

My own mom was the most nurturing person I have ever known. I think she raised three terrific, completely different kids and nurtured hundreds of students as a teacher in Centerburg (who retired at least three times). We all were lucky kids because of her tutelage.

Due to COVID-19, many moms (and dads) are facing situations none of us could have imagined. The deaths of family and friends (now more than 5,000 in Ohio alone) have resulted in horrific impacts. The stressors on families also have been amplified with the loss of income, health care, housing and safe education, to name a few.

An initiative of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), *Walking with Moms in Need* (WWMIN), has been designed to help parishes address some of these stressors. Catholic parishes are being asked to “walk in the shoes” of local expecting and parenting women and their families who may be in need of emotional, spiritual, financial and/or material supports.

While not trying to turn Catholic parishes into pregnancy help centers or social service organiza-

## FAITH IN ACTION

Erin Cordle

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



tions, we can and should support them where they exist. We also can support our Respect Life ministries, identify and share parish resources and, where there are few local resources, create our own based on our time, talent and treasure.

Expecting and parenting moms in need live in our parishes and our neighborhoods. As Pope Francis reminds us, our parishes need to be “islands of mercy in the midst of a sea of indifference.” The 25th anniversary year of the papal encyclical *The Gospel of Life (Evangelium Vitae)* gives us wonderful opportunities to assess, expand and communicate resources to expecting/parenting moms and their families.

*The Gospel of Life* highlights the special and particular role of women in bearing the gift of life. Pope St. John Paul II outlines the many challenges that expectant mothers may face, including lack of support from the father, financial strains, concerns about her own health and/or that of her child, and pressures from family and friends. The Holy Father

recognizes that an “unborn child is totally entrusted to the protection and care of the woman carrying him or her in the womb.” For this reason, it is particularly important that the Church come alongside mothers, offering them encouragement, assistance and accompaniment.

Bishop Robert Brennan has asked pastors and administrators to identify parish champions to work on this initiative. As its diocesan coordinator, I am asking you to seriously consider offering to work as a champion in your parish – before your pastor or administrator seeks you out.

The USCCB has created tools to help assess existing community supports. I have been developing diocesan-wide resources and will begin training parish WWMIN champions next month. For more information about WWMIN, go to <https://www.walkingwithmoms.com>. If you have questions or need additional information, feel free to contact me at [socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org](mailto:socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org) or (614) 570-2950 (I'm working from home).

Having received the gift of life ourselves, we are called to be people of life and for life. Please take advantage of this year's Respect Life Month to focus on building a culture of life by helping our parishes support expecting and parenting mothers and their families.

## Is mandating a COVID-19 vaccine ethical?

Dr. Norman Oliver, the Virginia state health commissioner, told a local news station in August that he planned to mandate COVID-19 immunizations for Virginians once a vaccine becomes available to the public.

The following day, Gov. Ralph Northam pulled rank on the commissioner and announced there would be no vaccine mandate.

The state health department walked back the commissioner's earlier comments and the governor's office issued a statement focusing on vaccine accessibility and fair distribution, but did not issue a mandate. Virginia law, nevertheless, empowers the commissioner to issue a vaccine mandate under certain conditions.

Virginia has a religious exemption for vaccines generally, but not if the state declares an “emergency or epidemic of any disease of public health importance for which a vaccine exists.”

In the emergency situation, the only exemption would be for serious medical reasons, i.e., the vaccine would be detrimental to the health of the recipient, as certified by a physician.

State legislators have been pushing to update the Virginia law to include a religious exemption in an emergency declaration.

The contentious discussions in Virginia raise broader questions about vaccine mandates and exemptions.

It can be helpful to distinguish local vaccine mandates from universal ones.

A local mandate means an immunization is required for services or employment, insisting, for example, that children be vaccinated before admission to a local school or that workers in a hospital system be compliant with Centers for Disease

## MAKING SENSE OUT OF BIOETHICS

Father Tad Pacholczyk



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

Control immunization schedules as a condition of employment.

A universal mandate involves a demand that all residents of a particular geographical area, such as a township, county, state or nation be immunized.

Generally speaking, vaccinations should not be universally mandated, considering the unique manner in which a vaccine can impose itself upon the inner workings of the human body, and in consideration of the potentially complex set of risks that may accrue.

Especially for newly developed vaccines with uncertain profiles of efficacy, adverse events, and long-term consequences, universal mandates are ethically problematic.

Only in the face of a highly virulent and deadly pathogen, with few or no alternative treatments available – and it would be doubtful whether any vaccine for COVID-19 could ever qualify in this way – might a broader, universal-type mandate be more justifiable.

Even in such high-risk situations, however, only a “soft universal mandate” would be justifiable – one that allowed for at least three exemptions to be liberally available to the populace: a conscience exemption, a religious exemption, and as noted earli-

er, a medical exemption.

These exceptions provide the basis for appropriate “opt outs” to occur and for basic human freedoms to be duly safeguarded.

A local vaccine mandate to ensure the safety of a school or work environment can be acceptable and not unduly coercive, in part because no one is compelled to seek employment in the field of health care, nor to be educated in one specific school setting. Also, exemptions are often available within schools or certain health care settings.

How would a religious exemption differ from a conscience exemption?

A religious exemption would apply if the teachings of the faith of the individual to be vaccinated held that vaccines in general were immoral and contrary to God's will, as might be the case for members of the Christian Science church founded by Mary Baker Eddy.

Since there is no Catholic teaching that reception of vaccines, including those that rely on fetal cell lines from abortions that occurred long ago, is sinful, Catholics cannot claim a religious exemption from the requirement of immunization.

A conscience exemption would refer to the situation in which an individual in conscience believed it was immoral to be vaccinated.

Some people might claim a conscience exemption if they were convinced, even after extensive safety and efficacy testing, that the risks of being inoculated outweighed the potential benefits.

It is Catholic teaching that one must follow one's informed judgment of conscience, even if one is in error, because the conscience is our last best judg-

## Fragility has many dimensions

Reading a spiritual reflection recently that mentioned “fragility” led me to deeper contemplation about the many ways fragility impacts our lives.

In the physical life, our bodies are strong, yet fragile. Injury, infirmity and illness may affect us and our loved ones in different ways and at different times, so we may have wounds, scars, and limitations that unite us with the sufferings of Jesus. Sometimes accepting our physical fragility is necessary and we are called to respond to ourselves and others with gentleness. At other times, we may be called to seek to grow physically stronger to be fit to serve the people and ministries God places in our lives.

Our spiritual lives are fragile as well. No matter how much we love Jesus, and how smooth our current journey is going with Jesus at the helm, there is always that risk of stepping away from him to pursue our own will. This can begin in small ways, such as skipping daily prayer time or not receiving the Sacraments. We may have a life crisis or loss of a loved one that causes us to doubt, to lose faith, to despair, or to be angry with God and feel at a

### 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](http://hollyandhealthycatholic.com).*

loss when it comes to living our faith. The fragility of faith is good to acknowledge — and may we never take for granted the gift of faith. Let us seek to persevere with Jesus in prayer, and with faith, hope and love, rely on the help of the church and on our sisters and brothers in Christ amid spiritual difficulties.

It's not just our relationship with Jesus that is fragile. We see fragility in our relationships with family and friends. That fragility, for example, can rear its head in how we respond to difficult situations. Do we seek to hurt others and protect ourselves or does our cooperation with God's grace enable us to be honest, but also patient, loving and giving without expecting anything in return? Since Jesus experi-

enced every insult and hardship, he understands will guide and console us in these trying moments; may we call on him to strengthen us! Our responses to others can help or hurt our fragile relationships, so let us pray to stay rooted in Jesus and to respond to others with love, patience and kindness, no matter what the circumstances.

We also have fragile egos that are in need of healing. We seek the approval of others when it is Jesus and his way that we should be seeking. Jesus, our friend and teacher, loves and forgives us no matter what. When we feel like the rest of our world doesn't know or understand us, may we not let the things of the world take away our joy of being in a relationship with Jesus.

Where there is fragility there is also strength. We are a people who are fragile, yes, but we are also strong with the love of the Creator of the Universe, the Word Made Flesh and the Holy Spirit living within us. On this tightrope of strength and fragility, may we not lose our balance as Jesus has already made it across and He is holding us tightly in his heart.

## Pope's encyclical urges everyone to turn from 'idols'

This Sunday's readings and Pope Francis's new encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*, share major themes that speak to current global and national issues. The texts clearly place this call front and center: Love and care for our neighbors (that's everyone) and the common good, and turn from “idols” that hinder us from doing so.

Exodus reminds us that the poor, marginalized, and vulnerable among us deserve special respect and care. This is not an option. This is not charity. It is justice required by a compassionate God. When they are mistreated, God hears their cries.

The pandemic has highlighted the inability of the global community to work together to address the crisis. It has revealed failures and fissures in this country's policies, institutions, and lack of will when it comes to justice and providing for those living on the edges.

Pope Francis introduces the social encyclical's first chapter, “Dark Clouds Over a Closed World,” saying he intends “...simply to consider certain trends in our world that hinder the development of universal fraternity” (9). [Numbers after *Fratelli Tutti* quotes indicate the paragraph in the document where they are found.]

His list of concerns includes a throwaway world where “Some parts of our human family, it appears, can be readily sacrificed for the sake of others considered worthy of a carefree existence. Ultimately, persons are no longer seen as a paramount value to be cared for and respected, especially when they are poor and disabled, ‘not yet useful’ — like the unborn, or ‘no longer needed’ — like the elderly” (18).

Among other topics addressed in this section are the pandemic (32), loss of a sense of history that leads to “new forms of cultural colonization” (14), the spreading of despair and discouragement and using extremism and polarization as political tools (15), unequal respect of universal human rights (22), the fading sense of being part of a “single human family” (30), and poor treatment of migrants crossing borders around the world (37).

In Sunday's gospel from Luke, Jesus elevates the

### GRACE IN THE MOMENT

Mary Van Balen



call to love and care for our neighbors. When asked what the greatest command was, he had two, not one: Love God and love your neighbor as yourself. Everything, he said, depends on these two.

Chapter Two of *Fratelli Tutti* reflects on perhaps the most well-known parable in the New Testament: The Good Samaritan. Francis warns against the danger of hypocrisy evidenced by the priest and Levite, who passed the injured man without stopping to help: “It shows that belief in God and the worship of God are not enough to ensure that we are actually living in a way pleasing to God (74).” He encourages readers to start small, acting at local levels and then moving out to needs in their countries and in the world. “Difficulties that seem overwhelming are opportunities for growth, not excuses for a glum resignation that can lead only to acquiescence” (78).

He writes forceful words about the Samaritan caring for the injured man and what that example means for us:

“... it leaves no room for ideological manipulation and challenges us to expand our frontiers. It gives a universal dimension to our call to love, one that transcends all prejudices, all historical and cultural barriers, all petty interests” (83).

In Sunday's second reading, St. Paul praises the Thessalonians in part for turning away from idols to serve the true God. When reading

about idols in Scripture, I don't always make the connection to the idols in my life. It's tempting to relegate them to earlier eras and the worship of statues or images.

But certainly, this age has its idols that get in the way of serving God and joining in the work of bringing God's kingdom.

*Fratelli Tutti* makes numerous references throughout to what I would call “idols” today: aggressive nationalism, limitless consumption, individualism, wealth, control, and self-interest to name a few.

Francis sees hope in the midst of the gloom — in willingness to dialogue and engage in genuine encounter, in the desire to love. God has placed goodness in the human heart, and many go about their ordinary days trying to be true neighbors, remembering no one is saved alone; we share the same hope; we sail in the same boat.

These readings and this encyclical are deeply challenging, if we take them seriously. In these times, how can we not? As Pope Francis writes, “Everything, then, depends on our ability to see the need for a change of heart, attitudes and lifestyles” (166).

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## The hard road of national renewal

Earlier this fall, I was happy to be one of the initial signatories of “Liberty and Justice for All,” a call for national renewal drafted by scholars concerned about the dangerous deterioration of American public life. The temper of the statement can be discerned from its opening paragraphs and its conclusion:

*We stand at the crossroads.*

*Over the next several years, the noble sentiments and ideas that gave birth to the United States will either be repudiated or reaffirmed. The fateful choice before us will result either in the death of a great hope or a recommitment to an extraordinary political experiment whose full flowering we have yet to realize. The choice will involve either contempt and despair or gratitude and the self-respect worthy of a free people who know long labors lie before them and who proceed with hope toward a dignified future.*

*In the name of justice and equality, those animated by contempt and despair seek to destroy longstanding but fragile American institutions through which justice and equality can be secured. Destruction of these imperfect but necessary institutions will not hasten the advent of justice and equality but rather accelerate our collapse into barbarism and degradation.*

*Groups of Americans who today advocate endless racial contempt, who systematically distort our history for political gain, who scapegoat and silence whole groups of citizens, who brazenly justify and advocate violence and the destruction of property invite us not to justice and equality but to an ugly future whose only certainty is fear....*

*This crisis is acute, and the hour is late. Like our forebears, we aim both to conserve and reform our institutions in light of enduring principles of justice. That is the task of a self-governing people who know*

### THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

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



*they live in an imperfect world yet are not deterred by challenges.*

The full statement, which is being endorsed online by men and women across the racial, ethnic, religious, and political spectra of American life, is available here: <https://www.realclearfoundation.org/liberty-and-justice-for-all/index.html>.

It is worth reading carefully, not least because its resolute yet calm tone clears the mind amid the dispiriting racket of the most wretched political campaign in living memory.

“Liberty and Justice for All” should be especially appealing to Catholics who are serious about the social doctrine of the Church.

The statement insists that we must treat with each other as mutually responsible individuals, not as embodiments of racial or ideological categories – and thus affirms Christian personalism, the first foundational principle of Catholic social doctrine. The statement suggests that a mature freedom should be lived, not merely for self, but for the common good – the second foundational principle of Catholic social doctrine. The statement challenges the national drift toward concentrations of political and economic power while affirming the importance for a healthy democracy of natural associations (the traditional family) and the free asso-

ciations of civil society (including the Church) – and thereby underscores subsidiarity, the third foundational principle of the social doctrine. Taken as a whole, the statement is a summons to a renewed solidarity in American life, and thus affirms the social doctrine’s fourth foundational principle.

In 1787, the Constitutional Convention was held behind closed doors, absent the glare of public or press scrutiny. Leaving it, Benjamin Franklin was challenged by some Philadelphians: “What is it to be, Dr. Franklin, a monarchy or a republic?” “A republic,” Franklin replied, “if you can keep it.”

The keeping of it is now in question, perhaps more so than at any time since the years before the Civil War. And it will not do to blame our current national distress on two septuagenarians acting like four-year-olds while contending for the world’s greatest public office (although they surely disgraced themselves and embarrassed the nation in their first “debate”). Nor will it do to blame the two major political parties, although both are hostage to their most shrill voices. Nor is the mainstream media the primary culprit, although it would help if some measure of objective reporting would return to our newspaper pages and television screens.

To one degree or another, we are all to blame. We have let this deterioration happen on our watch, and we have done too little to stop the rot. That is another reason why “Liberty and Justice for All” is important. While it rightly challenges the nihilists, anarchists and race-baiters whose only program is destruction, it also calls decent citizens who have stayed on the sidelines of public life to become part of a long-term project of national reconciliation and renewal.

Benjamin Franklin’s challenge, you see, also was addressed to us.

## Entertain this thought: Try showing true hospitality

It’s that time of year for our family – the season when we use this home God has given us to welcome new and old friends. We enfold them into the mantle of our family life and invite them to walk alongside us in whatever stage they find us.

