

DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

CATHOLIC TIMES

A journal of Catholic life in Ohio

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HOLY WEEK 2018

Editor's reflections by Doug Bean, Editor

To combat violence in our culture, let's not forget prayer, respect for life

After the horrific school shooting deaths in Florida in February, news sites have devoted countless hours of coverage during the past month to gun violence. Last week, students throughout the United States organized school walkouts to protest gun violence.

What happened at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School is an unimaginable tragedy, and all of us should continue to offer our prayers for the families, friends, and loved ones of those who were killed.

Closer to home, two Westerville police officers were senselessly killed in the line of duty last month. Every day in cities and towns around the world, people are murdered in homes and on the streets for inexplicable reasons.

In the past month, public discourse has turned into a debate about gun control. Everyone, it seems, from politicians to church leaders has weighed in with an opinion. And while it's a worthy pursuit to demand more safety in schools after repeated incidents through the years at Columbine and Sandy Hook and other locations, it doesn't ultimately address the root cause.

We should be asking this question: Why do children and adults feel compelled in the first place to take another human life?

Could it be that there is a blatant disrespect for the sanctity of human life in our culture?

It starts in the womb, with most nations in the world allowing innocent children who have no voice to be

murdered through abortion. It continues when children are bullied, neglected, abused, abandoned, or hurt for one reason or another and their mental well-being is ignored. It is manifested through the violence of video games, television shows, and movies that glorify blood and destruction.

It can be found in trafficking that makes the human person a mere commodity. It can be seen on our highways, when drivers become so enraged that their anger results in a death. It can be viewed on the internet in content that degrades the human body and damages souls. It extends to a growing acceptance of euthanasia that devalues the worthiness of the infirmed and seniors, who may not be in perfect health, to continue to receive care.

In his encyclical *Evangelium Vitae* (The Gospel of Life), Pope St. John

Paul II wrote in 1995: "Not only is the fact of the destruction of so many human lives still to be born or in their final stage extremely grave and disturbing, but no less grave and disturbing is the fact that conscience itself, darkened as it were by such widespread conditioning, is finding it increasingly difficult to distinguish between good and evil in what concerns the basic value of human life."

We can limit accessibility to guns (debate on that is in the hands of our free society), but there still will be weapons of destruction – bombs, vehicles, knives, drugs, to name a few.

That is not to say our society should ignore the gun issue, particularly when it comes to the safety of children. Everyone must work together to change hearts and minds to truly value life as a sacred gift from God. If that includes stricter gun laws, so be it.

In a statement issued last week, the

Ohio Conference of Catholic Bishops said, "Now is the time to promote the culture of life. We urge open and civil discourse that will result in the enactment of bipartisan reforms. We pray that Ohio's leaders will set aside political agendas and achieve solutions that promote the common good and safety of all people. We believe just solutions can be found that will not violate the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution."

Bishop Frank J. Dewane, chairman of the committee on domestic justice and human development of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), said last week: "Violence in our society will not be solved by a single piece of legislation, and many factors contribute to what we see going on all around us. Even so, our leaders must engage in a real debate about needed measures to save lives and make our communities safer."

Catholic schools in the Diocese of Columbus and elsewhere around the nation rightly approached last week's mass school walkout day with prayer. That should be the first weapon to stop violence and injustice of any kind.

St. Pope John Paul II and his successors have reminded the world to show love and respect for the dignity of every human person. As we prepare for Holy Week, all of us need to pay heed to those words now more than ever. Continue to pray and work for justice and mercy for all.



At a prayer service last week at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, Peter Griffith prepares to light a candle representing one of 17 people killed at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida on Feb. 14, while Luke Voegele reads the name of a victim.



Front Page photo:

A palm branch, white lily, Bible, crown of thorns, and cross are symbols of the triumph, passion, crucifixion and resurrection as Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday.

Shutterstock photo

CATHOLIC TIMES

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Letters to adopted children's birth mothers draw grateful response

BY TIM PUET, *Catholic Times Reporter*

A suggestion that started with a Delaware St. Mary School student's dream has resulted in a nationwide response of support for the birth mothers of adopted children and gratitude from the mothers themselves.

The student, Olivia Oyster, is an eighth-grader at the Delaware school. She is the oldest of three sisters – one of whom, three-year-old Gianna, was adopted by Olivia's parents, Greg and Stacy Oyster, after a local woman gave birth to the child.

