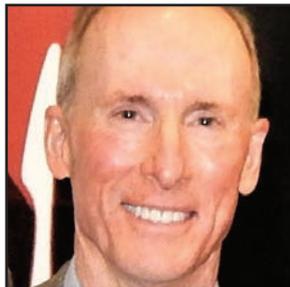


The Catholic **TIMES**

The Diocese of Columbus' News Source

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CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES



CELEBRATION

1945 - 2020

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75 YEARS OF HELPING FAMILIES, SENIORS**

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Local news and events

Father Dailey to speak to Catholic Men's Luncheon Club

Father Stash Dailey, diocesan vicar for religious and pastor of Columbus Holy Family Church, will present a series of talks on the theme "Rebuilding a Christian Culture" at the next four meetings of the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club.

Dates and themes for the talks are: March 6, "St. Joseph: Model of Penance and Discipline"; April 3, "Sacred Scripture: A Word Spoken, Rest Received and Lived"; May 1, "Our Lady as Mother and Queen, Living the Life of the Church"; and June 5, "The Sacred Heart of Jesus: Encounters with Jesus in Scripture, Adoration and the Mass."

The Nos Lumine and Attollo Catholic business leadership development groups will sponsor the talks.

The club meets on the first Friday of each month except July, August

and January at Columbus St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., for lunch after the church's 11:45 a.m. Mass. No reservations are necessary. A \$10 donation is requested to cover the cost of the lunch and meeting.

For information on the club, visit www.catholicmensministry.com/cmlc or contact club president David Clark at dclark@catholic-foundation.org.

Our Lady of Bethlehem enrolling students for 2020-21

Columbus Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Childcare, 4567 Olentangy River Road, is enrolling preschool and kindergarten-age students for the 2020-21 school year. The registration deadline is Friday, May 1.

Our Lady of Bethlehem serves students from six weeks old to kinder-

garten, an extremely vital time for a child's social, emotional, intellectual and spiritual development. It's the only Catholic school in central Ohio whose sole emphasis is on early childhood education.

To learn more about what has made the school an important part of the community for 63 years, visit www.ourladyofbethlehem.org and see what other parents are saying about why they started their child's spiritual and early educational journey at OLB, or call (614) 459-8285.

Dominican Sisters of Peace to host retreat in March

The Dominican Sisters of Peace are offering an opportunity for young women to take a faith-informed look at the options in their lives and see if religious life is a choice that should be explored.

The congregation will host a "Come and See" retreat at its Motherhouse, 2320 Airport Drive, Columbus, bringing women considering religious life together for a look at life in a religious

community. The retreat is free and lodging and meals will be provided. It will begin at 4 p.m. on Friday, March 13 and conclude after Mass and dinner at 1 p.m. Sunday, March 15.

Women have many options for ministry and service in the church, but the call to religious life is more than that. It is a call to something "bigger than myself," said Sister June Fitzgerald, OP, the congregation's vocations director. "It is a call from God to live in community with like-minded women, preaching the Gospel with their lives and building peace one person, one project at a time," she said.

The Dominican Sisters of Peace have five women in formation. Women attending the retreat will meet them and learn more about their journey. They also will spend time with the sisters in prayer, study, and conversation and having fun with new friends.

To register, visit the congregation's website at www.oppeace.org or contact Sister June at (570) 336-3991, or jfitzgerald@oppeace.org.

Seminarians visit funeral home



Seminarians from the Pontifical College Josephinum visited Egan-Ryan Funeral Home in downtown Columbus for "Funeral Home 101" as part of their formation experience. For many of them, it was their first visit to a funeral home. Egan-Ryan president Bob Ryan led a tour of the funeral home's central chapel and spoke about what takes place upon the death of a loved one. Ryan talked about how funeral directors work one-on-one with families in planning the calling hours and funeral Mass and discussed the importance of helping, caring for and ministering to individuals and family members as seminarians and as future priests. He and Father Mike Lumpe, vice rector of the seminary's liberal arts college, then answered questions about death and dying, funeral prayers, and liturgies.

Photo courtesy Pontifical College Josephinum

S U B S C R I B E

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CATHOLIC SOCIAL
SERVICES



1945 - 2020

Front Page photo:

**AGENCY MARKS
75TH BIRTHDAY**
Catholic Social Services turns 75 years old this year. The agency was established on Sept. 15, 1945, shortly after the end of World War II, as the Catholic Welfare Bureau. (Logo courtesy Catholic Social Services)

Catholic TIMES

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Catholic Man of the Year praises others in receiving award

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

This year's recipient of the diocesan Catholic Man of the Year award thinks the honor went to the wrong person.

After accepting the award from Bishop Robert Brennan, Dr. Raymond Sheridan of Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church began his remarks by saying, "This would really be fun if it had nothing to do with me. I saw a sign at the entrance to the hall listing me as the speaker. I knew I was going to talk, but I still thought, 'What, I'm supposed to speak?'"

"I felt really awkward about the whole thing," he continued. "It's really my wife, Debbie, who ought to be Catholic Man of the Year."

The award was presented on Friday, Feb. 7 at the monthly meeting of the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club at Columbus St. Patrick Church after the church's 11:45 a.m. Mass.

Sheridan is a dentist who was honored for using his profession to benefit people in the Grove City area and overseas. He has voluntarily provided

dental care to many people in need as part of his dental practice. He also visits elementary schools with low-income students to teach dental hygiene and to provide packets containing a toothbrush, toothpaste and floss.

Each year, he spends a week in the Dominican Republic performing dental work for poor people. He also is among several Our Lady of Perpetual Help parishioners involved in Asia's Hope, a Columbus-based organization that provides family-style residential care for orphaned children at high risk of sexual and economic exploitation in Cambodia, Thailand and India.

The group has adopted a Cambodian orphanage and visits it each year, bringing gifts and building relationships with the children. Sheridan also organized an outreach mission to a village near the orphanage, providing 200 bags of rice from his own funds.

"It's a pretty cool place," Sheridan said of the orphanage. Referring to his parish's pastor, Father Daniel Millisor, he said, "We're the only Catholic parish in this country that's involved with Asia's Hope, and it's thanks to



Bishop Robert Brennan presented the diocesan Catholic Man of the Year award to Dr. Raymond Sheridan of Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church (fourth from left) on Friday, Feb. 7. Others pictured are (from left): Grove City parishioner Fran Toussaint; Sheridan's mother, Kay, and wife, Debbie; and parishioner Greg Wagner.
CT photo by Tim Puet

Father Dan's vision. He goes with us to Cambodia every year." Father Millisor was not at the luncheon, but Father James Colopy, parochial vicar, represented the parish.

"It's pretty humbling to accept this award," Sheridan said. "I didn't think God wanted me to give a planned talk, so I prayed at Mass about what to say and ended up with a sense of over-

whelming confusion."

Sheridan has been active for the past 10 years with various parish men's ministries that meet early on Saturdays. His work with those organizations led to the founding of a ministry known as Mary's Hands, through which he and other men of the parish deliver sandwiches and other items on Saturdays and Sundays to homeless people leaving a shelter and talk to them about ways the men can be of assistance.

"I don't think I do that much. I hand out sandwiches or maybe fix a tooth once in a while," he said. "This (receiving the award) is pretty heavy stuff. Those who should be honored are people like Dr. Duke Heller (a dentist from Lewis Center), who has been a mentor to me. His Christian witness has been an inspiration.

"It's also great to see some of the people from St. Paul's Outreach here because I've seen how they change lives," Sheridan continued. St. Paul's Outreach is an organization of young Catholics committed to evangelizing their peers,

See CMOY, Page 7



Want to attract more visitors to your parish fundraisers or restaurants during Lent?

Advertise in The Catholic Times' annual Fish Fry section in the March 1 edition.

Contact Editor/Business Manager Doug Bean at 614-224-5195, or dbean@columbuscatholic.org for rate information and to place an ad.

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THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION

Second-chance jobs offer hope for the formerly incarcerated

A job posting by an employer communicates not only the need for labor, but also a hope for growth. The same goes for a job candidate's resume, which documents skills, abilities and experience. It expresses both the desire to work and the hope for growth.

Finding work for returning citizens, the formerly incarcerated, can be a challenge depending on the crime committed, the time away from the work force, and the need to acquire new skills.

Many returning citizens who have reformed and diligently are searching for a second chance lose hope when the doors of opportunity are constantly closed to them.

They and their families struggle to escape the clutches of poverty and often seek assistance through our charitable ministries.

There is a growing list of members of the Church who are helping returning citizens stabilize their lives and experience the mercy of Christ. They live out their faith through ministries such as ARCH (Accompanying Returning Citizens with Hope) by providing accompaniment, family support and direct material aid, especially during the first 72 hours after release from incarceration. There are also Catholic business leaders who hire returning citizens.

The dignity of work is a major element of Catholic social teaching. Pope St. John Paul II spent much

FAITH IN ACTION

Jerry Freewalt

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



of his pontificate bringing to light Church teaching about the dignity of work. He described human work as the essential key to the whole social question.

Why is it the essential key? Work provides wages to support workers and families. But it is much more. It provides the opportunity for growth and development as the worker uses his or her gifts and talents with purpose to contribute to the common good.

It is understandable that some employers will not hire a returning citizen for certain jobs. Particular jobs may not be suitable, based on the nature of the crime a formerly incarcerated person has committed.

However, the door should not be closed to all opportunities. The hiring decision should take into account the unique situation of the individual and job responsibilities.

Some central Ohio employers are models of providing a second chance to returning citizens. They

leaders do this because they need the workers and recognize that re-entry candidates often become the best workers in their work force. The government provides employers financial incentives in terms of tax credits to diversify the work force.

Many Catholic employers live out this work of mercy as an extension of their vocation. While these employers are prudent, they don't want to be ruled by fear, but by faith.

ARCH is working to connect employers with returning citizens who desire to work. ARCH (www.svdpcolumbus.org/arch) is a program of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

ARCH has received generous grant support from The Catholic Foundation and the Franklin County commissioners' justice policy and programs.

Are you looking to build your business? Do you want to make a positive impact in the community, rooted in the values of your faith?

Come learn how you can support second chance employment with the ARCH business network. Attend the ARCH business leaders breakfast on Thursday, March 26 from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus.

To register for this free breakfast, RSVP by Monday, March 16, at <https://tinyurl.com/archbreakfast>.

Proximity to those who are suffering shows us how to love

A movie or book can be transforming. For Black History Month, I'm sharing an experience with both. In January, I attended a movie with friends: *Just Mercy*.

Based on the book *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*, written by Bryan Stevenson and published in 2014, the movie centers around Stevenson's representation of death-row inmate Walter McMillian, appealing his murder conviction.

Stevenson is a Black public interest lawyer who, after graduating from Harvard Law School, went to Alabama to represent those who had been illegally convicted or poorly represented at their trials.

Just Mercy is powerful and sometimes difficult to watch. If you don't think racism's roots are deeply embedded in this nation when you walk in, you'll be questioning that assumption when you walk out. But the movie isn't only about the fear, hatred and oppression that has been visited upon Black Americans since their forced arrival as slaves or how fear and ignorance disfigure the oppressors. Its main message is about accepting truth, about hope and the possibility of change.