Fall seems to bring about open doors and open hearts in this family when it comes to our home. Over the years, I have learned the important distinction between hospitality and entertaining. Entertaining seeks only to impress, whereas hospitality seeks to welcome. We welcome others and treat them as family, inviting them to join the chopping of the veggies for the meal or the matching of socks with you while you sit in conversation on the couch.

Hospitality translates from the Greek *philoxenia* as love for the stranger. In early Christian times, hospitality referred to the act of assisting one or more travelers for a short time. Deemed a fundamental moral practice and radically equal in its attempt to serve both rich and poor, early Christian hospitality sought to imitate Christ in its outreach to all. No one is above the other – not the giver or the receiver.

This humility and gratitude for the blessings bestowed upon both is a virtue honed through service to the other. Catholic Christians need to know that opening their home should be like opening a window of their heart. We need to strive for vulnerabil-

### 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.*



ity instead of recognition, and all virtue and charity can flow from that.

I think people long for community. We were created for family and community. Being vulnerable enough to welcome someone as family immediately breaks down walls of comparison or unease and sets a tone of fellowship and ease. There is also something incarnate in us that relaxes at the opportunity to break bread together. I try to always brew a pot of tea and take some muffins or cookies from our freezer to share when someone comes over. An extra plate is always available for “Elijah” at our table. As someone enters, the message is “Here, let me serve you and give your soul rest.”

I am often left smiling and shaking my head in wonder when our guests tell us how relaxed they feel in our home of eight children, three dogs (including a new puppy), two cats and a partridge in a pear tree. There is something here in the aspect of serving one another that is reminiscent of our roots as a people of community.

I have some fond memories of living this style of life. We frequently host seminarians from the Pontifical College Josephinum, which is near our home. One such night, our parish priest joined us for dinner with about 12 seminarians. These men arrived, and because I have eight children and we live a very full life, dinner was not quite ready. These young men helped chop peppers, play with younger kids and set the table. They made themselves at home, grabbed a drink and made a fire for the living room.

As they worked alongside members of my family, relationships grew. We shared a wonderful meal together and ate dessert gathered by the fire. As the children’s bedtime approached, my husband and I excused ourselves and began the bedtime routine. I heard our parish priest suggest to the men that they do the dishes. As the seminarians did the dishes, my children overheard them reciting evening prayer and singing the *Salve Regina*. This glimpse of the sacred mixed with the ordinary was a beautiful witness to my children.

In this period where we have lost a sense of connecting with the other, I am reminded of the call by St. John Paul II to “Open wide the doors for Christ.” As we approach a season of gathering as friends and family more formally, may we remember our roots of hospitality and welcome all who seek, crave and truly need that which we so easily can share.

# Deacon Smithberger says his role is one of service

By Tim Puet  
Catholic Times Reporter

Deacon Marion Smithberger says a moment early in his diaconal career made him understand why God had called him to serve the Church and its people.

"A young friend had died, and I was asked to assist at the funeral service," he said. "People were turning to me to provide comfort. This was a role that was new to me, but it also made me realize this is what it means to be a deacon. Strangers were hugging me, and somehow I knew they were trying to draw spiritual energy from me and that I was representing the Church and its presence. I also realized this was not a funeral but a celebration of life and preached about that in the homily.

"Another time when I realized the impact of being a deacon came when I opened a tribute to the late Columbus radio personality Andy "Andyman" Davis in 2010 at what's now Express Live! in downtown Columbus. I asked the rock 'n' roll fans who knew the words of the Our Father to pray with me and those who didn't know the words to simply bow their heads.

"This may not seem like a big deal, but it was the first time I had asked a group of strangers to pray with me. I thought I might be praying alone or even get catcalls, but it happened like I hoped, and we all prayed together.

"I exited the stage, and the roadies were gathered behind the curtain, and one of the roadies asked me to lead them in prayer, which I did. Then I walked around and shook their hands. After-

ward, it dawned on me: Things are different now that I'm a deacon," he said.

Deacon Smithberger, 66, has served Columbus St. Timothy Church since his ordination by Bishop James Griffin on Nov. 29, 2008. "Carol (his wife) and I live near Columbus St. Peter Church, but when I was ordained, St. Peter already had Deacons Phil Paulucci, Joe Schermer and (the late) Bill Davis on its staff. Deacon Frank Iannarino (director of the diocesan Office of the Diaconate), on behalf of Bishop (Frederick) Campbell, asked if we would be willing to be assigned to St. Tim's. We agreed and have been there ever since," he said.

"A priest is asked to be the servant of the servants of God, and a deacon is the servant of the servant of the servants. As far as I'm concerned, my role as a deacon is to serve. It's an honor to be there when people need you.

"I knew from early in life that I enjoyed listening to people and helping them sort out issues. I started doing that when I was young, even with adults, and I've been fortunate that I've been able to help people for more than 40 years through my work with the Columbus Bar Association (CBA)," he said.

He retired from the CBA this past Jan. 1 after joining the organization in 1978 as assistant executive director. He is currently executive director emeritus of the Columbus Bar Foundation; is board president of the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education, which sponsors the Ohio Mock Trial Competition and other programs for high school and middle school students; and is past

## ANSWERING GOD'S CALL

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

president of the National Conference of Bar Foundations, a division of the American Bar Association. But he's not a lawyer himself.

"I attended Capital University law school but dropped out because I was going to school in the daytime and doing third-shift work at the state auditor's office, and it was too exhausting," he said. "One of the lawyers at the CBA suggested that I go to work there, and I've been assisting lawyers for more than 40 years."

He said his greatest satisfaction has come from helping poor people through the CBA's Lawyer Referral Service, for which he was director, and the Legal Aid Society of Columbus, of which he is a past president. During his tenure with the foundation, it substantially increased the amount of money it awards as grants to law school students. "We had \$15,000 on hand when I started," he said. "Now it's up to \$4 million, and we've given away \$5 million in grants."

He also has helped raise more than \$2 million for the Legal Aid Society, which has a mission of helping low-income clients navigate the legal system and giving them appropriate representation. He worked with the Lawyer Referral Service on the "Ask the Attorney" segment that was part of newscasts on WSYX-TV (Channel 6) in Columbus from 2011 through January of this year.

He and Carol, who is a lawyer, have been married 38 years and have a 35-year-old daughter, Mandy, who lives in Washington, D.C. He was born in Zanesville and is the oldest of three children of the late Norbert and Rita Smithberger, who moved to Reynoldsburg in 1959 and were active members of St. Pius X Church. He was given the name Marion because 1954, the year of his birth, was declared as a Marian Year by Pope Pius XII. His father worked for the Ohio State Highway Patrol, the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction and the state auditor's office in financial positions.

Deacon Smithberger graduated in 1972 from Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School and in 1976 from Ohio State University as a psychology major. "My psychology training turned out to be a great help in developing adult education programs and in counseling I did with the Legal Aid



Deacon Marion Smithberger

Society," he said.

"I started getting involved in parish activities with my dad when I was a boy. I was an altar server and in youth ministry at St. Pius, then got involved with the Parish School of Religion after Carol and I moved to Grandview Heights, where we went to St. Christopher Church," Deacon Smithberger said. "At one point, we combined a cooking class with PSR for high school students, and that got their interest. I also was involved with the RCIA program and was a lector and extraordinary minister of the Eucharist at St. Peter.

"One day, I went to a dinner and ran into Deacon Don Poirier, who was a student at St. Charles when I was there. He was studying to be a deacon at the time and said I should think about doing the same thing," he said. "So I began discerning the diaconate and talking to other deacons, and the more I thought about it, the better I felt. I've never felt so prayed for than I did during my discernment."

He said that if anyone considering the diaconate were to ask him about it, he would say, "The most important thing is: Are you called? Is God asking you to be his servant in a particular way? You won't know for sure until you try, and if it's the right thing for you to do, you'll know."

"You never can tell when you'll be called on to perform a deacon's functions," Deacon Smithberger said. "Awhile ago, I was cutting grass, and a neighbor called me and said his wife had just died. He asked me to come over, and we prayed around her body even before the ambulance came. That was a moment filled with grace."

Deacon Smithberger said he looks forward to several more years of serving God and the Church. "I'm sure God has some surprises in store for me, and I'm prepared to be surprised," he said. "Unexpected moments in which I know God is there have resulted in some of my greatest joys."



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## Sharing pro-life message with kids is conference topic

By Elizabeth Pardi

The diocesan offices of Marriage and Family Life and Social Concerns hosted a virtual 2020 Building a Culture of Life Conference in October that ends with Mass celebrated by Bishop Robert Brennan on Oct. 25 from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.

One conference presentation, "Raising a Pro-Life Generation," featured speakers responding to questions about how parents and caretakers can instill pro-life values in children.

The speakers included Stephanie Rapp, mother to three and director of the Marriage and Family Life Office; Jesse Figueroa, a father, military veteran and deacon candidate for the diocese; Pam Heil, a motivational speaker and Christian counselor with Empowered to Love ministries; David Mesina, father of three and youth minister at Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator Church; Jennifer Fullin, mother of five and the diocesan natural family planning coordinator; and Dr. Kathleen Lutter, a Columbus obstetrician and gynecologist.

When speakers responded to questions, compassion was emphasized, starting with Mesina, who advised on

how and when parents should talk to their children about abortion and what being pro-life means.

"Lean toward instilling a love and a compassion towards the mothers – (both) the parents, but particularly the mothers – who often feel as though abortion is their only option. ... We know it's not their only option, but from their perspective and their experience, they feel as though this is their only option, so (focus on) really instilling this need to pray for, to support and also to ... educate mothers who are in this very difficult situation."

Rapp added, "(We should) really ensure that we are teaching love through this and compassion for those that are involved with ... the abortion industry." She also recommended that parents discuss with their kids the reasons why women would choose abortion.

Another question asked how youth can be taught to demonstrate pro-life values in a loving and non-judgmental way. Fullin, continuing the theme of compassion, said, "Truth and compassion are absolutely essential when talking to others about pro-life issues. Respecting life means wanting the authentic good for all persons, and that means the unborn child ... the elder-

ly, but it also means the person that you're talking to, whether or not they share the same beliefs that you hold."

The speakers also emphasized preserving young children's innocence and not sharing graphic details of abortion with them. "Obviously you don't want to start out with a young child and talk about the horrors of a third-trimester abortion," Dr. Lutter said. "That's just not appropriate." She said a simple way to explain abortion to children is by talking about the gift of pregnancy. "As you build that respect towards birth and parenting and life, it naturally leads to a love of that process."

Rapp also cautioned against sharing details with children who aren't ready. "I think a rule of thumb would be to wait until they're a little bit older to approach this topic, to keep it simple, truthful and not graphic."

To discuss complicated topics with kids in a simple manner, Figueroa recommended using the straightforward phrase, "From the womb until the tomb" when teaching children to value all human life.

Heil suggested that families sit down together and establish what their virtues and values are, including the right to life. She said there are nu-

merous ways to approach this topic, "always celebrating the fact that we are beautifully and wonderfully made by a God who created us out of love."

The speakers also emphasized that if children are to take pro-life beliefs seriously, parents must stress that such values lead to happiness and prosperity. "When we're trying to show the reasons why we hold these positions and ought to embrace them with our lives, it's always from the position that these are the best things for us," Mesina said. "(We should teach that) these (values) are so important for the proper functioning of the human person."

Despite the influence that parents have over their children, a recent Pew Research study indicated that kids might eventually reject the faith. "Don't take it too personally," Dr. Lutter said. She said that those who leave the Catholic faith often return later more on fire for the Church. Their faith "can't be their parents' faith," she said. "If they don't own it for themselves, it's going to be a soft faith, and in today's culture you have to have a strong faith."

A video of the entire conference can be accessed on the diocesan YouTube channel.



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# Excerpts from U.S. bishops' Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship

In 2019, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops published a revised version of a document on voting responsibility that reflects social and political developments in America.

Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: The U.S. Bishops' Reflection on Catholic Teaching and Political Life highlights the Church's role in upholding moral truths and the individual Catholic's responsibility in the political process.

As election day approaches on Tuesday, Nov. 3, all of the faithful are encouraged to exercise their right as U.S. citizens to cast their ballots while keeping in mind the Church's teaching on human life and dignity.

The following excerpts are taken from the bishops' document, which can be found at <https://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/forming-consciences-for-faithful-citizenship-introductory-letter>:

8. (T)he particular judgments of the document ("Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship") may fall at various points along the political spectrum, but the foundational principles that guide these teachings should not be ignored in any case nor used selectively in order to serve partisan interests. In light of these reflections and those of local bishops, we encourage Catholics throughout the United States to be active in the political process, particularly in these challenging times.

11. Some question whether it is appropriate for the Church to play a role in political life. However, the obligation to teach the moral truths that should shape our lives, including our public lives, is central to the mission given to the Church by Jesus Christ. Moreover, the United States Constitution protects the right of individual believers and religious bodies to participate and speak out without government interference, favoritism, or discrimination. Civil law should fully recognize and protect the right of the Church and other institutions in civil society to participate in cultural, political, and economic life without being forced to abandon or ignore their central moral convictions. Our nation's tradition of pluralism is enhanced, not threatened, when religious groups and people of faith bring their convictions

and concerns into public life. Indeed, our Church's teaching is in accord with the foundational values that have shaped our nation's history: "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

14. As citizens, we should be guided more by our moral convictions than by our attachment to a political party or interest group. When necessary, our participation should help transform the party to which we belong; we should not let the party transform us in such a way that we neglect or deny fundamental moral truths or approve intrinsically evil acts. We are called to bring together our principles and our political choices, our values and our votes, to help build a civilization of truth and love.

31. Decisions about political life are complex and require the exercise of a well-formed conscience aided by prudence. This exercise of conscience begins with outright opposition to laws and other policies that violate human life or weaken its protection. Those who knowingly, willingly, and directly support public policies or legislation that undermine fundamental moral principles cooperate with evil.

34. Catholics often face difficult choices about how to vote. This is why it is so important to vote according to a well-formed conscience that perceives the proper relationship among moral goods. A Catholic cannot vote for a candidate who favors a policy promoting an intrinsically evil act, such as abortion, euthanasia, assisted suicide, deliberately subjecting workers or the poor to subhuman living conditions, redefining marriage in ways that violate its essential meaning, or racist behavior, if the voter's intent is to support that position. In such cases, a Catholic would be guilty of formal cooperation in grave evil. At the same time, a voter should not use a candidate's opposition to an intrinsic evil to justify indifference or inattentiveness to other important moral issues involving human life and dignity.

40. In the words of Pope Francis, "progress in building a people in peace, justice and fraternity depends on four principles related to constant tensions present in every social reality. These derive from the pillars of the Church's social doctrine, which serve

as 'primary and fundamental parameters of reference for interpreting and evaluating social phenomena'" (Evangelii Gaudium, no. 221). Taken together, these principles provide a moral framework for Catholic engagement in advancing what we have called elsewhere a "consistent ethic of life" (Living the Gospel of Life, no. 22). Rightly understood, this ethic does not treat all issues as morally equivalent nor does it reduce Catholic teaching to one or two issues. It anchors the Catholic commitment to defend human life, from conception until natural death, in the fundamental moral obligation to respect the dignity of every person as a child of God.

42. As Catholics we are not single-issue voters. A candidate's position on a single issue is not sufficient to guarantee a voter's support. Yet if a candidate's position on a single issue promotes an intrinsically evil act, such as legal abortion, redefining marriage in a way that denies its essential meaning, or racist behavior, a voter may legitimately disqualify a candidate from receiving support.

