

The Catholic TIMES

The Diocese of Columbus' News Source

December 6, 2020 • SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT • Volume 70:5

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New prior:
The new prior's name at St. Patrick Priory in Columbus might sound familiar. Father Peter John Cameron, OP was the founding U.S. editor of the popular Magnificat worship guide used for Mass, prayer and spiritual reading, Page 3



State runner-up:
The Columbus St. Francis DeSales football team ended the 2020 season with a double-overtime loss to Chardon in the Division III state championship game on Saturday, Nov. 21 in Massillon, Page 11



All-American girl:
Columbus Bishop Watterson senior Sydney Taylor was named a first-team All-American after the recently completed 2020 fall volleyball season, Page 15



DIOCESE TO CELEBRATE FEAST DAY FOR OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

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Local news and events

Closing Masses planned at Scioto County parishes

Bishop Robert Brennan will celebrate closing Masses at three Scioto County parishes on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 5 and 6.

The Masses will be at 5 p.m. Dec. 5 at New Boston St. Monica Church, 9 a.m. Dec. 6 at West Portsmouth Our Lady of Sorrows Church and 11 a.m. Dec. 6 at Otway Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

All three churches are being closed as worship sites, The congregation, territory and property of the New Boston church are being merged with Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains Church, with worship for the two parishes to be taking place at Wheelersburg in the future.

A similar merger involving the West Portsmouth and Otway churches and Pond Creek Holy Trinity Church is taking place, with the Pond Creek church to serve as the worship site for the combined congregations.

Those parishes, along with Portsmouth Holy Redeemer and St. Mary churches, all are part of the Scioto Catholic Consortium, with Father Joseph Yokum as pastor and Father Patrick Watika, AJ, as associate pastor for the consortium.

Father David Glockner, GHM, a retired priest of the Glenmary Home Missions, will be living at the Holy Redeemer rectory and will serve the consortium as needed.

Father Glockner, 84, is a Portsmouth native who was ordained as a Glenmary priest in 1966. He has been a pastor at churches in seven states and was director of Glenmary novices for five years. After he retired, he was

St. Brigid Thanksgiving meal drive



Pictured are some of the Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church parishioners who provided more than 300 meals and \$6,255 in gift cards for the Dublin food pantry. The parish began this Thanksgiving meal drive collection six years ago, collecting about 100 meals for the pantry.
Photo courtesy St. Brigid of Kildare Church

on the staff of the West Virginia Institute for Spirituality for two years and was parochial vicar at Holy Redeemer Church in Vanceburg, Kentucky.

Bishop Watterson offers virtual open house

Columbus Bishop Watterson High School's traditional fall open house has gone virtual for 2020.

The open house is available online at any time and offers an opportunity to hear from Deacon Chris Campbell,

the school's principal, and to learn about topics such as school counseling, college counseling, campus ministry, athletics, performing arts, service, student wellness, finance, scholarships and the school's partnership with Ohio Dominican University.

The program also includes a virtual tour of the school's campus and a Zoom panel with current students.

To take the tour, go to <https://www.bishopwatterson.com/virtualopenhouse2020>.

St. Charles conducts auditions

The Columbus St Charles Preparatory School drama department will be conducting auditions for its winter production, *Elephant's Graveyard* by George Brant, at 4 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 8 and 9, in the campus theater, 2010 E. Broad St.

Participants will be doing cold readings from the script. Masks must be worn. Auditions are open to all central Ohio high school women. Rehearsals will begin at 4 p.m. Monday, Jan. 4 and the play will be presented in late February or early March. For more information, send an email to Doug Montgomery at dmontgomery@scprep.org.

St. Joan of Arc to expand Eucharistic adoration hours

Powell St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, has expanded its Eucharistic Adoration hours to include Friday into Saturday morning.

The church's Mercy Chapel is open from 9 a.m. Monday to 8 a.m. Saturday. All are welcome to spend time with Jesus present in body, blood, soul and divinity in the Eucharist. It is a time to unplug from the hectic pace of life, sit silently in Jesus' presence and open ourselves to his graces.

For information on gaining access to the chapel at times when the church is not open, contact Anne at (319) 321-3966 or adoration@stjoanofarcpowell.org.

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Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is Tuesday, Dec. 8. Check parish bulletins or websites for Mass times in person or via livestream.

CLARIFICATION

A story in the Nov. 22 *Catholic Times* said Father Thomas Buffer, pastor of Marion St. Mary and Cardington Sacred Hearts churches, was involved in an incomplete attempt to install an organ at Bremen St. Mary Church. Father Buffer was aware of the effort but not involved in it.

CORRECTION

A photo in the Nov. 22 *Catholic Times* incorrectly identified a participant in the Sacred Heart Congress that took place on Saturday, Nov. 14 at Westerville St. Paul Church. The worshipper's name is Gerry Demoulin, a member of St. Paul Church.

Second Sunday of Advent, Dec. 6



Front Page photo:
DIocese TO CELEBRATE OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
A two-hour celebration for the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe will take place at St. Joseph Cathedral on Saturday, Dec. 12.
Photo courtesy Latino Ministries

Catholic TIMES

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New St. Patrick prior is U.S. Magnificat founder

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

The new spiritual leader of the Dominican Friars' St. Patrick Priory in Columbus is someone whose name should be familiar to readers of *Magnificat*, a monthly spiritual guide that contains readings for each day's Mass and a variety of other features encouraging liturgical and personal prayer.

He is Father Peter John Cameron, OP, who was the founding editor-in-chief of that publication's American edition, serving in that role from 1998 to 2018. He comes to Columbus from St. Joseph Church in New York City's Greenwich Village neighborhood, where two recent members of the Columbus St. Patrick Church staff are stationed. Father Boniface Endorf, OP, is pastor there, and Brother Paul Kennedy, OP, is sacristan.

Father Cameron, 60, was elected to a three-year term as prior, which may be renewed for another three years. He succeeds Father Stephen Alcott, OP, pastor of St. Patrick Church, located next to the priory. Other Dominicans living at the priory are Fathers Norbert Keliher, Charles Shonk and Raymund Snyder, St. Patrick's parochial vicars, and Fathers Thomas Blau, Stephen-Dominic Hayes and Bernard Mulcahy.

Father Blau is director of preaching for the Dominican Province of St. Joseph, which covers the East Coast from Maine to Virginia, plus Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky, and leads the Diocese of Columbus' Barnabas Ministry, which provides diocesan priests on a temporary basis for parishes where there is no priest because of death, illness or other reasons. Father Hayes serves as the priory's subprior. He, like Father Blau, is known for his preaching ability and frequently leads parish missions. Father Mulcahy is a professor at the Pontifical College Josephinum.

Father Alcott had been prior at St. Patrick since the priory was established in 2017. Its friars decided when his term as prior ended on Oct. 12 that it would be best to separate the roles of pastor and prior, allowing Father Alcott to concentrate on his work at St. Patrick Church. Under Dominican rules, any friar in a particular province may be elected as a prior, and Father Cameron was chosen.

His duties as prior will be to serve as religious superior of the priory's friars; to coordinate their common life



Father Peter John Cameron, OP

Photo courtesy St. Patrick Church

and prayer; to be the primary point of contact for the diocese's Dominican friars, sisters and laypersons; to supervise the priory's lay staff; to oversee the income and expenses of the local Dominican community; to coordinate the community's apostolates, especially those extending beyond parish ministry; and to plan for possible future Dominican apostolates.

"A priory is the ideal form of housing for Dominicans," Father Cameron said. "It must have six Dominicans in residence. Some Dominican apostolates are not large enough to support six residents, but whenever possible, a Dominican house is raised to the status of a priory."

Dominican friars have served at St. Patrick Church since 1865. A priory was established there in 2017 as a way of maintaining the Dominicans' commitment to the Diocese of Columbus, which began in 1808 when Father (later Bishop) Edward Fenwick celebrated Ohio's first Catholic Mass in Somerset, a community where the Dominicans have maintained a presence ever since.

Father Cameron arrived in Columbus on Nov. 6. "The priory has seven outstanding Dominican men," he said. "I'm impressed by their religious fervor, their dedication to their mission and their preaching. They are excellent preachers."

Father Cameron is a former contributing editor of the *National Catholic Register*, and his work there led to his 20 years with *Magnificat*. The publication, which has a circulation of more than 500,000 in the United States and is published

in six languages, was begun in France in 1992 by Pierre-Marie Dumont, who at the time was general director of France's largest Catholic publication. "He founded *Magnificat* as a simplified way of enabling Catholics to share in the Church's public prayer, the Divine Office, by combining the daily Mass readings with parts of the Liturgy of the Hours and an inspiring blend of prayers, stories of the lives of the saints, spiritual writings and magnificent artwork," Father Cameron said.

"The editor of the Register knew Pierre and recommended me to help him. We had lunch together, and I already had seen the French version of *Magnificat*, so when he showed me a copy, I told him, 'You don't have to explain it to me. I love it, and this publication needs to be in America.' He hired me on the spot."

Father Cameron said he has been interested in the theater since he was a child and estimated that he has written a dozen plays of varying length as well as 10 books. One of the plays, *The Sacrament of Memory*, was written in 1998 to mark the 100th anniversary of the death of St. Therese of Lisieux. Another, *He Was Our Father*, tells the

story of Blessed Father Michael McGivney, the recently beatified founder of the Knights of Columbus.

"The Knights asked me to write a play about Father McGivney, and I was delighted to do it," Father Cameron said. "It was a very gratifying, humbling experience to help people learn the story of a simple parish priest with a vision that has benefited millions of people."

Father Cameron also was director of the Blackfriars Repertory Theatre, an "off-off-Broadway" company of actors in New York City. The group is a Dominican apostolate that has been in operation since 1998, reviving a similar company founded by the Dominicans that existed from the 1940s to 1972.

"Blackfriars' mission is to evangelize through beauty and the dramatic arts, telling stories which shine some light on the drama of human life," Father Cameron said. It stages a mix of new and old plays by secular and religious authors, including Pope St. John Paul II, Paul Claudel and ancient Greek dramatists. "What's common

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SPECIAL LIMITED TIME MEMBERSHIP PROMOTIONAL OFFER

In honor of Fr. McGivney's beatification on October 31, the Ohio State Council is offering

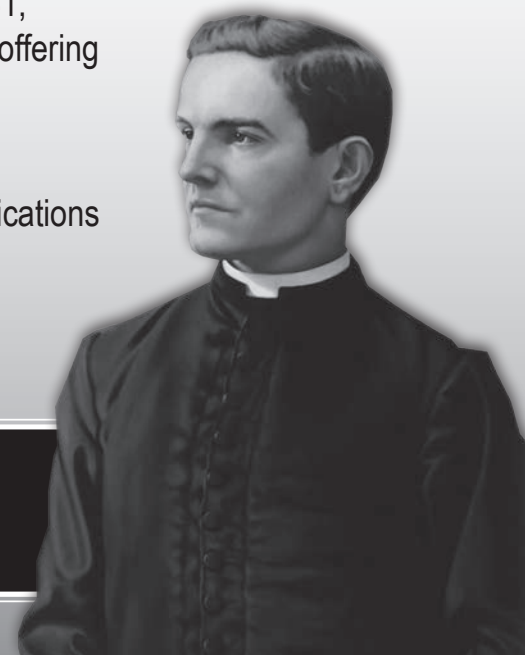
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MCGIVNEY2020



Advent traditions help family make way for the Lord

My children are the first to say, “Mom loves Advent!” It fits me like a glove.

My heart for hospitality is all about preparing the way for the Lord. I love candles in my windows, inviting loved ones home and bringing light to the darkness. The quiet of the Advent season, with its dark mornings and shorter days, graces me with quiet prayer time to prepare my heart as well. Advent is a season of preparation, and over the years we have woven many beautiful traditions into this season.

Our Advent wreath

For our family, the Advent wreath stays on our dining room table. We gather and sing O Come, O Come, Emmanuel as we light the candle. Over the years, as kids become readers, it is a long-awaited rite to read the prayer. This year, I have our youngest, whose eyes will shine brightly as she reads the prayers over the Advent wreath. Our family life is full of small rites of passage such as these, and it is wonderful to see the older ones smile as their younger siblings step into each stage.

Our creche

We keep an empty manger under our Christmas tree. A basket of straw lies nearby. Acts of kindness, mercy, service and sacrifice are rewarded with some straw for the manger. My older son smiled at me a couple of years back when he was in the middle of finals and feeling close to a meltdown. I grabbed a handful of straw and handed it to him. I remember his incredulous look – I think he was hoping for a Wendy’s gift card for a quick study break! Howev-

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.



er, this son knew his mom’s heart and remembered the significance. He smiled at me, put the straw in the manger and headed back to the grindstone. (The Wendy’s trip came later.)

Little ones love to do good deeds to prepare a soft bed for baby Jesus. Inevitably, the preparation has my living room looking like a barn as scattered pieces of hay are carried to the manger. But it’s holy ground I step upon.

Feast days

There are so many feast days during Advent: St. Nicholas, the Immaculate Conception, St. Lucy and Our Lady of Guadalupe are some of our favorites. We gather up our shoes and line them on the stairs on the eve of St. Nicholas’ feast day. Gold chocolate coins appear the next morning along with some fuzzy socks or a book.

Momma Mary’s feast day has been celebrated with Mass, ice cream sundaes, sledding or hiking and a nightly rosary with kids tucked into bed. Our Lady of Guadalupe we celebrate with a Mexican feast and a reading of the story. Tomie dePaola has written a classic book that is well loved in our family. My children often hear me quote, “Am I not your mother?”

My girls love the surprise every year of getting up

early and making cinnamon rolls for their brothers on the feast of St. Lucy. We make a wreath with candles out of construction paper, and the rolls are delivered warm from the oven.

These traditions might seem like a lot, but try one. Make it your own, and your kids will look forward to helping you prepare for it. Their anticipation is that light of Advent preparing the way for the Lord. I love hearing one of my children ask, “How many days till St. Lucy?” or having an older sibling make sure to start work later that day because he knows the effort his younger sisters put into making the morning special.

Wrapping Advent books

We love books around our home. As a teacher, writer and mother, quality literature is important to me. Each year, we wrap up a book for each day of Advent. These books come from our Christmas book collection. We have holy but also traditional books in the pile. From *The Night Before Christmas* to *The Clown of God*, each selection helps us enter into the season. We slow down. We prepare. Our emphasis is on preparing hearts and building family. Isn’t that what Joseph and Mary were doing?

Advent can be seen as a precursor for the big day of Christmas. The nostalgia of the tree, the wonder on the faces of little children – we strive to re-create those moments every year because they are fleeting. What if we invested our preparations in forming relationships and traditions that lasted longer than a moment but continued through generations? As we prepare the way for the Lord, let us also prepare our family for his presence within our homes.

A Season of Hope?

