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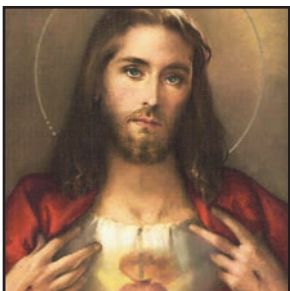
Inside this issue



Ordinations:
Former Columbus resident Robert Johnson was ordained a deacon in Louisiana, and one Diocese of Columbus seminarian and three deacons will be ordained to the diaconate and priesthood on June 12-13 at St. Joseph Cathedral, Page 3



Aid to parishes:
The diocesan Office of Development and Planning is helping provide assistance to parishes during the coronavirus pandemic and also preparing for the launch of the Bishop's Annual Appeal in July, Page 6



Month of Sacred Heart:
Sacred Heart Columbus, which is part of the national Sacred Heart Enthronement Network, offers in-home kits for homes and businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic, Page 7



BISHOP ADDRESSES RACISM AS MASSES RETURN ON PENTECOST

Bishop Brennan: 'O Lord, heal us and help us'

By Doug Bean
Catholic Times Editor

Pentecost Sunday was a day filled with mixed emotions for Catholics throughout the diocese who gathered for the public celebration of Mass for the first time in more than two months.

The faithful experienced the joy of being back in Church on the weekend of May 30-31 but also expressed sadness and concern at the events taking place around the country.

Parishioners filled churches that had barely seen a soul inside other than clergy since Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine issued a stay-at-home directive in mid-March to combat the coronavirus pandemic and the state's bishops subsequently suspended public Mass attendance in response to the pandemic.

Earlier this month, the Ohio bishops set the return to public worship on the Solemnity of Pentecost, which marks in Catholic teaching the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and the birth of the Church.

On Sunday morning, May 31, Bishop Robert Brennan chose to celebrate Mass at Columbus St. Dominic Church on the city's near east side, saying he wanted to be with the predominantly African-American community "to walk with you, to share in this sorrow and this pain" over the death of George Floyd, a black man who died in police custody May 25 in Minneapolis after video showed an officer kneeling on Floyd's neck for several minutes while Floyd screamed that he couldn't breathe.

Floyd's death sparked protests throughout the United States, including downtown Columbus, and some have caused widespread destruction, looting, injuries and several deaths.

In his homily, Bishop Brennan told St. Dominic parishioners that he had looked forward to the return to public Masses "for a long time. It's good to see you. It's good to be with you."

"And yet, the joy that we feel is also marked by tremendous pain and tremendous sorrow. And so, I want to more than anything to be with you here at St. Dominic's," he said.

"I can't pretend to feel pain the same way that you feel it. I have to tell you, seeing the gruesome images of George Floyd, seeing how horrible it was to humankind, to human situations, (it's) something that causes all of us to (reflect on) that experience, and all the experiences of racism in our country."

The bishop related the raw emotions that people are feeling to the second reading at Sunday's Mass from St. Paul to the Corinthians when the Apostle "talks

about how the spirit works within us and brings us all together. It unites us.

"He says it's like a body. We become one body. The spirit makes us different members, we're all different parts of the one body, Jesus Christ. And when one member of the body hurts, the body hurts. When any member of the body hurts, the body hurts. I'm so sorry, so sorry, so sorry ..."

Bishop Brennan then compared the current climate to the story about the Tower of Babel in the Book of Genesis from the Old Testament that was read at the Saturday Vigil Mass of Pentecost.

He said the people building the tower, which they had hoped would reach God in heaven, were "divided, couldn't understand each other."

"I'm sure you're all familiar with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Well, we also have the fruits of the Holy Spirit. St. Paul tells us in the book the Galatians, the fruits of the spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, endurance, kindness, generosity, faith, mildness, chastity.

"See, here's the reality of the world: The fruits of Babel are still very much among us. The fruits of Babel are still very much in our midst. (But) we see ... acts of hatred and division and violence and racism. And all that hatred we see in that crime of murder. But we also know that the fruits of the Spirit, what Pentecost does, is it undoes what Babel did. Pentecost undoes the works of Babel.

"People can go out in the streets now, and they can understand one another. They can speak to one another. They all speak different languages, and yet they go out into the streets and everybody, even though they all speak different languages, they all understand. Pentecost undoes Babel, but we know the fruits of Babel are still present in the world. ... Those fruits of the spirit are within our hearts, and they make us powerful witnesses of transformation. And that's what we celebrate on this Pentecost Sunday."

Bishop Brennan pointed to the powerful image at the Resurrection taken from Sunday's gospel reading when Christ appears to his Apostles.

"You and I proclaim Jesus – the power of the spirit – crucified and risen," the bishop said. "We acknowledge the wounds, and Jesus shows us the wounds to bring about healing because we need to look at the wounds so we can be healed. We need to acknowledge those things.

"We, as a nation and as a society, need to acknowledge the pain and suffering, but we need to do that so we can be healed. We need to cry, 'O Lord, heal us and help us.'"

Drawing upon the Responsorial Psalm from the Pentecost Mass that proclaims, "Lord, send forth

your Spirit and renew the face of the earth," the bishop said, "In all these days leading up to Pentecost, we've been praying, 'O come, Holy Spirit, O come Holy, Spirit. And, you know ... God is answering those prayers. He's sending us the Holy Spirit.

"He's doing it to us by putting into our hearts the fruits of the Holy Spirit so that his transforming power can renew the fruits of Babel and transform the world. Come, Holy Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. Oh, how we need to be renewed. Come, Holy Spirit, and renew the face of the Earth."

Two days earlier, on Friday, May 29, Bishop Brennan issued the following statement in response to Floyd's death:

"Pray together and lean on each other. And find Christ's strength. The events surrounding the death of Mr. George Floyd in Minneapolis are deeply troubling for all people, causing unrest and anger. The feelings surrounding this situation and others like it are justified, and there are so many ways those feelings and thoughts can and should be voiced. We are blessed to live in a nation that affords us the right to express ourselves, but the violent protests that have occurred in Columbus and elsewhere only bring additional harm to innocent persons and to business owners, so many of whom have suffered during the coronavirus pandemic. They represent a participation in the toxic cloud of stereotypical judgment which such protests rightly seek to condemn.

"Mr. Floyd's death calls for an honest self-examination on the part of all of us that seeks to identify sinful attitudes and judgments that must be remedied. Laws and policies must do more to protect the fundamental rights of those at risk.

"I recognize, also, that most in our law enforcement community are very good people who find these situations abhorrent and have a strong reaction against what has happened. They, too, share in the call for investigation and action to prevent these situations from occurring again. I thank them for their service and willingness to risk their well-being to help assure the common good.

"As people of faith in God, we must be totally committed to eradicating racism and encouraging all our neighbors to peace toward people of every race, creed, and color. The path of peace will lead us toward bringing an end to everything that is contradictory to the call to love God and neighbor. I invite all in our community here in central Ohio to join together in this effort to forge a path built with the pavers of justice and reverence for every human life toward a harmony that allows us to enjoy a peaceful future for our children and for all ages to come."



Front Page photo:
PENTECOST
Bishop Robert Brennan delivers his homily to the faithful at Columbus St. Dominic Church during a Pentecost Sunday Mass on May 31. The bishop welcomed the return to public Masses for the first time since March and addressed racism. *YouTube screenshot*

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Three priests, one deacon to be ordained for diocese in June

Bishop Robert Brennan will ordain three deacons to the priesthood and one seminarian to the diaconate for the Diocese of Columbus this month at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.

All four ordinations were to have taken place in May but were delayed because of the coronavirus pandemic. Admission to the ceremonies will be by invitation only and limited by social distancing guidelines.

Deacons Frank Brown, Michael Fulton and Seth Keller, who will have completed their priestly formation at the Pontifical College Josephinum, will be ordained at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 13, said Father Paul Noble, diocesan vocations director. They originally were to have been ordained on Saturday, May 23.

Bishop Brennan will ordain Josephinum seminarian Jacob Stinnett as a deacon at 7 p.m. Friday, June 12. His ordination was to have taken place on Friday, May 2.

Deacon Brown, 35, was born in Humble, Texas and has lived in central Ohio for almost 25 years. He grew up in Westerville and attended St. Paul the Apostle Church there and also has

lived in the Clintonville and Franklin areas of Columbus, attending Columbus Holy Family and Worthington St. Michael churches. He is a graduate of Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School and received a bachelor's degree from Ohio University, majoring in finance and minoring in psychology.