55. These four principles (The dignity of the Human Person, Subsidiarity, The Common Good, Solidarity) and related themes from Catholic social teaching provide a moral framework that does not easily fit ideologies of "right" or "left," "liberal" or "conservative," or the platform of any political party. They are not partisan or sectarian, but reflect fundamental ethical principles that are common to all people.

58. The Church is involved in the political process but is not partisan. The Church cannot champion any candidate or party. Our cause is the defense of human life and dignity and the protection of the weak and vulnerable.

59. The Church is engaged in the political process but should not be used. We welcome dialogue with political leaders and candidates; we seek to engage and persuade public officials. Events and photo ops cannot substitute for serious dialogue.

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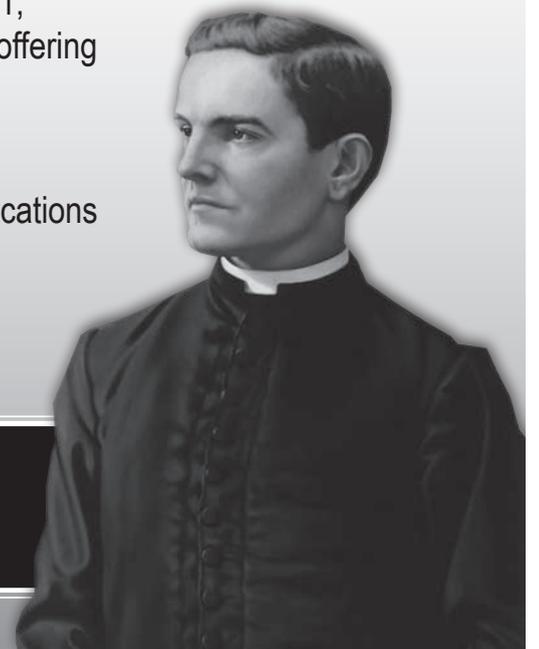
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**Bishop Brennan prays the rosary.**  
CT photos by Ken Snow



**Lori Granata leads the third decade of the rosary with family members at her side.**



**Yvonne and Aristides Torres, members of Columbus St. Thomas Church, recite the rosary.**



**Xavier Weber leads the first decade of the rosary as members of his family stand nearby.**

## Bishop leads livestreamed Family Rosary Day at Cathedral

Bishop Robert Brennan presided over the 52th annual Family Rosary Day on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 11 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral. In-person attendance was limited this year because of the coronavirus pandemic, but the program was livestreamed on the diocesan website.

Members of Knights of Columbus Council 10941 from New Albany Church of the Resurrection Church processed to the main altar with a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary and were followed by Bishop Brennan. Upon reaching the altar, a crown of flowers was placed on the statue during the singing of *Ave Maria* by Taylor Hickman, 17, a member of Columbus St. Dominic Church.

For the praying of the Most Holy Rosary, the decades were led by families from diocesan parishes. Following the rosary, scripture readings were taken from Isaiah 61:1-2 and Luke 1:26-38.

In Bishop Brennan's homily, he reflected on the COVID-19 crisis and its impact on the world and the Church in the past six months.

"We've suffered much deprivation, since the middle of March, in many different ways," he said, but added, "I've never before witnessed, during my 34 years as a priest, this tremendous growth of family prayer. More families have gathered together to watch livestream Masses and have gathered together to pray the rosary in their churches. It is so amazing.

"So maybe out of all of this, something has happened that draws us both together as families and also draws us closer into the heart of Christ in prayer."

The bishop offered a reminder that God does good things all the time – even in times of suffering.

"We live in a world today that's bent on tearing one another down, trying to bring sorrow and pain, trying to



**Crowning the statue of the Blessed Virgin is 17-year-old Taylor Hickman while her parents, Glenn and Angela, watch. The Hickmans are members of Columbus St. Dominic Church.**

divide," he said. "We see it over and over.

"We've seen the violence that tears societies apart. We've seen the hatred that has resulted in racism in its worst form. We see attacks on human life, the whole culture of life, the dignity of the human person from the very, very beginning.

"We need in this world, more than ever, a change of heart, don't we? And that means going right back to the basic fundamentals, to the dignity of every single person at every stage of life, created in the image and likeness of God, deserving of respect, of care, and of understanding.

"Our world needs, more than ever, to be able to listen deeply to one another, to look into the eyes of one another and see that spark of divine light, to see the image of God."

Bishop Brennan then posed the question, "Do we want to build up or tear down?"

"Of course you want to build up, don't you? Isn't that why you're here? And isn't that why you pray the rosa-



**In procession at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral with a statue of the Blessed Virgin are Peter Golato, Chris Sarka and Chris Crum, all members of the New Albany Church of the Resurrection Knights of Columbus Council 10941.**

ry?" he asked. "We walk with Mary through the journey of Jesus' own life when we pray the rosary. We walk with Mary. Right there, at our side, she's guiding us through the mysteries, the events of Jesus' life, so that our hearts can be filled more deeply with the joy that comes from knowing Christ.

"Now, I'm not talking about make-believe joy. When we walk with Mary through the steps of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, we discover the joy that motivated them. The joy that God wants for each and every one of us, and the joy that we can give to one another."

The Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary was recited after the homily.

Before the final blessing, all of the faithful who were gathered in the Cathedral recited the following Prayer for Families:

*O Lord, Jesus, God of Love, You are the center of our family. You humbled yourself and came to live among us. And the greater part of your life was spent in your home with Joseph and Mary. Take our family. Let your peace be with us! Help us to do your will in all that we say or do. Guide us, Jesus, in our family decisions, in our financial needs and worries, in our work, our play, and in our study. Give us a strong faith, strengthen our relationship with you. O Lord, keep us on the path to the Father! We ask this in your holy name, Amen!*

# White Mass offered for healing professions

Approximately 80 people attended the annual White Mass for the healing professions on Friday, Oct. 16 at Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator Church.

Bishop Robert J. Brennan presided at the Mass, sponsored by the Catholic Medical Association (CMA) of Central Ohio, and delivered the homily. Concelebrants were Fathers Bob Penhallurick, pastor of St. Brendan the Navigator and local CMA chaplain, and Father Mark Hammond, chaplain of the Central Ohio Catholic Nurses Association. Assisting was Deacon Jim Morris of St. Brendan.

"Friends, the work you do in the healing profession is so very important. It is the Lord Jesus who works through you," Bishop Brennan said in his homily.

The bishop reflected on the difficulties brought about the COVID-19 pandemic.

"You see more than just a patient in front of you," he said. "You see someone greater who is in the image and likeness of God. You see human

dignity. You see more than somebody's fears and worries, hopes and dreams. You see their inner soul that's filled with that longing for which we all have that can only be satisfied by God.

"You see, of course, a problem: something to be fixed, something to be cared for. "Yet you see deeper. You see the healing hand of God with the profound opportunity to participate in that deeper world. Indeed, strange as they are, these days teach us to look more deeply. These days teach us to search for truer meanings, to seek the truth, and to see the hand of God all around us.

"That, indeed, is your witness. Comfort and cure the sick and say to them, 'The kingdom of God is at hand for you.'"

After Mass, Dr. Michael Parker, a longtime central Ohio obstetrician who was elected national CMA president in January, discussed the organization's response to the COVID crisis and the ethical and spiritual issues that Catholic physicians face.

"What's lacking in medicine today is respect and dignity for the human person," he said. "And out of that comes the love for that person. People need to feel the connection with their caregiver, that their lives are being supported, and what they are being given is ethical, moral and right for them.

"If you are not already a member of CMA, please consider joining and taking part in the great work that we are doing to bring Jesus Christ back into medicine."



Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator Church hosted the annual White Mass. *CT photos by Ken Snow*



Bishop Robert Brennan makes a point during his homily.

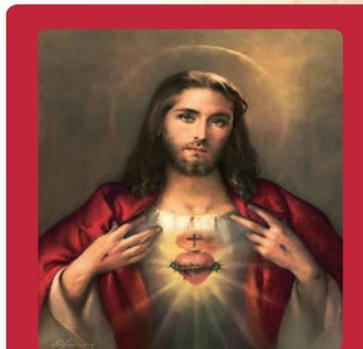


Dr. Michael Parker, president of the Catholic Medical Association, speaks after Mass.

## 9TH ANNUAL SACRED HEART CONGRESS

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# Members of legal profession gather for Red Mass at Cathedral

The annual diocesan Red Mass took place on Wednesday, Oct. 7 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral after being postponed from its traditional May date because of the coronavirus outbreak that continues to impact Ohio and the world.

Msgr. Stephan Moloney, vicar gen-

eral for the diocese, was the homilist and Bishop Robert Brennan presided at the Mass. Also assisting was Deacon Marion Smithberger, who serves at Columbus St. Timothy Church and has recently retired after working for the Columbus Bar Association for more than 40 years.

Under the leadership of the Thomas More Society, the Red Mass normally brings together colleagues of all faiths in prayer for guidance, strength and recommitment to the highest principles of their profession for the good of all citizens in the state of Ohio. Those include judges, attorneys, members of the court system, government, law enforcement and administrators. However, attendance was limited this year because of the ongoing pandemic.

In the homily, Msgr. Moloney said, “Those who work in the field of law, in any capacity, high or low, great or small, are in a position to not only hear cries for justice, but also to answer them.

“And justice, in addition to being a moral virtue, is also an attribute of God. As we were told in the 103rd Psalm, ‘The Lord is righteous. He brings justice to the oppressed.’

“It is God’s will to stand with justice upon the earth. But he has charged us, as ministers of justice, to be collaborators in this undertaking. Our Lord himself declared, ‘Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they shall be satisfied.’

“The Red Mass is the occasion on which we invoke the gifts of the Holy Spirit upon all of those who work for justice. The Holy Spirit guides us to all truth. As the Lord Jesus has promised us, ‘You shall know the truth, and the truth will set you free.’

“May the Holy Spirit help each of us, in our particular role, to know the truth and to do justice.”

Near the conclusion of the Red Mass, Attorney Timothy J. Bechtold presented a posthumous award to R. Kevin Kerns, a local attorney and longtime member of the Thomas More Society who died Feb. 6.



An honor guard precedes the liturgical procession at the beginning of the annual Red Mass for members of the legal profession at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.

CT photos by Ken Snow



Msgr. Stephan Moloney, the diocese’s vicar general, delivers the homily.



Members of courts in Ohio and Franklin County were in attendance at the Red Mass.

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Local news and events

# Diocese offers youth protection training

The Diocese of Columbus is offering a new training module titled *Technology and Virtual Boundaries Awareness: Online Communication with Youth* for all priests, deacons, seminarians, deacon candidates, employees and volunteers to complete.

The module was created by VIRTUS, the company that developed the *Protecting God's Children* training program offered by the diocese. The module may be taken online.

VIRTUS will assign the module to everyone with an active VIRTUS account. Notification that the module has been assigned will be sent to the email address associated with a person's VIRTUS account.

The diocese strongly encourages everyone to take advantage of the opportunity to strengthen their knowledge and ability to protect young people.

## Diocese seeks input from inactive Catholics

The Diocese of Columbus is exploring new ways of evangelization. As part of this effort, information is being sought from those who have

moved away from the faith -- why they no longer participate actively in the Church or why they may no longer consider themselves Catholic.

Many people may think they know or can assume the reasons for this, but there is great value in hearing estranged brothers and sisters' concerns firsthand. To assist in this task, active Catholics are encouraged to reach out to inactive Church members and ask them to participate in a brief survey.

Participants may be a loved one, a child who no longer attends, a sibling who moved away, a friend, an acquaintance -- anyone not currently active in the Church. The survey may be found at <https://columbuscatholic.org/survey>.

## ODU plans virtual info session

Ohio Dominican University (ODU) will host an information session on its early assurance programs for high-achieving high school students from 6 to 7:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 9. The free event will take place virtually to help ensure adherence to social distancing guidelines and group gathering restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Participants will learn about ODU's medical school early assurance program, which offers a limited number of qualified students guaranteed acceptance into ODU and the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine. Students in the program have a chance to complete their Bachelor's and Doctor of Osteopathy degrees in as few as seven years.

Participants also can learn about ODU's physician assistant early assurance program.

To register for the information session, visit [ohiodominican.edu/EAPInfo](http://ohiodominican.edu/EAPInfo). Interested students can learn more about both early assurance programs at [ohiodominican.edu/Assurance](http://ohiodominican.edu/Assurance).

## Orlandos establish endowment at Gannon University

A \$250,000 gift from Dr. Richard G. Orlando and his wife, Cynthia, will establish the Orlando biomedical ethics and Catholic social teaching endowment at Gannon University in Erie, Pennsylvania.

The endowment will provide funding for educational experiences to enrich Gannon students' understand-

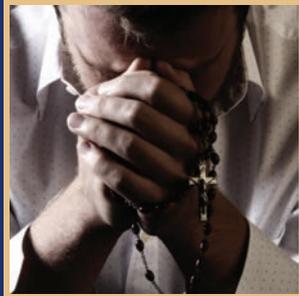
ing of ethical considerations related to the care of human life. It also will give students the tools to navigate complicated issues they encounter in their professional careers and will establish a lecture series to provide students and faculty, the public, and health care leaders with opportunities for continuing their education.

Richard Orlando received a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from Gannon and a medical degree from the Ohio State University College of Medicine. He founded Columbus Ophthalmology Associates and was its president for more than 30 years. He retired from his surgical practice in January after more than 40 years as a practicing physician. He is director of the COA Research Foundation, a nonprofit corporation he founded to provide grants for clinical studies of surgical devices and techniques.

Cynthia Orlando worked at OSU Hospitals in endocrinology before transferring to hemodialysis, where she became director of home dialysis. After leaving the workforce while the couple's two daughters were growing up, she returned as a postoperative recovery room nurse.

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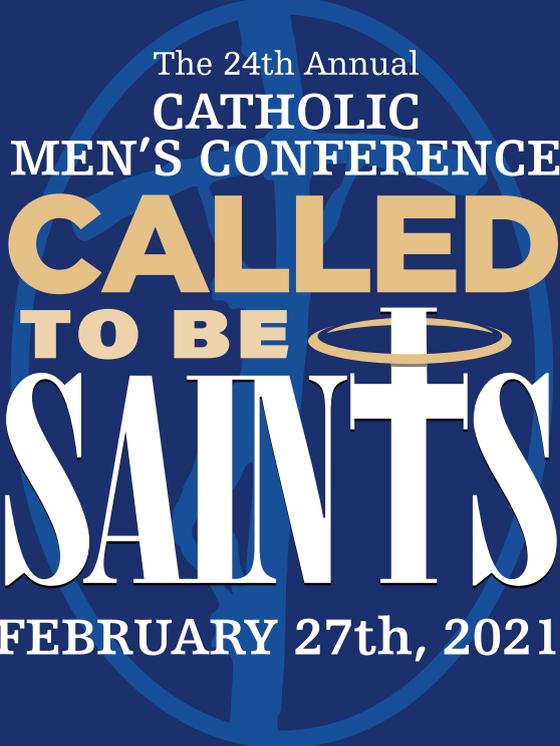


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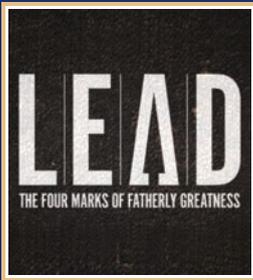
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## Diocese honors anniversary couples

Bishop Robert Brennan will be the celebrant and homilist for a Mass marking the diocese's 47th annual Jubilee of Anniversaries on Sunday, Oct. 25 at Westerville St. Paul Church, 313 N. State St.

Couples celebrating their 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th and 60th marriage anniversaries and every anniversary thereafter have been invited to attend by the diocesan Marriage and Family Life and Divine Worship offices, which are sponsoring

the event.