By Sister Nancy Miller, OSF

When Bishop Robert Brennan announced a Season of Hope, it seemed like just what was needed. Who isn’t ready to receive some hope in the midst of the burden of a pandemic exacerbated by outbursts of violence, racism and divisiveness? Besides, at this time of the year, I am always ready for the waiting in joyful hope for Christmas.

But, somehow, I feel called to more than merely waiting for hope. It’s all too easy to expect for God to give us hope. I think all too often we expect God to change things for us without our doing anything ourselves. We list all our petitions and then sit back and simply say: “Lord, hear our prayer” as if would God just listen to me, or to us, everything would be perfect. Let God fix it.

It’s been said that here on earth, God has no hands but our hands. I understand that to mean that God gives us the privilege of helping to fulfill the Divine Plan, including being part of an answer to prayers for one another. God always listens to us as a parent pays attention to every breath of their newborn babe. Sometimes I think God is waiting, hoping, calling us to just listen to God and listen to the pain of one another.

Just so, hope doesn’t just happen. Even though in part it is a gift from God, it is a lot like the per-

READERS’ REFLECTIONS

son who prayed to win the lottery and blamed God when it didn’t happen - but never bought a ticket, never did anything to allow God to act through one’s actions.

Many years ago, I read a book entitled “Seeds of Joy,” and although today I remember no more than the title, I think what we need today are “Seeds of Hope”

And so for me, as I thought about a Season of Hope, I needed to know what I might be able to do to contribute to the growing of this season. So, I asked in prayer: “What can I do to sow seeds of hope?” Here are some of my answers: show your smile (even under that mask), notice and share the good news all around you – especially God’s gifts in creation – the song of a robin, the beauty of the sky, the shape of a tree, ... give a sincere compliment, send a “thinking of you card,” call someone sheltering at home, donate to ease the burden of another, and don’t spread any negative news. Share beauty in photos sent through social media, listen – really listen – to those around you, be good news.

What are your answers? How can you sow the seeds of the Season of Hope?

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Five things to do during Advent

As we mark the beginning of the Church's liturgical year in a time of spiritual preparation and hopeful expectation for both the celebration of Christ's nativity and the second coming, I offer five things you can do during Advent to put your faith into action.

1. Make use of the USCCB Advent calendar. This calendar can help you enter into the season of Advent with prayer suggestions and daily activities. The calendar activities include praying for migrants and refugees, learning about the Walking with Moms in Need program, and supporting parishes and charities impacted by COVID-19. Download the calendar at www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year-and-calendar/advent.

2. Give to those in need. People need your help. This year has been incredibly challenging for many families due to the ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic. They need the basics: food, clothing and household items. Without your help, many children will go without Christmas gifts this year. Can you make room in your life for our neighbors in need? You can help by supporting our diocesan-sponsored organizations or your own parish and community ministries. See the Catholic Charities Christmas Help listing of needs found on the Office for Social Concerns webpage www.columbuscatholic.org/social-concerns-office.

Also consider supporting this year's Catholic Charities Christmas Collection. This annual collec-

FAITH IN ACTION

Jerry Freewalt

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



tion allows the diocese to meet a variety of basic needs directly and through diocesan agencies and organizations, including J.O.I.N. (Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs), St. Stephen's Community House, Catholic Social Services, St. Francis Center, St. Lawrence Haven, St. Vincent Family Center and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. You can help share in this important work by generously supporting the collection. Look for the envelope in your parish giving envelope packet.

3. Journey with us during the Season of Hope. Many of our brothers and sisters grapple with COVID-19, unemployment, the effects of structural racism, physical and mental health issues and more during these challenging times. In order to overcome what Bishop Robert Brennan calls a "poverty of hope," he launched a Season of Hope in September that will continue through Lent. Bishop Brennan invites all of us to share our hope as we accompany those in need through prayer, reflection and changed actions and attitudes. The Diocesan HOPE Task Force has developed resources on monthly topics, which includes a bulletin insert with prayers and reflection questions. Visit [\[olic.org/season-of-hope\]\(http://olic.org/season-of-hope\).](http://www.columbuscath-</p>
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4. Lend your voices as faithful citizens. Even though election day is behind us, our work as faithful citizens continues. During this lame-duck session for elected officials, many important issues are under consideration. For instance, the U.S. Catholic Bishops' chairman for Pro-life Activities has renewed a call to stop federal executions. The Ohio General Assembly is also considering a bill to prohibit executions of the mentally ill. Visit the Catholic Conference of Ohio webpage for updates on how you can lend your voice to promote human dignity and the common good. www.ohiocathconf.org/issues/category/death-penalty.

5. Read *Fratelli Tutti*. Pope Francis' new encyclical on solidarity *Fratelli Tutti: On Fraternity and Social Friendship* promotes authentic ways to build a more just and peaceful world, within relationships, social life, politics and institutions. The Holy Father addresses the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and many of the social issues the world is struggling with today. Reminding us that we are all brothers and sisters as children of the one Creator, Pope Francis calls on the Church and all people of good will to enter into a renewed commitment to seek unity of the human family. For online resources, which include *Fratelli Tutti*, a summary, and a discussion guide, visit www.usccb.org/fratelli-tutti.

I wish all of you a blessed Advent season filled with hope and purposeful actions.




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The reward in the failure of raising saints

If I had known how hard parenting is, it's unlikely I would have made it past the altar. And yet, if I had known the rewards ahead of me ...

And just to throw another layer to the difficulty: I'm not just a parent. I'm a raiser-of-saints. Let's make the stakes so high and impossible that I'm going to curl into a fetal position before the third paragraph.

Just when I think I should give up before I even start, someone pops into my life and gives me a little glimmer of hope. Many times, that person has been a mom who's farther along in her parenting journey, who has seen the light at the end of the tunnel and, even if it only reveals a train wreck, can assure me that the darkness doesn't last forever.

It's nearly impossible not to compare myself with others, especially when there are so many others doing such great work. I'm mostly failing at raising saints: My kids resist going to Mass and religious education, they don't read the Bible every day, and when we pray on the way to school there's a certain feeling of "Is it over yet?" pervading the car.

When one of my children heard that we couldn't go to Mass because of the pandemic, that child cheered.

And so, I ask you: How am I not failing? It's enough to make me strap them onto a firm chair and bind their hands with rosaries.

Except, and here's a secret, I already have. Every morning, when I'm praying my rosary, I am asking Mama Mary to supplement my pitiful attempts.

It feels like failure when a kid picks Hunger Games or Go, Dog. Go! instead of the fabulous Catholic books I'd like them to read, but then there are the car rides when a teenager vents her outrage

Here we are in the midst of Advent, the start of another liturgical year, and preparing for Christmas in ways we would never have imagined a year ago. Just when life seemed to be trending back toward a "normal" with which we are comfortable, things went back downhill rapidly. These are trying times, and somewhat unprecedented. We have changed our lifestyles, adapted to masks and distancing, and wonder when this will end. Our homes have become classrooms and offices, while remaining the physical foundation of our families. Our travel, entertainment and interaction are severely curtailed and limited. And the worst thing is the difficulty to attend Mass, receive our Lord in the Eucharist, and receive other sacraments.

These are all very real challenges for us as individuals, our families and society. We are human beings who want to take care of our families and do the right thing. At the same time, we do not like being told what to do. We like to stand up for what we believe.

We want to deliver the "goods" for our families. Especially in these times, we are determined to deliver above and beyond what is necessary. Our spouses, friends, families, co-workers and neighbors all must be cared for. There are so many ways to do so, and so many of us have stepped up to help

FINDING FAITH IN EVERYDAY LIFE

Sarah Reinhard

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



of the lack of respect for the dignity of human life. (She didn't use those words, mind you.)

My in-house audience sees me stumble and cuss in my own faith journey, hears my outbursts of anger and heartache, witnesses my apologies and humiliations. They have no illusions about me as a human. I'm no saint. (For one thing, I tell them, I'm not dead. You're not a saint until you're dead.)

When we go all "Catholic nerd alert" and I correct them on what the Church teaches, how things work, and what the pope really said — because the news they've heard very rarely gets it right, and they know it — they get a chance to hear my passion and love.

Recently, one of my younger kids came into my bedroom, when I was just laying down to go to sleep. "But, Mom, you haven't prayed with us!" He was a bit outraged, and maybe it was because schedule and routine are what he needs.

Recently, a children's book challenged me to get past my slacker mom protestations and embrace the importance of heaven. I'm a Saint in the Making, by Lisa Hendey, begins, on page 3, with the bold proclamation: God Has a Mission for Me. That heading gave me pause, because although the book was designed for my grade schoolers, it was speaking an important message to me.

A season of deliveries

EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

Rick Jeric



and to deliver. We deliver strength, love, and stability to our families. We deliver hope to those who are ill. We deliver promise and optimism to our students. We deliver prayer and faith to the greater community.

As Catholic Christians, we never fail or cease to deliver. We follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ, who delivered the goods to a world that constantly needs to be reminded of what things are most important, and which of our priorities can never change.

This holiday season is truly one of deliveries. The king of deliveries seems to be Amazon. FedEx and UPS are right there also. USPS certainly does their fair share. We can get our meals delivered by Uber Eats, Grub Hub, and others. Even Donatos, Domino's and Papa John's delivers. With shopping in retail stores and malls at a bare minimum, ordering online and delivery is more the norm this year than ever before. Yes, this is really a season of deliveries.

As we focus on commercial deliveries in shoes for St. Nicholas Day, Advent calendars and parties,

In that heading, and in the rest of the book, I heard the encouragement that I haven't heard in a while. I'm raising saints, and, just like them, I'm a saint in the making.

Oh, I know. It sounds sort of ... childish. And yet, when you look to the great saints, they are often, before anything else, childlike. St. Faustina had a third-grade education and could barely read or write, and yet her 600-page diary and devotion to Divine Mercy have spread like wildfire throughout the Church. St. Therese of Lisieux never left France, and she considered herself but a violet in a garden of roses, and yet she's known as the patron of missionaries. The recently beatified Carlo Acutis was a teenager with a love of gaming who became the reason his mother — and many others — grew deeper in their faith.

Whimsical pictures and simple writing are what it took for me to a-ha my way into embracing my failure. Nothing great is accomplished without failure, after all. These souls entrusted to me, in partnership with my husband, are saints in the making. They're going great places, and I'm going to point them to heaven every single time.

They're going to resist me, but I don't blame them. (I have a long history of resisting what's good for me, after all, so they get it honestly.) Through the grace of God and the intercession of all the saint friends I've made over the years, I'll fail again and again. God, however, doesn't ever fail. He has a way of blessing my stumbles and embracing my weaknesses, making them worthwhile.

So, as Hendey admonishes her young readers, I'm going to lean in: "Don't be afraid. Jesus taught us the way, and God has given us every gift we need to live life for him and for others."

Christmas cards and Christmas presents, we will all have a renewed sense of deliveries this year when it comes to love, care, communication, faith, stability, concern, compassion and especially hope. It is up to each and every one of us to deliver. We deliver because that's what we do as Christians and Americans.

This is a season of deliveries that touches the human spirit, and is another defining moment for our own legacies. The greatest and most profound delivery of all happened more than 2,000 years ago in the middle of nowhere amid stinky animals and the poorest and most humble of conditions. Mary delivered our Savior, and the world was transformed forever, never to be changed back again. We live for this.

As we wait for the deliveries of a joyous Christmas, let us find hope in the words of the Gospel, and maybe even the words of John Lennon:

"So this is Christmas, and what have you done? Another year over, and a new one just begun. And so this is Christmas, for weak and for strong. For rich and the poor ones, the world is so wrong. And so Happy Christmas, for black and for white, for yellow and red one, let's stop all the fight.

A very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. Let's hope it's a good one, without any fear."

Stewardship can't pause during pandemic

It has been a difficult year for many, and our churches and the communities they serve have not been spared the harsh realities of this time. Pastors and parish leadership have sought innovative ways to be church through this dramatic interruption of normalcy. And, while the debate continues on why some parishioners have not yet returned to the church pews, we see insubstantial Sunday offertories as ministries of outreach are overwhelmed with requests, soup kitchen lines grow and assistance resources are exhausted.

The good and faithful stewards of mature discipleship are even more critical to the local church. As leaders of stewardship, it is time to practice what you have always preached. Whether it's explained through "time, talent and treasure" or "faith, service and generosity," we must remain faithful to our stewardship because God is faithful to us.

We respond to the generous love that God shows us daily with heartfelt and responsible care for all entrusted to us. We trust in the promises of Jesus Christ who tells us we are loved and cared for and that God the Father is the ultimate provider and way maker when we can see no way.

Start with prayer, reflection

Use the perfection of the rose. Roses have their bloom, their thorns and the buds from which they come. Encourage your community to prayerfully

STEWARDSHIP, LIVING OUR FAITH

Andrea Pannell

Andrea Pannell is episcopal moderator for the diocesan Office of Development and Planning.



reflect on the rose.

Begin with the bloom. Where do you see beauty in this time where negativity seems to dominate our thoughts? How can we lift up gratitude for these moments of bloom? How do we share these blooms with others and allow these blessings to interrupt the negativity?

Then speak to the thorns. We acknowledge the sharp pains of the day, and we grieve our losses and speak to the injustice we see. We renew our understanding of Catholic social teaching and grow in awareness of ways to serve others and ourselves in a loving way.

And then we look to the bud and dream of what can be. What are we looking forward to as a parish community, and how can we prepare for the gift tomorrow brings? We allow the rose to model for us the realities, the struggles and the opportunities.

Communication is key

Many churches have revived the telephone tree,

calling parishioners unable to return to church, telling them their church family has not forgotten them. Much-needed scrubbing of parish census records has been happening, along with using social media and virtual meeting platforms to have fellowship and conduct ministry and committee meetings. Sunday bulletins, information boards and other physical materials have been supported by electronic versions that distribute them through email and other sharing platforms.

Make the 'ask'

If you do not have online giving, get it and assign a lead person to steward these gifts and donors. Most of us do not like asking for money in the church, but during a crisis, it is important to ask for what you need. Do not assume that church members know the financial impacts to the parish. They need to know that for the church to make it through and continue to support people that parishioners must give.

Do not skip the offertory during the recorded or livestreamed liturgies. Direct those worshipping with you to the online giving option and allow the pause incorporated into the Mass for people to do so.

The most important thing a church can do is to glorify God and love its neighbors. Keep doing this, communicate with your flock, offer online giving and ask people to be engaged fully, and people will respond!

Books for Christmas 2020

How bad a year has it been? Let me not count the ways. Good books can hearten us in 2021 and beyond, though. Herewith, then, some suggestions for Christmastide book-giving:

Prison Journal, Volume 1, by Cardinal George Pell (Ignatius Press): The remarkable spiritual diaries of an innocent man who would not be broken, who refused to be embittered, and who finally bested a corrupt media/legal complex hellbent on ruining him.

American Awakening: Identity Politics and Other Afflictions of Our Time, by Joshua Mitchell (Encounter Books): A highly original analysis of what ails America and an intriguing proposal for a biblically informed Great Awakening that can redeem us from the scapegoating now destroying the Republic's cultural fabric.