He was employed by J. Beckner Construction of New Albany, working on commercial buildings, during summer vacations. After graduating from OU, he became a project manager for the Continental Group in Powell for six years, helping develop and manufacture mixed-material products involving glass. In addition, he was a volunteer wrestling coach at Olentangy Liberty High School.

While in the seminary, he served in assignments at Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul, Danville St. Luke, Powell St. Joan of Arc and Gahanna St. Matthew churches and at the cathedral. For the past year, he has been a deacon at Columbus St. Andrew Church.

Deacon Fulton, 25, is from Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, where he has been a deacon for the past year. He is a Denver native and moved to

central Ohio with his parents in 2005. He graduated from Lewis Center Olentangy High School and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy from the Josephinum.

He has served with the youth group at Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator Church and in the homeschool program at Columbus Holy Family Church and has worked with St. Paul's Outreach, an organization that evangelizes young people on college campuses and has a household in Columbus. He also had assignments at Columbus Immaculate Conception, Marion St. Mary, Cardington Sacred Hearts and Columbus St. James the Less churches.

Deacon Keller, 26, from Columbus St. Patrick Church, is a graduate of Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy from the Josephinum. He served for a year as a missionary with NET Ministries, a Minnesota-based group of young people who travel the nation to share their Catholic faith with others, was with the Columbus St. Paul's Outreach household for a year, was associate youth ministry director at Newark St.

Francis de Sales Church and worked at three area Kroger stores before entering the seminary.

Since then, he has been assigned to Columbus St. Andrew, Columbus Immaculate Conception, New Philadelphia Sacred Heart, Dennison Immaculate Conception, Zoar Holy Trinity and Columbus Christ the King churches and spent a summer of Spanish-language immersion in Costa Rica. For the past year, he has served as a deacon at Christ the King while completing his priestly formation at the Josephinum.

Stinnett, 24, has completed his third year of theology studies at the Josephinum and anticipates being ordained to the priesthood next year. He is a member of Columbus Immaculate Conception Church and a graduate of Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy from the Josephinum.

During summer breaks, he has served at Catholic Youth Summer Camp and Newark St. Francis de Sales, Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator, Chillicothe St. Peter, Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne and Waverly St. Mary churches.

Former Columbus resident ordained deacon in Louisiana

Deacon Robert Johnson, formerly of the Columbus area, was ordained as a deacon of the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana, on Saturday, May 16 by Archbishop Gregory Aymond of New Orleans.

Deacon Johnson was among 12 deacons from 10 dioceses ordained at the Cathedral-Basilica of St. Louis, King of France in New Orleans. His ordination had been scheduled for Friday, May 22 at the Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Natchitoches, Louisiana, but was combined with the ordination of six deacons for the Archdiocese of New Orleans because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Deacon Johnson, 40, was born on Aug. 29, 1979, in Toledo to Robert Johnson, who now lives in Cynthiana, Kentucky, and his late wife, Barbara. The deacon's family moved to Detroit, where he graduated from St. Brendan School and Notre Dame High School. He was a baker while in high school, and then returned to Toledo and was employed in a few restaurants before taking over a Hungarian restaurant,

where he was chef/co-owner for seven or eight years.

When he discerned a call to the priesthood, he entered the Pontifical College Josephinum as a candidate for the Diocese of Columbus. He has completed almost all of his graduate and postgraduate studies at the Josephinum and is finishing up at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans. In the Diocese of Columbus, his initial parish affiliation was Columbus St. Andrew Church. He later became a member of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church because of the support he received from that parish's Father Andrew H. Hohman Council 5253 of the Knights of Columbus.

Before coming to central Louisiana, he served at St. Pius X, Worthington St. Michael, Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona and Portsmouth St. Mary churches and the diocesan Tribunal.

He said that while he was at the Josephinum, his vocation was fostered by Msgr. David Funk, Father David J. Young, Father Paul Noble and Father Jeff Rimelspach.

CORRECTION

A story in the May 24 Catholic Times incorrectly identified the senior class president at Newark Catholic High School. The class president is Miles Hitchens.



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Mary as La Negrita, Our Lady of Angels

Some people maintain that there is no such thing as a coincidence. I've heard them called God-incidents, and I've always raised my eyebrows. I must not be the only one who hesitates before not calling something a coincidence. On a footpath near Cartago, Costa Rica, the mulatto peasant Juana Pereira experienced something she must have thought was just a fluke: as she was gathering firewood on August 2, 1635, the feast of the Holy Angels, she saw an odd light coming from the trees by the path. She followed the light and there, tucked into a nook of a larger rock, was a stone statue of the Virgin Mary.

It was close to three inches high and completely black. Mary is carrying Jesus on her left arm, gathered into the folds of her mantle. He's reaching up, almost as though He's reaching for her face, and she's looking down, though not at Him.

Juana took the statue home, probably thinking it a lovely accident that she had found it that day. Though she was poor, I don't think she considered selling it. Maybe she took it as the sign she needed that day that God was at work in her life, despite her hardships. Perhaps she had plans to take it to her priest. Maybe she was going to enjoy having Mary in her hut.

What do you suppose Juana's first thought was on finding the statue missing? Did she panic? Had she told anyone about discovering it, and could they have stolen it?

As it turned out, the statue had not disappeared, but had only returned to the rock where it had been found. This happened again, and then Juana took the statue to her parish priest, who put it in the tab-

FINDING FAITH IN EVERYDAY LIFE

Sarah Reinhard



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ernacle of the church.

When the statue was found, not just once more, but four more times, at the original site after disappearing from cupboards and tabernacles and places of safekeeping, someone must have said, "Oh! This isn't a coincidence!" In fact, it was interpreted as a sign that the Virgin Mary wanted a shrine built on the site she had been found.

The shrine of Our Lady of Angels, or La Negrita, as she is fondly called by the Costa Ricans, became a destination for pilgrims, and especially for those who were poor or outcast, crippled or hurting. In 1926, the image was solemnly crowned, which means it was recognized as holy and worthy of veneration. Then, in 1935, Pope Pius XI named the shrine of Our Lady of Angels a basilica, showing the high respect and sacredness of the site and the title of Mary.

The Costa Rican image of Our Lady of Angels is humble. It's not sparkly and golden, though it's displayed in a large gold monstrance at the basilica. It's just a small piece of carved stone, one with an inclination for showing up back where it was found

originally. It reminds me that I never know when I'll get the help I need.

Our Lady of Angels, the black madonna La Negrita, didn't appear to someone rich and learned. As she often does, Mary chose the lowly, someone who could embrace the miracle and bask in its beauty, despite the appearance of coincidence.

In my day-to-day life, covered as I am in rational thinking and left-brained activity, it's possible to ignore the existence of miracles. I could think of my alarm clock as a cheap piece of plastic and completely ignore the fact that every single time I've forgotten to turn it on for that new wake-up time to get to Adoration, I've still been up in time. It is, after all, just a coincidence.

Or is it?

Angels are the closest beings to God in heaven, and Mary is the queen of them. The title Our Lady of Angels shows a special fondness for God's plan, a particular respect for His ordering, a specific veneration for His mother. Instead of Mary with a gown of gold, we have Mary carved in black stone. She's nothing much to see and she's smaller than my daughter's favorite doll.

And yet, within that simple stone statue, there's the possibility for healing and wholeness. As Mary holds her Son, she looks down to the angels holding her. Can you imagine her passing Him to one of them so that I could have a closer look? Do you think she would hesitate to share her Baby with anyone who wanted to hold Him? Could there be any better way to find the path to heaven?

The Vatican's choice: Jimmy Lai or Xi Jinping?

In mid-May, Chinese leader Xi Jinping unveiled a plan to bypass Hong Kong's legislature and impose draconian new "national security" laws on the former British colony. Putatively intended to defend Hong Kong from "secessionists," "terrorists," and "foreign influence," these new measures are in fact designed to curb the brave men and women of Hong Kong's vibrant pro-democracy movement, who have been aggravating the Beijing totalitarians for a long time. With the world distracted by the Wuhan virus (which the Chinese government's clumsiness and prevarication did much to globalize), the ever-more-brutal Xi Jinping regime evidently thinks that this is the moment to crack down even harder on those in Hong Kong who cherish freedom and try to defend it.

This latest display of Beijing's intent to enforce communist power in Hong Kong coincides with the most recent persecution of my friend, Jimmy Lai.