To have enough space for social distancing in the pews, attendance for this year's event is being limited to Jubilee couples only. Family members and couples who prefer to attend virtually can livestream the Mass from home, using a link provided to registrants. Those who are at high risk and who are most susceptible to COVID-19, including those who are older than age 70 or who have serious heart conditions, are discouraged

from attending.

Pandemic precautions such as face coverings, sanitizing and social distancing will be in place. There will be no group photos or reception after the Mass.

All couples who have registered for the event, whether they attend or not, will be mailed a personalized certificate recognizing their anniversary, signed by Bishop Brennan.

The jubilee is one of the diocese's longest-running events. It began in

1974 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, with what was then the diocesan Family Life Bureau and the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women being its early sponsors. For several years, it also honored priests and religious sisters serving in the diocese who were marking significant anniversaries of their ordination or of pronouncing religious vows. The diocese now recognizes these priests and sisters in separate events.

### Deacon Tom and Mary Alice Johnston

## 'Be honest ... and be true to each other'

By Tim Puet

Catholic Times Reporter

Before Tom and Mary Alice Johnston could promise to be faithful and love and honor each other in marriage, Tom had to make another promise.

"The first time I asked Mary Alice to marry me, she turned me down," said Tom, who has served the Diocese of Columbus as a deacon for 35 years. "She said she couldn't marry me because I was smoking cigarettes, and she wouldn't marry me unless I quit. As a Navy veteran who received free cigarettes while in the service, I was a chain smoker. But I gave up tobacco, and, after a while, when I asked her again, she said, 'Yes.'"

Tom and Mary Alice (Mercer) Johnston were married on June 25, 1955 at Columbus Holy Name Church, with Msgr. John Donahie as the officiating priest.

They met at a dance sponsored by the diocesan Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) on Columbus' west side. "We started to dance, and that set things in motion," Tom said. "We dated for probably close to two years, and I remember one of our favorite dates was going to get hot chocolate during Lent at the old Howard Johnson's on Olentangy River Road.

"The CYO was important to young Catholics back then because it gave them a chance to meet each other," he said. "I was hoping to marry a Catholic young woman, and the CYO provided that opportunity."

Tom grew up in southwestern Pennsylvania during the Great Depression, served in the Navy during World War II and, in 1950, was part of the first graduating class of what then was known as the College of Steubenville and now is Franciscan University of Steubenville. He came to Columbus



Deacon Tom and Mary Alice Johnston

to attend Ohio State University and obtain elementary school teaching credentials.

While doing postgraduate studies at OSU, Tom worked at the former Franklin Village children's home operated by what is now Franklin County Children Services. After receiving his credentials in 1954, he was employed by the Columbus Public Schools for 30 years, starting as a teacher at Oakland Park School and serving as principal at Fornof, Heimandale, Salem and Sharon schools before retiring in 1985. He earned a master's degree in educational administration from OSU in 1959.

The couple were attending Columbus St. Matthias Church when the parish's pastor asked Tom to consider becoming a deacon because he and Mary Alice were involved in several parish activities. They accepted the invitation, and after three years of training at the Pontifical College Josephinum, he was ordained a deacon by Bishop James Griffin at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on June 29, 1985.

"My original assignment at St. Matthias didn't work out," Tom said. "Through the kind pastoral assistance of Msgr. John Cody, who was director of the diocesan Office of the Diaconate at the time, arrangements were made with the late Father Jim Hanley, who then was rector of the cathedral, and the cathedral's pastoral council.

"I was accepted to be deacon at the cathedral, and Father Hanley made quite a point of telling us he wanted us to work together in pastoral ministry."

He served the cathedral as a deacon for 30 years until retiring from active ministry in 2015. He also was associate director of the Office of the Diaconate from 1987 to 2004.

"Msgr. Cody and the rectors at the cathedral while I was there – Father Hanley, Father Mike Gribble and Father Mike Lumpe – as well as Bishops Griffin and (Frederick) Campbell were always very supportive. I delivered many homilies at the cathedral and loved that part of the ministry."

The Johnstons also brought the Eucharist to several Columbus nursing homes during Tom's years at the cathedral and for several years afterward before leaving that ministry last year. Tom also was chaplain of Father Hohman Knights of Columbus Council 5253 in Reynoldsburg for a number of years.

"We've always been a team. It has to be that way because a successful deacon needs a supportive wife," Tom said. "We carried on our ministry together, always have gone to Mass together, and Mary Alice always was a great help in preparing homilies and participating in pastoral visits."

Tom, 95, and Mary Alice, 88, have two daughters – Kathleen Markin and Maureen Mercier – and one son, Tim. They said all three, with the help and support of their spouses, have provided the help necessary for them to

continue staying in the same house in northeast Columbus where they have lived throughout their married life. They also have five grandsons, five granddaughters, 14 great-grandchildren "and one on the way," Mary Alice said.

Asked what it takes for a successful marriage, she said, "I don't know if there's any great secret – just remember the marriage covenant and keep praying. I will say we're a very loving and forgiving couple, and that whenever we get in a fuss, we work it out. We listen to each other and love each other. Our love has matured. Now it's not quite so much showing physical affection as it is a deep-down love in your heart and in your head and soul."

"Mary Alice just fills my life. I don't know what I'd do without her," Tom said. "It's a love that fills every fiber in your being. Being involved in the Catholic Church as a deacon also has a lot to do with it. Because of the coronavirus, we haven't been in a church building since St. Patrick's Day. We've been watching Masses on television, but it's been really hard to stay away. We do pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Rosary together every day at 3 p.m."

"If we had any advice for other couples, it would be to be honest with each other and be true to each other," Mary Alice said.

"I like the words in the bishop's charge to deacons at their ordination: 'Say what you mean and mean what you say,'" Tom said. "Let the love you have received from those around you help in any tough decisions you make, and there are bound to be a lot of them. Live a life of service, like that of a deacon. It's easy to be served, but it's hard to serve. Now we've reached the point where our children are serving us, and we're so grateful for it."

## Joe and Mary Ann Carle

### 'With God's help and prayer, we made it'

By Tim Puet

Catholic Times Reporter

The diocesan Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) was founded about 1935 to serve the needs of 19- to 30-year-old Catholics in the Diocese of Columbus. Today, the CYO primarily sponsors athletic programs for high school students not on varsity teams, but from the mid-1930s through the '60s, it conducted faith-based programs such as Masses, conferences and rosary rallies, as well as dances and other recreational activities.

Many Catholic marriages began with young men and women meeting each other at a CYO event. That's how Joe Carle and Mary Ann Ward, who have been married for nearly 66 years, met in 1951.

Joe was living on the family farm in Pickaway County outside Circleville, which is still home for him and Mary Ann. "We met at a CYO activity at Chillicothe St. Peter School," he said. "Mary Ann was living in Jackson with her mother and grandparents. There were young people from several par-

ishes that met in Chillicothe to organize a chapter of the CYO," he said.

He and Mary Ann also dated other young people they met at CYO events, but "after a while, I realized Mary Ann was the right one for me," Joe said.

"I'd go to Chillicothe to pick Pat // last name?-pb//up so we could go to diocesan CYO meetings in Columbus. She and Mary Ann were part of a group of three girls named Mary Ann and three others named Pat who would go to the meetings together. After a while, I realized Mary Ann Ward was the right one for me."

The couple were married on Dec. 29, 1954 at Jackson Holy Trinity Church with Father William Stecker as the clergy member witnessing their marriage.

Shortly afterward, Joe was drafted to serve in the armed forces. "I was in Korea in 1955 and 1956 with the Army and remember mostly the long, cold winter," he said. "I was on leave in Tokyo when I got word our son Jacob was born, but I didn't see him for several months, until I got back to the States."

Joe jokes that going to the Army was an economic necessity. "We couldn't



Mary Ann and Joe Carle

afford to get married, but married soldiers were paid an extra \$50 a month. That gave me an incentive," he said.

Jacob was the first of four sons and three daughters born to Joe, now 90, and Mary Ann, now 93. The Carles also have 12 grandchildren. One son, Bob, has worked for 23 years in the Diocese of Columbus office building and for 12 years previously for various parishes as a maintenance staff member.

Soybeans, corn and wheat are grown on the Carle farm, which now consists of about 100 acres. Joe says it has been in the family for about 85 years and that he was born on another farm about 2 miles away. He and his father, brother and other family members used to farm much more land on a rental basis and had about 200 head of cattle at one time but got out of that part of the business about 20 years ago.

The Carles also operated a collection point for cattle and grain in nearby Williamsport, which was open two or three days a week, for about 30 years. They also were associated at various times with similar operations in Granville, London, Sabina and Amanda and were active with the National Farmers Organization for many years.

Joe and Mary Ann are members of Circleville St. Joseph Church. "I've been involved with the Catholic Church all my life," Joe said. "I was an altar boy at St. Joseph's and even in Korea. One time I served there for Cardinal (Francis) Spellman," who served as both archbishop of New York and apostolic vicar to the U.S. armed forces from 1939 to 1967.

"Our faith has been very important

to all of us, and we tried to instill it in the children from the start," Mary Ann said. "All of them went to Circleville St. Joseph School except the youngest, who wasn't old enough when the school was closed (in 1970)."

Mary Ann played the organ at her home parish in Jackson for many years before her marriage and continued to do so in Circleville afterward. She also was in the choir at Circleville. Joe was a charter member of Knights of Columbus Council 5297, which was organized at St. Joseph Church in 1962.

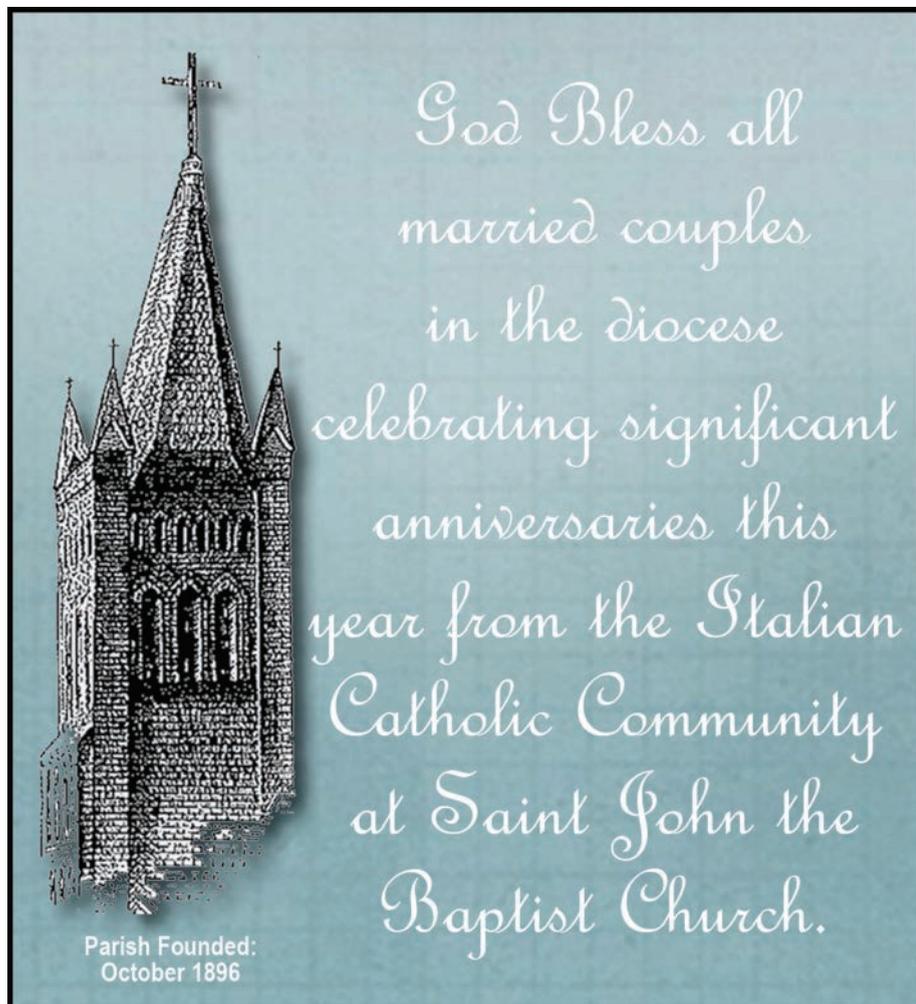
The biggest event on the parish calendar is the Altar-Rosary Guild's twice-a-year rummage sale, which has a history going back more than 50 years. Mary Ann said she was its chairwoman for about 20 years and that she and Joe have been involved with it for many years until 2020, when it was canceled because of the coronavirus pandemic.

"The sale outgrew several sites over the years," she said, "It started in the old school, then moved to the church basement, then to a vacant store, then to the church hall, where it is now. A couple of years ago, it was in the Knights of Columbus hall because the church was being remodeled. It's served a lot of people by giving them a chance to buy good clothes and household goods at a low price, and it's helped the church by making more than \$2,000 a year. People really missed it this year."

Mary Ann said that as she and Joe have gotten older, they've become more appreciative of each other's help. "I use a walker," she said. "Joe's been very good at doing the laundry and the dishes. We cook together, with the help of the children and a daughter-in-law. Most of the time, we stay at home together and get along pretty well, even though," she added with a smile, "sometimes he doesn't do things the way I like them."

"Couples had better communicate with each other if they want their marriage to work," she said. "Even when times were difficult, I knew I'd do whatever I could to make our marriage last."

"You've got to be willing to put up with each other," Joe said. "Sometimes things weren't going very well, but we were determined to stick it out, and with God's help and prayer, we made it. Things aren't always going to be peaches and cream, but don't give up."



## Chris and Margaret Sarych

### 'Take the time to invest fully in each other'

By Tim Puet  
Catholic Times Reporter

Chris Sarych has been married to his wife, Margaret, or Margie, for 65 years and has been successful in trading stocks for most of that time, but he says his greatest investment has been in his marriage.

"You have to invest all the time and the care you can in your marriage to make it work," he said. "You can't just pay attention to it every once in a while and think it's going to last.

"Msgr. (Stephen) Krasula, who officiated at our wedding, told us marriage involves two pairs of hands, each one turning the wheel together, to make a marriage successful. In your marriage vows, you promise to be two persons living as one. You take care of my half, and I'll take care of yours. There's a sense of mutuality you have to have, doing everything for the good of both of you rather than for one or the other.

"It's an unusual comparison, but it's like stock trading because to do it well, you have to spend a lot of time



Margaret and Chris Sarych

at it. I enjoy being in the market because I study companies, try to spot trends, work with a broker and make my own decisions, not online but over

the phone because we don't have a computer.

"I've made a few bad decisions, but most of them good, and I enjoy doing it because it's worked out well. If you're disciplined, make your own decisions and don't run with the crowd, investing has its rewards. It's the same with marriage," said Chris, who was speaking for himself and his wife on the day The Catholic Times visited them because Margie was recovering from a dental procedure.

"Fidelity has its rewards. Trust has its rewards. Practicing your religion has its rewards. I'm not talking just about being Catholic, but any religion. If you have a life without religion, you're crazy. Take the time to invest fully in each other, and sooner or later, you'll reap the rewards."

Chris, 90, and Margie, 89, pronounced their marriage vows on June 18, 1955 at St. John Nepomucene Church in New York City, on Manhattan's Upper East Side. Msgr. Krasula served as the Church's witness.

Many people believe that in a Catholic marriage ceremony, the priest

or deacon present is the person who administers the sacrament, but as the Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "The spouses as ministers of Christ's grace mutually confer upon each other the sacrament of Matrimony by expressing their consent before the Church."