What It Means to Be Human: The Case for the Body in Public Bioethics, by O. Carter Snead (Harvard University Press): A dissection of the false ideas of the human person that warp public policy today and the outline of a truly humanistic alternative. Professor Snead's book should inspire everyone who believes there is more to freedom than doing things "my way" – and it might persuade some who haven't understood that yet. Brilliant and entirely accessible.

Conciliar Octet: A Concise Commentary on the Eight Key Texts of the Second Vatican Council, by Aidan Nichols, O.P. (Ignatius Press): Exceptionally timely, given the torrent of nonsensical, conspiracy-mongering commentary now impeding Catholic efforts to live Vatican II's teachings through the New Evangelization. Father Nichols' book should be required reading in every seminary and every parish's Christian Initiation program.

Eight Popes and the Crisis of Modernity, by Russell Shaw (Ignatius Press): The online and social me-

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

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



dia "debates" about the Catholic future are too often rebarbative because the combatants are woefully ignorant of the recent Catholic past that helps account for the Catholic present. I tried to do something about this in my 2019 book, *The Irony of Modern Catholic History*; Russell Shaw covers similar historical territory much more succinctly in this useful primer on *How Catholics Got Where We Are Today*.

Hope to Die: The Christian Meaning of Death and the Resurrection of the Body, by Scott Hahn with Emily Stimpson Chapman (Emmaus Road Publishing): It's a sad fact of pastoral life that the Church's pastors have largely ceased to talk about death: what death is for the Christian; what the "resurrection of the body" means for the future and for now; why the burial of the dead is, from a Christian point of view, preferable to cremation. Biblical scholar Hahn and co-author Chapman discuss these crucial topics with sensitivity to the traditions of Christian orthodoxy and the confusions of the present. Lots of apt Lenten homiletic material here; good spiritual reading, too.

A Most English Princess, by Clare McHugh (William Morrow): An impressive first novel about "Vicky," daughter of Queen Victoria, and her marriage to the ill-starred "Fritz" Hohenzollern (the future German Emperor Frederick III), whose premature death was one of the factors leading to that

civilizational catastrophe known as World War I.

Pluralism and American Public Education: No One Way to School, by Ashley Rogers Berner (Palgrave Macmillan): The next few years are going to be tough for the advocates of school choice. They should take comfort, and intellectual firepower, from this carefully reasoned argument that the virtual monopoly of state funds by government-run elementary and secondary schools is ill-serving future citizens, their families, and the American Republic. Without shirking difficult issues, Hopkins professor Berner makes a powerful plea for achieving serious educational reform by making a wider range of educational options more available to parents, especially poor parents.

100 Ways John Paul II Changed the World, by Patrick Novacosky (Our Sunday Visitor): A concise introduction to the extraordinary achievement of John Paul II and an invitation to dig deeper into his life and teaching; especially helpful for young adults who have no memory of the great Polish pontiff.

Gallimaufry: A Collection of Essays, Review, Bits, by Joseph Epstein (Axios): A cornucopia of insight and wit from one of America's most engaging authors (and the best lunch companion imaginable).

The Ordeal of Gilbert Pinfold, by Evelyn Waugh (Back Bay Books): Why not mark the end of a hallucinatory year with a hilarious tale about a victim of hallucinations?

And then there is *The Next Pope: The Office of Peter and a Church in Mission* (Ignatius Press), which is also about every Catholic's responsibility for the New Evangelization. I wrote it as a hopeful pointer into the Catholic future, and I've been pleased by those who've told me that's what they found in it: hope for the future amidst great challenges.

Deacon says being quietly effective is his goal

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

Deacon Roger Minner says a deacon should be invisible on the altar.

“Msgr. John Cody taught me at the Diaconate School of Theology that if the only time people notice you is when you’re not around, then you’re doing an effective job,” he said.

“I enjoy staying under the radar, although that’s not so easy in this position,” Deacon Minner said of his role as pastoral administrator at St. Mary Church in Columbus’ German Village neighborhood.

Deacon Minner said he sees himself as a bridge between the congregation and the pastor he serves. “A deacon is a parishioner who is both a layperson and a member of the clergy and serves as a link for both,” he said. “People call me when they are facing difficulties, and I’m grateful that I can help them. Being able to baptize people and be the Church’s representative at weddings and funerals also brings me closer to the people I serve.”

Deacon Minner also has the role of procurator/advocate for some of the cases that come before the diocesan Tribunal, which considers requests for marriage annulments. “When someone presents a case for an annulment, I walk with them and help them tell their story,” he said. “I form a statement, present it and offer grounds for an annulment. It’s up to the Tribunal to decide whether to use those grounds.

“It’s a long process. I’ve been involved with between 30 and 40 annulment cases since I began assisting the Tribunal in 2011, and the people I’ve worked with have been grateful for my assistance. They’ve often said the annulments lifted a burden from them.

“The Scriptures that mean the most to me are the ones where God is seeking out his people,” Deacon Minner said. “For instance, the parable of the prodigal son also could be called the parable of the watchful father. When the father appears in the story, he’s scanning the horizon looking for his son to come home, just as God always is looking for us to come to Him. Another example is the story of the Garden of Eden, where God is walking through the garden looking for Adam and Eve because He wants to be with them.

“I’m grateful to people like my parents, Deacon Tom Spaith, Msgr. Cody and Deacon Frank Iannarino

ANSWERING GOD’S CALL

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

for helping me in my spiritual walk,” he said.

“They were persistent in helping me discern my call to the diaconate. Being a deacon is no walk in the park. It has a lot of challenges, but it’s an immense blessing and I’m grateful God has called me to serve Him in this way.”

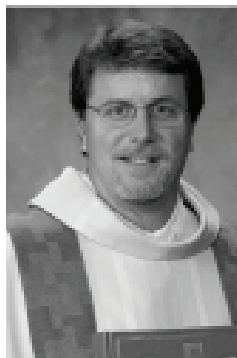
Deacon Minner came to Columbus in 1980 to study for the priesthood at the Pontifical College Josephinum and has lived in central Ohio ever since. He decided after three semesters at the seminary that the priesthood was not a good fit for him and left the school in 1981 after receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in American studies, a major the Josephinum no longer offers.

“Although I didn’t feel called to the priesthood, I wanted to do the kind of work priests do in helping families and bringing them healing and loving kindness,” he said. He obtained a Master of Social Work degree from Ohio State University and became a clinical therapist, working for Catholic Social Services and Huckleberry House in Columbus. He ultimately became vice president for treatment, foster care and family based services at The Buckeye Ranch, which provides emotional, behavioral and mental health services for more than 2,300 young people at six locations in central and southwestern Ohio.

He no longer does clinical work for that organization but continues to serve it as a consultant, usually for about an hour or two a week.

“Deacon Spaith started me along the path to the diaconate,” Deacon Minner said. “He served as deacon here at St. Mary’s in the 1990s and became a close friend. He taught me how to serve and pray. I watched him a lot but never understood much about the diaconate before I got close to him.

“He was the first person to tell me I ought to consider the diaconate. Then



Deacon Roger Minner

he contracted cancer. After Deacon Tom died in 1995, Father Michael Watson, who was pastor here at the time, told me I needed to be the next deacon at St. Mary’s. I already was talking to Deacon Iannarino (director of the diocesan Office of the Diaconate) about the possibility of being a deacon and the studies it would involve, and I began thinking more and more about it.

“I was studying through the diocesan Office of Religion and Catechesis to receive a Master of Theology degree from the Loyola Institute for Ministry Extension (LIMEX) of Loyola University New Orleans when the opportunity to attend the diocesan Diaconate School of Theology came up in 2000,” he said.

“I was about three-fourths done with LIMEX and had the chance to finish the program and receive the degree I needed for the diaconate but decided to attend the diaconate school instead for the experience of learning with other men from the diocese.”

He was ordained a deacon on Jan. 29, 2005 by Bishop Frederick Campbell and assigned to St. Mary’s, where he has served ever since.

Deacon Minner, 62, was born in Allentown, Pennsylvania to Rodney Minner, a dentist, and Jere Minner, a nurse. His younger brother, Father Ron Minner, is a priest of the Diocese of Allentown, and he has an older brother and a younger sister.

“My parents were very good Catholics – Dad was a convert – and church was an important part of their lives,” he said. “I was a server, I went to Catholic schools through high school, and we got involved with all the parish festivals. We weren’t overly pious but prayer was encouraged, and we had good relations with the clergy.

Priests would come over for dinner once in a while, and I felt comfortable with that and supported by them.”

He said his mother, in particular, encouraged him to study for the priesthood. He spent two years studying at both St. Pius X Seminary in Scranton, Pennsylvania and the University of Scranton and one year at the Pontifical Lateran University in Rome before coming to the Josephinum.

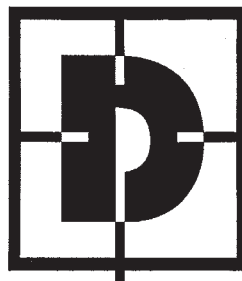
Deacon Minner met his wife, Mary, during a party at a friend’s house in 1981. He was working at Plank’s Café in Columbus, and Mary was a librarian. They were married in 1983 and have a daughter, Anne, 26, and a son, Ronon, 35.

“I don’t know how I could be a deacon without Mary’s support,” he said. “She is active in assisting me with the wedding ministry at St. Mary’s, which is the site for 30 or 40 weddings a year because of its location and the beauty of the church.

“She gives me room to do things that help me develop my spirituality. I can confide in her, and she lends me an ear and offers her own helpful perspective. She also realizes that I am somewhat of a public figure and is accepting of that. And, occasionally, she reminds me that I need to come home.”

Deacon Minner said that if someone considering the diaconate came to him for advice, he would tell that man, “You need to pray. Specifically, you need to pray that when someone is encouraging you to become a deacon, you’ll be open to the possibility. The diaconate is a great life but expect to spend at least two days a week and often longer being involved with it. Prayer and the support of your family are important in making it work.”

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Center assists those without shelter and without options in Portsmouth

By Rachel Lustig
President and CEO, Catholic Social Services

In the work we do here at Catholic Social Services (CSS), stories of strife flood in from the community on a weekly basis. This is a particularly difficult one to tell.

On Nov. 18 at our St. Francis Center in Portsmouth, center director, Barbara McKenzie heard the usual Wednesday morning ruckus of the garbage truck collecting items. She was used to the sound of the great mechanical arm lifting the dumpster overhead and heaving its haul into the back of the truck with a resounding crash.

To her surprise, somewhere mid-heave, the noise suddenly stopped, followed by a lapse that was odd enough to further draw her attention. She peeked out her office window, then headed outside to investigate.

Once outside, she immediately understood the reason for the pause. The garbage collector looked down from his driver's seat and said that as he was lifting the dumpster in front of him, he was stunned by the sudden appearance of two heads popping out the top of it. Fortunately, the driver was able to gently set the dumpster back down once he spotted the individuals inside it.

That peril had been avoided, but the fact remained: Two people had slept in the dumpster –



Food is distributed before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic at the Catholic Social Services St. Francis Center in Portsmouth, the only community center open in the city during the coronavirus crisis.

Photo courtesy Catholic Social Services

the only shelter they could find – overnight. Barbara was shocked.

A dumpster should be neither bed nor shelter. We all fundamentally know this. And, yet, the shoulds of life too often fall prey to the reality of it. On a cold November night, these two people were without shelter and without options. They made do. But their sudden appearance in a dumpster should stop us all in our daily tracks.

At CSS, we help, so Barbara set immediately to work this morning, doing what she could for the pair. As all local shelters were full, Barbara continued to work on finding them shelter. In the short term, she could provide them with an array of foods including crackers, peanut butter, canned fruit, tuna, and meat – and, of course, a can opener. They were given blankets, hats, gloves, socks and coats. They also were given compassion, nourishment, and warmth.

This is the reality of COVID – in real time, in real people. These are the things our social workers and frontline staff bring to us every day. As Barbara told us, “It was such a shock. You almost get sick when you think of what could have happened. You just can’t believe this is really happening.” At the St. Francis Center – the only Portsmouth community center open during the COVID crisis – we work to ease suffering like this through connection and care.

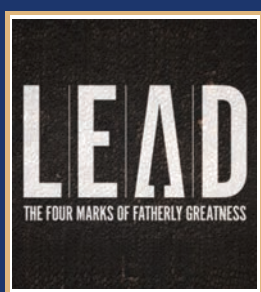
We need you. We have asked before. We have asked for your prayers, your helping hands and your financial support. Today we ask again. We ask because the need is ongoing, daily, and growing exponentially as the pandemic continues.

We are establishing the St. Francis Emergency Fund, a hardship fund that will provide emergen-

See PORTSMOUTH, Page 10

CATHOLIC MEN'S MINISTRY

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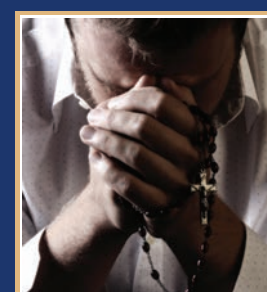
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Retirement Fund for Religious

Appeal assists elderly sisters, brothers, priests in religious orders

The annual collection in the Diocese of Columbus for the Retirement Fund for Religious will take place the weekend of Dec. 12-13.

The National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) coordinates this annual appeal and distributes the proceeds to assist eligible U.S. religious communities with their retirement needs. Nearly 30,000 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests benefit.

Last year, the Diocese of Columbus donated \$122,281.05 to the collection.

“The generosity of U.S. Catholics enables us to continue our ministry for aging women and men religious,” said Presentation Sister Stephanie Still, the

NRRO’s executive director. “We are overwhelmed with gratitude.”

In 1988, Catholic bishops of the United States initiated the Retirement Fund for Religious collection to help address the deficit in retirement funding among U.S. religious congregations. Each congregation is responsible for the care and support of its members. Financial distributions from the collection are sent to a congregation’s central house and may be applied toward immediate expenses — such as medications or nursing care — or invested for future eldercare needs.

Historically, Catholic sisters, broth-

ers and religious order priests served for little to no pay. Today, many religious communities lack sufficient retirement savings. Of 531 communities providing data to the NRRO, only 29 are adequately funded for retirement. Rising health-care costs and a growing number of senior members compound the challenge to meet retirement expenses.

The 2019 collection raised \$26.2 million. In June, the NRRO disbursed \$25 million in financial assistance to 341 religious communities. Throughout the year, additional funding is allocated for resources and services that help communities

improve elder-care delivery and plan for long-term retirement needs. For example, a new online webinar offers professional guidance on adapting care protocols to address issues arising from the coronavirus pandemic.

“During these trying times, we know the best way to support senior religious is to continue helping their communities address retirement and elder-care challenges,” Sister Still said. “Our grateful prayer is with all whose love and generosity sustain this mission.”

Visit retiredreligious.org to learn more.