Jimmy and I have only met once. But I have long felt a kinship with this fellow Catholic, a convert who first put his considerable wealth to work in support of important Catholic activities and who is now risking all in support of the pro-democracy movement in Hong Kong. Arrested in February, and then again in April, Jimmy Lai has been charged with helping organize and lead "unauthorized protests." That he was in the front ranks of pro-democracy demonstrations is true. The question is, why do the Chinese communists regard peaceful protest in support of freedoms Beijing solemnly promised to protect as treasonous?

In late May, the thugs in Beijing tightened the ratchet of repression another notch: Jimmy Lai's case was transferred to a court that could give the

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel



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72-year-old a five-year sentence, or even consecutive sentences. But what else could be expected from a regime that was already trying to bankrupt Lai's pro-democracy newspaper, Apple Daily, by pressuring both Chinese and international firms to stop buying advertising space there? Shamefully, far too many have kowtowed to those pressures, and a recent Wall Street Journal op-ed article reported that Apple Daily is now cut off from 65 percent of the Hong Kong advertising market. Meanwhile, Beijing, while trying to reassure the business community that everything will be just fine, warns business leaders (as well as diplomats and journalists) not to "join the anti-China forces in stigmatizing or demonizing" the new national security laws.

The Xi Jinping regime may be less stable than it wants the world to think it is. Secure regimes do not increase repression, as Beijing has done for several years now. Moreover, labeling all criticism of the Xi Jinping government as "anti-China" is not the play a regime confident about its legitimacy and stability would make. Such tactics seem clumsy; they bespeak sweaty nervousness, not calm self-assurance.

The attempt to break the Hong Kong democracy movement is one facet of a broader campaign

of repression that has not spared Chinese religious communities on the mainland. One million Muslim Uyghurs remain penned in Xinjiang concentration camps, where they are being "educated." Protestant house churches are under constant threat. And repressive measures continue to be taken against Catholics and their churches, despite the almost two-year-old (and still secret) agreement between the Holy See and Beijing. That agreement, which gave the Chinese communist party a lead role in the nomination of bishops, looks ever more like one in which the Vatican gave away a great deal in return for hollow promises; Chinese Catholics who do not toe the party line as the Chinese communist party defines that line are still persecuted. The effects of this sorry affair on the Church's evangelical mission in the China of the future – hopefully, a post-communist China – will not be positive.

Around the world, voices have been raised in support of Hong Kong's brave pro-democracy demonstrators. Has the Holy See's voice been heard? If so, I missed it and so did many others. Are strong representations in favor of religious freedom and other basic human rights being made by Vatican officials behind the scenes in Beijing and Rome? One might hope so. But if the Holy See's current China policy is in fact a reprise of its failed Ostpolitik in central and eastern Europe during the 1970s, those representations are more likely tepid and wholly ineffectual.

With one of its most courageous Catholic sons now in the dock and facing what could be life-threatening imprisonment, the Vatican now faces a defining choice: Jimmy Lai or Xi Jinping?

Praise God, trust Him, and He will always send help

By Michele Williams

Any given day, I hop off the top bunk, get myself together, chug some coffee and go for a 3-mile run to greet the morning. My natural high energy kicks in pretty quickly and stays all day long. I face just about everything and everyone with a smile and positive attitude. Doesn't matter what or who I'm dealing with, after my run and QT with God, I'm prayed up and ready to take on any challenge.

Not this day. It was one of those unseasonably cold, rainy, blustery Monday mornings in May. When I woke up, I looked through the window to the flowers in the field behind my dorm. The rain and wind on the glass made the colors run like a box of crayons left too close to the fireplace. I wanted to pull the covers over my head and not face anything.

This day marked 26 years and one day since my admission into the Ohio Reformatory for Women in Marysville and I was struggling. I barely said "Hi" to God when the tears threatened to spill. Hibernating like a bear was not an option, so I slowly slid off the bunk and went through the routine of getting ready on autopilot. I was making coffee when the tears did spill, right into my cup. I thought, "How apropos, my own tears for breakfast." Oh boy, this was gonna be a long day.

As I expected, flashbacks of my former life started swirling through my mind at a dizzying speed, like a tornado gaining strength. I was remembering the 24 years of my life before the event that ruined everything, the devastation afterward, and my life now, but in a jumbled, chaotic, non-chronological mess. Scenes from grade school crashed into the abuse and violence of my marriage gone wrong. High school friends' faces lit up and disappeared like lightning bugs. Picnics with grandparents collided with the courtroom. The images were nonstop

and nauseating as the tornado touched down and was ripping my soul to shreds.

I had been sentenced on Ascension Thursday. It scarred my parents deeply. All they wanted was to go to Mass one more time together, but we had to report to court instead. Dad drove us slowly past St. Andrew's on our way to downtown Columbus. That's as close to church as we got. Later that morning, their Lord was taken into heaven, their daughter was taken to hell. The week it took to process paperwork and transport me has vanished from my memory.

Fast forward 26 years and one day. Why was that number so relevant and hurtful? Because it was the start of another year locked away from the people I dearly love and miss, from the society I am desperate to reenter and contribute to, but have been judged "not worthy yet." My feelings were compounded by two additional events. First, I had turned 50 two weeks earlier and had my heart set on a miracle that had not happened yet. Second, COVID-19 had finally infiltrated ORW and was wreaking havoc in our prison lives. It had been an emotionally messy few weeks, to be sure, and I needed divine help if I was going to make it through this.

Help did indeed come that dark, dreary Monday. The Holy Cavalry had arrived – in the book of Acts. The first reading from daily Mass was Acts 16:22-34 and it captured my attention like never before. A short summary: Paul and Silas are in prison. About midnight, they are praying, singing, and praising God as the other prisoners listen. A violent earthquake shakes the foundation, the doors fly open, and everyone's shackles fall off. The jailer fears they've escaped, but Paul tells him they are all still there. Paul and Silas preach to the jailer, who eventually brings them home with him. He cares for their wounds, serves them dinner, and has his whole household baptized. Everyone is filled with joy.

Obviously, when I read that, I was waist-deep in the quicksand of despair. Paul and Silas threw me a rope that spanned 2,000 years. They knew God needed to be praised no matter what, where, or how dismal their circumstances. They knew God would hear them, which kept Paul and Silas focused on Him, not their surroundings or situation. Therein was the lesson of the day.

I believed their rope made of praise, prayer and song would help me pull myself out of the quicksand. All I had to do was grab it and trust its strength. So I did. In my prison cell, I prayed and praised God for His many blessings. At first, it felt forced and contrary because my heart hurt so badly I thought it might actually be broken. Silly as it may sound, a laundry list of "Thank you for ----" got me warmed up and into the right frame of mind. Gradually, an authentic feeling of gratitude and healing grew in my heart and the words flowed with real meaning and ease. I even managed to sing! No one except my cat and God heard, and it was far from my Mass-worthy solos, but I sang.

There was no earthquake (what a relief) and the prison doors did not fly open (also a relief). However, God did console me. As I lifted my tear-stained eyes in faith, I felt His presence surround me and I was comforted. I knew I would survive the emotional storm. I knew my smile and *joie de vivre* would return in due time.

God's grace and mercy on that 9,497th day of incarceration was enough to make it through. And it will be enough on the 9,498th and 9,499th and 9,500th ... I just have to keep praising Him no matter what. I have to trust that He hears and loves me no matter what, and will always send help.

Michele Williams is an inmate at the Ohio Reformatory for Women in Marysville.

Of Mass, masks and Newman

As our churches slowly reopen and our spiritual craving for the Eucharist is satisfied, we thank God for all the blessings we have. Even in the midst of a pandemic, we remain so blessed. Even in the midst of death, illness, financial hardship, business challenges, unemployment, and our patience and mental strength tested, we are blessed to be counted among God's chosen ones. We are Catholic Christians who know that we trust in Jesus, no matter what the challenges are. Life is a challenge in itself. Jesus carried His cross alone, but He walks with us every step of the way as we carry ours. He never abandons us, and that fact alone means we can never give up. We will get through this crisis with the help and sacrifice of a lot of people. We will never get through anything without the love, grace, and mercy of Jesus Christ. Our crosses are heavy and burdensome, maybe now more than ever. As we begin to return to Mass, let us be thankful for our blessings, and pray for those who are more greatly challenged than we are. Eucharist is Thanksgiving. May we never challenge God, but love Him and thank Him for all that we have.