"Margie lived in Manhattan, and I lived in Jersey City, New Jersey," Chris said. "Her name before our marriage was Margie Mack. We both have eastern European origins; hers is from the former Czechoslovakia, and mine is from what used to be Yugoslavia.

"She was a friend of my sister's, and we first met when I was about 12 years old. The two of them would visit, and I'd see her occasionally but never dated her. One time in 1952, they were visiting, and she needed a ride back to the Jersey City transit terminal so she could catch the bus for New York City, so I took her there. She was a bookkeeper at the time and looked very attractive in the hat, gloves and veil that was the style for

See SARYCH, Page 18

## The Diocese of Columbus along with the Diaconate Community Congratulates Deacons, and their wives on their Jubilee Wedding Anniversaries



67 years Dcn. Dick & Kay Baumann  
Dcn. Ralph & Mary Parsons

65 years Dcn. Thomas & Mary Alice Johnston  
Dcn. Ronald & Sue Fondriest

62 years Dcn. John & Maxine Rankin  
Dcn. Elmer & Catherine Lampe

61 years Dcn. Pat & Marilyn Wiggins  
Dcn. Joe & Phyllis Schermer

55 years Dcn. Daniel & Janice Norris

50 years Dcn. Peter & Paula Labita  
Dcn. W. Earl & Donna McCurry  
Dcn. Mickey & Patty Hawkins  
Dcn. Philip & Ellen Paulucci  
Dcn. Charles & Judy Miller

45 years Dcn. James & Jean Morris  
Dcn. Hank & Linda Orlik

40 years Dcn. Christopher & Lisa Reis  
Dcn. Dean & Robin Racine  
Dcn. Mark & Teresa Scarpitti

35 years Dcn. Mark & Linda Allison  
Dcn. Ron & Marjorie Onslow  
Dcn. Frank & Rebecca Sullivan

30 years Dcn. Mark & Patricia Weiner  
Dcn. Joseph & Amy Knapke

25 years Dcn. Stephen & Dawn Petrill  
Dcn. Michael & Camille Kopczewski

# Couples Celebrating Significant Anniversaries

Carmen & Marjo Angelo	Holy Spirit, Columbus	25	John & Christina Carr	St. Mary, Lancaster	30
Douglas & Yvonne Blegen	St. Paul, Westerville	25	Dean & Mary Connors	St. Christopher, Columbus	30
Steve & Martha Bohman	Church of the Resurrection, New Albany	25	Brian & Diana Davis	St. Paul, Westerville	30
Michael & Shawn Borden	St. Paul, Westerville	25	Kyle & Dawn Phillips-Deaterla	St. Mary, Columbus	30
Daniel & Alicia Bosch	Our Lady of Lourdes, Marysville	25	William & Paulette Dichtl	St. Mary, Marion	30
Aaron & Angela Brown	St. Peter, Chillicothe	25	Michael & Bette Jo Feeney	St. Andrew, Columbus	30
Brent & Dawn Burley	St. Mary, Lancaster	25	Matthew & Maria Gardner	St. Peter, Columbus	30
Robert & Elizabeth Carle	St. Thomas the Apostle, Columbus	25	Stephen & Rita Giere	St. Paul, Westerville	30
Kevin & Elizabeth Carpenter	St. Andrew, Columbus	25	Phil & Jeanne Harris	Ss. Simon and Jude, West Jefferson	30
Edward & Rebecca Gardner	St. Luke, Danville	25	Travis & Alice King	St. Paul, Westerville	30
Charles & Anne Marie Geiger	Blessed Sacrament, Newark	25	Steven H. & B. Dale Maxwell	Church of the Resurrection, New Albany	30
Enrique & Eustolia Pedroza	Santa Cruz, Columbus	25	Charles Timothy & Kristin Marie Meder	St. Paul, Westerville	30
James & Anita Hippler	St. John XXIII, Canal Winchester	25	John & Susan Moloci	Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City	30
William & Mary Hoekstra	St. Edward the Confessor, Granville	25	Joseph & Stacey Nerone	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	30
Michael & Camille Kopczewski	Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City	25	Kurt & Joan Niermeyer	St. Agatha, Columbus	30
Edward & Molly Maloof	St. Matthew, Gahanna	25	Jeffrey & Robin Pickering	Holy Cross, Columbus	30
Michael & Amy Marrocco	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	25	David & Eydie Platt	St. Matthew, Gahanna	30
Kevin & Andrea McNamara	St. Patrick, Columbus	25	Joseph & Sandra Prater	Immaculate Conception, Kenton	30
Dave & Beth Medaugh	St. Mary, Bremen	25	Gerard & Elizabeth Riendeau	St. Brendan, Hilliard	30
Michael & Jennifer Mulligan	St. Joan of Arc, Powell	25	Mike & Robin Rozsa	St. Nicholas, Zanesville	30
Alan & Jennifer Murnane	St. Paul, Westerville	25	Joseph & Janet Stevenson	St. Peter, Columbus	30
Don & Sarah Olson	St. Mary, Delaware	25	John & Tuesday Trippier	St. Mary, Delaware	30
Deacon Stephen & Dawn Petrill	St. Joan of Arc, Powell	25	Larry & Kelly Wagoner	Holy Cross, Columbus	30
Andrew & Bradlie Pokrandt	St. Joseph, Circleville	25	William & LuLu Altman	St. Cecilia, Columbus	35
Henry & Jill Pyles	Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City	25	Paul & Teresa Bierhup	Ss. Peter and Paul, Wellston	35
Joel & Maria Del Carmen Cruz	Santa Cruz, Columbus	25	William & Lori DeGendt	St. Nicholas, Zanesville	35
Timothy & Michelle Schnurr	St. Brendan, Hilliard	25	Jess & Kelley DeMaria	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	35
John & Lori Sciarretti	Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia	25	Kevin & Maureen DiDomenico	St. Paul, Westerville	35
Eric & Margo Seyboldt	St. Paul, Westerville	25	Jon & Laurie DiSabato	Immaculate Conception, Columbus	35
Patrick & Stacey Stacklin	Immaculate Conception, Kenton	25	Michael & Cynthia Gardner	St. Patrick, Columbus	35
Matthew & Amy Starr	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	25	David & Terri Hix	St. Brendan, Hilliard	35
Thomas & Diane Stuckey	St. Mary, Lancaster	25	Stephen & Marilyn Gilmore	St. Catharine, Columbus	35
Tom & Beth Waldren	St. Paul, Westerville	25	Marty & Debbie Luffy	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	35
Mark & Tricia Wolfe	Our Lady of Lourdes, Marysville	25	Ronald & Renee Mascia	St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg	35
Jim & Sue York	St. Brendan, Hilliard	25	Deacon Ron & Marge Onslow	St. Joseph, Dover	35
Joseph & Jane Amato	St. Elizabeth, Columbus	30			
David & Joan Ayscue	St. Mary, Delaware	30			
Alan & Kathleen Benton	Church of the Ascension, Johnstown	30			

See JUBILEE OF ANNIVERSARIES, Page 19

## SARYCH, continued from Page 17

women then.

"I asked her out, and our first date was to the Ringling Brothers circus at Madison Square Garden. Afterward, we went to Jack Dempsey's restaurant in Manhattan and met Jack.

"Margie had wanted to go to the convent, and I stole her from the sisters. She knitted and crocheted and cooked, just like my mom, and we belonged to the same religion. Well, like the old song says, 'I want a girl just like the girl that married dear old dad.' She's always been like the sister I never had, and she's often told me I'm like the brother she never had."

Not long after they began dating, Chris was drafted into the armed services. He had received a mechanical engineering degree from Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey and served in the Army as

an artillery spotter during the Korean War. He remained in the Army Reserve until 1960, reaching the rank of first lieutenant.

"After I came back from Korea, we went on two dates and decided to go steady," Chris said. "Within six months, we were engaged, and about a year after I returned, we were married."

Margie left the workforce after their marriage, and Chris was employed by the Swift meat packing firm until 1964, when he took a job with the Borden Co., where he rose to the position of director of chemical exports. "It was a seven-day job because you always were dealing with the progress of tankers on the ocean and handling international trading at all hours," Chris said. "That's also where my interest in stocks became intense as I

became familiar with world business trends."

The couple came to Columbus in 1987 when Borden moved many of its operations to the city from New York. Chris retired from Borden in 1995. The couple, who are childless, have been members of Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church since arriving in Ohio.

The first thing that catches a person's eye when entering their home is the large Christmas tree and other decorations in the living room. "Margie had to go to the Cleveland Clinic during the Christmas holidays a few years ago for heart repair, and it was awhile before we got back," Chris said. "The decorations were still up, and we decided, 'Well, why not just keep them up?' So it's Christmas in our house all the time."

The tree is encircled by model trains. Chris has several other trains and collections of model automobiles and records in what the couple designated as his room. Margie's room is filled with knitting and crocheting materials.

Chris said the basis of a successful marriage is simple. "You have to trust each other," he said. "Margie trusted me and I trusted her, and everything else is based on that. If you break the vows of trust, there's a price you pay.

"I'm grateful we have been together for so long. One reason for that is that we try to take the best care of our health. And by the grace of God, we've been very fortunate to stay in good health. There's always food in the house, there's always happiness, and religion goes along with it. Our life is a simple one, but a happy one."

JUBILEE OF ANNIVERSARIES, *continued from Page 18*

Thomas J. & Mary Catherine A. M. Pelot	St. Thomas More Newman Center, Columbus	35	Arthur & Charlene Plante	St. Cecilia, Columbus	45
Michael A. & Christine M.T. Pirik	Our Lady of Victory, Columbus	35	David & Joann Richards	St. Joan of Arc, Powell	45
Frank & Rebecca Sullivan	St. Mary, Lancaster	35	Charles & Josephine Sands	St. Christopher, Columbus	45
Michael & Kerree Susi	St. John the Baptist, Columbus	35	John Anthony & Julie Ann Szabo	St. Agnes, Columbus	45
Jonathan & Patricia Warner	Immaculate Conception, Kenton	35	Ted & Terri Vatter	Christ the King, Columbus	45
Mark & Laura Bach	Our Lady of Peace, Columbus	40	Jeffrey & Julianne Wilt	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	45
Doug & Janice Bean	St. Patrick, Columbus	40	Craig & Theresa Wollenberg	St. Francis De Sales, Newark	45
David & Joanne Breitmayer	St. Francis De Sales, Newark	40	Paul Joseph & Jill Ellen Andrews	St. Paul, Westerville	50
Richard & Elaine Broderick	Our Lady of Victory, Columbus	40	Robert & Mary Rose Bailor	Church of the Resurrection, New Albany	50
Scott & Sue Campbell	St. Cecilia, Columbus	40	Richard & Mary Ann Barbone	Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Buckeye Lake	50
Michael & Susan Fox	Church of the Resurrection, New Albany	40	Michael & Sharon Matthiass	St. Joseph, Circleville	50
Donald & Marianne Gaitten	St. Anthony, Columbus	40	Stephen & Gayle Blubaugh	St. Edward the Confessor, Granville	50
Mitchell & Lisa Gruesen	St. Catharine, Columbus	40	Garry & Ellen Boyd	St. Bernadette, Lancaster	50
Charles Hathaway III & Paula Hathaway	Sacred Heart, Coshocton	40	Charles & Barbara Brake	St. Mary, Columbus	50
Robert & Susan Horton	Our Lady of Peace, Columbus	40	Robert & Judith Broderick	Church of the Resurrection, New Albany	50
Michael & Christina Jackson	Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City	40	Richard & Connie Capuano	St. Margaret of Cortona, Columbus	50
Christopher & Holly Joos	St. Paul, Westerville	40	John & Karen Cheatham	St. Cecilia, Columbus	50
Dennis & Terese Kelley	St. Elizabeth, Columbus	40	Jerry & Dawn Chenevey	Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia	50
Mark & Georgianna Kline	St. Joseph, Dover	40	John & Susan Curtis	St. Paul, Westerville	50
Jeffrey & Annette Lakas	St. Paul, Westerville	40	George Custer & Sharon Custer	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	50
Michael & Mary Lerch	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	40	Joseph & Karen Dickman	Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City	50
Richard & Terri Louder	Church of the Resurrection, New Albany	40	William & Teresa Dickson	St. Mary, Marion	50
Kenneth & Sharon Maykowski	St. Cecilia, Columbus	40	Joseph & Patricia Dittmar	St. Paul, Westerville	50
Dale & Barbara McComb	St. Luke, Danville	40	Michael & Donna Mae Dorsten	Sacred Hearts, Cardington	50
Donald & Deborah Zwilling	St. Mary, Lancaster	40	Tom & Dottie Durant	St. Nicholas, Zanesville	50
Michael & Mary Mcknight	Seton Parish, Pickerington	40	James & Carol Eldridge	Sacred Heart, Coshocton	50
James & Robin Miller	St. Joan of Arc, Powell	40	Ted & Julie Figgins	St. Mary, Lancaster	50
Mike & Terry Natarian	St. Joan of Arc, Powell	40	Daniel & Carolyn Finck	St. Patrick, Junction City	50
Daniel & Susan Nettler	Church of the Resurrection, New Albany	40	Richard & Debra Gardner	St. Patrick, Columbus	50
Jerry & Sally Oldham	Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Buckeye Lake	40	James & Caroline Gilmore	Sacred Heart, Coshocton	50
Tim & Sandy Knodel-Puet	St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg	40	Joe & Carol Groom	St. John XXIII, Canal Winchester	50
Dean W. & Robin A. Racine	St. Elizabeth, Columbus	40	Robert & Anna Harrison	Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City	50
Philip & Michele Rist	St. Paul, Westerville	40	John & Patricia Harsh	Sacred Heart, Coshocton	50
Ron & Rose Roesch	St. Joseph, Sugar Grove	40	Deacon Mickey & Patricia Hawkins	St. Paul, Westerville	50
George & Cheryl Rushman	St. Catharine, Columbus	40	Philip L. & Rosalyn L. Headington	St. Nicholas, Zanesville	50
Joseph J. & Peggy Lee Sauline	St. Paul, Westerville	40	Bill & Marsha Highfield	St. Paul, Westerville	50
Mark & Teresa Scarpitti	St. Bernadette, Lancaster	40	Jim & Judi Hill	St. Mary, Delaware	50
Michael & Sharon Stickle	Blessed Sacrament, Newark	40	George & Mary Lynne Hill	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	50
Thomas & Carol Wagner	Seton Parish, Pickerington	40	Gregory & Deborah Hilliard	St. Mary, Lancaster	50
Jeff & Maureen Zimmerman	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	40	Douglas & Dianne Hoover	St. Peter, Columbus	50
John & Debra Blakeslee	St. Mary, Delaware	45	Stephen & Joyce Hunter	Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City	50
Thomas & Betty Cotter	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	45	Fred & Judy Ivoska	St. Thomas Aquinas, Zanesville	50
Robert & Lorraine Curtin	St. Matthew, Gahanna	45	Leonard & Dorothy Janchar	St. Mary, Marion	50
Robert & Deborah Dees	Seton Parish, Pickerington	45	Philip & Kathleen Keogh	St. Luke, Danville	50
John & Connie Diehl	Ss. Peter and Paul, Wellston	45	Virgil & JoAnn King	St. John XXIII, Canal Winchester	50
Eugene & Carrie Ebert	Seton Parish, Pickerington	45	Anthony & Jo Ann Klueppel	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	50
John & Elizabeth Elder	St. Christopher, Columbus	45	Michael & Cheryl Krolikowski	St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg	50
Tim & Tess Galvin	St. Christopher, Columbus	45	John & Sharon Kuczirka	St. Joseph, Dover	50
Edwin & Barbara Gebauer	St. Michael, Worthington	45	Andy & Karen Lacher	St. Anthony, Columbus	50
William & Teresa Harris	Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City	45	Frederic C. & Elaine P. LaFrance	Our Lady of Lourdes, Marysville	50
Barry & Marianne Hesseltine	St. Joan of Arc, Powell	45	Jerry & Carole Maxwell	St. Andrew, Columbus	50
Edwin & Sandra Jackson	St. Nicholas, Zanesville	45	Daniel & Annette McCarthy	Church of the Resurrection, New Albany	50
James H. & Lillian L. Joering	St. Elizabeth, Columbus	45	Richard & Barbara Meiring	Our Lady of Lourdes, Marysville	50
Daniel & Pamela Jurgens	St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus	45	Charles & Judith Miller	St. John XXIII, Canal Winchester	50
Dennis & Mary Alice Kabelac	Our Lady of Lourdes, Marysville	45	James & Cheryl Miller	Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City	50
Donald & Teresa Keller	St. Cecilia, Columbus	45	Stephen & Pamela Mitchell	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	50
Tunney & Norah King	Seton Parish, Pickerington	45	John & Patricia O'Connor	St. Patrick, Columbus	50
Christopher & Joan Lorenz	St. Timothy, Columbus	45	William & Barbara Oberdick	Our Lady of Peace, Columbus	50
Douglas & Sarah MacLachlan	Holy Spirit, Columbus	45	Ed & Donna Olenhouse	St. Brendan, Hilliard	50
Michael & Deborah Monaco	St. Paul, Westerville	45	Thomas G. & Martha A. Ottman	St. Margaret of Cortona, Columbus	50
John & Dawn Neymeyer	Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City	45			
Darnell & Carmenceta Perkins	St. Michael, Worthington	45			