The movie includes Stevenson's 1989 founding of the nonprofit Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) in Montgomery, Alabama. According to its website, EJI is "... committed to ending mass incarceration and excessive punishment in the United States, to challenging racial and economic injustice and to protecting basic human rights for the most vulnerable people in American society."

In talks across the nation, Stevenson names hope as one of four things necessary to effect change.

GRACE IN THE MOMENT

Mary van Balen

Visit Mary van Balen's blog at www.maryvanbalen.com. @2020 Mary van Balen.



He calls it a "superpower" and the enemy of injustice. "It is what makes you stand up when someone tells you to sit down," he says.

He names another element necessary for change: proximity. In a speech at Penn State University's branch campus in Abington, Pennsylvania, Stevenson gave this advice: "We need to get closer to people who are suffering and disfavored so we can understand their challenges and their pain. We can't create solutions from a distance. Decide to get closer to people who are suffering, marginalized, disadvantaged, poor. Only in proximity to those who are suffering can we change the world."

Reading this, I thought of Pope Francis' call, early in his pontificate, for priests to be close to the people they serve: "This is what I am asking you – be shepherds with the smell of sheep."

Jesus lived that out. He spent time with ordinary people and those on the margins. He counted fishermen and tax collectors as his early followers and included women in his close circle of friends and

disciples. He ate and drank with sinners, much to the dismay of religious leaders who kept their distance.

I've also been reading Howard Thurman's book *Jesus and the Disinherited*. A Black theologian, pastor, and spiritual mentor to Martin Luther King Jr., Thurman reminds us that Jesus was marginalized. He was poor, and he was a Jew in an occupied land. Jesus knew the suffering of those on the edge or, as Thurman might say "those with their backs to the wall." He devotes a chapter to fear and its effects on people.

But Jesus' response to marginalization was not fear. It was not violence. It was love. It wasn't separation from those who were suffering. It was proximity. He showed us how to love and to serve our neighbor – who is everyone.

He spoke the truth. He healed on the Sabbath. He said the Kingdom of God is within us. He had hope and faith in the One who sent him and in the power of compassion. He stood up when he was told to sit down.

This month is a good time to reflect on our history, the state of our nation and the divisiveness that is increasingly expressed in violence against "the other."

If you're able, see the movie (or read the book). Read Howard Thurman. They invite us to ponder how we can, as Isaiah admonishes, remove oppression, false accusations and malicious speech from our midst, how can we share our bread with the hungry, give shelter to the homeless.

They challenge us to follow Jesus' example of love and to believe that love will cast out fear.

Christian girls and abortion

When Mother Teresa visited New Bedford, Massachusetts in June 1995, she told those of us gathered at St. Lawrence Martyr Church: "Abortion is the greatest evil of today." Never one to mince words, Mother Teresa's courage, truthfulness and charity were palpable. Parents today need similar fortitude, honesty and love to be able to discuss the hard topics of unplanned pregnancies and abortion with their children.

Parental input and advice are critical when these situations arise. Even as children profess independence, parents exercise influence over them, whether for good or for ill. If a mother says to her daughter, for example, "You can't have a kid now because you've got your studies, your career and your whole future ahead of you, so I'll give you money for an abortion" she is not merely offering advice, but being coercive and taking away any real choice her daughter might have had.

Likewise, when a boyfriend learns that his girlfriend is pregnant and informs her he doesn't want to be a father right now and will drive her to the abortion clinic, he abandons both his child and the mother of his child in their moment of greatest need.

To read testimonies of young women who have undergone abortions is heart-wrenching. Many times, they seem to have less responsibility for the abortion than their parents or others close to them.

One woman described being 12 years old when she had an abortion. "When Saturday came, my mom drove me back across town, walked me in, paid for the abortion with money my boyfriend gave her and left the building," she said. "I didn't know it then, but they wouldn't allow her to stay. The nurse told her I would be ready about 3:00, so I was there alone. ... It's been 35 years since my baby was aborted and I still think about it every day. It wasn't a quick fix and it wasn't a solution to my

MAKING SENSE OUT OF BIOETHICS

Father Tad Pacholczyk

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



pregnancy. It was a panicked response to our fears."

Fear often stands behind the decision to abort. Young women are understandably frightened when they discover they are pregnant: "I'm afraid I'm not ready and I won't be a good mother." "I'm fearful my boyfriend won't stand by me and support me. He's just a kid himself." "What will mom and dad think of the fact I've been having sex?" "My friends are people of faith and I'm afraid they'll look down on me for this if they find out."

Whenever we let fear direct our moral thinking, we tend to make bad judgments and poor choices that can haunt us long afterward. Even good people who believe in love, life and family can make panicked choices when they feel cornered by shame and guilt. Major decisions are better made when emotions have calmed and the order of reason again can fill our minds. This happens most readily when a person is surrounded by an abundance of loving support.

Wendy Bonano is the director of several pregnan-

cy support centers in North Carolina and regularly works with students from area universities and colleges. In a recent article in *Family NC* magazine, she challenged parents to reflect on what their sons and daughters are up against in today's society:

"I imagine you are thinking 'This would never be my daughter.' I beg you to think again. More often than not, 'good' Christian girls in relationships are determined to abstain from intercourse and therefore are not actively using contraception. Therefore, it takes just one poor decision by either your son or daughter to create an unplanned pregnancy, regardless of all you've taught them," she wrote.

So why are good Christian girls getting abortions? Those who should be at their side in a moment of crisis may not be present. Mothers and fathers may not have fostered close relationships with their daughters. They never may have discussed the possibility of an unplanned pregnancy to let their daughters know ahead of time that, even if they act contrary to their advice and conceive a child, they still will be there for them.

After more than 10 years of helping single mothers, Bonano makes precisely this point.

"Quite often there's a piece missing from the 'talks' parents have with their daughters and sons," she writes. "Without knowing it, we are leaving no doors open for our children to come back to us should they stray. We are making good, strong cases for purity until marriage and yet neglecting to communicate the message of grace: that we are there for them no matter what, and should they make a mistake – in this case, get pregnant – it is safe for them to come to us for help and support."

Today more than ever, Christian children need to hear those supportive, reassuring words from their Christian parents.

'Give something, however small, to the one in need; for it is not small to one who has nothing'

I tend to sit in the same pew at Mass on Sundays at Gahanna St. Matthew Church, where little Caroline and her family are steady companions of mine. Every once in a while, I am delightfully and briefly distracted by them. This wide-eyed toddler and her parents and brother interact so beautifully. The family gently responds to her coos and questions, her antsy fidgeting and her (sometimes loud, sometimes frantic) pursuit of adventure.

I love being *that* Catholic who sits in the same spot nearly every week. I am comforted by my perspective on the artwork in the sanctuary and my eye line for each part of the Mass. I have grown in understanding of and appreciation for the neighbors who pray near me. This comfort has allowed me to enter more deeply into worship, and for that I am grateful. I know it is right and just to give God my best, my all, and with the familiarity and comfort of my seating, I feel more prepared to do so.

When I leave Mass and try to give my all, I am not as successful. I am commanded to go in peace,

STEWARDSHIP, LIVING OUR FAITH

Jenna Zins

Jenna Zins is events coordinator for the diocesan Office of Development and Planning.



to glorify the Lord by my life and to announce the Gospel of the Lord. I take that command seriously, as I am sure you do.

Maybe, like me, you also struggle to give your all to that mission. I prepare for Mass to be comfortable and familiar. But what do I do when I am uncomfortable, unfamiliar and unprepared? Do I have the same courage, the same desire to give my all?

I often am tempted to withhold my gifts of time, talent and treasure for a litany of excuses:

I'll volunteer for something once my schedule frees up/once life isn't so busy/once I can give a

longer, better commitment.

I can't use my skills outside of work or for people other than my family/I am not that good at anything and have nothing significant to offer anyone in need/Other people would be better at this deed than me/I don't need to think of the people in my way today, I have a lot going on.

I'll give money once I pay this bill/once I'm out of debt/once I get a better-paying job/once I buy all my Christmas gifts.

The Lord wants my all, but I can use that as an excuse to give NOTHING when I am feeling insecure, anxious or lazy. In each moment of my day, I can choose to give, even if it doesn't meet my own expectations.

I don't want to let the desire for perfection overwhelm and disable me. I am inspired by the words of St. Gregory Nazianzen, "Give something, however small, to the one in need. For it is not small to one who has nothing. Neither is it small to God if we have given what we could."

What is a good Catholic Bible?; Can heaven be happy with some missing?

My wife realized that my Bible is not Catholic when I could not locate the Book of Sirach in it. What is a good Catholic Bible, with a contemporary translation from Greek? (My ultimate preference would be a Catholic Bible with the Old Testament translated from Hebrew and the New Testament from the Greek – if such a thing exists.) (Albany, Oregon)

There are several translations of the sacred Scriptures that have been approved by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops for devotional use and study by Catholics; any translation that bears an imprimatur may be used for those purposes.

But your best bet, I would think, is the 1986 edition of the *New American Bible*. That is the only translation approved for liturgical use at Masses in the United States, and so the wording would be familiar to you.

In his 1943 encyclical on Scripture study, *Divino Afflante Spiritu*, Pope Pius XII wrote: “Ought we to explain the original text which, having been written by the inspired author himself, has more authority and greater weight than any even the very best translation, whether ancient or modern.”

The *New American Bible* follows that prescript: Composed over a period of 25 years by 50 biblical

QUESTION & ANSWER

Father Kenneth Doyle
Catholic News Service

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 30 Columbia Circle Drive, Albany NY 12203.



scholars, it uses the original and oldest available texts of the sacred books – Hebrew for the Old Testament, Greek for the New Testament.

I am a “cradle Catholic” of 75 years, now homebound. We are taught that if one follows the teachings of the church, is a good person and dies in the state of grace, then that person will go to heaven. But suppose some close loved ones don’t make it there? How can we be happy in heaven without them?

I asked an extraordinary minister of holy Communion and the reply was, “Let’s hope God in his mercy forgives them, too.” But this seems to negate the existence of hell. Please help this confused Catholic. (Atlanta)

The question you pose has, I would suppose, challenged every reflective Christian for centuries. Various theories have been suggested. One is that hell exists only as a concept, not in reality, and that God will find a way to forgive everyone and bring them finally to heaven.

But to me that seems to conflict with Matthew 25, where Jesus pictures himself at the final judgment separating the faithful from the unfaithful, casting some into “the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.”

Another suggestion is that our memories will fail us in eternity and that those who are lost simply will vanish from our minds. I’m not enthused about that theory, either, since it seems unlikely that once our bodies are perfected in heaven, we will simply lose our minds. What I do feel certain about is that heaven will be better than we can ever imagine it.

In Revelation (21:4), we’re told that God “will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away.” I also believe, along with St. Paul in 1 Corinthians (2:9), that “eye has not seen, and ear has not heard ... what God has prepared for those who love him.”

So I guess that my answer to your question is that I simply don’t know – but that I’m not worried about it. It’s one of those (many) things that I’ll just have to let God figure out.