"One night in early November, I dreamed that I was in school proofreading a bunch of letters that kids at school had written to birth mothers thanking them for the courage it took to make the decision to allow their child to be adopted," Olivia said.

"From our own experience with Gianna, I realize it takes great strength to do this. I know that birth mothers go through a lot that most people don't realize and deserve active support and the gratitude and reassurance that they did what was best for the child. This dream happened a couple of times and I wasn't sure what to do about it, so I talked to my mother."

"I said it was probably God asking her, and it was her choice whether or not to obey what he was asking," Stacy Oyster said. "She took it upon herself to do the rest, and it's amazing what has happened. It surely was a message from God, and Olivia's making the right choice has resulted in lots of blessings."

Olivia was familiar with an organization known as BraveLove, which her mother had been following on social media. BraveLove, a Dallas-based nonprofit organization founded six years ago by an adoptive



Delaware St. Mary School students (from left) Kelsi Clark, Grant Gilsean, Ana Galuzny, and Olivia Oyster write letters of support to birth mothers of adopted children.

Photo courtesy St. Mary School

mother, is not an adoption agency or a pregnancy resource center, but is primarily dedicated to advocating through media content and messaging that adoption is a loving option for those in unplanned pregnancies.

"I emailed BraveLove about my dream on Nov. 21," Olivia said. "They emailed back the next day saying that having my classmates write letters to birth mothers was a great idea, and encouraged me to get in touch with my principal, Mrs. (Gina) Stull, about it. I emailed her the next day and she gave her permission for me to do this."

"We decided that I would talk to the seventh- and eighth-grade classes at the school on Dec. 11 and 12, show them a video from BraveLove, then ask them to write the letters. One of our teachers, Mrs. (Reilly) Polletta, helped me with the language we wanted everyone to use in the letters so we could honor the birth mothers in the way that would be most meaningful to them."

"I was thrilled to be able to do this because my youngest brother is adopted," Polletta said. "That made it extremely meaningful for me. I have so much respect for the way Olivia took action. It's amazing, both on a personal level for her and on how she educated her classmates. All of us have learned more about adoption and gained so much insight about the birth mothers of adopted children and feel tremendous gratitude for them."

More than 50 letters were written and sent in a package to BraveLove just before the school's Christmas break. Olivia's letter read:

"Dear birthmother, I want to begin my expressing my absolute gratitude for you and your brave decision. Adoption is a topic that is very close to my heart, because my little sister was adopted. You are so brave, and selfless. I am praying for you!— Olivia."

Another said: *"Dear Birthparent, The most important thing for you to know is that you absolutely made the right decision by making an adoption plan for your child. No matter what anyone says, you did not give up or take an easy way out, you thought from the bottom of your heart about how to give your child the best possible life. Always know you are supported and loved, even if just by me. Sincerely, Adoption Supporter."*

BraveLove received the letters on Dec. 27, photocopied them, and mailed them on Jan. 3 to 260 birth mothers across the nation, who quickly responded to the messages of support. Here are some of the responses:

See LETTERS, Page 13

Cathedral to be featured on WOSU-TV's 'Broad & High'

Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral will be featured on a segment of WOSU-TV's weekly program *Broad & High*, to be telecast at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 29 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday, April 1. Videos of the program will be available online at www.wosu.org/BroadAndHigh.

The *Broad & High* series focuses mainly on arts and culture in Columbus. This is the first time it has included a house of worship in a segment. Taping took place in February and March, with crews present at one of the cathedral's 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass and an Ash Wednesday Mass.

"The camera crews were very cooperative and did not provide a distraction to worshippers," said Father Michael Lumpe, cathedral rector. "They respected the Mass and worked in a way that did not interfere with the solemnity of the celebration."

The program also will examine the cathedral's exterior and interior architectural features, highlight the cathedral choir, and present an interview with Father Lumpe.

"It also will give the viewing public a look at the

cathedral's 'backdoor ministry,' something that may be unfamiliar to many people," Father Lumpe said. "For decades, bag lunches have been distributed to the poor and the needy at 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the back door of the cathedral. More than 18,000 meals were distributed last year, to as many as 150 people on some days."