JUBILEE OF ANNIVERSARIES, *continued from Page 19*

Francis V. & Patricia L. Polczynski	St. Peter, Columbus	50	Don & Nadine Wilcox	St. John Neumann, Sunbury	60
Eugene & Susan Reeves &	Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City	50	Francis & Madelyn Gardner	St. Timothy, Columbus	61
Ken & Sandy Rosselet	St. Peter, Columbus	50	Donald & Rita King	St. Paul, Westerville	61
John & Judy Rowe	St. Mary, Marion	50	Edward R & Pauline Merklin	St. Patrick, Columbus	61
James M. & Nancy Reichley Russell	St. Rose of Lima, New Lexington	50	Richard & Marilyn Prunier	St. John XXIII, Canal Winchester	61
Daniel & Jane Ryan	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	50	Joseph & Carol Scholl	St. Leonard, Heath	61
Don & Cheryl Sands	St. Anthony, Columbus	50	Nello & Lorraine Allori	St. Leonard, Heath	62
William & Sarah Seilheimer	St. Paul, Westerville	50	James H. & Madonna A. Ketcham	St. Mark, Lancaster	62
James & Mary Silveira	St. Aloysius, Columbus	50	Paul J. & Muriel R. Lang	Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Buckeye Lake	62
Ed & Nancy Sneed	St. Andrew, Columbus	50	Michael & Corinne Musselman	St. Nicholas, Zanesville	62
Mark & Celina Sommer	St. Mary, Groveport	50	Dominic & Carol Oravec	Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City	62
Donald & Virginia Songstad	Our Lady of Peace, Columbus	50	Joseph & Marjorie Brembeck	St. Brendan, Hilliard	63
James & Janet Stoner	St. Joseph, Sugar Grove	50	William & MaryAnn McCarrick	St. Patrick, Columbus	63
Roy & Anne Strawser	St. Joseph, Circleville	50	John & Barbara James	Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia	63
Dan & Chris Tarp	St. Andrew, Columbus	50	Robert & Mary Ann Mudd	St. Paul, Westerville	63
Albert & Dolores Tornare	St. Margaret of Cortona, Columbus	50	Jim & Fran Orr	St. Philip the Apostle, Columbus	64
Edward & Joanne Turner	Church of the Resurrection, New Albany	50	Charles & Sarah Arnold	St. Matthew, Gahanna	65
James L. & Margaret Williams	Sacred Heart, Columbus	50	Herbert & Vera Bell	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	65
Robert & Rita Wion	St. Nicholas, Zanesville	50	John E. & Doris J. Downing	St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg	65
John & Mary Lou Wolfe	St. Paul, Westerville	50	Bob & Helen Fedorke	St. Thomas Aquinas, Zanesville	65
Charles H. & Patricia A. Woodard	St. Colman, Washington Court House	50	Richard F. & Barbara A. Flowers	Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City	65
Edward & Betty Benner	St. Anthony, Columbus	55	Deacon Ron & Sue Fondriest	St. Joseph, Dover	65
Harold & Ruth Crabtree	Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Buckeye Lake	55	Wade & Marcella Hammond	St. Francis De Sales, Newark	65
Glenn & Joyce Daugherty	St. Paul, Westerville	55	Christian & Margaret Sarych	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	65
Stephen & Mary Deibel	St. Michael, Worthington	55	Jacob & Helen Schneider	St. John Neumann, Sunbury	65
John F. & Janet L. Downey	St. Margaret of Cortona, Columbus	55	James & Charleen Zacquet	St. Francis De Sales, Newark	65
Joseph & Annis Durbin	St. Paul, Westerville	55	Edward L. & Linda B. Zoretic	St. Christopher, Columbus	65
Wayne & Joan Fontaine	St. Joseph, Circleville	55	Joseph A. & Mary Ann Carle	St. Joseph, Circleville	66
John & Mary Jane Frank	St. Paul, Westerville	55	David & Loretta Leohner	St. Joseph, Sugar Grove	66
Phillip & Janet Hammond	St. Mary, Columbus	55	James & Rita Marsinek	St. Paul, Westerville	66
Deacon Thomas V. & Mary Alice Johnston	St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus	55	Frank & Jerri McKimmins	St. Matthew, Gahanna	66
Terry & Sharelle Lavender	St. Mary, Marion	55	Dominic & Flora Valentino	St. Christopher, Columbus	66
Eusedio & Alice Lee	St. Paul, Westerville	55	James & Dolores Carrova	St. Catharine, Columbus	67
Robert & Michelle McCormick	Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Buckeye Lake	55	Michael H. & Regina A. Quinn	Our Lady of Victory, Columbus	67
Carl & Sharon Merhar	St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus	55	Daniel & J. Patricia MacManus	St. Paul, Westerville	68
Martin & Susan Mostyn	St. Peter, Columbus	55	Donald & Kathleen Mayer	St. James the Less, Columbus	68
Jim & Cathy Otto	St. Francis De Sales, Newark	55	Robert & Eleanor Peterson	Ss. Peter and Paul, Wellston	68
Bill & Pat Schuler	St. Edward the Confessor, Granville	55	James & Beverly Aldergate	Sacred Heart, New Philadelphia	69
Richard & Margaret Sloan	St. Paul, Westerville	55	Bernard & Jane Paumier	Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Buckeye Lake	71
Robert & Marjorie Telerski	Holy Spirit, Columbus	55	William L. & Mary Martha Questel	St. Mary, Portsmouth	71
Ronald L. & Vivian M. Tussing	St. Joseph, Circleville	55			
Edward & Dolores Wandtke	St. John Neumann, Sunbury	55			
Andrew & Clara Zag	St. Patrick, Columbus	55			
Charles & Angeline Ausec	St. Mary, Lancaster	60			
Richard & Sara Callahan	St. Matthew, Gahanna	60			
Saverio & Kay Capuano	St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg	60			
Luke & Gail Feck	St. Paul, Westerville	60			
Norman & Carolyn Fitzgerald	St. Paul, Westerville	60			
James & Jean Graham	Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Buckeye Lake	60			
Bernard & Mary Grogan	St. Paul, Westerville	60			
Ralph & Ruth Hungler	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	60			
David Loren & Patricia Anne Janusz	Our Lady of Victory, Columbus	60			
Wally & Norma Johanni	St. Andrew, Columbus	60			
Fred & Mary Kessler	St. Mary, Lancaster	60			
Frederick Nicholas & Mary Ellen Lancia	St. Brigid of Kildare, Dublin	60			
Jack & Elaine Light	Our Lady of Lourdes, Marysville	60			
Michael & Mary Jayne Lilly	St. Mary, Queen of the Mission, Waverly	60			
George & Rosalie Mussi	Church of the Resurrection, New Albany	60			
Victor & Joan Sharron	St. Peter, Columbus	60			
Jim & Sally Shough	St. Andrew, Columbus	60			
Leonard & Carol Summa	St. Pius X, Reynoldsburg	60			
Louis J. & Marcia J. Vargo	Church of the Resurrection, New Albany	60			
William & Patricia Voisard	Our Lady of Peace, Columbus	60			

## Sister Edwina Devlin turns 106

Sister Edwina Devlin, OP, a member of the Dominican Sisters of Peace, celebrated her 106th birthday at the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus on Friday, Sept. 18.

For the past nine years, she has been a resident of the Mohun center, where she continues to walk down the halls with the assistance of a walker and to visit other Mohun residents, even though she is legally blind.

She was born in Yakima, Washington in 1914. Her parents were from Steubenville and she returned to Ohio to live with her grandparents when she was five. On her 18th birthday in 1932, she entered the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace) in Columbus. She made her final procession of vows on Aug. 14, 1934 and later earned a Bachelor of Arts de-

gree in English from St. Mary of the Springs College (now Ohio Dominican University).

For 30 years, she taught every elementary school grade except eighth, mostly in western Pennsylvania, then volunteered in 1966 for the ministry her congregation opened in Peru, where she stayed for nine years.

She moved to Ohio in 1975 and has remained in the state ever since, serving twice for a total of 11 years at Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church, five years at the congregation's motherhouse and nine years at parishes in the Diocese of Steubenville. She retired in 2000.

"Whatever God wants, I want," she said in a 2016 interview with The Catholic Times. "I have always put my trust in the Lord and I am always happy. I don't mind staying alive."

# Bishop celebrates World Mission Sunday Mass

Bishop Robert Brennan launched World Mission Sunday weekend with a Vigil Mass on Saturday, Oct. 17 at St. Joseph Cathedral.

Attendance was limited because of COVID-19 restrictions. Concelebrating with the bishop were Fathers Robert Kitsmiller, Bill Hahn, Antony Fritznier Valcin and Peter Asantebwana.

Bishop Brennan recognized the diocesan missions office on its 100th anniversary of service.

“Incredible work has been done by generations before us through the missionaries who have grown up in our diocese and who have served, and are even now serving, in mission territory,” he said.

A number of ethnic communities, which included several religious orders, were represented at the Mass.

“It’s a real celebration of the universality of the Church — and the grace of God bringing all the world together in an embrace of love,” Bishop Brennan said.

He added, “And so, on this Mission Sunday, we sense that urgent call of the missions to proclaim the presence of God and the Gospel that he gives us ‘ad gentes,’ which means ‘to all people, to all the ends of the earth.’”

Bishop Brennan offered a reminder that when the diocesan Missions

Office was started 100 years ago the United States was considered mission territory.

“Indeed, we have all been the beneficiaries of evangelizers — people who have brought the good news to us,” he said. “On Mission Sunday, the Church asks us to think of a few things. There’s the material support for worldwide missions. Your generosity, your goodness in the Mission Sunday collection is very important. The missionaries — the people who are witnessing to the truth of the Gospel in other places around the world — will use that to better the lives of the people they serve, sometimes just for basic human needs.

“We’re asked to pray in a very particular way for those who are serving in mission territory all around the world. For they represent us. Then, we are asked to feel that sense of missionary urgency, ourselves, in our own lives and realize that we’re also missionaries, that we bear witness to the Gospel in our relationships with one another.

“And so, taking the truth of the Gospel today, we see the image and likeness of God in one another and realize it is the image and likeness of God within ourselves.”



Sister Karla Archundia, HMSP, of the Sisters of the Servant of the Word offers the second reading at the World Missions Vigil Mass.



Clare Nduaguba of Columbus St. Andrew Church presents one of the prayer petitions.



Bishop Robert Brennan praises the work of missionaries during his homily at the World Missions Sunday Vigil Mass in St. Joseph Cathedral.



Kathy Hodges (far left), interpreter for the deaf, and members of the New Albany Church of the Resurrection Deaf Ministry attended the Mission Sunday Vigil Mass.



Sister Karla Archundia, HMSP, of the Sister Servants of the Word is joined by Alba Alfaro and Dayana Benitez, two women in formation for the order, at the Mass.



## Early Assurance Programs Virtual Info Session

Monday, November 9 | 6 p.m.

Attention, high school students – Learn how you can earn assured acceptance into either graduate or medical school upon the completion of your undergraduate studies at ODU.

Register today at [ohiodominican.edu/EAPinfo](http://ohiodominican.edu/EAPinfo).



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## 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A

# When we put God first in our lives, love for our neighbor comes naturally

**Exodus 22:20-26**  
**Psalms 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51**  
**1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10**  
**Matthew 22:34-40**

In our time, the identity of each human person and the inherent dignity of each unique individual are the criteria for discernment of rights and responsibilities. There are many different approaches to this fact of human life, and every culture and society addresses the question in a different manner. What is central to the person and which among all the possibilities of action in response to this are “required” by the very nature of things?

Israel framed the question in terms of the Law given by God. The Torah, the Law as revealed to Israel, is to be found in the Pentateuch, the first five books of our Bible. The Prophets and the other writings, and all the commentaries and teachings of rabbis, scribes, Pharisees and Sadducees were attempts to frame the law and to ensure its application in daily life.

It was commonly agreed that the Torah codified 613 specific laws that were to be observed. Of these, seven were addressed to all humanity; these are known as the Noahide Laws, because they were given to Noah and his children after the Flood. Six hundred six others were given through Moses at Sinai. The question addressed to Jesus was a sincere question, discussed and answered by many, although in this context it was given to draw Jesus into controversy; “Teacher, which commandment in the Law is the greatest?”

On most occasions, Jesus responds to such questions by asking a question of His own or by telling a parable. In Matthew’s account, on this occasion, Jesus responds directly: “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your

## 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.*



heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments.”

This answer offers the central criterion for discerning God’s will for His people. We are meant to put God first in our lives and the evidence of God’s being first is how we love our neighbor.

Paul praises the Thessalonians for their opening to the Gospel and for allowing the Word of God, to penetrate their lives so that the message proclaimed to them is embodied and made visible to others. He highlights that those who have observed the example of the Christian community of Thessalonica speak of how they “turned to God from idols to serve the Living and True God and to await His Son from Heaven, Whom He raised from the dead, Jesus, Who delivers us from the coming wrath.”

The proof of the law and of faith in the Gospel is to be discovered in the way that the word of God is permitted to flow through us. When others see us as living quietly and without fanfare in accord with what God asks of us, the invitation to such a way of life can be heard. The question addressed to us as God’s people is how do we love God and neighbor? Our identity is found here. This is how we are to serve the living and true God as we await His Son from heaven.

## Solemnity of All Saints Year A

### Live in the Communion of Saints

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

The call to holiness is universal. God Himself desires to share His glory with us. When glory is accepted into human nature, we begin to “glow” with a supernatural light.

Merely human glory is a wonderful thing to behold: Watch a young couple in love. See the faces of new mothers and fathers as they welcome their child into the world. See triumph in the demeanor of any human being who reaches a goal. How much more wonderful is the divine glory that is given to the saints!