Flannery O’Connor and friends revisited

Her fiction may occasionally get the chop in politically correct 21st-century American high schools. But as Benjamin Alexander writes in the preface to a new collection of her letters, Flannery O’Connor’s place in the pantheon of American short story writers seems safe, up there with Edgar Allan Poe, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Ernest Hemingway and William Faulkner. (I’d be tempted to drop Hemingway from the canon, but that’s a matter for another day.) *Good Things Out of Nazareth* makes for an even richer read, however, because Alexander amplifies O’Connor’s previously unpublished letters with correspondence from (and among) Caroline Gordon, Walker Percy and others in O’Connor’s wide circle of friendship.

For aspiring writers, the O’Connor-Gordon correspondence is particularly fascinating. Gordon was a Catholic convert and a central figure in the Southern literary renaissance of the mid-20th century. To read her letters advising O’Connor how to sharpen a story is to watch a master editor at work. Like O’Connor, Gordon’s fiction was deeply influenced by her Catholic faith. So, one learns, was her unsparing sense of literary worth. Thus Gordon, writing to a friend in 1953:

“I hope you and Fannie will run into Flannery O’Connor sometime. ... (Robert) Lowell says she is a saint, but then he is given to extravagance. She may be, though, at that. She is a cradle Catholic ... but she sure is a powerful Catholic. No nonsense about her! She has some dire disease some form of arthritis – and is kept going only by a huge dose of something called ACTH. We are expected to adore all the Lord’s doings, but it does give you

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

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



pause when you reflect that this gifted girl will probably not be with us long, whereas Truman Capote will live to a ripe old age, laden down with honors.”

Then there is Percy writing to Gordon about being a Southerner and a Catholic, in a letter Gordon shared in 1952 with another member of the Southern Agrarian movement, Andrew Lytle. Wrote Gordon to Lytle, “I had a letter from Walker Percy ... the other day in answer to some things said about St. Thomas More. That boy is sure smart: His letter is so good that I have copied (an) excerpt from it and (am) sending it to you.” Percy’s letter is a fascinating window into the Catholic 1950s in the Old Confederacy:

“I agree with you about St. Thomas More (Percy wrote Gordon). He is, for us, the Road Back. For our countrymen, I mean, for southerners. For More is the spiritual ancestor of Lee. He is the man to pray to for the conversion of the south. One of the stumbling blocks to the Southerner (or the American) who is drawn to the Church is that he sees, not the Church of More, not the English Church

which is his spiritual home, but the Church of St. Alphonsus Liguori by way of the Irish Jesuits. If he does go in, he must go in with his face averted and his nose held against this odor of Italian-Irish pietism and all the bad statues and architecture. Of course this is somewhat exaggerated and prideful, because it is a salutary experience in obedience and humility to take St. Alphonsus. (Hell, he was a great saint!). But if Allen (Tate, Gordon’s husband) is forming a St. Thomas More Society I want in.”

Say what you will about the judgments; you don’t get that kind of crisp writing on Twitter.

Above all, *Good Things Out of Nazareth* – Gordon’s biblical metaphor for the Southern literary renaissance, which Alexander adopts for his title – is a powerful reminder of the intensity of O’Connor’s Catholic faith: an intensity that was unmarked by sentimentality, that was informed by an astonishingly broad reading in the Fathers of the Church and St. Thomas Aquinas, and that sustained her through many dark nights of the soul, both literary and physical. At the end, that is the deepest impression her letters leave: here is a woman of extraordinary courage whose configuration of her life to the Cross was a source of both personal strength and literary genius.

The O’Connor letters in *The Habit of Being* introduced the world to Flannery O’Connor’s exceptional skills as a Catholic apologist able to explain the faith to others. *Good Things Out of Nazareth* fills out the portrait of O’Connor, a Catholic seeking to plumb the depths of the tradition and finding professional inspiration and spiritual liberation in doing so.

CMOY, *continued from Page 3*

mainly on college campuses.

Sheridan said others who should share the award with him include parish Bible study leader Larry Murnane and parishioner Sandy Wagner, who wrote the letter nominating him for the award.

“The Gospel speaks of love of God and neighbor. Jesus says the two are one and the same, and you live that out in an extraordinary way,” Bishop Brennan said in introducing Sheridan. “There are many good people doing good things, but for some people, it goes beyond that. Those people have a deep spirituality, and the fruit of that spirituality is shown through caring for others. When you do this because of your love of God, that makes a huge difference.”

Heller and Our Lady of Perpetual Help parishioner Andy Johns spoke about Sheridan prior to the bishop’s introduction.

Heller said Sheridan is an example of someone who understands the words of French philosopher Blaise Pascal that “There is a God-shaped vacuum in the heart of every man,” which only God can fill. “Being with Ray and Debbie has brought me great

joy as I’ve seen the way they serve people and realize the love they have for others,” he said. “I’m grateful for the opportunity to be part of that.”

Heller and Sheridan have worked together in the Dominican Republic and with The Refuge, a Grove City ministry that helps people 18 and older with addiction problems.

Johns said Sheridan sets an example of commitment, compassion and cooperation through his work on weekend mornings and mission trips. “I never knew someone with so much energy and such sincere love, for the people he sees on the streets each week and for the kids he’s lucky enough to see once a year,” he said.

“He’s played a big role in making our parish a beacon of hope and understanding through the way he brings grassroots help, without bureaucracy, from the bottom of his heart. He’s had a huge impact in showing me how to be a better Christian.”

Sheridan, 63, also is a member of the Knights of Columbus, helps during parish fish fries and regularly makes pilgrimages to sites such as Medjugorje in Bosnia and Herze-

govina and the Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey. He is a graduate of Ohio State University’s College of Dentistry, which the Sheridans’ son, Cory, now attends.

Other Catholic Man of the Year nominees this year were Sean Fouts of Columbus St. Philip Church, Jim Gernetzke of Gahanna St. Matthew Church, Ernest Jones of Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Charles Mifsud of Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dr. Patrick Scarpitti of Granville St. Edward Church and John Swisher of

Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church.

The men’s luncheon club established the honor in 1957, first awarding it to John Igoe of Columbus St. Agatha Church, and has presented it every year since then. The 2019 recipient was Frank J. Hartge III of Gahanna St. Matthew Church.

Recipients are chosen by a committee consisting of members of the Catholic Laymen’s Retreat League, the Catholic Men’s Ministry, the Serra Club, the Knights of Columbus and the luncheon club.

Hibernians celebrate St. Brigid’s Day



Bishop Robert Brennan, a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, joined the order’s Columbus division on Saturday, Feb. 2 for its inaugural St. Brigid’s Day celebration. The event began with Mass at Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church, followed by an Irish celebration known as a hooley in the order’s Tara Hall. Pictured with the bishop are Hibernians women’s division president Katie Somers, who delivered a keynote speech on St. Brigid of Kildare and how her legacy inspires the work of the order, and men’s division president Scott Partika, who presented the bishop with a Hibernians sash. Funds were raised throughout the evening to support the order’s charities in central Ohio.

Photo courtesy Ancient Order of Hibernians



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Clergy showcase their kitchen talents to benefit seminarians

By MaryBeth Eberhard

The culinary skills of diocesan clergy were put to the test last week at the annual Clergy Who Cook benefit. Held at the Jessing Center of the Pontifical College Josephinum, the lively event showcased some healthy (and some not so healthy, but pretty tasty) competition.

For the past 10 years, Clergy Who Cook and other events sponsored by Friends of the Josephinum have raised more than \$1 million to benefit seminarians. The funds pay for academic scholarships, medical and dental travel, retreats, emergency trips back home and a Holy Land pilgrimage for seminarians in the Josephinum's graduate program.

The night began with drinks and social time for the more than 250 guests who attended the sold-out event. Josephinum students served as waiters, bartenders, greeters and emcees.

Father Steven Beseau, rector of the Josephinum, expressed his gratitude for the continued support of the fundraiser. Bishop Robert Brennan shared how happy he was to attend, as it was one year ago that he first met the Josephinum's seminarians. "It is an event like this that demonstrates how much the people in this diocese love their

priests," Bishop Brennan said. After he led the dinner blessing, the competition began, with 11 dishes to sample:

- Baklava, courtesy of Father Stephen Alcott, OP, and Father Stephen Dominic Hayes, OP, Columbus St. Patrick Church.

- Strawberry shortcake cookie cups, Father James Black, Powell St. Joan of Arc Church.

- Butterscotch on the rocks, Deacon Joseph Ciaciura, Westerville St. Paul Church.

- Lobster Newberg, Father Peter Gideon, Lancaster St. Mark Church.

- Barbecue pork tacos, Deacon Chase Goodman, seminarian, Diocese of Victoria, Texas, currently serving at Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church.

- Venison meatballs, Father Michael Hartge and Father Christopher Yakkel, Perry County Consortium.

- Potato-rivel soup, Father Thomas Herge, Worthington St. Michael Church.

- TBDWITL (chicken wings), Father Brian O'Connor, Canal Winchester St. John XXIII Church.

- Bourbon braised pork belly bites, Father Ty Tomson and Deacon Mark Scarpitti, Lancaster St. Bernadette



Father Michael Hartge, pastor of the Perry County Consortium, serves his venison meatballs during the annual Clergy Who Cook fundraiser to benefit seminarians at the Pontifical College Josephinum.

Photo courtesy Max Gallegos/Pontifical College Josephinum

Church.

- Irish coffee cupcakes jubilee, Father Patrick Toner, Columbus St. Mary Magdalene Church.

- Bacon tan, Deacon Todd Tucky, Delaware St. Mary Church.

- Bragging rights went to Father

O'Connor for his chicken wings, winner of the judge's choice award. The Dominicans took the dessert category with their baklava, and the people's choice award went to Father Gideon for his lobster Newberg.

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Hartley's Kortokrax continues family legacy in coaching

By Doug Bean
Catholic Times Editor

Columbus Bishop Hartley's boys basketball team hasn't experienced the level of success this year that it's accustomed to having. Nevertheless, the 2019-20 season will go down as a memorable one for coach Randy Kortokrax.

Kortokrax not only is coaching his son, Kylan, for the final time as a senior, but also on Jan. 14, he reached a milestone with his 300th victory.

The Hawks outlasted the Upper Arlington Golden Bears 49-46 in overtime for win No. 300.

"I guess inside I was more happy with the win than the 300th because I knew we needed it," Kortokrax said. "It felt good because the kids had worked hard to that point to win that game. We just had to learn to finish, hit free throw and play 'D.'

"You don't really think about (300 wins). You're just trying to get better for the remainder of the season and next year. You never really have time to sit back and see what you accomplished."

His son made key free throws in the OT to help secure the victory.

"For him to be a part of it is special" the coach said. "Being in overtime, against Upper Arlington, and getting that much-need win is what I will remember."

Kortokrax is nearing the end of his 20th season as Hartley's head coach. When he took the job in 2000, he wasn't thinking about how many games he would win or how long he would coach. Like most coaches starting out in the profession, he was just trying to put together a team and build a sustainable program.

"I think it's cool that we've won some games along the way," he said. "But I've always felt, this is high school, not college. We're here to help the kids when they come in as freshmen to mature and grow until they're ready for college. Our job is to become quality players and people."

Kortokrax, who serves as Hartley's dean of students, does know something about winning. Quite a bit, in fact. He learned from his father.