"We've never run out of food, but I've occasionally found myself making a grocery run to be sure we have enough sandwiches. None of this could be possible without the help of a number of parishes and schools and contributions to the cathedral's 'poor box,' from which all of the proceeds go to our food ministry."

This is a significant year for the cathedral, as 2018 marks the 140th anniversary of its dedication and the 150th anniversary of the Diocese of Columbus, which was formed at about the same time construction on the cathedral started.

The cathedral was chosen for the WOSU program after some station employees saw it for the first time during a tour of historic churches conducted by the



Dr. Richard Fitzgerald at the Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral pipe organ. Also pictured is WOSU-TV videographer Ryan Hitchcock. Photo courtesy WOSU Public Media

Columbus Landmarks Society. Like many people, the employees had no idea such a treasure of Gothic architecture was in the heart of downtown Columbus, and they wanted more people to be aware of it.

Faith in Action

By Mark Huddy

Are you a victim of cause marketing?

I meet with a small faith-sharing group on Thursday mornings. For the last several weeks, we have been reading and discussing C. S. Lewis' "Screwtape Letters" at the pace of one chapter per week. Lewis wrote the book during the Second World War to expose the tactics of our enemy, the devil. It is written in the form of letters from a senior tempter (Wormwood) to his nephew, a junior, less-experienced tempter. Chapter 7 concerns whether the "temptee" or patient, as he is called, should be pushed toward pacifism or patriotism. Wormwood's advice starts with the proposition that it doesn't really matter. While religion starts as the initial motivation for either position, it can be effectively sidelined. Wormwood writes: "Then quietly and gradually nurse him on to the stage at which religion becomes merely part of the 'cause,' in which Christianity is valued chiefly because of the excellent arguments it can produce in favor of the British war-effort or of Pacifism. ... Once you have made the World an end, and faith a means, you have almost won your man, and it makes very little difference what kind of worldly end he is pursuing. Provided that meetings, pamphlets, policies, movements, causes and crusades matter more to him than prayers, sacraments and charity, he is ours."

This seems to me to be a cautionary tale that involves our understanding of our passions, priorities, and prudential judgements. First, I do not believe that Lewis is condemning action to bring about greater justice in the world. That is a specific calling that we the laity have which is built on the dignity and worth of every human person as made in the image and likeness of God. Justice is about right relationships, which show our fidelity to Jesus' commandment to "love one another." It should represent our best efforts to put the Gospel that we profess into practice. This is something about which we should be passionate. And that leads us into a discussion of priorities.

Our passion for justice exists, as Dorothy Day once said, to make it easier for people to be good. As Christians, we are to have the mind of Christ, and our attitude should be seeking the good, in the Thomistic sense, of everyone. God's will is for every person's good, in this life and in the next. Social conditions that are unjust do not foster or promote the true good of anyone. So our end in seeking comprehensive immigration reform, a higher minimum wage, or an end to abortion is not "the cause" itself but the temporal and ultimate good of the individuals and family members who are impacted in any way by the cause -- both the oppressed and the oppressors. Faith should not be valued in this process because it provides good arguments, but because it allows us to be participants with God in the renewal of the temporal order that He wills. This is done through our prayers, sacrifices, and actions consistent with the Gospel that help people find their voice, help others see more clearly, and move all of us to a greater level of conversion.

Lastly, on complex social questions, some of the causes involve the application of universal moral principles to specific circumstances, which can change or can be interpreted differently by sincere Christians. Therefore, prudential judgments must be made on what course of action to pursue. People of good will can legitimately differ. Specific proposals on gun control, immigration, health care reform, and tax reform involve these judgments. People who hold views that are different from our own should be challenged, not condemned. We should be willing to enter into dialogue that involves a search for truth in an environment of mutual charity, with the goal of achieving the common good.

Mark Huddy is social concerns moderator for the Diocese of Columbus.

**Developmental disabilities awareness month**

The diocesan Office for Social Concerns notes that March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.

In 2017, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops revised its guidelines for celebration of the Sacraments with persons with disabilities. The bishops remind us that "All persons with disabilities have gifts to contribute to the whole church. When persons with disabilities are embraced and welcomed and invited to participate fully in all aspects of the parish community life, the Body of Christ is more complete."

This revision is an opportunity for the Catholic community to reflect and act on the call to make the church more complete. Every person is created in the image and likeness of God and has an inherent dignity. Each member of the Body of Christ is unique, and therefore, families and parish communities are as well.