PRIOR, continued from Page 3

about the productions is that they are intended to have a redemptive effect,” he said.

Father Cameron was born in Providence, Rhode Island and grew up in Connecticut. After graduating from Providence College, a Dominican institution, he joined the Dominican order and was ordained as a friar in 1986. He holds a licentiate in sacred theology with a concentration in New Testament theology from the Dominican House of Studies and a Master of Fine Arts degree in playwriting from Catholic University of America.

From 1994 to 2018, he taught homiletics (the art of preaching) at St. Joseph’s Seminary in Yonkers, New York; the Seminary of the Immaculate

Conception at Huntington, New York; the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, D.C.; and the Pontifical North American College in Rome. He also was formation director for Hard as Nails Ministries, a national evangelization apostolate, and served two terms as preaching director for the Dominican Province of St. Joseph.

“I’m just so deeply grateful, humbled and honored by the chance to serve the Dominican community, the Columbus community and the Church as a prior,” he said. “I want to make this priory an extremely joyful house, one that becomes ever closer to God through prayer and brings spiritual growth through Dominican preaching.”

PORTSMOUTH, continued from Page 9

cy financial assistance to clients of the St. Francis Center. We want to raise \$10,000 to help people affected by COVID in Portsmouth. All money donated to the fund will go directly to providing immediate assistance for clients in need.

Stories like the one that unfolded at the St. Francis Center are so heartbreaking and, unfortunately, not unusual in Portsmouth, which is the seat of Scioto County, the second-poorest county in the state. It is a place where unemployment reigns and opiate addiction runs rampant. Resources are scarce and people are struggling.

Many of us are struggling to varying degrees. We may be upset about our families not being able to join us for a traditional gathering on Christmas day. We may be overwhelmed with work and school from home, with unexpected job loss, with

meaningful friendships reduced to regular Zoom calls. But while all of us are suffering the effects of COVID-19 in some way, let us keep perspective. There are things to be thankful for.

The holidays are special, but what happens on a normal day in Portsmouth is all too commonly crushing. It brings us to reality. It humbles us. We hope it stirs the recognition of how blessed we are during this holiday season and how much our help is needed by others.

The Portsmouth community has the heart and the hope for a brighter future, but immediate needs are constant stumbling blocks to stability and progress. The St. Francis Center identifies and helps address these critical needs.

Please help us if you can. Donate to the St. Francis Emergency Fund today.

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DeSales running back Quintell Quinn (28) takes a handoff from quarterback Whit Hobgood (6) and follows his blockers, led by Billy Cain IV (61), during the Division III state final on Nov. 21 at Massillon's Paul Brown Tiger Stadium. *Photos by John Hulkenberg*



DeSales senior wide receiver Jordan Johnson comes down with a catch in the state title game against Chardon. Johnson finished with six receptions for 145 yards and a touchdown in the Stallions' 31-28 loss in double overtime.

DeSales football's state title bid 'a huge accomplishment'

By Doug Bean
Catholic Times Editor

Columbus St. Francis DeSales came about as close as a team can come to winning a state football championship, but the Stallions fell a few feet and a couple of plays short.

Chardon (12-0) rallied from a two-touchdown deficit in the fourth quarter and kept DeSales (9-2) from winning its fourth title in school history with a 31-28 victory in double overtime on Saturday, Nov. 21 at Massillon's Paul Brown Tiger Stadium in the Division III final.

The game was originally scheduled to be played at Fortress Obetz, but it was moved to Massillon because of a stay-at-home advisory that was announced Nov. 19 in response to an escalation of COVID-19 cases in Franklin County.

"You don't get any closer than that to actually winning it," DeSales coach Ryan Wiggins said. "I mean, if you go there and lose by four touchdowns, OK, you weren't the best team. But when you lose in double overtime, it's just tough. But, hey, that's football. It's still a huge accomplishment."

With the score tied 28-28 at the end of regulation, the game came down to field goal attempts in the extra time. In the first overtime, both teams had field goal tries blocked. In the second overtime, Chardon's Nathan Tager kicked a 33-yarder, and then DeSales' J.J. Baughman's 37-yard attempt sailed wide left.



DeSales senior Ryan McCann watches the Stallions come up short in their pursuit of a state championship.

"We just couldn't quite hang on," Wiggins said. "We just needed to make a play here or a play there, and, unfortunately, we weren't able to. But our guys left every ounce of energy out on that field."

"It was a great game ... teams just trading punches."

DeSales had taken a 28-14 lead late in the third quarter behind one of senior running back Quintell Quinn's three touchdowns on the night, which was set up by an interception by Stallions defensive back Nicky Pentello,



Coach Ryan Wiggins led DeSales to a state championship game appearance for the first time since 2009.

and a 31-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Whit Hobgood to Jordan Johnson.

Chardon eventually tied the score with 2:13 remaining in the fourth quarter on a 9-yard run by Evan Ash after two long passes that propelled a five-play, 91-yard drive.

"They were able to kind of dig into their bag of tricks and do some things in the passing game that they had not really had to do during the season," Wiggins said of Chardon. "So I give them credit for that, for

being able to execute.

"You really had to sell out to stop their run game, and that's going to open up some screens and some plays like that. Good calls, good execution. Just a couple of plays got us."

Quinn, an Ohio University recruit who also plays linebacker, finished his high school career with a monster effort, rushing for 216 yards on 28 carries and adding one reception for 10 yards. His first touchdown was a 74-yard run on the second play of the game. Then with 59 seconds left before halftime, he added a 15-yard score that gave DeSales a 14-7 lead at halftime.

Hobgood, a junior quarterback, completed 11 of 20 passes for 183 yards and the touchdown to Johnson and threw one interception. Johnson caught six passes for 145 yards.

On defense, freshman linebacker Max Shulaw led the Stallions in tackles with 12.5. Junior linebacker Jonathan Thompson wreaked havoc with 10 solo tackles, including five for loss and one sack.

Senior defensive end Matthew Stewart contributed 4.5 tackles, and Johnson and senior Jason Velazquez II each chipped in with four tackles, with Velazquez credited with 1.5 tackles for loss. Johnson also came up with a big fourth-down knockdown of a Chardon pass.

"It was a great team effort on de-

Guadalupe celebration to air live from cathedral

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

About a year ago, the diocese's Office for the Vicar of Hispanic Ministry began planning for a celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Saturday, Dec. 12 that would have been large enough to fill a stage in Kasich Hall of the state fairgrounds and attract 5,000 to 6,000 people.

Then the COVID-19 pandemic hit in March and caused a drastic change in plans. The event was moved from the fairgrounds to Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, and the number of those who can attend was reduced to 100, including participants.

But people throughout central Ohio can watch and listen to the celebration as it happens. WC-MH-TV, Channel 4 in Columbus will be televising it live from 10 a.m. to noon, and it will be broadcast on La Mega Radio 103.1 FM and livestreamed on YouTube.

"It's a great disappointment not to have the large site we were planning on, but having it on television and radio will expose the story and traditions of Our Lady of Guadalupe to thousands who are unfamiliar with it," said Lisset Mendoza, the key organizer of the event. "It also has brought members of the diocese's parishes with Hispanic populations together in a way nothing else has done."

Members of these parishes will be taking part in the program and will make up most of the congregation for the feast-day Mass and related events at the cathedral. Mendoza said two or three members from each of the parishes will be in the pews for the invitation-only event.

Also attending will be members of the Missionary Servants of the Word, a congregation of religious sisters with convents at Columbus Christ the King and St. Stephen the Martyr churches and a formation house at Columbus Corpus Christi Church.

Celebrating the Mass, which will begin at approximately 11 a.m., will be Archbishop Christophe Pierre, who as apostolic nuncio to the United States is Pope Francis' representative to this country – the equivalent of an ambassador.

The pope appointed Archbishop Pierre, a native of France, to the post in 2016. He was the papal nuncio to Mexico from 2007 to 2016. He also has been nuncio to Haiti and Uganda.

"(Columbus) Bishop (Robert) Brennan called Archbishop Pierre to ask if he would attend the celebration," Mendoza said. "It wasn't a hard negotiation because of the archbishop's ties to Mexico."

As nuncio to the United States, Archbishop Pierre also is chancellor of the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, the only seminary outside of Italy that is directly affiliated with the Vatican. "The archbishop visits the Josephinum



Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Wikicommons photo

whenever he is in Columbus," Mendoza said. "He will be there on Friday, Dec. 11, the day before the celebration, to talk to the seminarians."



Sister Maria Ecclesiae, HSMCJ

will be performed by a choir with members from seven parishes. Next on the program will be three folk dances – the first with two people, followed by large-group dances with 16 and 18 people, respectively.



Roberto Navarro

The program for the cathedral celebration will begin with an introduction by Sister Maria Ecclesiae, HSMCJ, who grew up attending Dover St. Joseph Church and is a member of the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus.

It will be followed by a selection of Mananitas, the traditional Mexican song of celebration sung to the Virgin Mary on the morning of the feast, that will be performed by a choir with members from seven parishes. Next on the program will be three folk dances – the first with two people, followed by large-group dances with 16 and 18 people, respectively. These were prerecorded at Columbus St. Catharine Church because of the pandemic and will be the only parts of the program done in advance.

Recitation of the rosary will follow, with a different person leading each of its five decades.

Roberto Navarro, senior director of U.S. church engagement for Catholic Relief Services, will deliver

the keynote speech. He has more than 25 years of experience in various ministries and represents the agency in its dealings with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, seminaries and regional and diocesan Catholic organizations.

The program will conclude with the Mass. The entire event will be in Spanish, with English translation available for viewers.

Besides the Dec. 12 celebration, the diocesan Hispanic ministry has been focusing on youth, family and evangelization programs as part of V Encuentro (Fifth Encounter), a national meeting of more than 3,000 people involved in ministry to Hispanic Catholics.

Encuentro is a four-year process of evangelization, mission and consultation under the theme "Missionary Disciples: Witnesses of God's Love" and inspired by Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel). The process of Encuentro has been the catalyst for developing Hispanic ministries nationwide during the past 50 years.

"Because of COVID, the diocesan Hispanic ministry has been unable to do many of the things it would have liked to this year," Mendoza said. "We are now starting to assess the needs of parishes with significant Hispanic populations and how to support them."

"Planning for the Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration has been a tremendous help with this because it has brought together a huge community of people from those parishes who never had met before. It has created a new unity among those parishes, even though the meetings have to be by Zoom videoconference rather than face to face."

Mendoza said the meetings began as quarterly events, then switched to monthly and biweekly and now take place every Monday evening.

She estimated that the diocese has 5,000 active Hispanic Catholic parishioners. Its 17 parishes with significant Hispanic populations are the Parroquia Santa Cruz, Christ the King, St. Agnes, St. Cecilia, St. James the Less, St. Ladislav, St. Matthias, St. Peter, St. Stephen the Martyr and St. Thomas the Apostle, all in Columbus, as well as Delaware St. Mary, Dover St. Joseph, Kenton Immaculate Conception, Marion St. Mary, Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul, Newark St. Francis de Sales and Portsmouth Holy Redeemer.

Acting as manager for the diocesan Office of the Vicar for Hispanic Ministry, Mendoza has been employed by the Diocese of Columbus since September 2019 and was with the Dominican Learning Center in the city from 2014 to 2019, serving as its director in her final year there. She is a California native who received a degree from California State University-San Bernardino in sociology and social studies with a minor in Spanish. She has been a Columbus resident since 2013.



Bishop Robert Brennan



Archbishop Christophe Pierre

Parishes celebrate Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Parishes throughout the Diocese of Columbus will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with events on Friday, Dec. 11, the vigil of the feast, and Saturday, Dec. 12, the feast day itself.

The latter date is the anniversary of the third and final apparition of the Blessed Virgin to St. Juan Diego in 1531 at Tepeyac Hill, near Mexico City.

Most parish programs will be scaled back from those of past years because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Catholics are urged to watch the diocesan Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral from 10 a.m. to noon on the feast day. It will be televised on WCMH-TV, Channel 4, broadcast on La Mega 103.1 FM radio and livestreamed on YouTube.

The schedule for parish activities throughout the diocese is as follows:

Parroquia Santa Cruz, Columbus – Rosary, 9:30 p.m. Dec. 11, followed by Mass at 10 and mananitas with mariachi band at 11. Mass, 6 p.m. Dec. 12.

Columbus Christ the King – Mananitas and

rosary, 7 a.m. Dec. 12, followed by Mass at 8 and about 30 minutes of dances in the parking lot.

Columbus St. Cecilia – Mananitas, 7 a.m. Dec. 12, followed by Rosary at 7:30, Mass at 8 and breakfast at 9.

Columbus St. James the Less – Mananitas, 6:30 a.m. Dec. 12, followed by Mass at 7.

Columbus St. Ladislav – Mass, 11 a.m. Dec. 12.

Columbus St. Peter – Rosary, 9 p.m. Dec. 11, followed by dancing and play at 10 and mananitas at midnight.

Columbus St. Stephen the Martyr – Mass, 11 p.m. Dec. 11, followed by mananitas at midnight; Mananitas, 5 a.m. Dec. 12, followed by Mass at 5:30.

Delaware St. Mary – Bilingual Mass, 8 a.m. Dec. 12.

Dover St. Joseph – Mananitas, 8 to 9 p.m. Dec. 11. Eucharistic Adoration follows at 9 and continues until 5:45 a.m. Dec. 12, followed by Mass at 6.

Portsmouth Holy Redeemer – Mass, 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11.



Bishop Robert Brennan (left) and Father David Schalk, pastor at Columbus Christ the King Church, will participate in the celebrations for Our Lady of Guadalupe. CT file photo

Our Lady of Guadalupe: Many roles, comfort for all

By Father David Schalk

I recently had a conversation with Father Adam Streitenberger, the director of evangelization for the Diocese of Columbus. We were discussing the importance of Our Lady of Guadalupe in the life of the universal Church.

Mary, under the title of Guadalupe, was declared the patroness of the Americas in 1999 by Pope St. John Paul II, who wanted to

foster unity in the Church in South, Central and North America.

Moreover, many bishops have named Our Lady of Guadalupe the star of the new evangelization because she brought about the conversion of Mexico when she appeared to St. Juan Diego in 1531.

And, Our Lady of Guadalupe is also recognized as the patroness of the pro-life movement because her miraculous image on St. Juan Diego's tilma depicts her with the child Jesus in her womb. Taken altogether, it can be somewhat overwhelming to consider the significance of Our Lady of Guadalupe. She is called upon to defend life, convert nations and bring together people of various cultures, customs and languages.

In addition, Our Lady of Guadalupe has become for me the protector of my

priestly vocation. I was introduced to devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe when I entered the seminary in 2000. The story of her apparitions fascinated me, and I began asking for her intercession. I quickly realized that Our Lady of Guadalupe was someone whom I could count on for support.