Those who follow high school basketball in Ohio most likely have heard about or maybe even have seen Dick Kortokrax's teams play. He's the winningest boys basketball coach in state



Bishop Hartley boys basketball coach Randy Kortokrax (left) and his father, Dick, have accumulated nearly 1,200 high school basketball victories between them. Randy reached 300 wins last month in his 20th season with the Hawks. He played for his father, the winningest coach in Ohio high school history, at Kalida High School.

Photo courtesy Bishop Hartley

history, compiling an 890-371 record in 56 seasons at three schools before retiring in 2016 at age 82. The legendary coach spent 41 of those years at Kalida High School, where his teams went 665-271, won a state title in 1981 and finished as the state runner-up in 1988 and 2009.

Randy played for his father at Kalida and was part of his 600th win before going on to play college basketball at the University of Findlay, graduating in 1987 as the school career leader in points with 2,575 and rebounds with 1,242.

Those experiences laid the foundation for what later would turn into a successful coaching career of his own. Hard work, fundamentals and discipline form the core of his program.

"My goal was always to impress my dad," Randy said. "He was very hard to impress, and I always wanted him to say 'good game' when I played a good game. And he wouldn't say it. That's hard. (But) when he did say it, it meant

something."

Before Kortokrax moved into full-time coaching, he used his athletic talent to carve out a Hall-of-Fame, 25-year career in professional softball. He traveled the country playing for some of the sport's elite slow-pitch teams but also stayed in touch with basketball, helping his father at Kalida when time permitted until moving to his wife's hometown of Westerville.

Kortokrax was still playing softball and making a good living while also working part time with the basketball program at Hartley when the head coaching opportunity arose suddenly. He faced a conundrum: keep playing softball, or quit and take a coaching opportunity that might not present itself again for a while.

He chose coaching and doesn't regret the decision.

A decade later, he reached the state tournament as a coach just like his father did, leading Hartley to the final four in 2011. That team finished with

a 22-2 record after losing to Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary in the state semifinals.

Father and son still talk basketball from time to time.

"What I learned from dad is to be fundamentally sound, teamwork and hard work," he said. "Keep it simple, son (K.I.S.S.). That's how I try to do it. I like fundamentals; I don't like flash. I drew a lot off him. I picked his brain. I always told him, 'I might not use what you told me, but I'd like your opinion.'"

During Kortokrax's tenure, Hartley has played in 10 district championship games, winning five. The most recent came last year when the Hawks beat Columbus St. Francis DeSales at one point by the buzzer.

This season has proved to be an aberration. Kortokrax knew that it would be a challenge after losing eight of his top nine scorers. This year's rebuilding team was 8-10 overall and 0-7 in the Central Catholic League entering a CCL game against Columbus Bishop Watterson on Friday, Feb. 14. The regular season ends Tuesday, Feb. 18.

"We haven't had a year like this in a while. We've been very fortunate over the years," he said. "But we never talk about records. We want to be the best team we can be at the end of the year. How many wins that is, who knows? It might be five, it might be 10, but the challenge is to end up playing your best basketball."

"I've really enjoyed this team because nobody's a star, and they all get along."

More important than the wins and losses are the relationships that he has built with his players and coaches.

"What I've always enjoyed is that my players come back," said Kortokrax, whose daughter, Kami, is a basketball standout for the Hartley girls as a junior and a recent Ohio State University softball commitment. "I think, to me, what's how you're judged as a coach. Did you help them better themselves and better themselves for college and the rest of their lives, or did you just use them to get to 300?"

"Sometimes I have to get on them and push them, and they don't like it, but we see the whole picture, and they just see part of it. I treat them one through 12 all the same. Everybody is valuable on this team. That's how dad was. He held 12 to the same standard as one. And that's how I am. I really think people respect that."

For 75 years, agency has aided diocese's most vulnerable

By Tim Puet

Catholic Times Reporter

On Sept. 15, 1945, 13 days after the surrender documents ending World War II were signed, Columbus Bishop Michael Ready established the diocesan Catholic Welfare Bureau.

It was a time of uncertainty, as the end of the war meant soldiers would be coming home and returning to their jobs, displacing people who had replaced them while the soldiers were in the military. In addition, the war's end meant the arrival of large numbers of immigrants coming to the United States as refugees from lands devastated by combat.

The Catholic Welfare Bureau was a response to those needs. Its focus was on families and child care. In its first year, it began a counseling program that aided 239 families facing situations such as domestic issues, financial problems and inability to care for children. It also placed 10 children in foster homes. Two years later, it began a program placing 25 children with adoptive parents.

As social agencies evolved, some of those activities were taken over by other agencies and the welfare bureau, which changed its name to Catholic Social Services (CSS), took on additional roles. As the number of senior citizens grew, CSS added programs serving that segment of the population while continuing its emphasis on families.

As it celebrates its 75th anniversary in 2020, Catholic Social Services is unwavering in its efforts to help working-poor families stabilize and become self-sufficient through case management, mental health care and emergency assistance, and to enable low-income seniors to age with grace and independence through supportive services and community impact opportunities.

In 2018, the most recent year for which complete figures are available, it had an impact on the lives of more than 34,000 residents of the 23 counties in the Diocese of Columbus through 14 programs in five locations.

During the year, CSS provided more than 214,000 emergency assistance meals at its community centers and served more than 3,600 senior citizens. Its Foster Grandparent program connected at-risk students at Head Start programs and schools with seniors who helped them develop basic learning skills. The Our Lady of Guadalupe Center on Columbus' west

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES CONTACTS

Information on all programs is available at www.colsscsc.org under the categories "Family Support" or "Senior Support"

FAMILY SUPPORT

Our Lady of Guadalupe Center: Ramona Reyes, (614) 340-7061 or rreyes@colsscsc.org

St. Francis Center, Portsmouth: Barbara McKenzie, (740) 353-3185 or bmckenzie@colsscsc.org

Case Management: Alecia Howard, (614) 857-1201 or ahoward@colsscsc.org

Maternal Counseling: Jennifer Fears-Volley, (614) 857-1210 or jfears-volley@colsscsc.org

Pathways to Hope: Jennifer Fears-Volley, (614) 857-1210 or jfears-volley@colsscsc.org

Stay the Course: Lashone Moncrief, (614) 857-1229 or lmoncrief@colsscsc.org

SENIOR SUPPORT

Senior Companion: Tony Parks, (614) 857-1211 or tparks@colsscsc.org

Supportive Services: Alecia Howard, (614) 857-1201 or ahoward@colsscsc.org

Money Management: Alecia Howard, (614) 857-1201 or ahoward@colsscsc.org

Payee Services: Dave Desender, (740) 345-2565 (Newark), (740) 452-5057 (Zanesville) or ddesender@colsscsc.org

Transportation Services: Dave Desender, (740) 345-2565 (Newark), (740) 452-5057 (Zanesville) or ddesender@colsscsc.org

Foster Grandparent: Tameko Martin, (614) 857-1246 or tmartin@colsscsc.org

Seton Square Service Coordination: Angela Stoller-Zervas, (614) 857-1249 or astoller-zervas@colsscsc.org

side grew from a food pantry to a full-service community center serving that area's large Latino community,

helping immigrants today in the same way the agency did 75 years ago.

"What I love most about being a

part of Catholic Social Services is that it has been unrelenting in providing quality services where the community has needed them the most," said Rachel Lustig, who has been the agency's president and chief executive officer for 6 ½ years.

"We have always been in places where people are suffering and we could offer meaningful support, helping families build a brighter future and helping seniors live independently. As more people become senior citizens, programs for them are showing particular growth. The number of seniors CSS has assisted in the last five years has grown by nearly 50 percent.

"This year's anniversary celebration gives us a chance to reconnect with the great work CSS has done for the last 75 years," Lustig said. "I feel as though I'm standing on the shoulders of giants who have brought the agency to where it is today."

One of those who played a key role in guiding CSS through its early years was Helen McDaniel, who was hired as a caseworker in 1946, became the agency's director in 1970 and remained in that position until her retirement in 1985. She died in 2010.

Another was Msgr. Lawrence Corcoran, who was appointed in 1947 as assistant to the agency's founding director, Msgr. William Kappes, then succeeded Msgr. Kappes in that role in 1960. Five years later, Msgr. Corcoran moved to Washington, where he was executive director of the national Catholic Charities organization from 1965 to 1982. He then returned to Columbus and remained involved in social service activities until his death in 2009.

"Helen and Msgr. Corcoran had a big impact on Catholic social services agencies not just locally, but throughout the nation," said Don Wisler, who served as CSS president from 2002 to 2013. "They already had a great reputation when I started in social service work in 1974 in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Helen was one of the first woman chief executives of any social service agency in the United States. She and Msgr. Corcoran set a great example I hope I was able to maintain."

"What impressed me most about Helen from the start was that she was a very good leader with a great ability to bring people together," Msgr. Corcoran said in a 2007 *Catholic Times* story. "Especially in those early days, you always had a feeling of

HISTORY, *continued from Page 10*

working together, belonging and developing something that was going to last when you dealt with Helen.”

In the same story, McDaniel recalled that the agency had four employees when she started. It has 83 staff members today. “I can remember driving all over the diocese when I started because I was the only one on the staff who had a car,” she said. “We were small, but kept growing and had reason to. Plenty of things needed done. Fortunately, I loved my job, and I had a staff that loved to do things, so the feeling of support was mutual.”

Adoption and child placement work gave McDaniel the most satisfaction in her years with CSS. “Putting children in the right homes and seeing the happiness of both the families who took children and the parents who wanted a good home for the child gave me a feeling that I was helping the whole social service system, not just my part of it,” she said.

The agency began an adoption program in 1947 and it continued until the early 2000s. Wisler said CSS found adoptive parents for more than 1,000 children during that time, placing as many as 40 a year in homes. “As time went on and social attitudes shifted, it became less unusual for a woman to be a single parent, to the point where today, more than 40 percent of children are born to single mothers,” he said. As a result, CSS and other agencies ended their adoption-related activities to concentrate on other family service programs.

In 1948, one year after the adoption program began, the Catholic Welfare Bureau began resettling displaced persons from eastern Europe, helping more than 400 of them with housing and job placement. By the beginning of 1950, the agency had opened offices in Newark and Zanesville, both of which have been in operation ever since.

In 1955, the bureau began a homemaker services program to help families without a mother present at home. The program assisted with cooking, cleaning and caring for the home. One year later, its displaced persons program helped resettle refugees from the Hungarian Revolution of 1956. Then in 1957, the bureau opened its Portsmouth office with help from the Glenmary Sisters.

In the 1960s, the displaced persons program was called on again to help resettle a large group of refugees – this time from Cuba. Msgr. Corcoran in 1962 traveled to Miami and wrote an impassioned plea from there to *The Catholic Times*, noting that 50,000 peo-

ple had fled to the Florida city to escape the regime of Fidel Castro and the Catholic Church was the first and the principal source to come to their aid.

By 1964, unaccompanied children began arriving in the United States from Cuba in increasing numbers. The welfare bureau responded with a program to place those children in foster homes, at St. Vincent’s Orphanage (now the St. Vincent Family Center) and in a group home on Columbus’ east side.

The bureau changed its name to Catholic Social Services in 1967. In that same year, the diocese purchased the former Copco Building at 197 E. Gay St., which was renamed the Catholic Center. Two years later, the CSS offices were moved to that site.