As our public and private society slowly reopens, we are hopeful that we remain healthy and well. Whatever the "new normal" will be, we are blessed to be a part of it. Masks have played an important role, and we will continue to see them as a more

EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

Rick Jeric



common part of life. One of the more interesting parts of this has been noticing people's eyes more than ever. With much of our face covered, the eyes are speaking to us. We say our eyes are the gateway to the soul. Especially now, it is amazing how often you can tell how someone is handling a particular moment in time through their eyes. There is concern and focus on a mission or destination. There is fear and trepidation. There is sadness or joy. There is preoccupation and being aloof. All these can be surmised by looking into someone's eyes. But the best one of all is being able to see someone smile with their mouth covered by a mask. Eyes glow and change with a big smile. Our eyes themselves smile. As we return to Mass, let us smile with the love of Jesus Christ in our hearts and souls. Even with a mask on, our brothers and sisters will feel that love. Our eyes tell the story. It is so much more difficult these days to smile. Murders continue to be at the forefront of the news and in the headlines each day. Some even spark national demonstrations and protests. Where is the love of Jesus Christ and where are our smiles? It can be very difficult to smile amid all the murder and

bad behavior. But we must smile and love. As we return to Mass, love and smile for those who murder and are lost. Jesus' command to love one another and our enemies was not a suggestion.

To sum up how we can deal with all this chaos, I want to share a prayer called "The Mission of My Life" by Saint John Henry Cardinal Newman. You may be familiar with it already. My wife shared it with me, and I have begun to pray it every day. It gives me hope and makes me smile. "God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have a mission. I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. I'm a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good; I shall do His work. I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it if I do but keep His commandments. Therefore, I will trust in Him, whatever I am, I can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him, in perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him. If I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him. He does nothing in vain. He knows what He is about. He may take away my friends. He may throw me among strangers. He may make me feel desolate, make my spirits sink, hide my future from me. Still, He knows what He's about."

Development office aids parishes during shutdown

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

Although the coronavirus pandemic prevented parishes throughout the Diocese of Columbus from celebrating public Masses for two months, closed church offices and shut down many aspects of Catholic life, the parishes continued to operate, mainly with priests, deacons and parish staff working from home.

Even before the effects of COVID-19 hit in mid-March, many parishes were regularly communicating with members through their websites, the Flocknote online parish communications tools and various Google platforms.

Some parishes were livestreaming videos of Masses or posting them on YouTube or Facebook. Once parishes and their offices were closed, Zoom videoconferencing quickly became a popular method of conducting face-to-face meetings without having people come together in one place.

Other parishes had more limited technological capabilities, but with the help of the diocesan Office of Development and Planning, they found ways to improve communications with members, keep them updated on changes resulting from the virus and continue to receive the contributions vital to maintaining operations at a time when no Sunday offertory collections were being taken.

For parishes that did not have a way to accept contributions online, the development office set up an online giving platform in early April called "A Time of Extreme Charity." The name comes from a phrase used by Bishop Robert Brennan in his homily at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on Sunday, March 22, the first Sunday when all of Ohio's Catholic churches were closed because of the virus.

"It was important that we were able to quickly create a way for our pastors and principals to ask for the support they needed," said Andrea Pannell, diocesan moderator of development and planning.

Through its secure online vendor, Faith Direct, the Extreme Charity platform offers parishioners a chance to make weekly, monthly or one-time payments through their debit/credit cards or bank accounts to the diocese itself, to the tuition assistance fund for diocesan schools or to any of the diocese's 111 churches, 42 elementary schools and 11 high schools.

Later in April, the office launched a platform for parishes and schools known as SECURE, which stands for support, evaluation, connection, utilization of resources and engagement. The program is designed to help parishes and schools strengthen their digital and virtual ministries while providing fundraising help.

"The development office usually would be working on the Bishop's Annual Appeal (BAA) at this time, but because of how parish life is changing, we are principally focused for now on enhancing any virtual connection that can help parishes develop and stay in touch with their members," said Wendy Piper, associate director of the development office.

"We are working with (consultants) CCS Fundraising, which is helping nonprofit organizations in these extraordinary times by using its seven de-



The diocesan Office of Development and Planning has delayed the start of the Bishop's Annual Appeal until July after the coronavirus outbreak.

acades of experience to develop more effective ways of assisting the people its partners serve.

"None of us has ever lived through a pandemic before. This is all new territory for all of us," Piper said. "There is no instruction manual on how to keep going at a time like this. But as professionals who care deeply about the Church and the people she serves, we adapt, we regroup, we strategize and we put our skills to work in the best way that we know how."

Pannell said her office's partnership with CCS "was extremely important in providing the support we felt our diocese needed, given the unprecedented nature of the situation we found ourselves in. Some churches did not have electronic giving, social media or any virtual presence established, nor were they comfortable with asking for support right away. So we knew this effort would take one-on-one support and would not be a one-size-fits-all plan."

Pannell said CCS recognized that the Diocese of Columbus has an exceptionally close partnership between the development office and its schools. This past January, the development office hired Tiffney Hatem as a senior development associate to work with individual schools and the diocesan Office of Catholic Schools on advancement and stewardship.

Five years ago, the development office established the role of a parish support coordinator (PSC) to provide direct support to pastors and parish communities in fundraising and stewardship. The PSCs and CCS consultants collaborated to develop customized SECURE plans for each parish in the diocese and worked with Hatem to do the same for the schools. As of late May, 17 parishes and 12 schools were receiving such assistance, with more to come, Piper said.

One of those parishes is Columbus St. Francis of Assisi Church, whose pastor, Father Fritzner Valcin, and his parish team are being supported through the SECURE program by development office PSC Andrea Lopez.

"Father Fritz and his staff have been able to reach parishioners through Facebook posts," Lopez said. "Working their SECURE plan, the parish has been encouraged to make wellness calls to people, praying with and praying for those facing difficult life

circumstances. They also have been able to invite those who can to financially support the parish, and it has all been going very well. The parish also is working on switching from a prerecorded Mass to livestreaming for those who are unable to attend Mass in person or whose health condition makes it a risk to come to church, even as public Masses resume.

"We may not all be able to come together physically yet, but when we are able to do so again, we will be helping parishioners resume the relationships they had with each other in new and creative ways."

Development office PSC Sue Roberts has been working on the SECURE program with Lancaster St. Mark Church.

"They had a really good base to begin with," she said. "They had been doing streamed Masses and had a good website that was communicating well with parishioners. But they wanted to know if they were doing enough, so they reached out to us. They have made all kinds of preparations for coming back. They just wanted the assurance they were doing as well as they could."

If your parish is interested in taking part in the SECURE program, go to <https://www.columbus-catholic.org/secure-resources>.

Because of the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19 and the suspension of public Masses, the development office delayed the kickoff of the Bishop's Annual Appeal by about two months. The appeal is the diocese's major yearly effort to provide funding for diocesan programs and ministries and the education of seminarians.

"The BAA would have begun on the first weekend in May with pulpit announcements and pastor letters to parishioners, but it was much more of a priority at that time to turn our focus toward supporting individual parishes and the Catholic community overall," Pannell said. "While the BAA fund is open and we have received some unsolicited gifts for the appeal, this year's kickoff weekend will be Saturday and Sunday, July 11 and 12. We understand the hardship many have suffered, and we also know of those who want to fill the financial gap that this time has created in providing parish support. Honoring and considering both is important, especially in times of crisis."

Months before the pandemic, Bishop Brennan decided that the BAA goal for this year will be \$6.85 million and chose "Living the Joy of the Gospel" as the campaign theme.

Funds collected by the appeal are used for about two dozen diocesan programs. The largest percentage of the total – 21 percent – goes toward the education of priests, deacons and seminarians through the diocesan Religious Vocations Office, direct financial support of seminarians and the Office of the Permanent Diaconate.

The remaining funds are allocated as follows: student and school assistance, 19 percent; parish life enhancements (parish support, direct administrative grants, liturgy and sacramental preparation, diocesan events such as the Rite of Election and

In-home kits make Sacred Heart enthronement possible

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

Reverence for the Sacred Heart of Jesus is one of the most widely practiced Catholic devotions, with Jesus' physical heart representing his divine love for humanity.

The Diocese of Columbus has been strongly devoted to the Sacred Heart since its earliest days. Its first bishop, Sylvester Sylvester Rosecrans, consecrated the diocese to the Sacred Heart in 1873. Bishop Emeritus Frederick Campbell conducted a re-consecration ceremony on June 12, 2015, the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart.