The Communion of Saints draws

## THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

10/26-10/31

### MONDAY

Ephesians 4:32--5:8  
Psalm 1:1-4,6  
Luke 13:10-17

### TUESDAY

Ephesians 5:21-33  
Psalm 128:1-5  
Luke 13:18-21

### WEDNESDAY

Ephesians 2:19-22  
Psalm 19:2-5  
Luke 6:12-16

### THURSDAY

Ephesians 6:10-20  
Psalm 144:1b,2,9-10  
Luke 13:31-35

### FRIDAY

Philippians 1:1-11  
Psalm 111:1-6  
Luke 14:1-6

### SATURDAY

Philippians 1:18b-26  
Psalm 42:2-3,5cdef  
Luke 14:1,7-11

11/2-11/7

### MONDAY

Wisdom 3:1-9  
Psalm 23:1-6  
Romans 5:5-11  
John 6:37-40

### TUESDAY

Philippians 2:5-11  
Psalm 22:26b-32  
Luke 14:15-24

### WEDNESDAY

Philippians 2:12-18  
Psalm 27:1,4,13-14  
Luke 14:25-33

### THURSDAY

Philippians 3:3-8a  
Psalm 105:2-7  
Luke 15:1-10

### FRIDAY

Philippians 3:17--4:1a  
Psalm 122:1-5  
Luke 16:1-8

### SATURDAY

Philippians 4:10-19  
Psalm 112:1b-2,5-6,8a,9  
Luke 16:9-15

## DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE: WEEKS OF OCT. 25 & NOV. 1, 2020

### SUNDAY MASS

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

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](http://www.stgabrielradio.com).

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

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

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

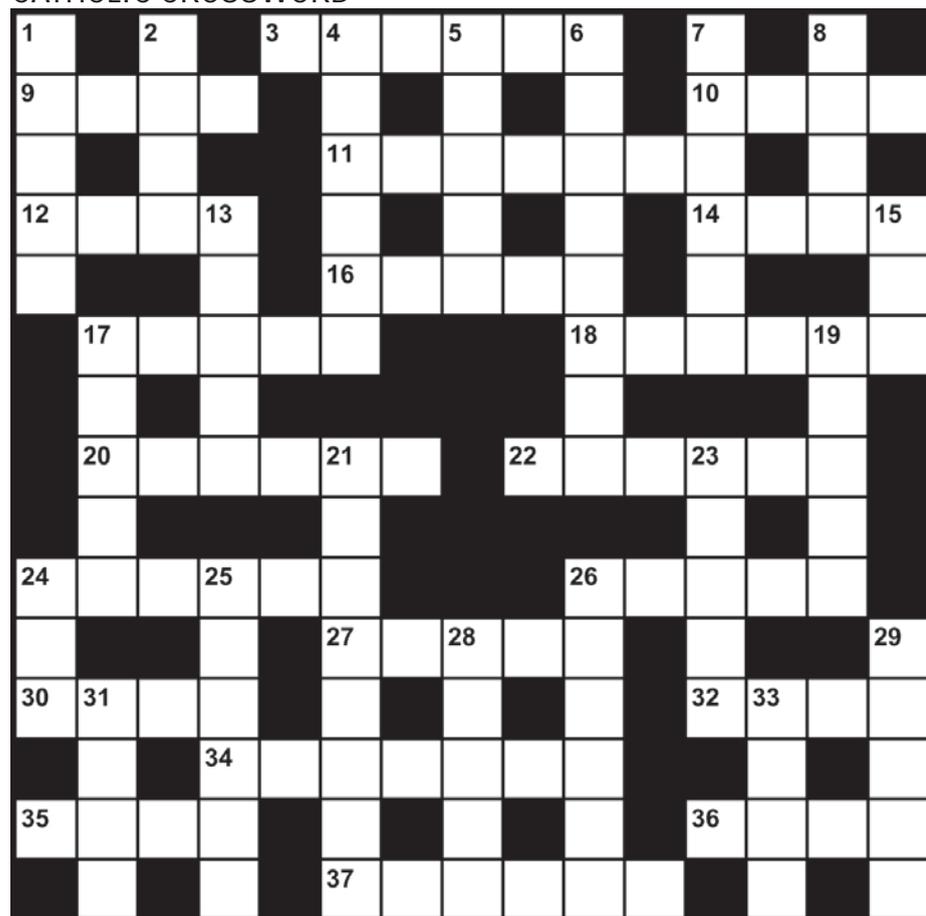
us into a close relationship with those whose lives are characterized by the life of grace expressed in the Beatitudes. Having lived as poor in spirit, mourning, meek and clean of heart, having hungered and thirsted for righteousness, having shown mercy, promoted peace and having been persecuted for their way of life, the saints in glory give God glory and “spur us on to victory,” so that we may share in that glory.

Who are the saints? They are the ones who have “survived the time

of great distress” and completed the earthly journey, with hands open to receive. They have “washed their robes in the Blood of the Lamb,” accepting the fruit of the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross and its power to purify us of our sins. They are human beings through and through who have allowed God to lead them through life to Himself.

Who are your saints? There are saints whose feasts are in the Church calendar who have a special relation-

CATHOLIC CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 3 Patron saint of beer brewers
- 9 Diocese of Honolulu home
- 10 "\_\_\_\_ have mercy"
- 11 St. Alphonsus \_\_\_\_
- 12 "Behold the \_\_\_\_ of God" (Jn 1:29)
- 14 The Chosen People
- 16 Perfume the altar
- 17 One of 24A
- 18 Split in the Church
- 20 "...the \_\_\_\_ of life" (Gen 2:7)
- 22 Italian city of Francis and Clare
- 24 One of ten
- 26 Says the Nicene Creed
- 27 Second century pope
- 30 Grandmother of Timothy
- 32 Vocation
- 34 What Jesus was doing in the Garden
- 35 Medieval English monk
- 36 Son of Adam
- 37 Number of deadly sins, in the Archdiocese of Cologne

DOWN

- 1 "...\_\_\_\_ without end. Amen"
- 2 NT book
- 4 Articles of clothing or bones of saints
- 5 Church instrument, sometimes
- 6 Bishops head these
- 7 He went to heaven in a whirlwind
- 8 "By the sweat of your \_\_\_\_..." (Gen 4:19)
- 13 The Church is the \_\_\_\_ of Christ
- 15 Rev.'s alma mater
- 17 Place where language was confused, according to Genesis
- 19 \_\_\_\_ Guard of the Vatican
- 21 "...as we forgive those who \_\_\_\_..."
- 23 Son of Sarah
- 24 Former DRE
- 25 One of four
- 26 Infant of \_\_\_\_
- 28 Reuben or Gad, for example
- 29 Jesus accused the Pharisees of being this, metaphorically
- 31 Job owned five hundred yoke of these
- 33 "Get \_\_\_\_, Satan!" (Mt 4:10)

SCRIPTURE, continued from Page 22

ship with you personally. Can you name some of them? You will discover who they are by considering some details about your own life and person. What is your full name – your first name, middle name, confirmation name, etc.? Who are the saints who have shared these names?

What are your special dates – your birthday, baptismal day, dates of key events in your life? Saints on whose feast days these events occur belong to you. What are your particular gifts, challenges, talents and interests? Saints through the ages have been identified as patrons of these arenas of human experience. Sometimes, confirmation students will choose their confirmation name based on this approach.

The flow of the Communion of Saints has another surprising dimension. Perhaps you have discovered this. The saints in glory have "children" in spirit and have a capacity to continue their influence through souls still on earth. We see this at work through the religious orders and societies established by founders who are saints. But they can also pick their friends among us and let their choice be known.

What saints have picked you? You will find out who they are by the way you keep bumping into them along your life's journey. St. Therese has a way of dropping "roses" for her friends. St. Jude helps many souls who have been lost and hopeless. St. Joseph shows himself as a protector and guide.

All Saints Day is also for the host of witnesses who are not listed among the canonized Saints. Think of those you know who have died who still have three qualities in high relief for you: You remember them vividly. They gave you a witness of faith that encourages you. They somehow still influence your decisions as you go on your journey. Think of them covered in glory, sharing the light of glory that is the atmosphere of heaven, with God and with all the angels and saints and rejoice with them today.

The Communion of Saints is our extended family. Think of the reunion you will have with these holy ones when your own life's journey reaches its conclusion. Resolve now to do whatever it takes to get there. May we live in the Communion of Saints, now and forever! "Lord, this is the people that longs to see Your Face."

**Statement of Ownership,  
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(Act to August 23, 1970: Section 3685,  
Title 36, United States Code)

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	Average number of copies:	Most recent issue
A. Total number of copies printed (net press run)	9,500	9,489
B. Paid circulation:		
1) outside-county mail subscriptions	4,140	4,135
2) in-county mail subscriptions	5,060	5,054
3) sales through dealers, carriers, street vendors, counter sales, other non-USPS paid circulation	0	0
4) other classes mailed through USPS	0	0
C. Total paid circulation:	9,200	9,189
D. Free Distribution:		
1) by mail outside-county	0	0
2) by mail in-county	0	0
3) other classes mailed	0	0
E. free distribution outside the mail	250	250
F. Total free distribution	250	250
G. Total Distribution	9,450	9,439
H. Copies not distributed	50	50
I. Total	9,500	9,489
J. Percent paid and/or requested circulation	97.35%	97.35%

I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete. Doug Bean, Editor.

## Black Catholic leaders honored in November

By Pamela Harris

November was established by the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus as Black Catholic History Month on July 24, 1990. This month was chosen because of the following significant dates:

- Feast of St. Martin de Porres (Nov. 3)
- Birth of St. Augustine of Hippo (Nov. 13)

Many might ask: Why have a month dedicated to Black Catholic history? In the United States, Catholic members of the African diaspora make up less than 4 percent of the overall Catholic population. We are often minimized in the celebration of other ethnic groups in our Church because of racism. "African Americans continue to struggle against perceptions that they do not fully bear the image

of God, that they embody less intelligence, beauty, and goodness." (Open Wide Our Hearts, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, page 10)

November affords all Catholics the opportunity to remember and celebrate those Black Catholics who went before us – the pioneers, innovators and trailblazers. St. Augustine of Hippo (A.D. 354-430) is one of the most important theologians of the Catholic Church. He is one of the "fathers" of the Biblical canon, which was formalized in Africa. Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, St. Augustine helped to develop and expand the Christian teachings on original sin, free will, the resurrection of the body and a host of other doctrines and dogmas held by all of Christianity.

Venerable Father Augustus Tolton (1854-97) was born into slavery in the United States and eventually attended seminary in Rome because no Amer-

ican seminary would accept him. He returned to Chicago to serve as the first black priest born in the United States.

Examples such as St. Augustine and Father Tolton provide inspiration to those of us now who continue to contribute to the life of the Church so that Jesus' prayer "that they may all be one" (John 17:21) is made manifest. We joyfully share the countless contributions of Black Catholics to enrich others with our gifts and culture.

Let us use November to share our one, holy, Catholic and apostolic faith with our brothers and sisters of the African diaspora and to learn about the dynamic contributions this diverse community has offered to the Church.

In this time when racism is at the

forefront of our national conversation as Americans, all Catholics can use this month to promote the saving message of Jesus Christ in the Church. We can promote the beautiful universality of the Church and rejoice in its richness and fullness.

The Office of Catholic Ethnic Ministries can provide resources, information and evangelization tools to help the faithful learn about Black Catholic history. Sign up for our newsletter, and visit our website for updates.

To sign up for our newsletter, email [ethnicministries@columbuscatholic.org](mailto:ethnicministries@columbuscatholic.org) or visit our website, [www.columbuscatholic.org/cem](http://www.columbuscatholic.org/cem).

*Pamela Harris is the director of the diocesan Office of Catholic Ethnic Ministries.*

### VACCINES, continued from Page 5

ment about what is right or wrong.

Some Catholics might claim a conscience exemption out of a mistaken but sincerely held conviction that vaccinations themselves are always wrong, or that it is always immoral to receive vaccines made out of cell lines from abortions when that is the only option available.

Some states and jurisdictions do not distinguish between religious and conscience exemptions. They only make available a religious exemption, by which they often intend to include and subsume under the same heading the exercise of conscientious objection.

In sum, state-sponsored or legislative coercion through a universal vaccine mandate raises ethical

concerns, especially when appropriate exemptions are unavailable.

Health officials should instead seek to educate those under their authority, through careful and patient explanation, about the importance of receiving a vaccine so they might freely choose to do so on their own initiative.

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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](http://www.columbuscatholic.org).

To contact the diocesan Victim's Assistance Coordinator, call:  
Laura Lewis  
614.224.2251 • [helpisavailable@columbuscatholic.org](mailto:helpisavailable@columbuscatholic.org)

# PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

**BARONI, Charles J. Jr., 81, Oct. 2**  
St. Elizabeth Church, Columbus

**BENNETT, Margaret I. "Peg," 86, Jan. 8**  
Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus

**CULLINAN, Elberta C. (Schirtzinger), 99, Sept. 24**  
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

**FAGEDES, Dorothy M. (Fitzburgh), 88, formerly of Lancaster, Oct. 9**  
Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Cincinnati

**GEORGE, Danny, 91, Oct. 12**  
Resurrection Cemetery Chapel, Lewis Center

**HAI GH, David C., 93, Oct. 9**  
Christ the King Church, Columbus

**HARNETTY, Francis J. "John," 92, Aug. 28**  
St. Patrick Church, Junction City

**HARRISON, Donald J., 86, Oct. 7**  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

**HART, Clyde T. "Tom," 84, Oct. 2**  
St. Ladislav Church, Columbus

**HARUBIN, Walter "Pete" Jr., 68, Oct. 7**  
St. Ladislav Church, Columbus

**JULIAN, Dominic F., 88, Sept. 30**  
St. Paul Church, Westerville

**KERN, Charles W., 64, Oct. 10**  
St. Matthias Church, Columbus

**KOHLI, Alice D. (Meyer), 95, Oct. 9**  
St. Paul Church, Westerville

**KOZELEK, Margaret C. "Maggie" (Zang), 86, Oct. 13**  
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

**KUSHMEIDER, Pamela G. (Senters), 62, Oct. 12**  
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

**LUNEMANN, Rosemary (Yeater), 89, Oct. 9**  
Immaculate Conception Church, Dennison

**MORO, Marguerite (Romas), 95, Oct. 8**  
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

**MURTHA, Edward F., 88, Oct. 8**  
St. Michael Church, Worthington

**RECCHIUTI, Congetta "Jean" (Campeti), 91, Oct. 10**  
Immaculate Conception Church, Dennison

**RYAN, Nancy J. (Gregor), 82, Oct. 14**  
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

**SMITH, Joan (McSavaney), 98, Oct. 4**  
St. Peter Church, Columbus

**SWEENEY, Francis J., 91, Oct. 6**  
St. Patrick Church, Junction City

**WAGENBRENNER, Joan M. (Favret), 89, Oct. 3**  
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

**WILLIAMS, Michael I., 74, Oct. 1**  
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

**WILSON, Rose M. (Shiplett), 86, Oct. 1**  
St. Rose Church, New Lexington

**WIRICK, Reginald D. "Denny," Oct. 8**  
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

**WITT, Gloria, 89, Oct. 1**  
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

## CROSSWORD ANSWERS

W		P		A	R	N	O	L	D		E		B			
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www.wordgamesforcatholics.com

Photographs of students from several diocesan Catholic schools that appeared on the cover and with an article headlined "Bottoms Up meets critical need for diapers, plans to expand" in the Oct. 11 edition of *The Catholic Times* were file photos of activities held before the COVID-19 outbreak and prior to any mask/social distancing requirements. *The Catholic Times* apologizes for any confusion or concerns created by the publication of these file photos.

To have an obituary printed in *The Catholic Times*, send it to: [tpuet@columbuscatholic.org](mailto:tpuet@columbuscatholic.org)

## Robert "Bob" Fenlon

Funeral Mass for Robert "Bob" Fenlon, 93, who died Wednesday, Oct. 7, was celebrated Tuesday, Oct. 13 at Columbus St. Patrick Church. Burial was at Resurrection Cemetery, Lewis Center.