McDaniel’s appointment as director of CSS in 1970 coincided with its 25th anniversary and the separation of the agency from the diocesan Catholic Charities office. In 1976, CSS began the Senior Companion program, which helps homebound senior citizens remain independent by sending another senior to visit their homes for socialization and non-medical assistance.

The Supportive Services program, with licensed social workers helping seniors continue to live independently in their homes, began in 1977, the same year that CSS began serving residents of the 14 diocese-sponsored Seton Square housing locations for low-income seniors and disabled persons.

The CSS Transportation Program for seniors and qualified military veterans in Licking County was established in 1982, the same year the agency received the accreditation by the Council on Accreditation which it continues to maintain.

Also in 1982, the diocese purchased and renovated a 10-unit apartment building in Columbus’ Italian Village neighborhood. It became the Warren Street transitional housing complex, a short-term facility for homeless families. CSS collaborated on the project with several other agencies. The Holy Rosary Family Shelter also was opened that year on Columbus’ east side to provide emergency housing and temporary shelter for homeless women and their children.

Sara Murphy replaced McDaniel as president of CSS in 1987. Two years later, the agency began Project Rachel, a program to help with physical, emotional and spiritual post-abortion healing.

The agency in 1990 launched its Payee Program, which helps seniors and disabled persons manage finances independently. In 1992, a grant

through Franklin County Children Services enabled CSS to provide families with in-home services related to parenting skills and communication among family members.

The agency’s first Breakfast with the Bishop, one of its two major annual fundraisers, began in 1993 with Bishop James Griffin in attendance. The event, at which more than 600 people gather early in the morning to hear about the work CSS has done in the preceding 12 months, has continued uninterrupted for 27 years, through the tenures of Bishop Griffin and his successors, Bishops Frederick Campbell and Robert Brennan. The agency’s other significant fundraiser, a dinner-dance known first as Bux and Pucks, then Tux and Bucks, and now as the Spirit of Hope Gala, began in 1998. This year’s gala will take place on Saturday, March 7.

Also in 1993, Catholic Social Services was awarded the Angelo E. George Endowment Fund from The Catholic Foundation to assist the agency’s migration and refugee resettlement services. This grant supported employment screenings and placements, English language tutoring and acculturation programs. In 1995, CSS opened the Sherard Health Clinic on East Patterson Avenue, offering health screenings, nutrition education and counseling at no cost to families in need.

As the 20th century came to a close, Latino immigrants began settling in large numbers on Columbus’ west side. That led to the opening of the CSS Our Lady of Guadalupe Center at a location it was to outgrow in a few years.

In 2000, the agency began its JobReach program to help low-income Franklin County residents find permanent employment. The program offered career readiness training and resume assistance. CSS began an additional effort to help the Latino, Somali and other immigrant and refugee populations find employment in 2002, a year in which Murphy retired as the agency’s president and was succeeded by Wisler.

Columbus State Community College formed a partnership with CSS to offer classes in English as a Second Language in 2005. In the following year, the Our Lady of Guadalupe Center moved to a larger location and began operating as a choice pantry, meaning people could shop for their own food rather than receiving a pre-selected box of items.

The agency was recognized in a number of ways in 2006 and 2007, receiving the Better Business Bureau

Integrity Award, the Mundo Hispano Award for best nonprofit organization and the Healthcare Heroes Award for community outreach. In 2010, CSS began its Money Management Program to help seniors having difficulty managing their finances.

CSS partnered with the CHOICES domestic violence shelter in 2011 to provide help to survivors of domestic abuse and their children through its Pathways to Hope Program, offering two years of case management to women who are leaving shelters for safe homes.

“Getting Pathways to Hope started is what I’m proudest of when looking over my 11 years with CSS,” Wisler said. “It’s very satisfying to see how it’s built women a stable base as they recover from domestic violence. We got help from federal grants and used most of our reserve funds to accomplish a good purpose.”

Lustig came from Washington, D.C., where she had spent 10 years with Catholic Charities USA, to succeed Wisler in 2013. In the following year, the CSS Portsmouth office was moved to what formerly was a monastery occupied by the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration, a cloistered order of nuns. The building was remodeled into a full community center and renamed the St. Francis Center.

Also in 2014, CSS began offering in-home maternal counseling to mothers, helping them remove barriers to mental health care, such as finding child care and transportation.

The Foster Grandparent program, which unites two generations by pairing low-income, active seniors with at-risk children for tutoring at schools and Head Start sites, began in 2016, while 2017 was highlighted by a significant expansion of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Center from a food pantry to a community center providing case management services and room for a variety of classes, health screenings, meetings and other activities. CSS also began providing service coordinators for residents of the 14 Seton Square sites in 2017.

In 2018, a CSS team traveled to the Humanitarian Resource Center in McAllen, Texas, to help process immigrants for a week. The center’s director is Sister Norma Pimentel, MJ, the 2019 Breakfast with the Bishop speaker. During the year, Our Lady of Guadalupe Center coordinator Alma Santos was recognized with the *Columbus Dispatch* Everyday Heroes Award.

Senior programs boost independence, quality of life

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

Catholic Social Services (CSS) and its family-based activities have been involved with senior citizens throughout the agency's 75-year history. Beginning in the mid-1970s, CSS has offered programs designed to help seniors maintain their independence by providing assistance with housing and financial stability.

In the past few years, the impact of those programs has become more noticeable. CSS said that in 2018, the most recent year for which complete totals are available, its programs for seniors served more than 3,600 people. This represents a 50 percent increase over five years in the number of seniors benefiting from the agency's services.

The success of those programs can be shown in more than participation numbers. CSS follow-up surveys show that 98 percent of the seniors the agency served in 2018 said its programs helped them achieve their goals that led them to take part in those activities.

As the population of seniors is expected to almost double by 2040, CSS services will be even more necessary, especially considering that people now reaching that age level tend to have lower incomes, be in poorer health and experience more social isolation than their counterparts from earlier generations.

CSS offers seven programs for seniors: Supportive Services, Money Management, Senior Companions, Transportation Services, Payee Services, Foster Grandparents, and Service Coordination at the Seton Square affordable housing complexes throughout the Diocese of Columbus.

Alecia Howard, director of the Supportive Services and Money Management programs, said about 75 percent of seniors served by CSS have annual incomes of 150 percent or less than the federal poverty level, which is \$12,760 for one person or \$17,240 for a couple.

"Supportive Services fills in a lot of gaps," she said. "Examples are when a home becomes difficult to maintain because of mobility or cost issues, or when someone needs help with paying bills, going to the doctor, applying for Medicaid or trying to fill out paperwork for a power of attorney form. Our licensed social workers provide individual care and case management for all this.



Bishop Robert Brennan visits residents of the Seton Square West apartment complex for low-income senior citizens and persons with disabilities on April 10, 2019. Catholic Social Services provides service coordinators for residents of each of the 14 diocesan-sponsored Seton Square units, which are located in 10 cities in nine counties, and has been involved with Seton Squares since the first of them opened in 1977. CT file photo

"One of the people we recently aided was fleeing a domestic violence situation in another state and came to Ohio because she had friends in Newark," Howard said. "She found a place where she could afford the rent and other expenses, but she didn't plan for her health to fail. She spent a lot of time in and out of hospitals, and while she was doing that, her rent went up and her utility bill doubled, so her budget was shot. Her friends and family were unable to provide enough to keep her going.

"She tried to find a more affordable place and got put on a waiting list, but got bumped off of it because she got the paperwork for it and couldn't understand it because she was sick. She got in touch with us and the first thing we did was get her a food box, which she receives once a month. It includes enough nonperishable items to feed her for two or three days.

"Then we helped her find housing that was both more affordable and met more of her needs. Several months later, she moved into a subsidized building which was an even better fit. Now she has a nurse checking on her regularly and neighbors who provide help when needed. She's still struggling, but her outlook has changed tremendously," Howard said.

The Supportive Services program serves Franklin and Licking counties. Howard said 373 people – 285 in Franklin County and 88 in Licking – received help last year from the program, which CSS has operated since 1977, when it was known as Senior Care.

"Our Money Management program helps low-income seniors with money problems get out of debt or manage their finances better," she said. It helps people prepare monthly budgets, pay bills, deposit checks, connect with financial and legal help and prepare for long-term needs so they can remain independent.

"We work with some people who always have needed assistance with living and have a parent or a family member help with bills," Howard said. "But what if that person dies? We help make sure someone in that situation doesn't get taken advantage of. Depending on the situation, we help people in such cases find new housing or remain in their current home as long as possible, while giving them the ability to manage their funds on their own.

"One couple we helped had worked for their entire lives but never managed their funds well. Suddenly they were evicted and had to move from their home within a couple of days. We found them secure housing and a grant to pay their moving expenses. Some legal issues arose from the eviction, and they were given bad advice. We found people to help straighten out those problems.

"They've lived in their new home for a few years. The wife, who had stopped working, is doing part-time work again because she has secure housing. They've followed our advice on handling money and are paying down the debts they have incurred, so they're in a much better financial position."

CSS began the Money Management program in 2010. It also serves Franklin and Licking counties. Howard said it helped 60 people in 2019.

The Payee Services program also helps people with their finances and does not have an income restriction. It is for seniors, people re-entering society and people with disabilities who are unable to manage their own financial affairs, are referred by individuals or social service agencies, and are designated by the Social Security Administration to handle a person's regular benefit checks.

For a monthly fee, it processes the checks, sets up a monthly budget, pays the person's recurring bills and gives him or her an agreed-upon amount to cover discretionary items such as entertainment and clothing. Participants are encouraged to save some of that amount. Program director Dave Desender said 43 percent of the people using CSS Payee Services have saved at least \$700, with most of them having at least \$1,000 in savings.

"One gentleman who is part of this program signed up for it because he trusted another resident of the building he lived in with handling his money," Desender said. "He didn't have food in his cupboard and realized that person was taking advantage of him. Once Payee Services began monitoring his situation, that problem quickly ended."

Payee Services is CSS' most widespread program, covering 62 Ohio and West Virginia counties. Desender said that last year, it helped nearly 1,100 people manage more than \$10 million in benefits. Since CSS began offering the program in 1990, it has assisted more than 2,000 people with \$81 million in benefits.

Desender also is in charge of CSS' Transportation Program, which began in 1982 and is available only in Licking County for seniors and qualified military veterans, taking them to non-emergency medical appointments anywhere in Ohio. It does not have an income restriction. Desender said that, in 2019, its nine vehicles transported 394 people on 8,807 trips covering 186,455 miles. About one-fourth of those trips involved people with mobility issues.

"What I'm most proud of about this service is that, when we recently surveyed users about it, 34 percent responded to the survey – a remarkable number – with 100 percent say-

Stay the Course program helps Columbus State students finish degrees

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

Community colleges provide an affordable way for many students to obtain a post-high school education. But many people who want to attend Columbus State Community College and similar institutions face barriers that keep them from fulfilling their dreams of earning a college degree.

It is well-documented that earning a college degree significantly improves a person's earning potential. However, according to the Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities (LEO) at the University of Notre Dame, "Economically disadvantaged students are three times less likely (than the overall student population) to complete college because they have more barriers to college success."