In recent years, that devotion has been extended into more than 2,500 homes, schools, businesses and other places in Columbus through enthronement of Sacred Heart images by a group known as Sacred Heart Columbus, which has become part of the national Sacred Heart Enthronement Network.

Since 2011, the group has sent volunteers to people and places interested in the enthronement process, which generally begins with an explanatory visit on a Sunday and concludes with an enthronement ceremony one week later.

June has been a month especially dedicated to enthronements because the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart has been celebrated on the liturgical calendar 19 days after Pentecost since 1856, and the date for that event generally is in June. Since 2002, the feast also has been set aside as a day of prayer for the sanctification of priests.

This year, because of the restrictions the coronavirus has placed on social activities, standard enthronement ceremonies cannot take place in June. However, families wishing to enthrone their homes can do so by going to the Sacred Heart Enthronement Network's website, www.welcomehisheart.com, where they can order the printed materials needed for an enthronement in the traditional manner or purchase a self-guided digital download package.

"We began offering these two options about a year ago," said Emily Jaminet, a Columbus-based Catholic author and broadcaster who is executive director of the Sacred Heart Enthronement Network. "Of course, we never anticipated anything like the coronavirus occurring, but we feel the Holy Spirit was inspiring us to think ahead and helped lead us to the idea of self-contained enrollment packages."

The "Welcome His Heart" print package includes two enthronement booklets, one hardback Sacred Heart image for framing, four prayer cards to the Sacred Heart, a welcome letter and a certificate of



Items in the in-home Sacred Heart enthronement kit available at www.welcomehisheart.com.

Photo courtesy Sacred Heart Enthronement Network

completion. There is a suggested donation of \$20, plus \$5 for additional enthronement booklets.

The digital download has a suggested donation of \$7. It includes a downloadable booklet with all the prayers and instructions needed for an enthronement ceremony, a downloadable enthronement certificate and a downloadable Sacred Heart image.

A deluxe "Welcome His Heart" kit includes everything in the regular package plus two 8-by-10 framed images of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The suggested donation is \$45. All are available at www.welcomehisheart.com.

Kits also are available at the offices of St. Gabriel Catholic Radio, 4673 Winterset Drive, Columbus.

Jaminet said about 9,200 people had visited the website in May, representing a sevenfold increase from February, the month before the virus dramatically began affecting lives. She also said the network now has about 3,700 people on its mailing list.

"As COVID-19 has dramatically changed our patterns of worship and going to church, more people have found our website than ever before, not only in Columbus, but nationally through Google searching," Jaminet said. "I've heard from people in Maine, Indiana, New Jersey, New Hampshire, California, Texas and elsewhere. They're struggling with family life and seeking us out for the extra graces they long for."

"One woman in Maine told me the website inspired her to ask for her family to sit quietly with

A prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for protection against COVID-19 pandemic

By Father Stash Dailey
Spiritual Director, Sacred Heart Columbus

O, Good Jesus, you are the Most High God, everlasting and always loving. You have shown us the way to the Father and sent the Holy Spirit to guide us.

We implore thy Most Sacred Heart to have mercy on us in this time of need. Bless and protect the vulnerable, give hope to all and fill our hearts with confidence in your Divine Mercy. Be our joy in the midst of suffering and our stability in the midst of uncertainty.

Your forgiveness we seek, your love we need, your protection we implore. Forgive our sins and heal our wounds. Strengthen any weakness of faith and make us strong so as to give witness to your glory. Keep far from us any illness, pestilence or harm. You are our refuge, you are our comfort, you are our hope,

Through the intercession of Our Lady, Help of Christians, we come to your Most Sacred Heart and beseech our protection and blessing. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us!

her for Mother's Day and pray. They honored her request and were gathered together for the first time in years.

"A nursing home ordered 150 enthronement kits from us in June. I've also been training people to go out as missionaries and perform enthronements when we're able to move more freely again. In the midst of people being locked down and worried about what's going to happen to them, they are finding Jesus through his Sacred Heart and realizing the comfort he can provide for them," Jaminet said.

Devotion to the Sacred Heart goes back to the Crucifixion, when the Virgin Mary and St. John the Evangelist heard the heartbeat of Jesus at the foot of the cross and saw his heart pierced with a sword. St. Gertrude the Great in the 1200s received visions in which she placed her head on Jesus' chest and spoke about the beauty and power of his heart.

The devotion gained considerable strength following several appearances of Jesus from 1673 to 1675 to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, a young

See SACRED HEART, Page 9

12 promises of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

Jesus Christ appeared to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque between 1673 and 1675. Among the words spoken to her, she heard Jesus make 12 promises to those who would respond to the pleading of His Sacred Heart and make an effort to return his love.

1. I will give them all the graces necessary in their state of life.

2. I will establish peace in their homes.

3. I will comfort them in all their afflictions.

4. I will be their secure refuge during life and, above all, in death.

5. I will bestow abundant blessings upon all their undertakings.

6. Sinners will find in My Heart the source and infinite ocean of mercy.

7. Lukewarm souls shall become fervent.

8. Fervent souls shall quickly mount to high perfection.

9. I will bless every place in which an image of My Heart is exposed and honored.

10. I will give to priests the gift of touching the

most hardened hearts.

11. Those who shall promote this devotion shall have their names written in My Heart.

12. I promise you in the excessive mercy of My Heart that My all-powerful love will grant to all those who receive Holy Communion on the first Fridays in nine consecutive months the grace of final perseverance.

They shall not die in My disgrace, nor without receiving their sacraments. My Divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment.

Couples refuse to let virus affect the joy of their wedding day

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

At least two couples in the Diocese of Columbus who were hoping for a memorable wedding day got their wish in a way no one would have expected.

Kurt Worley and Audrey Chiang were married Saturday, May 2 at Columbus St. Patrick Church. On the same day, Stephen and Jackie Fogle recited their marriage vows at Columbus St. Timothy Church.

Under normal conditions, the churches would have been nearly filled, and a large reception would have taken place after each ceremony. But state restrictions caused by the coronavirus limited attendance at the recital of vows to a maximum of 10 people – the couple to be wed, their attendants, their parents, the priest, a photographer and other people significant in the couples' lives.

The restrictions, which affected weddings and other public gatherings in Ohio, forced those planning weddings to choose between having a marriage ceremony with a small group or postponing it until crowd restrictions were eased. Gov. Mike DeWine on May 21 partially lifted the crowd limit, announcing that catering and banquet centers could accommodate as many as 300 people for wedding receptions after June 1.

Worley and Chiang didn't want to wait until the limits were eased. "I think we realized in deciding whether to cancel or reschedule the ceremony just how important our recital of vows was and how our families were looking forward to sharing their witness with us," Worley said. "We didn't want to put life on hold any longer, and we realized the significance of having a church wedding and how important it was to have the sacraments being offered to bless us at that time."



Kurt Worley and Audrey Chiang

For the Fogles, "The most important thing about the ceremony was being able to be with our loved ones in one way or another," Jackie Fogle said. "We were able to persevere. The weather was beautiful, and we were not going to let the circumstances of the world inhibit us."

The Fogles' wedding reception was a virtual one, with friends popping in and out all evening through video calls and texts. The flower girl and ring bearer paid a surprise visit with their mother. "The communication was not nearly as great, but we had a lot of outreach and felt the love of everyone," Jackie Fogle said.

The Fogles, who met at Ohio University, had been dating for seven years and engaged for two years and had set the May 2 date for their wedding some time ago. That date also was the day they graduated from OU in 2015. "We had built up to that specific day and wanted it to be a special one. What mattered most about that day was actually getting married," Jackie Fogle said.

The reception had been scheduled for Le Meridien Columbus, The Joseph hotel in Columbus' Short North neighborhood just after the wedding at St.



Stephen and Jackie Fogle

Timothy's, with about 150 people expected. But crowd restrictions caused by the virus made that impossible.

"We knew this in March and were able to tell friends," she said. "We weren't even sure a marriage ceremony would take place until about 2 ½ weeks before the date. Once we knew that, we invited everyone to see us become married online. The day didn't lose its excitement; in fact, because he's an only child, Stephen's mother is still riding high about the wedding and posted more about it than me online."

Stephen is a project manager at OhioHealth, and Jackie is an account manager at Whiteboard Marketing. The couple hope to have a reception and a second ceremony at St. Timothy's later this year.