Especially in difficult moments, I entrusted my vocation to her maternal protection. Her question to St. Juan Diego, "Am I not here, I who am your Mother?" echoed in my heart. She gave me courage and peace when I was tempted to run away from my calling. Her beautiful image always hung in my room in the seminary, and I felt her presence on countless occasions during my eight years of priestly formation.

For that reason, within a few weeks of my ordination to the priesthood, I traveled to Mexico City as a pilgrim. I visited the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe and celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving beneath the miraculous tilma. That Mass was a way of expressing my gratitude to my Mother. It was also a way to ask for her continued intercession during my ministry as a priest.

Once again, Our Lady of Guadalupe is the patroness of the Americas, the star of the new evangelization and the patroness of the pro-life movement. Yet, she is also a loving, devoted Mother to each of her children. She knows that we all face the temptation to flee our calling. That is why she makes herself available to us in life's most difficult challenges. When we experience her maternal

care on a personal level, our courage and commitment are strengthened.

While the significance of Our Lady of Guadalupe's role in the universal Church cannot be overstated, she delights in drawing close to her sons and daughters, as she did with St. Juan Diego. Intimacy with our Mother remedies fear and anxiety, because when resting in the shadow of her image, we discover within us a profound trust in God's plans.

As we give a resounding "yes" to Our Lady of Guadalupe's question, "Am I not here, I who am your Mother?" we likewise give thanks for her powerful intercession. We can be grateful for her maternal protection that is seen uniquely in each of our lives.



Father David Schalk



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CCL winter sports competition put on hold

By Doug Bean
Catholic Times Editor

With Franklin County under a stay-at-home advisory to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus after a recent surge of cases, the Central Catholic League suspended winter sports competitions through Dec. 18, when the 28-day advisory is scheduled to end, but diocesan high school teams can continue to practice during that period.

CCL commissioner Jim Jones said Monday that games and meets that were slated to take place during the suspension will be rescheduled. League members include Columbus St. Francis DeSales, Columbus Bishop Ready, Columbus Bishop Watterson, Columbus St. Charles Preparatory Academy and Columbus Bishop Hartley high schools.

Outside of Franklin County, diocesan high schools are proceeding with games and practices while monitoring conditions during the pandemic. Some teams have begun competing in bowling and basketball.

But there are exceptions. Newark Catholic announced last week the cancellation of its swimming season.

The Diocesan Recreation Association (DRA), which oversees youth sports in Catholic schools and par-

ishes, also has suspended its winter basketball program until January. Marty Raines, the DRA's director of athletics, said games could begin the weekend of Jan. 16-17.

The Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) announced Friday, Nov. 20 that winter sports seasons would begin as scheduled across the state.

The OHSAA surveyed member schools and said 56 percent of administrators favored the season starting on time, 33 percent wanted to delay winter sports until early January and 11 percent voted for an indefinite suspension.

"Though we are seeing a spike in COVID-19 cases in Ohio, the majority of our member schools want the opportunity to move forward with winter sports as planned," OHSAA executive director Doug Ute said in a release. "As always, the decision to play sports is a local school decision and there will certainly be schools that pause sports for periods of time in the months to come, but if the majority of our schools want to move forward, then we want to provide that opportunity."

"As we have said previously, our member schools provide our student-athletes with the safest possible environment to participate. If we

were to delay, students would find opportunities to compete in sports through non-school programs that may not be focused on safety and are not education-based."

OHSAA-sanctioned winter sports include basketball, gymnastics, swimming and diving, bowling, ice hockey and wrestling.

All athletic venues must be vacated by 10 p.m. to comply with Gov. Mike DeWine's curfew order for the state. The OHSAA continues to encourage all schools to follow health and safety protocols, including wearing facial coverings, practicing social distancing, washing hands frequently, disinfecting competition and high-contact areas, and limiting spectator capacity.

The fall high school sports season came to a close this past weekend with the state football championships.

Columbus St. Francis DeSales finished as the state runner-up in Division III, losing to Chardon 31-28 in double overtime on Saturday, Nov. 21, in Massillon. The game was originally scheduled to be played at Fortress Obetz, but the OHSAA on Friday, Nov. 20, announced a change of venue to Paul Brown Tiger Stadium in response to the Franklin County stay-at-home advisory.

Central Catholic League football

All-league first team

Quintell Quinn, RB-LB, sr.; Jonathon Thompson, OLB, jr.; Jason Velazquez II, ILB, sr.; Billy Cain IV, DT-OL, sr.; Jordan Johnson, WR-DB, sr.; Matthew Stewart, DE, sr.; Owen Kirk, OL, sr., Columbus St. Francis DeSales; Marcelis Parker, RB-LB, sr.; Sumo Kesselly, RB-LB, sr.; Tony Thivener, OL, sr.; Nyal Johnson, RB-DB, jr.; Trey Saunders, WR-DB, jr.; Daniel Tooson, OL-DL, jr., Columbus Bishop Hartley; Jake Hoying, QB, sr.; Cam Nickleson, RB, sr.; Andrew Bettendorf, WR, sr.; Davis Boone, TE, sr.; Sam Intihar, WR-DB, sr., Columbus Bishop Watterson; Carter Bryant, QB-ILB, sr.; Alex Herzberg, RB, sr.; Derrick James, WR, jr., Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School

All-league second team

Nicky Pentello, DB, soph.; Will Hast, OT, sr.; Jackson Hartman, OG-DT, sr.; J.J. Baughman, K, sr.; Joshua Martin-Hayden, NG, sr., St. Francis DeSales; Sammy Ray, OL, sr.; Sam LeMay, DL, sr.; Peyton Underwood, QB, soph.; Dylan Newsome, RB-LB, soph.; Andrew McFeeters, OL, jr., Bishop Hartley; Tyler Young, WR-DB, sr.; Nick Youell, OL-DL, sr.; Patrick Jesse, OL-DL, sr.; Dom Orsini, QB-DB, jr.; Brandon Trout, WR-LB, soph., Bishop Watterson; Ryan Carretta, OL, soph.; John Protz, DB, sr.; JD Epler, OL-DL, jr.; Nick Bastaja, K, sr., St. Charles

League standings

St. Francis DeSales	9-2	4-1
Bishop Hartley	6-4	3-2
Bishop Watterson	4-4	2-3
St. Charles	2-5	0-3

Junior varsity standings

Bishop Watterson	6-0	5-0
St. Francis DeSales	4-4	3-2
Bishop Hartley	2-4	1-2
St. Charles	0-5	0-3

Freshmen standings

St. Francis DeSales	6-1	4-0
Bishop Hartley	3-3	1-3
Bishop Watterson	3-4	1-3

DESALES,

continued from Page 11

fense," Wiggins said.

DeSales' accomplishments included winning the Central Catholic League championship, losing only to Columbus Bishop Watterson in the second of two regular-season matchups between the longtime rivals. The Stallions' playoff run to a regional championship included wins over Granville (56-35), Jonathan Alder (31-6) and Columbus Bishop Hartley (38-7) – DeSales' third victory over the Hawks in 2020 – followed by a 23-13 win over Kettering Alter in the state semifinals.

Reflecting on the challenges that teams faced this year while dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic and shortened schedules, Wiggins said the players were "disappointed (after losing in the championship game). The goal is winning. For most of the game, it was either tied or we had the lead. But when they look back at what they've been able to do, it's a pretty memorable year."



DeSales cheerleaders provide spirit during the state title game in Massillon.

Photos by John Hulkenberg

DeSales senior offensive linemen Owen Kirk (74), Billy Cain IV (61) and Will Hast (53) prepare for a snap during the Division III state championship game on Nov. 21. The Stallions came up short, falling 31-28 in double overtime to Chardon.



Watterson volleyball player on girls All-America team

By Doug Bean
Catholic Times Editor

Columbus Bishop Watterson's Sydney Taylor added another honor to an impressive list of volleyball accomplishments when late last month she was named to the 15th annual American Volleyball Coaches Association Under Armour Girls High School All-America Team.

The senior was one of 24 players nationally – and one of two from Ohio – to be selected on the first team.

The members of the first team annually participate in the Under Armour All-America High School Volleyball Match, but this year's event in Orlando, Florida, was cancelled because of the COVID-19 outbreak.

"It means a lot," Taylor said of her selection. "I think it just shows how much my family supports me and how I have good teammates and good coaches around me. I've always had other people who helped me get to places where I want to be, so it definitely reflects the support system I have around me."

"Sydney is pretty humble, and she might not come off as being really excited about it," Watterson coach Stephanie Grieshop said, "but deep down, I think, for her it's a validation of all the hard work that she's put in. I think that she's extremely honored to even be in that discussion to become first team, and it brought her a lot of joy."

The Ohio State University signee capped her high school career in November by helping the Watterson girls (17-7) win their first regional volleyball championship and earn a trip to the Division I state semifinals, where the Eagles fell to nationally ranked Parma Padua Franciscan in four sets on Nov. 13 at Vandalia Butler High School.

"Sydney has been a consistent player as long as I've known her," Grieshop said. "Her leadership was great. She just had a standout season."

Taylor also was named first-team All-Ohio in Division I as an outside hitter while leading a Watterson team that included three other players from a talented, tight-knit, nine-member senior class who signed to play college volleyball with Division I programs – Sophie Mangold with Nevada-Reno, Margo Lawson with Miami University and Olyvia Kennedy with George Mason.

"It makes the job a lot easier walking into the gym and getting after it



Bishop Watterson's Sydney Taylor helped the Eagles reach the state volleyball semifinals for the first time and after the season was named a first-team All-American. The senior has signed to play for Ohio State beginning next fall.

just because you love each other and your coaches," Taylor said. "I think it shows on the court."

On the court, the Eagles were like many high school teams that dealt with the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19 and its effects on schedules and practices. The regular season included six losses and a two-week quarantine break from late September into early October, but when the post-season rolled around, the girls found their groove.

"Throughout the whole year we've definitely just worked so hard," Taylor said. "And I can tell you when (the seniors) were freshmen, we would talk to each other and say, 'When we're seniors, we're going to be up there, for sure. So we've always had that in the back of our head.'

"In times like this, and with the pandemic and the uncertainty of things, we really just held onto each other and said, 'This is our year, and we're going to go get it.' That passion is really what took us so far."

During the two-week quarantine, the Eagles continued to meet via Zoom and were able to maintain the team chemistry that led to the run to state.

"It wasn't about someone becoming a superstar. It wasn't about getting Sydney to be an All-American. It was about getting to spend one more day together," Grieshop said. "It was just leading with grateful hearts and a selfless attitude, and it created this culture of playing for God and just everything else let it fall as it may."

"We continued our daily devotionals. We would pray together, we would break out into small groups and talk about what's going on because everyone has something going

on. So we did a lot of mental health-type exercises and devotional things and prayers. I mean, anything from doing a dance lesson to video workouts. It wasn't an ideal situation, (but) in hindsight, there'll be great memories."

When the Eagles' tournament run finally ended, they had carved out a spot in school history with the program's first Final Four appearance and regional title.

"I think what got us to the Final Four had nothing to do with our skill and everything to do with our team chemistry," Grieshop said, "and the fact that this is the most selfless team that I've ever coached."

"We talked about that, in a Catholic school, we give ourselves to God, and everything else will take care of itself. And so they really embraced that. The seniors are leaving that behind for the underclassmen, and Sydney played a huge role in that. If I didn't get Sydney's buy-in, and I didn't get her leadership as a coach, I don't know if we would have gotten to where we did."

Recognition on the local, state and national level is nothing new for Taylor. Before her junior season at Watterson, she played on the 2019 U.S. Girls Youth National Volleyball Team that won the Under-18 Federation Internationale de Volleyball World Championship in Egypt, taking home the first-ever gold medal for the United States in an age-group world championship.

That experience served Taylor and her high school teammates well.

"It definitely elevated her game, and she learned a lot from that experience," Grieshop said of the international competition. "She went and learned and then brought it back to her



Bishop Watterson senior Sydney Taylor
Photos courtesy Bishop Watterson High School

club and high school teammates and taught them what she learned. That's something really special and shows leadership to come back and be like, 'Hey, guys, here's what I learned with this experience, and I want you guys to have that, too.'

Taylor plays the libero (defensive specialist) position at the national and club levels, but she moved to outside hitter at Watterson as a sophomore and said she "embraced that role to be better for my teammates." She has served as a team captain since 10th grade.

After her sophomore season, Taylor committed to sign with Ohio State, selecting the Buckeyes over Minnesota. One of her brothers, Brady Taylor, was an all-state offensive lineman at Columbus Bishop Ready and went on to play football at Ohio State.

Athletic talent runs in the family. Sydney Taylor, who attended seventh and eighth grade at Columbus St. Agatha School, has been around the game since she was young. Her parents, John and Susan Taylor, were both college athletes, and her mom has coached club and high school volleyball.

Grieshop, the assistant director of the Mintonette Sports Volleyball Club program based in Powell, began coaching Taylor when she was 10 years old and could see in her the talent, passion and work ethic it takes to become an elite athlete.

Taylor also played soccer and basketball before enrolling at Watterson and focusing strictly on volleyball.

"God gave Sydney a talent that you can't create," Grieshop said, "so you add those things together (with her talent and work ethic), and that just makes an exceptional athlete."

Second Sunday of Advent Year B

Prepare ye the way of the Lord

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
Psalm 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14
2 Peter 3:8-14
Mark 1:1-8

God is worth our time. What time do we give to God? How do we and those we love show God that we love Him? Do we begrudge Him the time He expects of us? Do we “keep holy the Sabbath” by participating in Mass every Sunday, even “Mass at a distance” by livestreaming? Do we give time to prayer daily? God is coming into hearts open to receive Him. He is waiting for hearts to be open to Him.

God is real. Jesus is God’s ultimate Word to us. God’s spirit is at work in us, freeing us to hear the message, to live according to the Word, and to share the message with others by our lives.

John the Baptist shows us how this can happen. The first message John gives is to be who you are called to be, no matter what the world thinks about it.

Just look at this character: “John was clothed in camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey.” This was very different from the fashion of his day, to be sure. It designated him as a prophet, indeed the Prophet who was to come in the spirit of Elijah. So John teaches us to be ourselves, even when it means being counter-cultural.

Second, the message John preaches is a message about Jesus: “One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

The call of Second Isaiah shows us the charge given to a prophet, that is, to one called to live the Word and to proclaim it to others: “Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem.” God is a God of comfort who is not satisfied with the distance we create between

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.



us and Himself. Our sins are an obstacle, only so long as we cling to them. As soon as we are ready to let go of them, we are free to love God again and even more, since we are in touch with His mercy.

Comfort comes from two places: from deep within your own heart or from some encounter that is real whose source is outside yourself.

When I think of comfort, the first image that comes to mind is that of holding a baby. You have seen squirming babies who do not want to be held and who do not want to stay still. Have you also seen the mutual embrace of someone holding a little one who really knows how to hold a baby and a baby who is utterly content and could stay there all day?

There is a secret to this kind of encounter. First, you have to calm yourself and not be nervous at all. Then, you share your calm with the baby. And then ... then, that baby shares with you a deeper calm than you can ever get on your own.