Money is a factor in this, but is only part of the problem. According to LEO, "Existing research points to four broad explanations for the low rate of persistence and completion among community college students: cost of college attendance; academic underpreparation; personal non-academic obstacles; and social and institutional obstacles." Most current programs aimed at helping community college students complete their degree programs focus on the first two factors and neglect the last two, which are equally large barriers to success.

Barriers are heightened for low-income students, many of whom are first-generation college students. Even if students have family support, families might not have the firsthand experience to help them with college obstacles. Students might not know about skills such as goal setting, financial management or self-advocacy. They also might not know that they qualify for assistance programs and might need help finding affordable child care, accessing a food pantry or creating a budget.

There is a clear need for personalized, supportive services for these students that goes beyond what traditional college academic counselors offer.

As part of its mission of strengthening families, particularly the working poor, Catholic Social Services (CSS) is partnering with Columbus State in Stay the Course, an evidence-based case management program that has been shown to improve college persistence and degree attainment for low-income community college students.

By replicating this proven program, CSS will give students facing un-

equal barriers to college success the supportive services they need to earn degrees, which lead to jobs that can support families and break the cycle of generational poverty.

A key to the program is the assistance provided by trained social workers, known as navigators, who act as mentors for the students.

"Navigators provide case management and emergency financial assistance to keep students engaged and help them persist to graduation," said Lashone Moncrief, CSS program manager for Stay the Course. "They help students develop a set of academic goals each semester and assist students in creating a plan for accomplishing those goals."

They also provide access to a wide range of other services. These can include, but are not limited to, finding affordable housing, arranging for day care, or responding to transportation needs with bus passes or money for a car repair.

"One of the students I'm working with is facing homelessness issues," said navigator Brittany Branch. "She needed emergency financial assistance to be able to stabilize her situation and keep her in class. She was awarded \$500, and that was a sufficient amount. That may not seem like a lot to many people, but it can mean the difference between a hopeful future and a continued struggle."

Keena Watson, data administrator for Stay the Course, speaks with experience about the impact of a community college education. "I was raising three children while going to school and always was dealing with issues related to work-life balance," she said. "It took me four years to complete a two-year Columbus State degree program, but I did it. I wish something like Stay the Course had been available to me."

Catholic Social Services and its counterparts in the dioceses of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana, and Kansas City, Missouri, and the Archdiocese of Baltimore each have been awarded \$1.2 million through a national competitive grant by Catholic Charities USA to replicate Stay the Course programs for three years. The grant was made in March, and the program began at Columbus State in August, when its 2019 autumn semester began.

Navigators were recruited through the Columbus State website and the job search engine Indeed. "I noticed an announcement about the Stay the Course on Indeed late one night, and it really appealed to me because of my experiences," Watson said. The

program's other CSS staff members at Columbus State are navigators Joseph Hansen IV and Lori Clayton.

Moncrief said about 50 Columbus State students are being helped by Stay the Course. She also said that nearly every one of the students who are part of the program said they looked into it for reasons that were not money issues.

"One of the program's goals is that we want to show people the way to experience financial freedom," Hansen said. "Several have said they have enough money to meet everyday needs but would like to create a rainy-day fund, and we show them how to do that.

"A key question for them is, 'What do you think should be the first step toward being able to have money available for unexpected emergencies?' This starts getting them to think proactively instead of reactively, and we add steps from there."

Students enrolled in Stay the Course must be eligible for federal Pell Grants and be taking no more than 30 credit hours of classes per year, and must not have received a previous college degree. They have access to a maximum of \$500 per semester, or \$1,500 for the duration of the program, for non-academic expenses. The students must contact their navigator every week and meet with him or her in person at least every other week to discuss their progress toward a degree.

Stay the Course began in 2013 as a partnership between Catholic Charities of Fort Worth, Texas, and Tarrant County College in Fort Worth. After three years, it was evaluated by LEO.

The most notable results of the evaluation showed that Stay the Course participants were 25.2 percent more likely to persist in college than students not receiving the type of assistance the program provides, and 31.5 percent of female students were more likely to earn an associate degree.

Moncrief, who has worked in social service programs for 20 years, including the past nine at Columbus State, said, "There's room for many more students to be involved with Stay the Course, since the grant provides for a maximum of 240 participants. The program is being promoted through marketing, email blasts and tables set up at activity fairs and on the college campus" near downtown.

"Stay the Course is an opportunity to show the resiliency and tenacity of our students as they push forward to greater goals while continuing with their everyday lives," she said. "All of us in the program are excited for the

opportunity to be a part of their success and ultimately, their graduation."

Other CSS programs for families

Stay the Course is the most recent addition to the many programs CSS sponsors for families. The agency approaches families holistically to help them overcome the interrelated challenges of poverty, to strengthen relationships and to empower families with the tools for self-sufficiency. They address physical needs of food, clothing and shelter while helping families improve mental health and overcome barriers to long-term stability and well-being.

CSS provides high-quality mental health care to people with low incomes who are school age and older because the agency believes low income should not be a barrier to accessing mental health care. It employs licensed social workers, and its counseling program is nationally accredited by the Council on Accreditation and certified by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

The agency's maternal counseling program allows licensed social workers to provide clinical counseling to mothers in their homes. This is essential for helping low-income mothers, many of whom experience pregnancy- or parenting-related areas of stress such as postpartum depression, relationship problems, isolation or a lack of support.

These mothers often have multiple barriers to care and lack the resources they need to raise their children in safe, nurturing environments. CSS is one of the few agencies that visits them in their homes to remove barriers to care, such as finding child care and transporting children. The agency is committed to giving low-income mothers the support they need to keep themselves and their children healthy.

A CSS case manager is available to families served by the agency to help them tackle barriers to economic self-sufficiency and overall family well-being. The case manager can help families acquire affordable housing, learn how to manage their finances, find child care and jobs, access benefits and community resources, and more.

Through the Our Lady of Guadalupe Center on Columbus' west side, CSS works to address the root causes of poverty in the Latino community concentrated in the area around the center. An expansion in 2017 allowed the center to serve more people by meeting their emergency needs and

Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year A)

So help us God, live nothing but the truth

Father Timothy Hayes

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



Sirach 15:15-20

Psalms 119:1-2,4-5,17-18,33-34

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Matthew 5:17-37

So help us God, live nothing but the truth

Are you “a person of your word”? When you speak, do others know that what you are saying corresponds to the truth? When you are known to be a person of your word, then everyone knows that your “Yes” means “Yes” and your “No” means “No.” There is no need for exaggeration or embellishment.

For the moment, I will get very personal. I am not quite sure where I picked this up – it must have been from my parents and their training. But I find it quite impossible to tell a lie. I just cannot do it. Honestly, I am physically incapable of telling even “white lies” – those “little fibs” that most folks can tell without blinking an eye – without turning color. I can sometimes make a joke or point you in the wrong direction if it is necessary, but beyond that, please don’t ask me to cover for you. I can’t do it. You will be discovered.

There is a burden that comes with this. When I realize someone has been misunderstood, I experience the need to intervene. I will try to help you understand each other’s position so you can communicate. I want the truth to be acknowledged.

A Thomistic principle tells us that “whatever is received, is received according to the mode of the receiver.” (“*Quidquid recipitur, secundum modum recipientis recipitur.*”) Everything is understood by the way the receiver picks it up.

I will do my best to understand very clearly what you have to say and help you get through to the other party. I listen and try to understand. Then I pay attention to the ways that “get the message through to the other” and put them to use. In some small way, I hope I contribute to the effort to establish unity and peace in the world. It can be very frustrating

when folks just do not, or will not, try to understand things from one another’s perspective.

Can you imagine what it must have been like for Jesus? He IS Truth Itself. In the face of our world of sin and weakness, how painful it must have been for Him to live among folks like us who just don’t get it. Yet Jesus does not show this frustration too often. Rather, He patiently teaches and waits for understanding. He gives example after example and points to the Truth that is beyond the frustrations.

Jesus teaches us the inner meaning of the Law of God. He reveals the greater righteousness that comes from love. He comes not to abolish the law, but rather to fill it with meaning and to make known to us the divine perspective.

The law is a road that points us in the right direction and promises to get us where we really want to go. We can obey God’s commandments, if we choose to. We are not the authors of our nature; we are not the Creator. To learn the design He has put into our very bodies, our minds and spirits is part of the journey to wisdom.

Wisdom is the fruit of experience or of intimacy with someone who understands. Wisdom that is given to us by folks who come before us is not an older generation imposing their ways on us; rather, it is their gift of experience, sharing with us what they learned along the way. Life is easier for those who are humble enough to admit that others can offer wisdom.

Wisdom teaches us how to live in relationship to God, to others and to the world. God offers His people wisdom through the Torah, the Law of Moses, and the Law of the Gospel. The Church continues to speak wisdom in God’s name. When we hear God and His Church with humility, we are given a wisdom that is greater than the world’s.

“Eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and it has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love Him.”

May we find blessing as we seek to follow the law of the Lord. May we live so that our lives reveal the truth of God’s word.

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

MONDAY

James 1:1-11
Psalm 119:67-68,
71-72,75-76
Mark 8:11-13

WEDNESDAY

James 1:19-27
Psalm 15:2-5
Mark 8:22-26

FRIDAY

James 2:14-24,26
Psalm 112:1-6
Mark 8:34-9:1

TUESDAY

James 1:12-18
Psalm 94:12-15,18-19
Mark 8:14-21

THURSDAY

James 2:1-9
Psalm 34:2-7
Mark 8:27-33

SATURDAY

1 Peter 5:1-4
Psalm 23:1-6
Matthew 16:13-19

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE: WEEK OF FEB. 16, 2020

SUNDAY MASS

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

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

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

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN

(Spectrum Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or WOW Channel 378). (Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).

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

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

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

We pray Week II, Seasonal Proper, Liturgy of the Hours.

7AM



FR. JOHN RICCARDO
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MATTHEW KELLY
Dynamic Catholic

NEW
MORNING
LINEUP

8AM



FR. ADAM STREITENBERGER
Conversations on Discipleship



SR. MIRIAM JAMES HEIDLAND, MICHELLE BENZINGER, HEATHER KHYM
Abiding Together



FR. NATHAN CROMLY
Dare Great Things

ST. GABRIEL
CATHOLIC RADIO



AM 820
CENTRAL OHIO

FM 88.3
SOUTHERN OHIO

SENIOR, *continued from Page 12*

ing they were satisfied with it and 99 percent saying it made a big impact on their lives," he said.

Catholic Social Services has been involved with the diocesan-sponsored Seton Square complexes for low-income seniors and people with mobility impairment issues since the first of the sites opened in 1977. There are now 14 Seton Squares in nine cities in 10 counties.

In 2017, the agency placed a service coordinator at each Seton Square location. Coordinators assist when seniors are confronted by new challenges such as medical or health issues, tax law changes or technological hurdles beyond their skill level. This increases seniors' quality of life and allows them to continue living in their homes with independence and confidence.

CSS' oldest offering for seniors is the Senior Companion program,

which began in 1976, and its newest is the Foster Grandparents program, which started in 2017. Both provide an opportunity for seniors to interact with others for their mutual benefit.