Worley and Chiang met at Hilliard Darby High School and have been engaged for about five years. They live in Pittsburgh, where Worley is a financial analyst for PPG Industries, and Chiang is studying at the University of Pittsburgh's graduate medical school to be a physician's assistant. They were visiting their parents and observing two-week quarantine restrictions when *The Catholic Times* talked to them after the wedding.

"We were monitoring the spread of the virus, had canceled a family vacation in March and realized by early April that we'd have to call the wedding off," Chiang said. "We had invited about 150 people, and about 60 had accepted at that point, including a lot of friends from China and Canada. We owed it to them not to ruin their plans."

Their reception at Worthington Hills Country Club would have included a deejay, photographer and a plated meal. "Everything had been ready, probably since last summer," Chiang said.

"We were engaged in May of 2019," Worley said, "and when we looked at possible dates for the wedding, I realized May 2 was the only day she had off until later in the year because of her medical commitments."

"There were only 10 people inside the church, but outside were Audrey's five sisters and a brother, and my sister and brother. After the wedding, we did pictures inside the church on a rotating basis."

The couple are delaying a reception and honeymoon for about 18 months until Chiang finishes her studies. "The significance of having a big party wasn't as important as I thought," she said. "Maybe our focus on the vows gave us a realization of the actual value of the wedding ceremony and of marriage itself. And at least we had our extended family present through livestreaming."

"We're both the oldest in our family," Worley said. "I'm from an Eastern Orthodox background, and she's Catholic, so it was very important to be married in a church. We spent a great deal of time on marriage preparation – something most people don't get to do. This was something very exciting that will strengthen our marriage, and we realized that marriage is a sacrament in which the couple are the actual ministers, with the wedding party, the priest and God as witnesses."

DEVELOPMENT, continued from Page 6

adult Confirmation), 18 percent; spiritual and pastoral programs (Office for Divine Worship, hospital chaplains, Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, Catholic Ethnic Ministries, parish support, direct administrative grants, St. Joseph Cathedral), 17 percent; education programs (continuing education for priests, Office of Marriage and Family Life, Office of Religious Education and Catechesis, Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center near Ohio State University), 11 percent; social concerns (Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs, Office for Social Concerns, Catholic Social Services, St. Stephen's Community House, St. Vincent de Paul Society, St. Lawrence Haven), 10 percent. Only 4 percent is

used for administrative costs.

The Office of Development and Planning sets a BAA goal for each parish in the diocese every year. Any amount raised over that goal is returned 100 percent to the parish to be used as the parish chooses. Many parishes over the years have combined the appeal with their own fundraising campaigns to pay for improvements such as pew replacements, security enhancements and tuck-pointing of bricks. This list also may include technology needs. Seventy-three parishes exceeded their goals in 2019 and had more than \$1.9 million returned to them.

Last year's appeal realized more than \$8 million in pledges from more than 19,800 households, with more than \$8.2 million paid as of May 31. Pledges

and gifts to the current year's Bishop's Annual Appeal may be made now by visiting www.columbus-catholic.org and selecting the GIVE button. Every gift is tax-deductible.

"Sowing good seeds in many different ways, and seeking to bring the love of Jesus Christ into our parishes, our diocese, and the world is a great work and continues to be the true mission of the BAA," Bishop Brennan said. "We do not always see the lives we touch or the hope emerging from within someone, yet we have faith and believe in the loving hands of Jesus working in their lives and our own, and in this, we find great joy. The BAA is essential to helping us meet the challenge of living the joy of the Gospel."

Retiring facilities director reflects on accomplishments

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

Bruce Boylan, director of the Facilities Office for the Diocese of Columbus, is retiring effective Friday, June 5 after six years in the position. He will be succeeded by the office's associate director, Bob Sisson.

Boylan, 68, said his retirement was for health reasons and that the timing was right. "I was diagnosed with lymphoma last year, but it was discovered early enough that it was obvious I was going to survive, and I'm now in remission," he said. "It's not something you get cured from, but it's not eating me up and is a condition I'll always have to be aware of."

"After receiving the diagnosis, my wife and I realized we were doing well and wanted to spend more time together traveling and going to the cottage we have on Lake Erie. So I really don't see a downside to this," he said.

"This has been a great job, and I know I'm leaving things in good hands with Bob Sisson, (associate director) Rob Schorr and (project manager) Sheri Rogers."

As facilities director, Boylan has served as a consultant on construction and maintenance problems, working with pastors, school principals and construction committees on building and inspecting parish projects. His role is not that of a contractor, but he works with contractors to make sure construction projects and established buildings comply with building codes.

Boylan said he has been involved with about 150 projects during his time with the diocese and that his office dealt with about \$50 million worth of work in the past year.

His last major project was an exten-



Bruce Boylan (left), retiring director of the diocesan Facilities Office, and wife Linda

sive renovation of Danville St. Luke Church, which this year is celebrating the 200th anniversary of the parish and the 125th anniversary of the current church building. Work began early in the year on the improvements, with Masses being moved to the parish hall.

Father Mark Hammond is pastor and Father Daniel Olvera is parochial vicar for the parish and for Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul Church.

"St. Luke's has been well-maintained throughout its history by dedicated volunteers who appreciate its heritage, but a 125-year-old building is bound to have issues," Boylan said.

"Father Hammond and Father Olvera wanted to spruce things up. They knew boards were creaking and paint was peeling, and we looked at the church with them to define what could be done in an affordable manner. This included a complete repainting, installation of new flooring and new pews, lighting improvements and other minor changes."

"Once the parish building committee agreed to the changes and the bishop signed the contract, the Fa-

ilities Office shepherded the process through, mostly with Rob Schorr and me examining what the contractors and painters had done and keeping an eye on the budget," he said.

"After the coronavirus hit, the workers followed distance guidelines, so the job took a little longer than anticipated, and we had a lot of Zoom meetings. I think my life has been centered between my living room, kitchen and bedroom these last few weeks because I've had to keep an eye on all our jobs from home. Usually I'm on the road four days a week."

Boylan said one of the most satisfying aspects of his job in recent years has been the formation of a diocesan creation care team dedicated to putting into practice the principles of Pope Francis' 2015 environmental encyclical *Laudato Si'*. One noticeable improvement has been the conversion of 37 schools and 27 parishes to LED lighting since summer 2017. This change will save more than \$700,000 annually on school and parish electric bills.

The office also has been installing retention ponds and pipe systems designed to reduce the amount of stormwater runoff from church and school parking lots and has established a state-of-the-art asbestos management process for diocesan buildings.

These efforts have earned Boylan and his staff the 2019 Energy Efficiency Champion Award from AEP Ohio, the power company serving most of the diocese.

Boylan joked that before coming to the diocese his career "mostly involved closing Air Force bases." He worked with the transition of the former Newark Air Force Base in Heath to the control of the Heath-Newark-Licking County Port Authority

and the transformation of the former Rickenbacker Air Force Base in Columbus to an airport dealing mainly with large cargo planes.

"Before that, I worked in steel mills and aluminum mills all over the place as a maintenance person who could fix just about anything," he said. "If I didn't know better, I'd say the job I've had these past six years was designed just for me."

He and his wife, Linda, have two daughters, a son and three grandchildren and are members of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church. Asked what he would miss most about his job, he said, "I've enjoyed the people I work with. They're pros, they get it, and I get to lead them. I can assign them any project, and I trust they will get it right."

Sisson and Schorr have been with the diocese for about the same amount of time as Boylan. Rogers has been with the diocese for two years, but has been involved in facilities management for about 15 years.

Sisson said he had been a self-employed home improvement contractor for 20 years when the diocese hired him. "I wasn't sure how well I could work with a supervisor, but by the end of two months, Bruce and I were very close, and we have stayed that way," he said. "Bruce has been a great blessing as he has taught me how to keep the diocesan buildings running in the same way he did."

"When we hire someone new, we will be looking for someone Rob and Sheri can train in the same way," Sisson said. "Their experience and temperament are good for what we do, and we're all determined to maintain the great relationship Bruce built with the parishes and schools."

SACRED HEART, continued from Page 7

French nun. He shared with her how much he loves mankind and how much he desires to be loved and gave her 12 promises of graces to be bestowed on those devoted to his Sacred Heart.

The practice of enthronement of the Sacred Heart began in the 20th century, mainly through the efforts of Father Mateo Crawley-Boevey, a Chilean priest who had a vision of enthroning households one at a time. When he shared this vision with Pope St. Pius X in 1907, the pope immediately ordered him to devote his life to spreading the practice, and he did so until his death in 1960.