He was born on Sept. 22, 1927 to Martin A. and Loretto (Donohoe) Fenlon, graduated from Columbus Aquinas High School and received a degree in fine arts from Ohio State University. He served in World War II with the U.S. Navy's Seabees on Guam.

He was an usher, a Parish Council member, a server at the 11:45 a.m. daily Mass and performed many other roles at St. Patrick Church, where he

was a member for more than 70 years.

He spent 40 years in the newspaper profession at *The Columbus Citizen* and *The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer* as an editorial artist and the *Ohio State Journal* of Columbus and *The Columbus Dispatch* as an advertising artist. He was proud of his Irish heritage and became an Irish citizen in 1993.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Stephanie; brother, Thomas (Isabelle), and sisters, Mary (John) Smith and Martha (Bob) Reitz. Survivors include sons, David and Martin (Nicole); daughters, Mary (Sean) Griffith and Kathleen; brother, Richard; one grandson; and three granddaughters.



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# Car dealership founder is sold on his faith

By Tim Puet  
Catholic Times Reporter

Miracle Motor Mart in Columbus didn't get its name as an advertising gimmick or because it's easy to remember. There's a deeper, more spiritual meaning behind it.

"I wanted to give it that name as a constant personal reminder of my reconversion to the Catholic faith and because I wanted this to be a business with a Christian environment without being 'in your face' about it," said Mike D'Andrea, a co-owner of the dealership.

D'Andrea, 60, said his life changed when he went on a pilgrimage with his mother to the Marian shrine at Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina, which she has visited several times.

"We went there during the summer of 1987, when I was 27," he said. "I had started my own business and was successful at it, had a good marriage and had begun a family, but had no inner peace. At Medjugorje, I found what I was missing. I was reunited with the faith I hadn't ever lost but which had become a secondary part of my life.

"I came back with a desire to pray more, to go to confession frequently and to look deeper into Catholic teaching. What I learned strengthened my faith and made me more open to life," D'Andrea said. He has been back to Medjugorje twice – in 1988 with his wife of 38 years, Faith, and in 2014 with a daughter and a son.

He and Faith, who were high school sweethearts, have four daughters and three sons, ages 36 to 21, as well as five grandsons and four granddaughters, and are members of Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church.

The D'Andreas taught Natural Family Planning (NFP) classes for several years at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church and Columbus St. Peter Church. Diocesan NFP coordinator Jennifer Fullin said they were her NFP teachers and taught several other couples who also are NFP instructors.

D'Andrea grew up in Akron, where he attended St. Vincent-St. Mary High School and played football. He was recruited by Ohio State University, came to Columbus in 1978 and played linebacker for coach Woody Hayes' last Buckeye team and the first three teams coached by Hayes' successor, Earle Bruce. He is not related to another Mike D'Andrea, also a linebacker from northeast Ohio, who was a Buckeye from 2002 to 2005 before having his career cut short by injury.

He tried out for the Minnesota Vikings in 1982 but was cut by the team in training camp. "At that point, I was a newlywed and needed a job, so I began working for a Nissan dealership, where I stayed for four years," he said.

He then opened his own used-car dealership, Big 10 Auto Sales, on North High Street in Columbus. He sold that business in 1989 and opened Miracle Motor Mart at a site across East Main Street from the company's current Whitehall location at 5100 E. Main St., in the former Spitzer Dodge building.

The business expanded to 2380 Morse Road in 1996 and later consolidated at that location. It returned to Whitehall in 2010 and now has 43 em-

## CATHOLIC BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

*A monthly feature highlighting Catholic business owners and entrepreneurs working to share their faith in the marketplace.*

ployees, divided between the Morse Road and East Main Street sites. Besides selling used cars, the company also has a full-time service department at the Whitehall location that does everything from oil changes to transmission replacements and makes sure all the company's cars are in good condition before becoming available for sale.

"We're a successful business because we hire wonderful people who believe in what we're doing and are dedicated to our concept of treating people well and not just trying to push car sales," he said. "I've learned from my own experience that at too many big dealerships, people are treated like a number, and there's always pressure to sell more cars.

"That's why I started my own business. I couldn't work that way. Especially after coming back from Medjugorje, I wanted to create a healthy work environment where people wouldn't have to worry about being fired if they didn't sell enough cars."

Car dealerships are known for frequent turnover among personnel, especially in sales, but D'Andrea said several employees have been with him for 20 years or more.

"We target stable, hard-working people to come and work for us," D'Andrea said. "Two of our sales staff members, Tony Jackson and Rodney Cook, both at the Morse Road location, are examples. Tony has been here 24 years, and Rodney 20 years. People tell me all the time they come here specifically and come back because they love the way these guys treat them.

"Each of them sells about 20 cars a month, which is more than double the total of what a typical salesperson in this business sells. That's no accident. When you treat people well, you'll do better. It makes perfect business sense, besides being the right thing to do."

The two dealerships combine to sell about 400



Faith and Mike D'Andrea

cars per month. They were closed for 45 days as part of the general business shutdown in Ohio caused by the coronavirus pandemic but came back strongly upon reopening.

"When we got back to work, we went full steam ahead," D'Andrea said. "In July and August, we set sales records because new-car dealers had to shut their doors since no new cars were being built and because of the quality of the used cars we have."

The dealership has received nationwide recognition, being selected as national quality dealer of the year in 2012 by the National Independent Automobile Dealers Association (NIADA) – an honor awarded to only one dealer per year. NIADA's chief executive officer at the time said D'Andrea "has provided a superior level of service for his customers, his community and his industry that is beyond reproach."

Miracle Motor Mart specializes in cars that have been leased for a set period, then returned to a dealership, and are low-mileage vehicles fewer than 3 years old. D'Andrea said his main role at the dealership is going to auto auctions to find and purchase such cars. The company keeps about half of the cars purchased and sells the rest to other dealers.

D'Andrea brought in Mark Meadows, a member of Columbus Christ the King Church, as the other co-owner of the business in 2008. Meadows was general manager of two Chrysler dealerships for 10 years each and has overseen Miracle Motor Mart's growth. "I was happy to keep things simple and smaller at one location, but Mark convinced me that we needed to become a larger business without overdoing it. I came to realize that if we didn't get bigger, we might not survive," he said.

"I'm not planning any additional expansion, but if Mark or Kyle Reese, our general manager, think it's a good idea, I would be open to it." D'Andrea said he hired Reese six months ago because Reese had gotten weary of traveling after several years as a consultant training sales staff members for Miracle Motor Mart and about 140 other dealerships spread over several states.

Another key staff member is Mike and Faith's son Vince, 28, who is the company's sales manager and the only family member involved in the business.

D'Andrea has been on the board of Catholic Youth Summer Camp, located at the Damascus Catholic Mission Campus near Centerburg, for 13 years. "I love the work of Dan DeMatte and Aaron Richards," the camp's executive directors, he said. "It brings me great joy to find so many young people finding the love of God through faith-building activities." Despite the pandemic, the camp hosted about 2,500 people this summer for weeklong sessions of faith-building activities.

D'Andrea also is a past president and board member of the Legatus organization for Catholic businesspeople and is on the boards of St. Gabriel Catholic Radio and the Brian Muha Foundation, which operates the Run the Race Club for young people on Columbus' west side. D'Andrea said he has known the foundation's organizer, Rachel Muha, since the two of them taught religious education at Wester-

## History made beautiful

By Sarah Reinhard

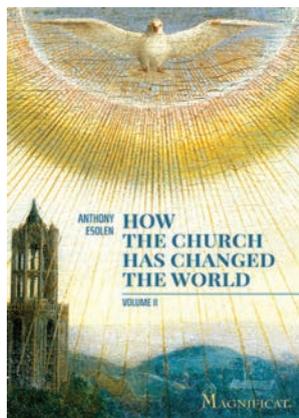
*How the Church Has Changed the World, Volume II*  
 Anthony Esolen  
 2020, Magnificat  
 \$12.95

In college, like so many before me, I was sure I knew it all. That's why, given the opportunity to set my curriculum, I skipped all history classes and opted into extra science courses.

It wasn't until I picked up a copy of *The Frontiersmen* after my non-reader husband devoured it and raved about it that I started to appreciate the stories and lessons of history, to see it as the opportunity it is to connect with those who came before us. And there's no

denying that some of the best stuff you can read is true.

That wasn't long after I became Catholic and walked into a treasure trove of history. My growing faith life was inspiring me to learn more, and the more I found seemed to be steeped in a soup of centuries. There was an onion of layers and lessons and no shortage of



opinions.

The best history, though, is the kind that fully embraces the storytelling tradition. And that is what this volume of collected essays offers.

Reading it is a delight, and though I dare not compare it to a bathroom reader — it is far more entertaining — it offers a short taste of a wide range of topics.

Where did the calendar come from? Maybe you know already, but I'd bet that you'll enjoy the tale Anthony Esolen has told in *How the Church Changed the World, Volume II*.

And what about the timeless tales from the Gospels? Esolen has a way of unpacking them and making them relevant, from John the Baptist's beheading to Jesus' healing of the sick.

Esolen's storytelling ranges far and

wide, and the theme tying this collection together — the Church — does nothing to stem the variety and interestingness. As I devoured them — and then considered how quickly the first volume of these tales could be delivered — I thought of those midday trips my dad and I used to take to the parts store in the old International truck. Without fail, Paul Harvey would be on, and we'd hear about some tidbit of truth and history.

Paul Harvey's "Rest of the Story," however popular and lovely to the ear, pale in comparison with Esolen's historical perspectives. You can use these 24 essays as a starting point for your research, or you can savor them as the literary treat they are. They lend themselves to rereading and enjoyment, to sharing and pondering.

## How-to book on prayer a blessing for beginners

By Emily M. DeArdo

*I Heard God Laugh*  
 By Matthew Kelly  
 Blue Sparrow  
 \$25

What is prayer? How do we do it? I'm sure most of us have raised those questions in our faith lives, and Matthew Kelly aims to answer them in his new book, *I Heard God Laugh*.

Kelly, (author of *Rediscover Catholicism*) focuses on why and how we should pray. Most of us, he says, have learned prayers but not necessarily how to pray. To rectify that, Kelly presents a six-step method called the Prayer Process. It's a reworded, somewhat modernized version of St. Ignatius' examen.

Briefly summarized, the Process'

steps are gratitude (thanking God), awareness (revisiting your good and bad moments of the day), significant moments (determining what God might be trying to say to you through an event or person), peace (asking God to forgive you for wrongs you've done), freedom (speaking with God about how He is asking you to change your life) and others (lifting up to God anyone you want to pray for). Kelly suggests finishing the Process by praying the Our Father.

Kelly challenges the reader to practice the Prayer Process for 10 minutes for 21 days to make prayer a habit.

The remainder of the book expands on the steps and discusses how prayer allows us to reach our highest potential as well as deepen our relationship with God. The title, explained at the end of the book, refers to the idea that God takes delight in us and loves us.

While I think that the Prayer Process is a good way to begin prayer, I found some of Kelly's other statements about prayer a little odd. He states that if you're praying and doing God's will for your life, you won't be discouraged. I've experienced the opposite in my life, and I bet you have, too. Even Jesus did, as he hung on the cross.

Many saints, including St. Teresa

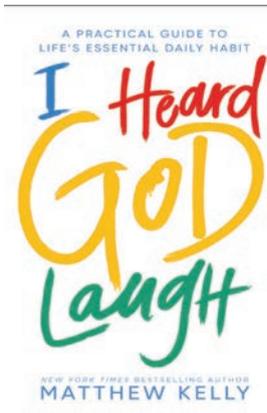
of Calcutta, have written about their feelings of abandonment and loneliness while having deep prayer lives. And St. John of the Cross argued that these moments when we feel dry, discouraged or abandoned can actually deepen our relationship with God.

If our relationship with God is real, it will have moments of discouragement, fear and uncertainty. This doesn't mean we're not praying correctly or not doing God's will for our lives. Sometimes it's an invitation to

go deeper into prayer.

That being said, I think that *I Heard God Laugh* is helpful for people who want to pray but aren't sure how to start. Kelly's method is easy to follow, and anyone who begins practicing prayer will not regret it. Time spent talking to the One who loves us best is time well spent.

Emily DeArdo, [emilymdeardo.com](http://emilymdeardo.com), is the author of *Living Memento Mori: My Journey Through the Stations of the Cross*, published by Ave Maria.



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ville St. Paul School.

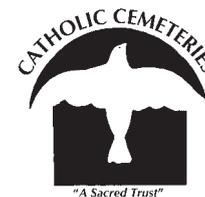
"I have a grateful spirit," he said. "God has blessed me with a wonderful life, family and business, and the Catholic Church has made me who I am. Without the faith, confession and Mass, I'd be a different person. If I have one claim to fame, it's that I was the confirmation sponsor 20 years ago

for Father Dan Dury," pastor of Columbus St. Catharine of Siena Church.

"I started a business, and it's done well, but now I'm just a delegator. I do the paperwork and look at cars for us to buy, but that's about the extent of what I do. It's the people who have made it a continuing success," D'Andrea said.



## CEMETERY SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICES CANCELLED!



Catholic Cemeteries of Columbus has decided to cancel the annual fall prayer service at St. Joseph Cemetery (Lockbourne), Resurrection Cemetery (Lewis Center), Mt. Calvary Cemetery (Columbus) and Holy Cross Cemetery (Pataskala) due to the continued guidelines for social distancing and gatherings related to the COVID 19 virus. The cemeteries are open from 8am to sunset and we encourage you to visit and pray for the faithful departed. We pray for your good health and an end to the pandemic.

-- Richard Finn, Director

### ST. JOSEPH CEMETERY

6440 S. High St./U.S. Rt. 23 S.  
Lockbourne, Ohio 43137  
614-491-2751

### HOLY CROSS CEMETERY

11539 National Rd. S.W./U.S. 40 Rt. E.  
Pataskala, Ohio 43062  
740-927-4442

### MT. CALVARY CEMETERY

Mt. Calvary at W. Mound St.  
Columbus, Ohio 43223  
614-491-2751

### RESURRECTION CEMETERY

9571 N. High St./U.S. Rt. 23 N.  
Lewis Center, Ohio 43035  
614-888-1805

# Winter Grave Decorations

## from your Catholic Cemeteries of Columbus

This year we are offering live wreaths which can be used on both graves and mausoleum crypts. Decorations will be placed at burial sites by cemetery personnel during December and will remain until weather renders them unsightly.

Live variegated greens give  
freshness and beauty



The wreath measures 24" in diameter offering a distinctive appearance. Attached are pine cones and attractive red bow. Easel stands are included for display on graves.

*No Phone Orders Please!*

### ORDER FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Deceased \_\_\_\_\_  
Cemetery \_\_\_\_\_ Section or Building \_\_\_\_\_  
Lot # or Side \_\_\_\_\_ Grave or Crypt # \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Wreaths \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$45.00 ea. price includes sales tax

Mail orders for St. Joseph and Mt. Calvary Cemeteries to:

St. Joseph Cemetery, 6440 South High Street, Lockbourne, OH 43137

Mail orders for Resurrection Cemetery to:

Resurrection Cemetery, 9571 North High Street, Lewis Center, OH 43035

Mail orders for Holy Cross Cemetery to:

Holy Cross Cemetery, 11539 National Road, S.W., Pataskala, OH 43062

**St. Joseph Cemetery**

614-491-2751



**Resurrection Cemetery**

614-888-1805



**Holy Cross Cemetery**

740-927-4442