We all have gifts and challenges, come in different shapes and sizes,

and have varying needs. Through this realization, we come into community, centered on Christ, to accompany each other on our pilgrim journey.

By virtue of our baptism, we are called by God to grow in holiness and participate in the life of the church. Persons with disabilities desire full and meaningful participation in our shared mission to be missionary disciples. That is why it is important to ensure that they and their families experience a true sense of belonging in their parish communities.

No matter where you have been on your journey, consider today a time of renewal. Pray, learn, reflect, and act. Use your gifts and talents to embrace, welcome, and invite all people to full participation in the life of the church and society. Accommodations and adaptations are necessary at times to ensure that all people can use their gifts in service to the parish community. When we work together, we are more complete.

Seminar on trauma and opiates

A seminar on adverse childhood experiences and their relationship to the opiate epidemic will take place Saturday, April 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Columbus St. Agnes Church, 2364 W. Mound St.

The presenter will be William O. Livisay, a licensed social worker who is an owner/consultant for the W Osborne Group.

The seminar will address childhood trauma and the increased risk of addiction which can result from such experiences. The original study on adverse childhood experiences

completed in the 1990s asked thousands of people whether they had experienced any of 10 categories of childhood trauma. Researchers found a pronounced connection between high scores of youth adversities and adult outcomes, including substance abuse, poor health, and suicide attempts.

The seminar is free and lunch will be included. It is being sponsored by The Catholic Foundation and Santa Maria Council 2898 of the Knights of Columbus. For more information, contact Cindy Oddi at (614) 551-0338.

Men's luncheon club program

Jerry Freewalt of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns will speak on the diocese's ARCH ministry at the next Catholic Men's Luncheon Club meeting on Friday, April 6. ARCH stands for Accompanying Returning Citizens with Hope and is a ministry to help released prisoners readjust to society.

The program at Columbus St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., will begin at 11:45 a.m. with Mass, fol-

lowed by lunch and Freewalt's talk until about 1 p.m. No reservations are necessary. A \$10 donation is requested to cover the lunch and meeting. The Catholic Laymen's Retreat League is this month's luncheon sponsor.

For information on the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club, visit www.catholicmensministry.com/cmlc or contact club president George Harvey at GLHarvey56@gmail.com.

Josephinum to host retreat for men considering becoming military chaplains

The Pontifical College Josephinum will host a discernment retreat later this year aimed at helping young men determine if they are called to be Catholic priests and military chaplains. The retreat will take place from Thursday, Dec. 6 to Sunday, Dec. 9 and is sponsored by the vocations office of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA (ASM).

It is one of two discernment retreats the AMS sponsors annually on oppo-

site sides of the United States. A retreat earlier this month at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park, California, attracted 29 men, including 21 currently serving in the military and eight civilians.

The registration of 29 participants for the March retreat reflects a trend of strong turnouts during the past few years. That is a great sign of encouragement for the AMS, which is working to overcome a desperate shortage of

Catholic priests serving as active-duty military chaplains. The shortage is a result of aging chaplains retiring faster than they can be replaced.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, the roster of active-duty chaplains has shrunk from more than 400 to 205. Currently, 25 percent of the military is Catholic, but Catholic priests make up only six percent of the chaplain corps.

The AMS receives no funding from the military or the government. Anyone wishing to make a donation may do so at www.milarch.org/donate.

Men interested in discerning a priestly vocation, and the vocation to serve in the military, can find more informa-

tion at www.milarch.org/vocations.

The Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA was established by Pope St. John Paul II in 1985. AMS-endorsed priests serve at more than 220 U.S. military installations in 29 countries, making the AMS the nation's only global archdiocese. AMS-priests also serve at 153 VA medical centers.

The AMS service population also includes American Catholic civilians working for the federal government in 134 nations, but currently, because of limited resources, the AMS cannot adequately serve this population.

Worldwide, an estimated 1.8 million Catholics depend on the AMS.

You are invited to join us at **SAINT JOSEPH CATHEDRAL** *to celebrate Holy Week and* *the Sacred Paschal Triduum*

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 25

Saturday (March 28): 5:15 p.m. Vigil Mass
Sunday Masses: 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 5:15 p.m.
Confessions: Saturday *and* Sunday, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK, MARCH 26

Daily Masses: 7:30 a.m. and 12:05 p.m.