Advent is a Season of divine comfort, one that invites us to open our hearts to the peace that only God can give. God loves us. He knows us. He hears our cry and He knows our burdens. He also has the remedy. Our lives are meant to be for God and, by God’s grace, for one another, for the purpose of revealing the truth that God is real, that Jesus is His Son, and that the Spirit is at work in God’s world.

May we allow God to hold us in His embrace and share His comfort with us. May we too be always willing to share that comfort and peace with the world that is so in need of healing. Prepare ye the way of the Lord!

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

12/7-12/12

MONDAY
 Isaiah 35:1-10
 Psalm 85:9ab, 10-14
 Luke 5:17-26

TUESDAY
 Genesis 3:9-15, 20
 Psalm 98:1-4
 Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12
 Luke 1:26-38

WEDNESDAY
 Isaiah 40:25-31
 Psalm 103:1-4, 8, 10
 Matthew 11:28-30

THURSDAY
 Isaiah 41:13-20
 Psalm 145:1, 9-13b
 Matthew 11:11-15

FRIDAY
 Isaiah 48:17-19

Psalm 1:1-4, 6
 Matthew 11:16-19

SATURDAY
 Zechariah 2:14-17 or
 Revelation 11:19a:
 12:1-6a, 10 ab
 Judith 13:18bc, 19
 Luke 1:26-38 or 39-47

12/14-12/19

MONDAY
 Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a
 Psalm 25:4-5ab,
 6, 7bc, 8-9
 Matthew 21:23-27

TUESDAY
 Zehaniah 3:1-2, 9-13
 Psalm 34:2-3,
 6-7, 17-19, 23
 Matthew 21:28-32

WEDNESDAY
 Isaiah 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25
 Psalm 85:9ab, 10-14
 Luke 7:18b-23

THURSDAY
 Genesis 49:2, 8-10
 Psalm 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17
 Matthew 1:1-17

FRIDAY
 Jeremiah 23:5-8
 Psalm 72:1-2,
 12-13, 18, 19
 Matthew 1:18-25

SATURDAY
 Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a
 Psalm 71:3-6, 16-17
 Luke 1:5-25

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION
MASS SCHEDULE: WEEKS OF DEC. 6 & 13, 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 and diocesan website, www.columbuscatholic.org.

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

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

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

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

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

DAILY MASS

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

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

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

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

Third Sunday of Advent Year B

Radiate joy to make God’s presence known to others

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11
Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28

To be joyful is a human experience that can be known by every person of whatever age and circumstance. Children laugh spontaneously even as infants. Laughter can be cultivated through a lifetime of human experiences. The old philosophical principle that says “Man is a risible being” suggests that what is unique about human persons is that we can laugh.

This principle is further refined by

acknowledgement of our spiritual nature. It becomes even more profound when we come to the insight articulated by Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, SJ: “Joy is the infallible sign of the Presence of God.” Rejoicing in the Holy Spirit is what characterizes an awareness of truth in its deepest sense.

We are given the knowledge of truth, not by any worth we possess in ourselves but by God’s free choice to engage in a loving relationship with us. God’s love gives us a purpose for being. It supplies



Advent activities, Christmas Masses planned at parishes

Schedules for Advent activities and Christmas Masses at parishes in the Diocese of Columbus have been considerably changed this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The following is a list of planned Advent activities and Christmas Mass times throughout the diocese, as supplied by parishes to *The Catholic Times*.

At parishes where reservations are required, go to the parish website or call the parish office for details. Many parishes in addition to those listed might be livestreaming Christmas Masses. Check parish websites for information.

This information is current as of Nov. 25 and might be changed because of possible government orders related to the pandemic. Many parishes still are making plans for the season. An updated list will be published in subsequent issues of the *Times*.

Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel – Eucharistic Adoration, Sundays, Dec. 6, 13 and 20, 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.; Christmas Masses, 6 p.m. and midnight Thursday, Dec. 24; 9 a.m. Friday, Dec. 25. Reservations required for all Christmas Masses.

Columbus Corpus Christi – Rosary Altar Society curbside collection of toiletry items, diapers and home cleaning items, 1 to 2 p.m. Saturdays, Dec. 5, 12 and 19 and Jan. 2 and 9. Christmas Masses, 6 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 a.m. Dec. 25, both first come-first served until church is filled to permitted capacity.

Columbus Holy Name – Christmas Masses, 5:30 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Dec. 25.

Columbus Parroquia Santa Cruz – Christmas Masses, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. Dec. 24; 11 a.m. Dec. 25 (all in Spanish).

Columbus St. Agatha – Christmas Masses, 4, 6 and 10 p.m. Dec. 24; 10 a.m. Dec. 25. Reservations required for all Masses. Parish hopes to livestream the 4 p.m. Dec. 24 Mass on its YouTube channel.

Columbus St. Catharine – Christmas Masses, 4 and 6:30 p.m. and midnight Dec. 24; 11 a.m. Dec. 25. All Masses will be livestreamed to the parish center and the lower level of the church building. The 4 and 6:30 p.m. Dec. 24 Masses will be livestreamed on parish YouTube and Facebook pages.

Columbus St. Cecilia – Christmas Masses, 4 p.m. prerecorded Mass, available at www.saintceciliachurch.org, 5 p.m. (church), 5:15 p.m. (gym), 8 p.m. and midnight, Dec. 24; 9:30 a.m. Dec. 25.

Columbus St. Christopher – Christmas Masses, 4, 6 and 8 p.m. (English) and midnight (Polish) Dec. 24; 10 a.m. and noon (English) Dec. 25.

Columbus St. Elizabeth – Parish Giving Tree benefits St. Vincent Family Center. Parishioners are packing Christmas bags for parish food pantry and for distribution in city's Franklinton neighborhood on Saturday mornings. Christmas Masses, 4 and 7 p.m. Dec. 24; 10 a.m. Dec. 25, all livestreamed.

Columbus St. Francis of Assisi – Christmas Masses, 5 p.m. Dec. 24; 10 a.m. Dec. 25.

Columbus St. James the Less – Christmas Masses, 4:30 p.m. (English), 7 p.m. (Spanish) and 10 p.m. (English) Dec. 24; 9 a.m. (English) and 11 a.m. (Spanish) Dec. 25. Masses will be livestreamed to other sites on the property if needed and online.

Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral –

Solemn Vespers, featuring the treble voices of the cathedral choir, Sundays, Dec. 6, 13 and 20, 4:45 to 5:45 p.m.; lessons and carols concert, Sunday, Dec. 6, 3 p.m.; Christmas Masses, 4 and 6:30 p.m. and midnight (music 11 p.m.) Dec. 24; 10:30 a.m. Dec. 25.

Columbus St. Ladislav – Christmas Masses, 4 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 a.m. Dec. 25, both first come-first served until church is filled to permitted capacity.

Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona – Sung Vespers and Benediction, Thursdays, Dec. 3, 10 and 17, 7 p.m.; Christmas Masses, 4 and 10 p.m. Dec. 24; 10:30 a.m. Dec. 25; 4 p.m. Mass will be livestreamed to Kulp Hall and parish website.

Columbus St. Patrick – Christmas Masses, 4, 6 and 8 p.m. and midnight in church and 4 and 6 p.m. in Patrick Hall Dec. 24 (incense at 6 and 8 p.m. and midnight church Masses); 7, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Dec. 25 in church (incense at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.).

Delaware St. Mary – Christmas Masses, 4 p.m. (simultaneous Masses in church and school gym), 6 and 9 p.m. and midnight Dec. 24; 9 and 11:30 a.m. (both English) and 2 p.m. (Spanish) Dec. 25. Masses in church at 4 p.m. and midnight Dec. 24 and 9 a.m. Dec. 25 will be livestreamed. Reservations required for all Christmas Masses.

Dennison Immaculate Conception – Christmas Masses, 5 and 10 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 a.m. Dec. 25.

Dresden St. Ann and Mattingly Settlement St. Mary – Parish mission with Father Stephen Dominic Hayes, OP, Monday to Wednesday, Dec. 14 to 16 at Mattingly Settlement, with Rosary at 6:40 p.m. and talk at

7. Theme: "Christ Born for Our Lady and for Us." Also livestreamed at [YouTube.com/stmarymattinglysettlement](https://www.youtube.com/stmarymattinglysettlement). Christmas Masses, 4:30 (Mattingly Settlement) and 7 p.m. (Dresden) Dec. 24; 9 a.m. (Dresden) Dec. 25.

Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare – Christmas Masses, 6:30 and 9 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 and 11 a.m. Dec. 25. Some Masses will be livestreamed to Hendricks Hall and parish gym and on parish YouTube channel. Reservations required for Christmas Masses. Parish also will have daily Masses during the Octave of Christmas, from Saturday, Dec. 26 to Thursday, Dec. 31.

Heath St. Leonard – Christmas Masses, 4 and 9 p.m. Dec. 24; 10 a.m. Dec. 25. Reservations required for all Christmas Masses.

Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator – Christmas Masses, 4 and 6:30 p.m. (simultaneous Masses in church and multipurpose room) and 10 p.m. Dec. 24; 8:45 and 10:45 a.m. Dec. 25. Reservations required for all 4 and 6:30 p.m. Masses Dec. 24.

Kenton Immaculate Conception – Parish has Giving Tree to collect gifts for needy children and is putting together Boxes of Joy for Cross Catholic Outreach. Christmas Masses, 8 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 a.m. Dec. 25. Dec. 24 Mass will be livestreamed.

Lancaster St. Mark – Parish social concerns committee is providing holiday fruit baskets for residents of Seton Square Lancaster and Giving Tree for Seton Square residents and needy area families. Christmas Masses, 5 and 8 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 a.m. Dec. 25. 9 a.m. Mass will be livestreamed.

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a depth of meaning in our lives that only God can give. Nothing else has value in the face of it.

When we understand truth, there is a spontaneous smile of recognition of truth in our spirit. We understand and it "fits" and we feel the fit in our own being, and we smile. Watch this happen in a human being of any age, from the first smiles in the world that infants make (sometimes visible even in the womb through the wonders of modern technology!) to the last smile that lingers on the face of a loved one whose last breath afforded an earthly glimpse of the world to come, just before their spirit fled.

Joy that comes from the heart is a

sign that we are in touch with reality. If you have ever laughed heartily, from the depths of your spirit, you know the taste of joy. This can happen even in the midst of tremendous pain and for people who are carrying heavy burdens.

St. Paul calls us to on this Gaudete Sunday to enter into joy: "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil." Gaudete Sunday calls us to joy.

We are certainly destined for the

kingdom. Christ will come in majesty and glory at the end of time; He has come in poverty and simplicity at Bethlehem. Our world belongs to God. No matter what may happen, we can attach our hearts to God with the certainty that comes from faith.

Faith gives us a true knowledge, an awareness of how things really are. It is not something made up or something that is separate from the real world. All who have such a notion about faith miss its essence.

How do we respond to this reality? Advent invites us to look two directions.

- A look at the end of our lives – whether at our own personal com-

pletion of the earthly journey or at the last day when Christ returns in glory – reminds us that we have a long way to go to get ready to meet our Maker.

- A look into our own hearts, with a sense of honesty, reminds us that we are not even ready to meet Christ today as He comes to us in our daily lives and in the celebration of Christmas.

In a few weeks, we will sing out: Joy to the World! May we even now open our hearts to that joy so that others may come to believe in God's presence through us. May we join with Mary in her song of praise: "My soul rejoices in my God."

Eucharistic Adoration list updated

The following is an updated list of parishes in the diocese where Eucharistic Adoration is taking place, as supplied by parishes to *The Catholic Times*.

The information is current as of Nov. 25. Adoration times might be changed, or Adoration might be canceled, because of possible government orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Bremen St. Mary – First Thursdays, 9 to 10 a.m.

Bridgettine Sisters (Order of the Most Holy Savior of St. Bridget of Sweden) convent, 40 N. Grubb St., Columbus – Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel – Sundays of Advent, 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

Columbus Holy Family – 1 p.m. Thursdays to noon Fridays; First Fridays, 8 p.m. Fridays to 8:45 a.m. Saturdays.

Columbus Holy Name – After 5:30 p.m. Mass Mondays through 4:30 p.m. Fridays in St. Therese Chapel;

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Reserving a pew is optional.

Lancaster St. Mary – Christmas Masses, 4, 6, 8 and 10 p.m. Dec. 24; 8 and 10 a.m. Dec. 25. Reservations for all Christmas Masses are required and will be taken beginning Tuesday, Dec. 1.

London St. Patrick – Christmas Masses, 4 and 6 p.m. and midnight Dec. 24; 10:30 a.m. Dec. 25.

New Albany Church of the Resurrection – Advent Rosary and reflections, Thursdays, Dec. 3, 10 and 17, 11 a.m.; Eucharistic Adoration, Sunday, Dec. 20, from end of 11 a.m. Mass to 5:45 p.m., closing with Benediction; Christmas Masses, 4 p.m. (social hall), 4:30, 7:30 and 10 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 and 11 a.m. Dec. 25. Reservations required for all Christmas Masses.

New Philadelphia Sacred Heart – Holy Hour with Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, concluding with Benediction, 5 to 6:30 p.m. Mondays, Dec. 7, 14 and 21, followed by Evening Prayer and talk by Deacon Ron Onslow on the Gospel infancy narratives from 6:30 to 7. Christmas Masses, 5 and 8 p.m. Dec. 24; 8:30 a.m. Dec. 25.

Pickerington St. Elizabeth Ann Seton – Christmas Masses, 4 p.m. (simultaneous Masses in church and activity center), 6:30 and 11 p.m. Dec. 24; 9:30 a.m. Dec. 25.

4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Fridays in church; 6 p.m. Fridays to 8 a.m. Saturdays in chapel.

Columbus Our Lady of Victory – Weekly Holy Hour days and times vary. Schedule is available in the parish bulletin at <https://ourladyofvictory.cc>.

Columbus St. Cecilia – First Fridays, 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Columbus St. Elizabeth – Tuesdays, 5 to 6 p.m.

Columbus St. James the Less – First Wednesdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. (English); second Tuesdays, 7 to 8 p.m. (Spanish).

Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral – Wednesdays, 5:45 to 6:45 p.m.

Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona – Thursdays, 9 a.m. to noon (church open until 8 p.m.); sung Vespers and Benediction, Thursdays, Dec. 3, 10 and 17, 7 p.m.

Columbus St. Patrick – Fridays, 12:15 to 1:15 p.m.; third and fourth Fridays, 8 p.m. Friday to 7 a.m. Saturday (church locked; call church office at (614) 224-9522 for access

Pond Creek Holy Trinity – Christmas Mass, 5 p.m. Dec. 25.

Portsmouth Holy Redeemer – Christmas Masses, 6:30 p.m. (bilingual) Dec. 24; 9 a.m. Dec. 25.