The devotion made its way to Columbus by the 1940s. Father Stash Dailey, pastor of Columbus Holy Family Church, said he has heard that his grandparents enthroned the Sacred Heart in their home during that time. Jaminet learned of the devotion through her parents, Chuck and Jo Ann Wilson, who with Father Dailey were among the founders of Sacred Heart Columbus.

Anyone interested in learning more about enthronement and its impact can listen to the Wilsons and Father Dailey on the first Friday of each month from 8 to 9 a.m. on The Sacred Heart Hour, broadcast on St. Gabriel Catholic Radio at AM 820 in Columbus and FM 88.3 in southern Ohio.

Every year since 2012, Sacred Heart Columbus has sponsored a one-day Sacred Heart Congress, featuring a Mass and talks on the devotion and enthronement. No plans have been announced for this year because of the pandemic.



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Trinity Sunday Year A

Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
bring all of us Your peace

Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9
Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55,
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
John 3:16-18

The world has had lots of “fads” about God. In the beginnings of human religion, it appears that every rock or tree that was beyond understanding had a “god” of some kind associated with it. Gradually, it came to be understood that none of these were truly a god. The philosophers came to the realization that behind the whole of reality, there had to be a One that is beyond all and responsible for creating all. Our current “fad” forgets this truth that was evident to ancient thinkers: that the world as it is has Someone behind its appearances that maintains its existence. Philosophy can tell us about God’s attributes, what has to be part of the character of the Supreme Being, but it cannot speak of the inner reality of God.

Only God knows God for Who God IS, and so, only God can make known to us the reality of divinity. On the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity, we celebrate the mystery that is the heart of all mysteries: that God has revealed the simple truth that divinity is trinity, that God is triune. The Church has worked out a way to talk about this and to point to it in faith, based on Scripture and theological reflection: The One God IS Three Divine Persons. One divine nature IS in the persons of the the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Through salvation history, it is revealed that God wants to share divine life with us: “God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that

FATHER TIMOTHY HAYES



Father Timothy M. Hayes is pastor of Columbus St. Timothy Church.

the world might be saved through Him.”

This revelation happens particularly through the history of the people of God. Moses’ invitation to the Almighty expresses this gradual realization: “If I find favor with you, O Lord, do come along in our company.” After a long journey in his own in relationship to God, Moses speaks intimately to God, saying literally, “If I find a glint of delight in Your eyes, O Lord . . .”

In effect, he is saying: “God, I have discovered just how you look at me. And now, I am willing to share this with the people You have united to me.” He accepts the people as they are and asks the Lord to show mercy: “This is indeed a stiff-necked people; yet pardon our wickedness and sins and receive us as your own.”

Moses accepts the world as it is. He accepts that He is one with God and with the people of Israel. And now he is willing to be a bridge to a relationship with God.

The Gospel deepens our understanding of this intimate relationship with God: God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He has revealed this intimate reality to us through the action of His spirit and through His Son Jesus Christ. He invites us to enter into a living relationship with Him.

Perhaps we can make Moses’ approach to God our own: “Lord, we are indeed stiff-necked people; yet pardon our wickedness and sins and receive us as your own.” Are you willing to follow Moses’ example in relation to others who have been entrusted to you? Will you look out at the world and at all those who walk

the Eucharist on this *Solemnity of the Body and Blood of the Lord*. All who have “grown up Catholic” recall events from our youth that have helped us to realize the meaning of this treasure: First Holy Communion, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, encounters with

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

6/8-6/13
MONDAY
 1 Kings 17:1-6
 Psalm 121:1b-8
 Matthew 5:1-12

TUESDAY
 1 Kings 17:7-16
 Psalm 4:2-5,7b-8
 Matthew 5:13-16

6/15-6/20
MONDAY
 1 Kings 21:1-16
 Psalm 5:2-3b,4b-7
 Matthew 5:38-42

TUESDAY
 1 Kings 21:17-29
 Psalm 51:3-6b,11,16
 Matthew 5:43-48

WEDNESDAY
 1 Kings 18:20-39
 Psalm 16:1b-2a,4-5,8,11
 Matthew 5:17-19

THURSDAY
 Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3
 Psalm 98:1-6
 Matthew 5:20-26

WEDNESDAY
 2 Kings 2:1,6-14
 Psalm 31:20-21,24
 Matthew 6:1-6,16-18

THURSDAY
 Sirach 48:1-14
 Psalm 97:1-7
 Matthew 6:7-15

FRIDAY
 1 Kings 19:9a,11-16
 Psalm 27:7-9c,13-14
 Matthew 5:27-32

SATURDAY
 1 Kings 19:19-21
 Psalm 16:1b-2b,5,7-10
 Matthew 5:33-37

FRIDAY
 Deuteronomy 7:6-11
 Psalm 103:1-4,8,10
 1 John 4:7-16
 Matthew 11:25-30

SATURDAY
 2 Chronicles 24:17-25
 Psalm 89:4-5,29-34
 Luke 2:41-51

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE: WEEKS OF JUNE 7 & 14, 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.

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 Coshocotaw 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.

Videos of Masses are available at any time on the internet at these parish websites: Mattingly Settlement St. Mary (www.stannstmary.org); Columbus St. Patrick (www.stpatrickcolumbus.org); Delaware St. Mary (www.delawarestmary.org); and Sunbury St. John Neumann (www.saintjohnsunbury.org).

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

with you and pray this way? “Lord, we are indeed stiff-necked people; yet pardon our wickedness and sins and receive us as your own.”

May we live this mystery as we journey through life in this world, and so come to the eternal life that God has promised, the life of glory

in communion with the Holy Trinity, God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen!

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, You are willing to share Your inner life with us. May we open our hearts to welcome You into our lives and learn to walk with You. Bring us Your Peace!

Corpus Christi Year A

Christ’s Real Presence in the Eucharist
provides the foundation for our faith

Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9
Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14b-16a
Ps. 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20
1 Corinthians 10:16-17
John 6:51-58

We are invited to renew our faith in

priests and religious, the faith of our grandparents and other ordinary holy persons in our families, and countless other experiences of Church. For Roman Catholics, and for those Churches that hold to the truth as it has come down to us from the apostles, the Eucharist is simply Jesus present to us in a form of His own choosing, God-with-us throughout human history.

We have received this sacrament from the Lord Himself. It is not something we are free to manipulate. The Eucharist establishes us as Church.

Our choice to share in the Eucharist means we are willing to live it. Perhaps the painful “Eucharistic fast” that has taken place due to coronavirus restrictions has reminded us just how much we rely on the Eucharist for our spiritual sustenance and nourishment.

To respond to St. Paul’s rhetorical question: Yes, indeed! “*The Cup of Blessing that we bless ... is ... a participation in the Blood of Christ.*” Eucha-

PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

BOERGER, Thomas L., 77, formerly of Columbus, March 29
St. Matthew Church, Winter Haven, Fla.

CIOTOLA, Bruno, 87, May 25
St. Paul Church, Westerville

CLARK, Walter F., 80, May 22
St. Patrick Church, Junction City

DODD, Winnifred S., 81, May 20
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

GUSEMAN, Eleanora (Mickey), 93, May 23
St. Mark Church, Lancaster

JOSEPH, Delores A., 85, May 20
St. Nicholas Church, Columbus

KENT, Jeffery V., 62, May 24
St. Christopher Church, Columbus

KOPP, Evey (Starinieri), 95, May 23
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

LAPCZYNSKI, Stanley W., 81, May 22
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

ORTON, Alvin E. Jr., 84, May 27
St. Philip Church, Columbus

ROSZELL, Anna C. (Goncalves), 99, May 24
St. John Church, Logan

SELEGUE, Richard P., 96, May 25
St. Anthony Church, Columbus

VITT, Veronica "Vicki" (Rabb), 89, May 12
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

EUCHARIST, continued from Page 10

rist is the Sacrament of Jesus' death and resurrection. In receiving it, we witness to one another, "I am willing to die for my faith in Jesus and for you as my brothers and sisters in the Lord."

Eucharist makes Christ Himself and the redemption He won for us present to us here and now. Jesus is the very "bread who has come down from heaven." This is a gift none of us is worthy to receive, unless the Lord Himself speaks the Word that heals our souls so He can "enter under our roof."