"The Senior Companion program is for residents of Franklin and Delaware counties and addresses two specific issues," said program director Tony Parks. "One is the loneliness and isolation some seniors feel because they are homebound. The other is the community's need to better use the talents of more active seniors who want to help others." He said 106 Companions visited 496 people in 2019.

Senior Companions are people 55 and older with low incomes who can volunteer for at least 15 hours a week, have suitable transportation and can pass a physical examination and a background check. They receive a stipend and travel reimbursement to vis-

it homebound seniors, with the visits taking whatever form is agreeable to those seniors and their visitors. This could mean staying home and talking, going out for a meal, shopping for groceries, seeing a movie, visiting a museum or other options.

"The program has filled a need for more than 40 years and now is entering a new stage, as we're seeing a growing need for Companions in immigrant communities," Howard said.

The Foster Grandparents program links seniors with at-risk young people in preschool through fifth grade. Its requirements are similar to those for a Senior Companion, and it also pays a stipend. Its director, Tameko Martin, said it has 72 participants working with 736 students at three Franklin County sites.

Foster Grandparents tutor children in need of support academically, so-

cially and emotionally. The program's goals are to nurture and install a sense of pride in every child being tutored, showing the children they are loved and helping them do better in school, and to give seniors an opportunity to supplement their incomes, combat isolation and have a purposeful way to contribute to the community.

"Each of CSS' programs for seniors has the aim of making a profound difference in the lives of the people we touch," Howard said.

"Whether it involves improving their finances, helping them get around, keeping them in their homes or enabling them to stay active in the community through involvement with others, it's with the purpose of helping them remain independent, respecting their dignity and acknowledging their worth, regardless of faith or background."

HISTORY, *continued from Page 11*

This past fall, CSS was awarded a \$1.2 million Catholic Charities USA grant for the Stay the Course program, designed to help community college students overcome non-academic financial barriers and mental health barriers and stay in school. The program is being conducted in cooperation with Columbus State. And this year, the agency is celebrating its accomplishments and looking toward the future all year as it marks its 75th anniversary.

Lustig said those accomplishments

were the result of consistent dedication by the 83 members of its staff to the people the agency serves.

Seven staff members have been with CSS for at least 20 years. They are: clinician Becky D'Alesio, 47 years; social worker Alfred Williams, 46 years; St. Francis Center program director Barbara McKenzie, 27 years; administrative assistant Donna Montavon, 25 years; Eastern Region director Dave Desender, 23 years; service coordinator Ruth Fortkamp, 21 years;

and Our Lady of Guadalupe Center coordinator Alma Santos, 20 years.

"The best way of honoring our anniversary is to continue to run quality, impactful programs that can help seniors live independently and can help families realize a better tomorrow," Lustig said. "You can see our commitment to that in Stay the Course and the continued growth of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Center.

"We also want and need to engage all people in a critical discussion of

the truth of poverty in our midst because our ultimate vision at Catholic Social Services remains unchanged. That vision is a world in which all who are in need are able to meet their potential to live in dignity.

"If we want to build the kind of community we believe Jesus envisioned, it will take all of us – business, the public sector, the church, nonprofits and others – to come together with a vision of community and a way to move forward with justice and compassion."

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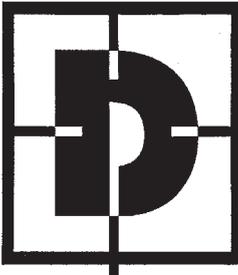
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Watterson signee



Columbus Bishop Watterson High School senior Dominic Dean has signed to play lacrosse at Bellarmine University.
Photo courtesy Bishop Watterson High School

PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

CARR, William, 89, formerly of Columbus, Jan. 31
Epiphany Cathedral, Venice, Fla.

CHANNEL, Eddie Jr., 54, Jan. 21
Church of the Atonement, Crooksville

CIOTOLA, Angelo, 89, Feb. 3
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

DATTILO, Anthony, 89, Feb. 1
St. Philip Church, Columbus

DECKER, Tina M., 73, Feb. 7
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

DICECCO, Julia L. (Anderson), 66, formerly of Columbus, Feb. 4
St. Bernadette Church, Monroeville, Pa.

DOWNEY, Rosemary C. (Burns), 87, Feb. 5
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, Columbus

FOLEY, Mary C., 65, formerly of Columbus, Feb. 2
Queen of Angels Church, Fort Wayne, Ind.

HALL, Joann M. (Dorn), 91, Feb. 2
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Grove City

JESTER, Donald J., 80, Feb. 4
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

KERNS, R. Kevin, 67, Feb. 6
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

MARTINA, Juanita (Palma), 92, Feb. 6
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

MAUTER, Kenneth C., 86, Feb. 6
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

MOORE, Sally K. (Brown), 72, Jan. 23
Church of the Atonement, Crooksville

MULROY, Mary C. (Joos), 89, Feb. 6
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

NASH, Robert, 92, Jan. 31
St. Rose Church, New Lexington

ROMANELLI, Mariano, 80, Feb. 5
St. Paul Church, Westerville
RONDINELLA, Evelyn (Bitzel), 93, Jan. 31
St. Joseph Church, Dover

RUSH, Diane J. (Mott), 85, Feb. 2
St. Paul Church, Westerville

SENS, Charles E., 94, Jan. 31
St. Mary Church, Marion

SICKLE, Marianne J. "Gar" (Pope), 88, Feb. 6
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

SMITH, Mary G., 95, Feb. 2
St. Elizabeth Church, Columbus

WEST, Martha (Labaki), 90, Feb. 2
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

WILSON, Joseph M. "Mike," 76, Feb. 4
St. Colman of Cloyne Church, Washington Court House

WORTHINGTON, John M., 70, Jan. 31
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

YEZZI, Ernest, 89, Feb. 4
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

Paula L. Wilt

Funeral Mass for Paula L. Wilt, 80, who died Thursday, Feb. 6, will be celebrated Saturday, Feb. 15 at Hilliard St. Brendan Church.

She was born on June 22, 1939 in Riverdale, Maryland to William and Anna (Barstow) Primrose.

She was a church organist for 65 years, starting in her teens at St. Patrick's Church in Washington, D.C. She played at St. Brendan Church for 22 years, Sunbury St. John Neumann Church for 11 years, and other churches such as Columbus St. Anthony and Columbus St. Leo.

She was an associate of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur and the Sisters of the Holy Cross, had been a member of the diocesan choir and was in the women's 70th Cum Christo.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, William; and sisters, June Singleton and Claire Lilly. Survivors include her husband, David; sons, Kenneth (Dawn) and Dennis (Jennifer); brother, James; sisters, Anne Rasnake and Frances Lepkowicz; one grandson; one granddaughter; and two great-grandchildren.

COLS STATE, continued from Page 13

offering holistic case management and wraparound services that will transform the capacity of families to become self-sufficient

CSS' Pathways to Hope program addresses homelessness and domestic violence in the Columbus area. It steps in to empower survivors of domestic violence with children by offering two years of case management. By supporting survivors and their

children as they leave shelters, it helps them rebuild their lives in safe homes, with stable incomes and a network of healthy, supportive relationships.

The CSS St. Francis Center in Portsmouth serves Scioto County as a one-stop community center providing families hot meals, clothing and household items, food and emergency assistance, bringing hope and healing to the community.



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FEBRUARY

14-16, FRIDAY-SUNDAY

Bishop Ready Presents *Almost, Maine*

7 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Bishop Ready High School, 707 Salisbury Road, Columbus. School theater department presents John Cariani's romantic comedy *Almost, Maine*. Tickets \$10 adults, \$8 students. 614-276-5263

15, SATURDAY

Columbus Catholic Women's Conference
8 a.m., Kasich Building, State Fairgrounds, 717 E. 17th Ave., Columbus. 13th annual Columbus Catholic Women's Conference, with talks by Father Donald Calloway, MIC, Father Ubald Rugirangoga, Heidi Hess Saxton, Sister Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, Emily Jaminet and Michele Faehnle, Mass with Bishop Robert Brennan, Adoration, Reconciliation and Benediction. Advance tickets \$45 adults, \$35 for those 23 and younger (Prices \$5 higher at the door). No charge for religious sisters. Register at www.columbuscatholicwomen.com.

Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City
9 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave., Plain City. Saturday Life and Mercy Mass, followed by rosary and confession.

Ohio Dominican Visit Day

10 to 11:30 a.m., Bishop Griffin Center, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. ODU Visit Day for prospective students, featuring campus tours and discussion with admission counselors. 614-251-4500

16, SUNDAY

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education
10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Part 4 of five-week series on Pope Francis' encyclical *Lumen Fidei*, with Ohio Dominican University theology instructor Mary Koors.

Black History Month Program at St. Dominic
11:30 a.m., St. Dominic Church, 453 N. 20th St., Columbus. Mass celebrated by Bishop Robert Brennan, followed by program in parish hall with young people presenting a program on the history of Black Catholic education. 614-252-4913

Blessing of St. Gerard Majella at Holy Family
After 11 a.m. Mass, Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Blessing of St. Gerard

Majella, patron of expectant mothers, for all women who are pregnant or wish to become pregnant. 614-221-1890

Eucharistic Adoration at Resurrection
After 11 a.m. Mass to 4 p.m., Our Lady of the Resurrection Chapel, Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus. Eucharistic Adoration, concluding with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. 614-855-1400

Angelic Warfare Confraternity at St. Patrick
Following noon Mass, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Monthly meeting of Angelic Warfare Confraternity, with talk on chastity-related issues followed by Holy Hour. 614-224-9522

Kateri Prayer Circle at St. Mark
1 p.m., Aranda Center, St. Mark Church, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Kateri Prayer Circle meeting to honor St. Kateri Tekakwitha and promote Native Catholic spirituality.

Frassati Society Goes to Chiller
1:30 p.m., Chiller Dublin, 7001 Dublin Park Drive, Dublin. Columbus St. Patrick Church Frassati Society for young adults goes skating, followed by pizza lunch. Cost \$8 plus \$3 skate rental. 614-224-9522

St. Catherine of Bologna Secular Franciscans
2 to 4:30 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave., Columbus. Prayer followed by ongoing formation, general meeting and fellowship. Visitors welcome. 614-895-7792

Seasons of Hope Bereavement Ministry
2 to 4 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus. Third meeting of six-week support group sponsored by Seasons of Hope bereavement ministry for those who have lost a loved one, sponsored by North High Deanery. Contact rose.daiga@gmail.com.

Taize Evening Prayer at Corpus Christi
4 to 5 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Evening Prayer in the style and spirit of the Taize monastic community, with song, silence and reflection. 614-512-3731

Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King
5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets. for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching. 614-886-8266

Catechesis at the Cathedral
6:45 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Father Adam Streitenberger's series of talks on the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* continues. Topic: "What Is the Eucharist?" 614-224-1295

17, MONDAY

Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary at St. Pius X
6 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Recital of Chaplet of Divine Mercy, followed by Rosary for the sick of the parish and all who are ill. 614-866-2859

18, TUESDAY

Youth Ministry Network Meeting
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., St. Michael Church, 5750 N. High St., Worthington. Meeting of diocesan parish youth ministers for prayer, lunch and sharing of ideas. 614-241-2565

Holy Hour at Ss. Simon and Jude
5 p.m., Ss. Simon and Jude Church, 9350 high Free Pike, West Jefferson. Holy Hour with confessions, followed by Mass at 6. 614-879-8562

Rosary for Life at St. Joan of Arc
Following 6 p.m. Mass, St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Recital of Rosary for Life, sponsored by church's respect life committee.