Portsmouth St. Mary – Christmas Masses, 4 p.m. (livestreamed) and 6:30 p.m. Dec. 24.

Powell St. Joan of Arc – Christmas Masses, 4 and 6:30 p.m. (simultaneous Masses in church and social hall) and 8:30 and 10:30 p.m. (church only, livestreamed to social hall) Dec. 24; 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. (church only, livestreamed to social hall) Dec. 25. All Masses in church will be livestreamed to parish website, Facebook and YouTube.

Reynoldsburg St. Pius X – Anointing of the Sick, 10 a.m. Mass Sunday, Dec. 13. Christmas Masses, 4, 6:30 and 9 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 a.m. Dec. 25. First two Dec. 24 Masses will be livestreamed to parish center and possibly to school gym and cafeteria. Other Masses might be livestreamed if necessary.

Sugar Grove St. Joseph – Christmas Masses, 4:30 and 8 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 a.m. Dec. 25.

Sunbury St. John Neumann – Giving Tree will benefit Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church. Communion service, 8 to 9 p.m. Dec. 24. Christmas Masses, 4, 6:30 and 10 p.m. and midnight Dec. 24; 8 and 10 a.m. Dec. 25.

information).

Columbus St. Peter – Tuesdays, 6 to 7 p.m.; First Fridays, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Lancaster St. Bernadette – Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Thursdays, 7 a.m. to midnight.

Lancaster St. Mark – Mondays, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Tuesdays, 8:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.

London St. Patrick – Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; First Fridays, 3 to 5:15 p.m., concluding with Benediction.

New Lexington St. Rose – Wednesdays, 5:15 to 6:15 p.m., concluding with Benediction.

New Philadelphia Sacred Heart – Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Holy Hour with Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, concluding with Benediction, 5 to 6:30 p.m. Mondays, Dec. 7, 14 and 21, followed by Evening Prayer and talk by Deacon Ron Onslow on the Gospel infancy narratives, 6:30 to 7.

Powell St. Joan of Arc – 9 a.m.

Reservations required. Midnight and 10 a.m. Masses will include incense. All Masses will be livestreamed to chapel, Faith and Family Center and classrooms, and via 89.5 FM to cars in parking lot.

Washington Court House St. Cloan of Cloyne – Christmas Masses, 4 and 6:30 p.m. and midnight Dec. 24; 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Dec. 25. Reservations required for all Christmas Masses. No reservations taken before Monday, Dec. 21.

West Jefferson Sts. Simon & Jude – Christmas Masses, 4, 6 and 9 p.m. Dec. 24; 10 a.m. Dec. 25.

Westerville St. Paul – Christmas Masses, 4 and 6 p.m. (simultaneous Masses in church and Klinger Center) and 8 and 10 p.m. and midnight Dec. 24; 8 and 10 a.m. and noon Dec. 25. Reservations required for all Christmas Masses.

Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains – Christmas Masses, 4 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 a.m. Dec. 25.

Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas – Christmas Masses, 5 and 10 p.m. Dec. 24; 9 and 11 a.m. Dec. 25, all in activity center. Church is undergoing repairs.

Zoar Holy Trinity – Christmas Masses, 6 p.m. Dec. 24; 10 a.m. Dec. 25, both available on livestream.

Mondays to 8 a.m. Saturdays in chapel. For information on accessibility when chapel is not open, call or email Anne at (319) 321-3966 or adoration@stjoanofarcpowell.org. To sign up, go to stjoanofarc.weadorehim.com.

Reynoldsburg St. Pius X – Wednesdays, 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., with Holy Hour from noon to 1 p.m.

Sugar Grove St. Joseph – Thursdays, from end of noon Mass to 1:30 p.m.

Sunbury St. John Neumann – 1 p.m. Tuesdays to 4 p.m. Fridays in chapel, which is locked from 9 p.m. to 9 a.m. daily. To visit during those hours, contact Amy Davis at amym-davis@hotmail.com.

Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas – Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., with Blessed Sacrament in a repository in Father Jan Sullivan's office window, allowing adorers to park or stand in front of the building. Church is undergoing repair.

Zoar Holy Trinity – Wednesdays, 7 to 8 p.m.



**St. John Chrysostom
Byzantine Catholic Church**
5858 Cleveland Ave., Columbus 43231
Annual Christmas Cookie Sale
December 12, 2020
10:00am until 2:00pm

Due to Covid-19, there are some changes on how this sale will work.

This sale will be PRE-ORDER ONLY. We are offering trays of more than 6 dozen assorted cookies for \$38; nut and poppy-seed rolls for \$12; and pirohi with potato/cheese, sauerkraut, whole prune or sweet cheese fillings for \$6 per package of one dozen. We're also offering 8"x8" pans of baklava for \$19.

You may place your order through our website (preferred way) at www.byzantinecolumbus.com and go to our Cookie Sale page or by phone at 614-882-7578 and leave your order. **The deadline for placing an order is December 6, 2020.**

As in the past, rolls, pirohi, and baklava are available in limited quantities, so order fast! And due to pre-order items only, availability of additional cookies in the hall is not an option this year.

Order pick-up will be handled as a Drive-Thru. We will have parishioners throughout the parking lot directing cars, taking your name and payment (cash or check), and then delivering your order to your vehicle. In keeping with covid-19 guidelines, please wear a mask when in contact with our parishioners and our parishioners will be wearing masks as well.

ONLY Cash or Check is accepted in payment at time of pick-up.

We are looking forward to seeing you at our annual Christmas Cookie Sale and please join us in praying that this pandemic is resolved soon, and we may return to our regular cookie sale next year!

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ell.org. To sign up as an adorer, go to stjoanofarc.weadorehime.com.

Joseph's Coat asking for furniture, clothing

The Joseph's Coat furniture and clothing ministry is asking for donations of items to fulfill needs of people impacted by the coronavirus who are requesting its help.

The ministry is looking for bedroom, living room, kitchen or dining room furniture and countertop appliances that are fully operable and in good condition. Winter, clothes, coats, shoes and boots also are needed.

Furniture pickup can be arranged by sending an email to donations@josephs-court.org or calling (614) 863-1371 or pressing 4. Furniture and clothing also may be dropped off at the back door of the Joseph's Coat location at 240 Outerbelt St. on Columbus' east side from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays and Saturdays. Volunteers are needed at the store and on the dock.

Joseph's Coat is an interfaith ministry founded in 1998. Its mission is to answer God's call to love and serve our neighbors by providing clothing, furniture and household goods to those in need. This year, its focus will be on adding monthly fundraising opportunities and virtual fundraisers.

It has members from several churches in eastern Franklin County and Pickerington, including Reynoldsburg St. Pius X, Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton, Gahanna St. Matthew and Columbus Holy Spirit. For more information, go to www.josephs-coat.org.

Serra clubs plan joint meetings

The North Columbus Serra Club has invited the Downtown Columbus Serra Club to join its meetings in the Jessing Center at the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. The space where the downtown club usually meets at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School is closed because of COVID restrictions. Both chapters share a mission of support and promotion of the priesthood and consecrated religious life.

Father William Hahn, diocesan director of vocations and director of formation at the Pontifical College Josephinum, spoke at the clubs' joint November meeting.

Father Hahn shared his conversion story, which ultimately led him to respond to the call to the priesthood. He

also shared what the diocese is doing to promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life. At the close of his talk, he extended his deep appreciation to the Serrans for their continuous prayers and support for priestly vocations, religious life, seminarians at the Josephinum and all priests.

For more information, visit www.serracolumbus.org.

Franciscan University to host online 'Night of Hope'

Franciscan University of Steubenville will host its second "Night of Hope" adult conference on Saturday, Dec. 12. The night of prayer, worship, and empowerment will be livestreamed from 7 to 9 p.m. There is no charge to view it online.

"Night of Hope" includes a keynote presentation titled "Mary, Spouse of the Spirit." Mary Bielski, national conference speaker and youth minister, will speak about the Blessed Mother as a model for openness, humility and radical receptivity.

Dr. Bob Rice will lead worship. Father Dave Pivonka, TOR, president of the university, will lead a time of Eucharistic adoration.

Other presenters include Peter Herbeck, vice president of Renewal Ministries, and Mark Joseph, the university's vice president for outreach and evangelization.

"Our country, not unlike our world, is experiencing trying times where many are in a place of despair," Joseph said. "Night of Hope, where people get to experience the saving love of Jesus Christ, can help to eliminate that despair, remove the fear and provide hope for them and their families."

"Following our first Night of Hope in July with more than 44,000 online participants, we received an overwhelming response of requests to host another. We realized just how much people hunger for hope and immediately set to work planning our next Night of Hope."

For a full schedule, registration, and to view the livestreamed event, visit steubenvilleconferences.com/night-of-hope.

Mass offerings to missions make good Christmas gifts

If you are looking for a special Christmas gift; consider a Mass celebrated by a missionary priest. This would provide a gift for loved ones and friends and a gift to the missions,

For a \$10 Mass stipend, the dioce-

san missions office will have a missionary celebrate a Mass for a specific person or people, with that person receiving a Christmas-themed Mass card acknowledging the gift.

Go to www.columbuscatholic.org/request-a-mass and click the link to a Christmas gift Mass form. Complete and pay online or click the printable form link at the bottom of the page and mail it with your payment to Diocese of Columbus Missions Office, 197 E. Gay St. Columbus OH 43215.

The missions office must receive the request by Monday, Dec. 14 to ensure delivery before Christmas. If you have any questions, call (614) 228-8603 or send an email to mismailbox@columbuscatholic.org.

Young adult conference set for April 17 at St. John Neumann

Registration opens Sunday, Dec. 6 for the Columbus Catholic Young Adult Conference (CCYAC), which will take place Saturday, April 17 at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37. The conference was scheduled to take place in October but was postponed because of the COVID pandemic.

CCYAC 2021 is an invitation to young adults to expand their faith journeys by discovering who they are, where they're going and what they're looking for along the adventure. The theme for the day will be "Rest In Thee" and it will include a Mass, keynote speakers, breakout sessions, exhibitors, Reconciliation, a Holy Hour and the Divine Mercy chaplet. There will also be plenty of time for prayer, fellowship and the opportunity to encounter Christ in a transformative way.

More information is available at the event's website, www.ccyac.org.

ODU theology program to host seminar in January

The Master of Arts in Theology program at Ohio Dominican University (ODU) will host a free online seminar on "Grace in the Age of Anxiety" from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 23.

The program will address topics, issues and concerns related to faith, recent instances of social unrest and the COVID-19 pandemic. The seminar was to have taken place on Oct. 24 but was postponed because of the pandemic. It will feature presentations on a variety of topics by ODU faculty and guests; a special panel discussion and an opportunity for questions and

answers.

"This seminar is for anyone who is struggling with their faith during the coronavirus pandemic and other recent events, which have caused tremendous stress and anxiety in many individuals," said Dr. Mary Filice, director of ODU's Master of Arts in Theology program. "Participants will have an opportunity to explore and discover ways in which the Catholic tradition cultivates a life of faith that transforms despair into hope, and fear into love."

To register for the seminar, visit ohiodominican.edu/FaithSeminar.

The event will feature the following presentations: "Faith, Reason and the Gift of Doubt" with Dr. Robert Gervasi, ODU president; "The Theology of Anxiety, Fear and Depression" with Filice; "Lamentation in the Age of Anxiety" with Dr. Leo Madden, ODU associate professor of theology; "Grace Period: Resting Place and Wrestling Mat" with Andrea Pannell, development director of the Diocese of Columbus; and "Anxiety Transformed by Grace" with Sister Janice Bachman, OP, of the Dominican Sisters of Peace.

Ave Maria Press offers free fundraising program

Ave Maria Press is offering a free, easy and safe fundraising opportunity for parishes and schools.

Participants in the program who shop online at AveMariaPress.com and use a unique code for their parish or school will have 30 percent of the proceeds of their purchase returned to them, and there will be free shipping on their orders.

For example, an organization purchasing 10 books at \$15.95 each, for a total of \$159.50, would receive \$47.85 back.

A representative from each parish or school wishing to participate in this program must contact Erin Pierce at epierce@nd.edu for an exclusive code, which will expire on Thursday, Dec. 31. Parishes and schools will receive their fundraising check by Friday, Jan. 15.

For more information, contact Pierce or go to www.avemariapress.com. Ave Maria Press publishes religion textbooks and books on prayer and spirituality, is based in Notre Dame, Indiana, and is a ministry of the Congregation of the Holy Cross. It was begun in 1865 by Father Edward Sorin, CSC, founder of the University of Notre Dame.

Sister Edwina Devlin, OP

Funeral Mass for Sister Edwina Devlin, OP, 106, who died at the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus on Sunday, Nov. 15, was celebrated Wednesday, Nov. 25 at the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born Evelyn Devlin on Sept. 18, 1914 in Yakima, Washington to John and Elizabeth (Irwin) Devlin.

She received a Bachelor of Science degree in English in 1945 from St. Mary of the Springs College (now Ohio Dominican University) and a Master of Arts degree in English in 1984 from Hunter College in New York City and earned certificates in theology, spiritual direction and Spanish.

She entered the congregation of the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace) in 1932 and professed her vows

on Aug. 14, 1934.

She was a teacher for 30 years at schools in Pennsylvania, Connecticut and New York and a missionary from 1966 to 1975 in Chimbote, Peru. She spent the rest of her career in Ohio, serving as CCD coordinator from 1975 to 1979 at Zanesville St. Thomas Church; a religious educator and pastoral associate from 1979 to 1988 at two parishes in the Diocese of Steubenville; retirement coordinator at the Motherhouse from 1988 to 1993; as an ecclesiastical notary with the diocesan Tribunal from 1991 to 1993; and as a volunteer at St. Thomas Church from 1993 to 2000. She entered the Motherhouse in 2000 and had been a resident of the Mohun center since 2011.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, John, Patrick and Joseph; and a sister, Anamary.

Sister Mary Hoguet, OP

Funeral Mass was celebrated at the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Peace for Sister Mary Hoguet, OP, 98, who died at the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus on Tuesday, Nov. 10. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born on May 20, 1922 in Lansdowne, Pennsylvania to Francis and Mary Elizabeth (McWilliams).

She earned a Bachelor's degree in social work from the University of Dayton in 1971. She also earned certifications in hospital chaplaincy, religious education and spiritual direction. She entered the Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine de' Ricci (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace) in 1941 and

professed her vows on Feb. 13, 1944, taking the name of Sister Mary Immaculata.

She taught religious education in Havana, Cuba, and New Jersey and New York and worked in retreat ministry in Dayton, Florida, New York and Pennsylvania and in hospital and parish ministry in Florida and Michigan. She also served her congregation as assistant director of novices. She retired in 2003, moved to the Motherhouse in Columbus in 2013 and had been a resident of the Mohun center since 2014.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Francis, Eugene and George; and sisters, Jane and Anne. She is survived by nieces and nephews.

PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

AUSEC, Angeline (Naples), 78, Nov. 9
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

BELL, Polly L. (Miles), 86, Nov. 22
St. Paul Church, Westerville

BEVER, Donald J., 86, Nov. 17
St. Mark Church, Lancaster

BOGGIONI, Linda M. (Nunamaker), 73, Nov. 27
St. Mary Church, Delaware

BRUNTON, Don A., 77, Nov. 11
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

BUTCHKO, Anna M. (Drager), 92, Nov. 15
St. Cecilia Church, Columbus

CANINI, Domenico, 100, Nov. 17
St. Michael Church, Worthington

CARROLL, Donald D., 83, Nov. 10
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

CASEY, Robert, 83, Nov. 20
St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury

CLARK, Mary P. (Houseworth), 88, Nov. 4
St. Mark Church, Lancaster

COLOPY, Jo Ann M. (Sapp), 90, Nov. 21
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

CONVERTINE, Mark S., 68, Nov. 22
St. James the Less Church, Columbus

CRITES, Daniel D., 84, Nov. 10
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

CRITES, Jean E. (Wellnitz), 95, Nov. 21
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

DIETSCH, Carlton L., 87, Nov. 6
St. Margaret of Cortona Church, Columbus

DISANTE, Vincenzo O., 87, Nov. 15
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

DOAN, Fabiola M. (Stammen), 89, formerly of Columbus, Nov. 20
Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, McCartyville

EDGINGTON, John E., 82, of Lancaster, Nov. 12
Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Daytona Beach, Fla.

FALK, Idaclara (Igel), 98, formerly of Columbus, Nov. 25
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Osprey, Fla.

HOOPER, Michael T., 75, Nov. 13
St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

JOHNSON, Opal S., 95, Nov. 13
St. Paul Church, Westerville

KAUFMAN, John L., 94, Nov. 12
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

LAHNA, Donna M. (Wilden), 96, Nov. 18
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newcomerstown

LINLEY-WRIGHT, Renate L., 85, Nov. 15
Holy Family Church, Columbus

MCCARTHY, Noreen H. (Hays), 92, Nov. 9
St. Peter Church, Columbus

MEDER, Rita A. (McDonald), 93, Nov. 14
St. Thomas More Newman Center, Columbus

MERULLO, Pasquale A., 87, Nov. 15
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

MIESSE, Sharon L. (Garner), 75, Nov. 24
St. Paul Church, Westerville

NIMON, James C. "Chris," 59, Nov. 8
St. Mark Church, Lancaster

OLINGER, Darrell "Butch," 78, Nov. 12
St. Peter Church, Columbus

OLIVER, Dorothy M. (Thomas), 86, Nov. 14
St. Anthony Church, Columbus

PAJOR, Susanne (Schwerdtfeger), 93, Nov. 14
St. Thomas More Newman Center, Columbus

POLANSKY, Len B. Jr., 73, formerly of Worthington, Nov. 16
St. Vincent de Paul Church, New Castle, Pa.

RERICHA, Michael P., 79, Nov. 16
St. Peter Church, Columbus

RUDOLPH, Jennifer L. (McCormick), 49, Nov. 10
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

SANTURELLO, John P., 83, Nov. 16
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

SCHULTEMAN, Marie (Machuta), 85, Nov. 22
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

SPURGUS, Frank, 86, Nov. 6
St. Rose Church, New Lexington

TERAPAK, Patricia A., 75, Nov. 22
St. Matthias Church, Columbus

VALLERA, Teresa S. (Manter), 63, Nov. 25
St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury

VENNEMEYER, Joan M. (Conlon), 75, Nov. 17
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

WRIGHT, Linda (Pickett), 78, Nov. 21
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

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First confession at Immaculate Conception



The COVID-19 pandemic meant that many of the first Communion and first confession events that usually take place in the spring were delayed for several months. Pictured is a second-grade student at Columbus Immaculate Conception School receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time, with Father Matthew Hoover administering it. Receiving this sacrament allows the recipient to have his or her sins forgiven and is an integral part of their faith journey as children prepare for their first Communion.

Photo courtesy Immaculate Conception Church

Ready students lead diaper drive



Members of the St. Vincent de Paul Club and the Student Council executive board at Columbus Bishop Ready High School collected 4,500 diapers and \$524 in donations for the Bottoms Up diaper drive during the school's Spirit Week in a competition between classes. Students who helped with the drive include (from left) Leah Brennan, Lilly Kapala, Clarissa Bachelder, Bella Hain, Diamond Deeds and Freda Arias Robles.

Photo courtesy Bishop Ready High School



Ethan Beckett earns Eagle rank

Ethan Beckett of Scout Troop 12 in Portsmouth, who attends the churches of the Scioto Catholic community, has earned the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest honor in Scouting. He joins his brother, Joseph, and their father, Gene, who also have achieved Eagle status. With the help of his scoutmaster, Bryan Sparks, and other volunteers, he scraped and painted the post office in the Scioto County community of Otway. His Eagle project also involved reclaiming existing flower beds, landscaping entrance flower beds with mulch and flowers, and spreading eight tons of gravel on the building's back parking lot. A ceremony honoring his achievement will take place once the COVID pandemic subsides.

Photo courtesy Beckett family

Girl Scout earns Bronze Award



Kendall Wild of Canal Winchester St. John XXIII Church earned a Bronze Award, the highest honor a Junior Girl Scout can achieve, by installing a blessing box on the parish grounds. The box is a mini-food pantry with the motto "Take What You Need, Leave What You Can." It holds food, hygiene items, baby items and school supplies for anyone in need. Kendall is encouraging other Girl Scouts and St. John XXIII parishioners to refill the box as needed. Assisting her in building the box were Girl Scout Brianna Fearon and members of Knights of Columbus Council 16561. Pictured are (from left): Joe Fearon of the Knights; Brianna Fearon; Chris Wild, Kendall's father; Father Brian O'Connor, St. John XXIII pastor; Kendall Wild; and Steve Lukezich and Andy Hunyady of the Knights.

Photo courtesy Tiffany Wild

OLB students help diaper drive



Columbus Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Childcare (OLB) partnered with the Bottoms Up Diaper Drive for the school's fall service project, collecting more than 4,000 diapers in one week. Bottoms Up collects and distributes diapers and wipes for families in need in central Ohio, in cooperation with 25 food pantries and childcare centers. The basic need for diapers is a circumstance that OLB's young students, who range from 6 weeks old to kindergarten age, can understand.

Photo courtesy Our Lady of Bethlehem

Catholic Travel

Winter getaway to Folly Beach, South Carolina

Traveling during coronavirus pandemic

By Aaron Leventhal

With the coronavirus pandemic still raging and Ohio's dreary, cold winter days upon us, my wife Beth and I have decided to return for the third straight year to Folly Beach, SC with our five-year-old white Lab Lily. From personal experience we are assured of bright, sunny days; warm ocean breezes; and a laid-back ambiance. The pleasant, subtropical climate enables vacationers to enjoy a wide range of activities and dining options safely in outdoor settings.

Folly Beach is a popular Lowcountry island destination about a dozen miles south of historic Charleston. It is a welcoming community of 2,500 residents of all ages, geographic origin and social and political backgrounds. We love its laid-back, relaxed pace; proximity to a six-mile, wide sandy beach; and its downtown Center Street with a delightful mix of independent shops, restaurants, cafes and pubs.

Two local beach markets exemplify the unique character and small town feel of Folly Beach. For us, **Bert's Market** embodies Folly Beach's free-spirited community. The iconic grocery and community gathering place, open 24/7, stocks a delightful hodgepodge of food, baked goods, merchandise, wine and beer. It also offers a carry-out sandwich counter and free fresh-brewed coffee. **Crosby's Seafood** overlooks the shrimp and fishing boat docks at the entrance to the island. Two sisters own and manage this popular market and sell fresh catches daily.

The crowds and prices are reduced



Travel writer Aaron Leventhal enjoys outdoor dining at Martin's Bar-B-Q Joint on James Island.

during the winter months. With only a long, one-day drive from Central Ohio, including a beautiful stretch through the Smoky Mountains, we strongly recommend a winter escape to the island of Folly Beach, South Carolina.

Outdoor Activities: At **Folly Beach County Park**, on the western tip of the island, we enjoy shelling and strolling the wide sandy beaches along the Atlantic Ocean with Lily. Diving pelicans and seagulls add to the natural beauty of the island. Nearby **James Island County Park** offers miles of paved trails for walking and biking; saltwater fishing and crabbing, and Lily's favorite dog park with a large open meadow and a lake for swimming.

Charleston Outdoor Adventures is open daily with guided boat tours, fishing charters, kayaking and paddle board rentals.

Lowcountry golf courses are often lined with Palmetto trees, tall grasses and Bermuda grass on the fairways. My favorite nearby public courses are the **City of Charleston Municipal Golf Course**, **Patriot's Point Links** at Charleston Harbor and **Rivertowne**



Fishing boats bring shrimp and fish daily to Crosby's Seafood at the entrance of Folly Beach. Photos by Beth Ervin Leventhal



Beth Ervin Leventhal and Lily play along the Atlantic Seaboard at Folly Beach County Park. Photo by Aaron Leventhal

Country Club. Further afield is **Legends Golf Course** on the Parris Island Marine Base near historic Beaufort. Golf fees are significantly reduced during the winter season.

Catholic Worship: Folly Beach's **Our Lady of Good Counsel** is an intimate parish church attended by residents and visitors. Traditional Latin masses are conducted on Sunday. In Charleston, two **Catholic cathedrals** feature exceptional architectural design and are open to visitors. Downtown, **St. Mary's**, built in 1837, is filled with masterpiece paintings, stained-glass windows with Biblical images, and a graveyard of parishioners from 17 centuries spanning two centuries. The **Cathedral of St. John the Baptist** was built in 1907 after the original 1838 church was destroyed by fire. It is revered for its Gothic-style exterior of Connecticut brownstone, Flemish oak pews, white Vermont marble altars, a French Romantic pipe organ and a gilded copper, 168-ft. towering spire.

Attractions: **Palmetto Carriage Tours** offers guided, mule-drawn rides through 25 blocks of Charleston's historic neighborhoods. Its popular Red Barn shop has a collection of miniature horses for kids of all ages.

Magnolia Plantation and Gardens, on the National Register of Historic Places, is the original home of the Drayton family dating back 11 generations to 1676. Guided tours take visitors through

the plantation house and gardens. There also is a Nature Train, boat tour, petting zoo, playground and an area to dig for fossils. Pets on leash are welcome.

Dining: Our favorite Folly Beach and nearby James Island restaurants and cafes are small, independent establishments where often the owner also serves as cook and manager. Most have outdoor patio seating and welcome Lily. Lowcountry cuisine is often on the menu, with dishes such as she-crab soup, shrimp and grits, fresh oysters, fried chicken and pecan pie. Standard dress is shorts, t-shirts and sandals, and most eateries are moderately priced.

In Folly Beach, we recommend **Jack of Cups Saloon**, **Blue Beach Bar and Grill**, **Lost Dog Café** and **Wash-out**, with live music most nights. On James Island it's **Bowen's Island Restaurant**, **Ellis Creek Fish Camp** (Lily loves their special menu for dogs), **Mondo's Italian Restaurant** and **Martin's Bar-B-Q Joint**. Within a 30-minute drive I suggest the legendary **Marina Variety Store** established in 1963 on top of the City Marina, **Oyster House** and **Justine's Kitchen** in Charleston. We also enjoy **Graze Restaurant** in Mt. Pleasant; and **High Thyme Cuisine** on Sullivan's Island.

Where to Stay: There are hundreds of vacation rentals scattered throughout Folly Beach and nearby James Island and Mt. Pleasant. We rent a three-bedroom cottage each winter season from Kevin Edenborough, a Purdue graduate and former Air Force pilot who manages a number of lovely properties all within a short stroll of the Atlantic Ocean beachfront. He can be reached at 843-696-4503 or seasidefolly@gmail.com.

For more information, visitfolly.com, explorecharleston.com, experiencemountpleasant.com

Columbus travel writer Aaron Leventhal is a frequent contributor to *The Catholic Times*.

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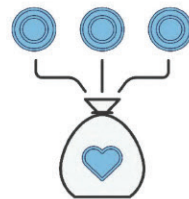
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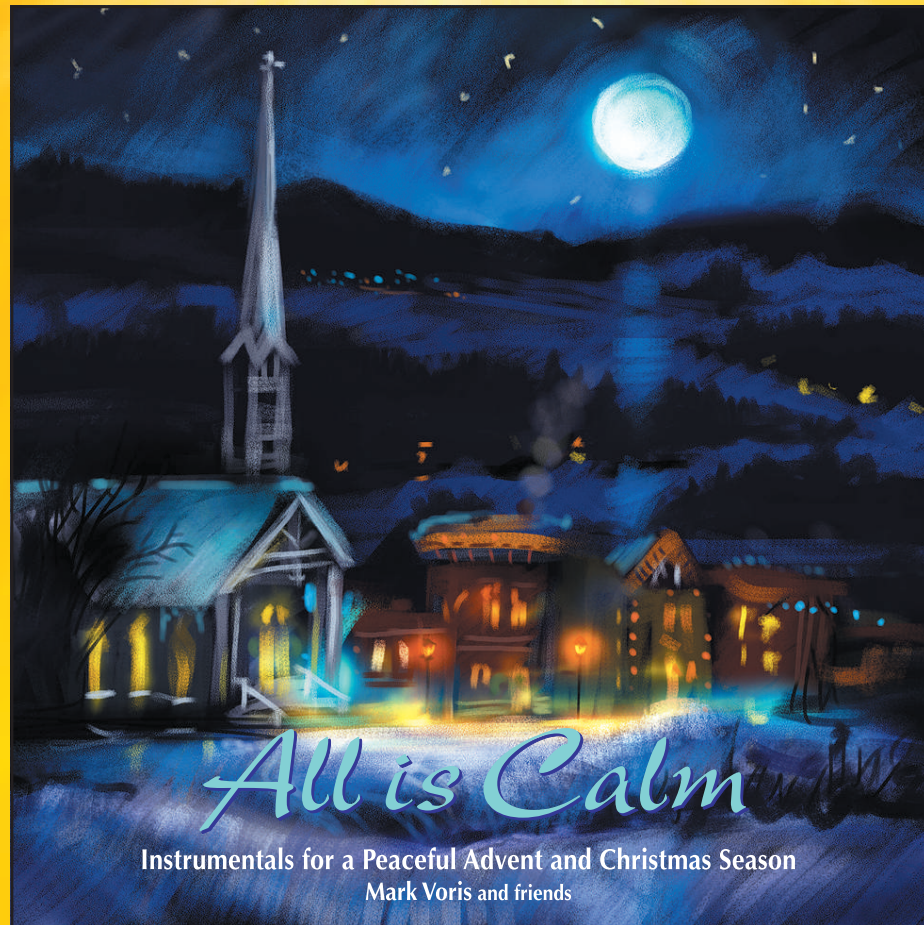
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