How do we know that the Eucharist is real? Consider these sources: Jesus and the Church, our own experience interpreted through faith, and, for those in need of some "tangible evidence," there are many Eucharistic miracles that have taken place through the centuries that present fascinating accounts of the truth of the Lord's real Eucharistic presence.

Jesus says: "This is my body, This is the chalice of my blood." He makes clear to any who are willing to open their minds and hearts to Him: "I am the Bread of Life." He promises: "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood will have eternal life." By eating His flesh and drinking His blood, we have Jesus Christ's very life in us.

The Church teaches by words that stretch the meaning of our language to express mysteries beyond our grasp: The Catholic term "Transubstantiation" tells us that what is present on the altar and what we consume is no longer bread and wine, but Jesus

Christ Himself, Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, for our nourishment.

Jesus came to be with us. He lived our life, suffered, died, rose again and ascended into glory, pouring out His spirit on us so that we could follow Him. He created a way to stay with us. His "Real Presence" moves us beyond mere symbolism. We encounter the glorified Risen Lord Jesus "for real" as we receive Eucharist. Our acts of "Adoration" express our humble reverence for the Divine Son of God, the second person of the Holy Trinity, who was made incarnate among us and never left us. He offers us a "place" where can always find Him through Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction. Our Catholic devotions offer very personal experiences of truth that the Eucharist is Jesus, that He is worthy of adoration, and that He is truly worthy of our time and our lives.

Jesus, my Lord, my God, my All, how can I love Thee as I ought? O Sacrament most holy, O Sacrament divine, All praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine!

(Note: For anyone who would like to research Eucharistic miracles, here are a few places to consider: Lanciano, eighth century, host and chalice; Orvieto, 13th century, host dripping blood; and Siena, 18th century, hosts preserved. There are also some modern experiences that are easily found on social media.)

Dorothy J. Murnane

A private funeral Mass for Dorothy J. Murnane, 93, who died Wednesday, May 13, was celebrated Monday, May 25 at Worthington St. Michael Church. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born on Aug. 7, 1926 to Lucy and Leonard d'Ambrosio and graduated from Columbus West High School in 1944.

She married Paul Martens in 1946, and they lived in Chicago, La Crosse, Wisconsin, and Minneapolis. After he died in 1965, she returned to Columbus, where in 1967, she married Tom Murnane. In 1974, they founded Tom

Murnane Advertising, which evolved into what is now Dee Printing, a company that prints bulletins for many parishes in the Diocese of Columbus.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husbands, Paul Martens and Tom Murnane; brother, John (Mary) Ambrosia; and sister, Betty (Jim) Rady. Survivors include a son, Richard (Jody); daughters, Karen (Tom) Adams, Mary Margaret Marquardt, Theresa (Steve) Lang, Jean (Ron) Lewis, and Cathy (Chuck) Tennenbaum; sister, Rita Westerman; 17 grandchildren; and 22 great-grandchildren.

Youngstown bishop's cancer returns

Catholic News Agency

Youngstown Bishop George Murry, SJ, submitted his resignation to Pope Francis because of a recurrence of leukemia, the Diocese of Youngstown announced last week. The bishop is 71 years old, four years younger than standard retirement age for bishops.

In April 2018, Bishop Murry was diagnosed with leukemia. He underwent a month of intensive chemotherapy treatment at Cleveland Clinic and was released in late May of that year. He

doctors said he responded well to the treatment, and the leukemia cells had been suppressed, although he needed to return weekly for monitoring.

"This past April, his leukemia returned and he resumed treatment," the diocese said. "With this third bout of leukemia, his present state of health leaves him less able to fulfill the tasks entrusted to him as bishop of the Diocese of Youngstown."

Bishop Murray has led the Youngstown diocese since 2007.

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

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Local news and events

Priests, seminarians to lead Quo Vadis vocations retreat

All Catholic young men entering ninth to 12th grade are invited to attend the Quo Vadis vocations retreat and spend time with other young men discerning God's call.

Quo Vadis is led by priests and seminarians of the Diocese of Columbus and is supported by the diocesan Office of Vocations. It will take place from Sunday to Wednesday, July 26 to 29 at the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. The cost of the retreat is \$40.

For more information or to register, go to <https://faceforwardcolumbus.com/quo-vadis/> or contact Michael Haemmerle at columbusquovadis@gmail.com.

52 St. Andrew School students earn national Latin awards

Sixty-nine Columbus St. Andrew School seventh- and eighth-grade students participated in the National Latin Examination in March and 52 of them scored above average.

Despite its name, the National Latin Examination is an international test that is given to about 150,000 students from more than 25 nations. St. Andrew

was one of about a dozen grade schools involved. Most students taking the test are in high school or college.

Eighth-graders reaching the Latin II Summa Cum Laude level with a nearly perfect score of 39 out of 40 were Sonny Day, Nicholas Scharfenberger, Ethan Blatt and Fabi Corso. Maxima Cum Laude students were Patrick McCurdy, Julien Brandon, Nkengju Ajuseh, Ellasyn Ruhe and Alexander Wildermuth. Declan Faherty, Lauren Fernandes, Colin McNair, Rachel Shawgo and Victor Roscoe received awards of Magna Cum Laude, and Mathew McKnight, Victor Clarke-Gil, Sophia Monesi, Marie Rudzinski and Mary McAllister earned Cum Laude honors.

Among seventh-graders taking the Level I exam, Jonathan Koeninger, Nora Ott, Layla Stewart, Clare Garczewski, Gabrielle Von der Embse, Arav Fernandes, Sophia Blum, Angelo Ginocchi and Elise Latshaw all earned Summa Cum Laude awards. Maxima Cum Laude honors went to Mallory Cromley, Emmett Galvin, Alexandra Micu-Stan, Megan Terveer, Andrew Zarick, Clare Ciesinski, Chase McKnight, Abrielle Gaughan, Mason

Ratliff, Isabella Probst, Koyuki Yagi and Lauren Klingel. Annabel Duross, Quaid Cahill, Eliana Geraci, Blasé Pignotti, Godfrey Gbeckor-Kove, Cara Lalli, Celia Probst, Lily Ryan and Kate Hoyt received Magna Cum Laude awards. Kaitlyn Bernotas, Jack Braidech, and Michael De Luccia achieved a Cum Laude citation.

Columbus again will be starting point for Biking for Babies ride

Columbus again will be one of four starting points for the 11th annual Biking for Babies ride, a pro-life outreach ministry providing support for pregnancy resource centers.

The ride will begin Saturday, July 11 in Columbus; Green Bay, Wisconsin; Holly, Colorado; and Tylertown, Mississippi. The four routes form a cross with the center in St. Louis, where the riders will converge on Saturday, July 18 for a celebration of life at St. Joseph Church in the St. Louis suburb of Manchester, Missouri.

A total of 25 riders and 10 support personnel will be taking part, covering about 2,500 miles. The trek from Columbus will include six riders and

two support crew members, none of them from Ohio, who will cover about 750 miles.

Each team is made up of pro-life young adults ages 18 to 39 who sacrifice time away from their jobs, young children, spouses and/or parents and who have spent several months in formation for the event and in developing a pro-life testimony. They provide their own supplies and transportation, with housing provided by host families or a parish.

The program has raised more than \$500,000 for pregnancy resource centers since its inception in 2009. Prayers and donations are encouraged and accepted during or after the event. Contributions to pregnancy centers supported by Biking for Babies may be made at www.bikingforbabies.com/give.

London teacher retires

Sharon Thomson is retiring after 16 years as a preschool teacher at London St. Patrick School. She started teaching in 2004 and taught the 3-year-old class for most of her career. She and her husband, Robert, are members of St. Patrick Church.

Coloring contest winner



A drawing of a scientist at work by Columbus Trinity Elementary School second-grade student Molly Arnold placed second among about 7,000 entries in the statewide Imagine Engineering coloring contest sponsored by the Engineers Foundation of Ohio. She is shown with an educational toy she received as a prize after the award announcement was made in mid-April. The contest, now in its 22nd year, allows second grade teachers to schedule an in-class visit from a local member of the Ohio Society of Professional Engineers, who talks to students about what engineers do for a living and often presents simple examples using everyday items. *Photo courtesy Trinity Elementary School*



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The Catholic Times begins summer schedule!

In June, July and August, The Catholic Times will be publishing every other week. Look for the newspaper just prior to **June 7 & 21; July 5 & 19; and Aug. 2, 16 & 30.** We will return to weekly publication in September.