19, WEDNESDAY

Eucharistic Adoration, Holy Hour at St. Pius X
7:30 to 8:30 a.m. and from end of 8:30 Mass to

7 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Eucharistic Adoration, with Holy Hour and Reconciliation from noon to 1 p.m. 614-866-2959

Abortion Recovery Network Group
9:30 a.m., Westerville Area Resource Ministry, 150 Heatherdown Drive, Westerville. Abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program, and wants to stay connected. 614-721-2100

Young Catholic Professionals Speaker Series
6:30 to 9 p.m., St. Michael Church, 5750 N. High St., Worthington. Father Kevin Kavanagh, pastor of Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes Church, gives "A Theological Walkthrough of the Mass" at Young Catholic Professionals executive speaker series. Information at www.yccolumbus.org.

19-20, WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY

Silent Overnight Retreat at St. Therese's
St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Silent overnight retreat led by Father Vinny McKiernan, OP, of the Columbus St. Thomas More Retreat Center, centered on a quote by St. Hildegard of Bingen, "You are embraced by the arms of the mystery of God." Cost \$105. 614-866-1611

20, THURSDAY

Cenacle at Holy Name
6 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayers in the Cenacle format of the Marian Movement of Priests.

Jason Evert Presentation at Delaware St. Mary
7 to 9 p.m., St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware. "Purified," an event for parents and teens on God's plan for love, featuring presentation by Catholic author and speaker Jason Evert on chastity, with time for prayer, Eucharistic Adoration and Reconciliation. Tickets \$20. 740-833-6151

John Carroll Alumni Association Meeting
7 p.m., Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road, Columbus. John Carroll University Alumni Association hosts talk by JCU professor Dr. Colin Swearingen on factors that predict presidential nomination. 614-519-5687

20-23, FRIDAY-SUNDAY

St. Charles Presents *26 Pebbles*
8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. School's drama department presents *26 Pebbles*, a drama by Eric Ulloa about the 2012 school shootings in Newtown, Connecticut. Tickets \$10 adults, \$5 students. 614-252-6714

21, FRIDAY

Catholic Singles On Fire for Christ
6 p.m., Chapel, Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany. Monthly meeting of Catholic Singles On Fire for Christ, for anyone older than 35 who is single in the eyes of the Catholic Church and seeks to grow in faith, bring hope to others and share the love of Christ. Begins with prayer and Adoration, followed by dinner at a restaurant. 614-855-1400

22, SATURDAY

Columbus Catholic Men's Conference
8 a.m., Kasich Building, State Fairgrounds, 717 E. 17th Ave., Columbus. 23rd annual Columbus Catholic Men's Conference, with talks by Bishop Robert Brennan, Jason Evert and Luke Fickell, Mass, Adoration, Reconciliation and Benediction. Tickets \$45 adults, \$25 students. No charge for priests, deacons and seminarians. Register at www.catholicmensministry.com.

Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City
9 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave.,

Plain City. Saturday Life and Mercy Mass, followed by rosary and confession.

23, SUNDAY

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education
10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Conclusion of five-week series on Pope Francis' encyclical *Lumen Fidei*, with Ohio Dominican University theology instructor Mary Koors.

Praise Mass at Church of Our Lady
11 a.m., Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Praise Mass with upbeat contemporary music. 614-861-1242

Community Supper at St. Aloysius
2 to 4 p.m., Family center, St. Aloysius Church, 2165 W. Broad St., Columbus. Free community supper, open to all. 614-875-5669

Seasons of Hope Bereavement Ministry
2 to 4 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus. Fourth meeting of six-week support group sponsored by Seasons of Hope bereavement ministry for those who have lost a loved one, sponsored by North High Deanery. Contact rose.daiga@gmail.com.

Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King
5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets. for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching. 614-886-8266

Catholic Conversations Series
6 to 8 p.m., Otie's Tavern and Grill, 5344 Center St., Hilliard. Father Jeff Rimelspach, parish's pastor, speaks on "Inner Conversion from the Old Testament Prophets" as part of monthly Catholic Conversations series for anyone 21 and older, sponsored by Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church. Contact Julie Naporano at julienaporano1@gmail.com.

Catechesis at the Cathedral
6:45 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Father Adam Streitenberger's series of talks on the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* continues. Topic: "What Is Reconciliation?" 614-224-1295

24, MONDAY

Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary at St. Pius X
6 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Recital of Chaplet of Divine Mercy, followed by Rosary for the sick of the parish and all who are ill. 614-866-2859

Bethesda Post-Abortion Healing Ministry
6:30 p.m., support group meeting, 2744 Dover Road, Columbus (Christ the King convent, first building west of church). 614-718-0277, 614-309-2651, 614-309-0157

Our Lady of Peace Men's Bible Study
7 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus. Bible study of Sunday's readings.

25, TUESDAY

Holy Hour at Ss. Simon and Jude
5 p.m., Ss. Simon and Jude Church, 9350 high Free Pike, West Jefferson. Holy Hour with confessions, followed by Mass at 6. 614-879-8562

Rosary for Life at St. Joan of Arc
Following 6 p.m. Mass, St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Recital of Rosary for Life, sponsored by church's respect life committee.

26, WEDNESDAY

Day of Reflection at St. Therese's
9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Ash Wednesday day of reflection led by Father Rod Damico and Anita Davidson, including Mass and lunch. Cost \$25. 614-866-1611

Spinning the 'wheel' in Coshocton



Coshocton Sacred Heart School students played *Wheel of Fortune* with Catholic-themed clues as part of Catholic Schools Week, complete with their own Pat Sajak and Vanna White. *Photo courtesy Sacred Heart School*

Our Lady of Bethlehem students vote on what to wear



Columbus Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Childcare students went to the polls as part of Celebrate Your Nation Day. Students from toddlers through kindergarten learned about voting, its importance in allowing everyone to voice his or her opinion, and respecting the majority decision. Students voted on whether they wanted to wear wacky clothes or pajamas to school, with the majority favoring a pajama day. *Photo courtesy Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Childcare*

'Twins' and 'triplets' at St. Anthony



Columbus St. Anthony School teachers pretended to be twins — or in one case, triplets — for a day by dressing alike. The "triplets" are (from left) Kathy McBride, Amy Kish and Kelly Buzenski. "Twins" are (from left) Tim Schnurr, Mark Stinnett, principal Chris Iaconis, Monica Landis, Claire Hoffman, Brandon Garrick, Gina Greer and Amy Moonis. *Photo courtesy St. Anthony School*

St. Bernadette School dance



Joan Miller's third-grade class joined the rest of the students at Lancaster St. Bernadette School for a dance that concluded Catholic Schools Week activities. Other events during the week included a prayer service, a school Mass, a Mass for all schools in the Fairfield-Hocking-Pickaway Deanery with Bishop Robert Brennan, a liturgical scavenger hunt and a "step up to the next grade" day. Students also wrote letters and cards to the homebound, graduates of the school who are in the military, hospital patients and school volunteers. *Photo courtesy St. Bernadette School*

St. Agatha art day



Students at Columbus St. Agatha School enjoyed an all-art day that included magicians, balloon art and a hedgehog. Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students are shown exercising their creativity. *Photo courtesy St. Agatha School*

St. Rose throat blessing



Father Michael Hartge and Deacon Ed Christ blessed the throats of students, faculty and staff at New Lexington St. Rose School. Pictured are kindergarten students Gia Watkins (receiving the blessing from Father Hartge), Gabby Stroup and Foster Heavener. *Photo courtesy St. Rose School*

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(The advertisement includes images of the school building, a principal in a classroom, and graduates.)

Greek Day at Trinity Elementary School



Columbus Trinity Elementary School seventh-grade students completed a unit on mythology by dressing like residents of ancient Greece and enjoying a Greek luncheon.

Photo courtesy Trinity Elementary School

St. Michael School participates in MFL, CSW



Students and staff from Worthington St. Michael School attended the March for Life (above) on Jan. 24 in Washington to put the virtue of patriotism into action by defending the lives of the unborn. At an open house on Jan. 31 during Catholic Schools Week, students (below) led tours of the school for families. *Photos courtesy St. Michael School*

DeSales World Cultures Week



Students at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School organized a World Cultures Week to celebrate the diverse cultures represented among the student body. The week ended with an assembly in which students participated in performances of traditional African dance, songs, poetry, Irish dancing and bagpipe music and put on an ethnic fashion show.

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School

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St. Charles presents '26 Pebbles'

The Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School drama department's winter production, *26 Pebbles* by Eric Ulloa, gives voice to the residents of Newtown, Connecticut, who first witnessed unimaginable heartbreak, then suffered through emotional pain and unanswered questions before learning how to move forward.

The play will be presented at 8 p.m. Thursday to Saturday, Feb. 20 to 22 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23 in the campus theater, 2010 E. Broad St. Adult tickets are \$10 and student tickets are \$5. Reservations may be placed by calling the school at (614) 252-6714 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Cast members include Drew Curtin, Melanie Engram, Jake Jonesco, Alex Smith, Anna Turek, Jake Woodruff, Noah Kuhr, Donald Search, Fiona Sullivan, Jack Margiotta, Henry Brunton, Rylee West, Annie O'Connor, Michael Liss, Matt Murrin, Jane Carney, Nathan Schirtzinger and Mary Cetovich.

On Dec. 14, 2012, an act of unbelievable madness took the lives of 20 innocent children and six adults



Cast members of Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School's production of "26 Pebbles" include (from left): foreground, Nathan Schirtzinger; first row, Donald Search, Fiona Sullivan, Jack Margiotta, Henry Brunton, Rylee West, Annie O'Connor, Michael Liss, Matt Murrin and Jane Carney; second row, Drew Curtin, Melanie Engram, Jake Jonesco, Alex Smith, Anna Turek, Jake Woodruff and Noah Kuhr. Photo courtesy St. Charles Preparatory School

at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut. These 26 deaths, described by one local resident as "pebbles thrown into a pond," created ripples that captured the attention of the entire nation. The play tells the story of the town's residents through the words they used in a series of interviews.

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

Spring Clean-up!

CEMETERY field workers will be removing winter-time and artificial decorations from graves and mausoleums at all Catholic cemeteries beginning March 2, 2020.

WE request that families wishing to retain any personal keepsakes, to please remove them by March 2.

DUE to the number of decorations involved, the cemetery staff can not be responsible for collecting or storing personal items. Thank you for your cooperation.

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75

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SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2020

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For 75 years, Catholic Social Services has been empowering people in need, regardless of background, with the tools they need to reach their full potential.

We invite you to celebrate past accomplishments and help strengthen the future of our community.

At the Gala, be transported into the 1940s through our historical timeline and a Live Swing Band.

Enjoy cocktails, a plated dinner, one-of-a-kind auction opportunities, and an impactful program.

We hope you will join us.

Together we will continue to help people live free from the indignity of poverty.

**Register online at colscss.org
or call Julie Naporano
at 614-857-1236.**