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK, MARCH 27

Confessions: 10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Daily Masses: 7:30 a.m. and 12:05 p.m.
The Chrism Mass: 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK, MARCH 28

Daily Masses: 7:30 a.m., 12:05 p.m., 5:15 p.m.
Weekly Holy Hour, Confessions, *and*
Stations of the Cross: 5:45 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.

HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 29

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 10:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Only one Mass is permitted to be celebrated on this day:
Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:30 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY ~ PASSION OF THE LORD, MARCH 30

No Masses are celebrated on Good Friday
Walking Stations of the Cross: 8:00 a.m.
Celebration of the Passion of the Lord: 12:00 Noon
Confessions heard following the Celebration of the Passion
Office of Tenebrae ~ Cathedral Choir: 8:00 p.m.

EASTER VIGIL MASS, MARCH 31

Saturday, 8:30 p.m.

~ EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1 ~

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Masses: 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 5:15 p.m.

212 East Broad Street + Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 224-1295 + www.saintjosephcathedral.org

FACILITIES PROJECT MANAGER

The Catholic Diocese of Columbus is looking for a fulltime Project Manager. The Project Manager position is responsible for assisting the Director in managing the Diocese's environmental safety programs, including asbestos management and investigation/resolution of emergencies, for buildings and other facilities throughout the 23 counties of the Diocese. Also administers the Diocese's energy conservation programs.

Job Responsibilities: The responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. Administer the Diocese's environmental safety program including asbestos management and investigation/resolution of emergencies.**
- 2. Plan and schedule facility modifications, including cost estimates. Maintain appropriate level of confidentiality with documents and information.**
- 3. Participate in site plan reviews and on-site inspections of assigned building construction and renovation projects ensuring compliance with the diocese's policies as well as federal and state regulations.**
- 4. Monitor assigned functions to ensure compliance with related regulatory standards; initiates corrective action as necessary.**

Qualifications for the position include strong basic knowledge in facilities management and be a self-starter. Interpersonal skills necessary to communicate effectively, orally and in written form, with diocesan staff, pastors, and external contractors. Demonstrated project management skills necessary to implement successfully a variety of energy and environmental safety projects. Analytical ability to develop plans of action to address a variety of issues in a timely manner. Computer skills necessary to maintain various departmental records, documents and reports. Other required skills include ability to multi-task and establish priorities, exhibit initiative, responsibility and flexibility, and ability to maintain all information highly confidential.

Job offer is contingent on the successful passing of the mandatory background screening and completion of the VIRTUS "Protecting God's Children" course. Salary is commensurate with education and experience; benefits are according to Diocesan policy.

Send resume and references by Friday, April 6, 2018 to:

Dominic Prunte, Director of Human Resources, at
dprunte@columbuscatholic.org

Cremation and relics; Auctioning off pews



QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. In a recent answer regarding cremation, you explained the church's position that the cremated remains should be kept together and buried -- not scattered or divided up among family members (for example, in lockets). But I can recall a priest showing us, some years ago, a relic that was a small bone chip of a saint (whose name I have since forgotten).

How can we have such relics, albeit of a saint, when the church precludes the separation of cremains? Isn't that inconsistent? (Bettendorf, Iowa)

A. Relics of the saints have been venerated in the church for nearly 2,000 years -- certainly since the martyrdom of Polycarp in the middle of the second century; and commonly, bones of a saint were divided up with a noble purpose, so that more people could be reminded of the heroic virtue that saint had displayed.

The church's oversight of relics, though, is much more active today than it was in earlier centuries; now, for example, the Vatican no longer grants first-class relics to private individuals, as it once did, but only to churches and oratories for public veneration.

To answer your question directly, one might argue that there is a difference between a saint and an

ordinary individual, between the public veneration of relics for the edification of the faithful and the private custody of cremains by family members in lockets.

But part of the answer, too, is that the fragmentation of a saint's remains that marked the church's earlier history would normally not be allowed today. In December 2017, the Vatican released a new instruction on authenticating and protecting relics that noted that the "dismemberment of the body is not permitted" unless the bishop has received permission from the Congregation for Saints' Causes.

Q. Our parish has the practice of auctioning off (for the benefit of our school) selected pews for the Mass celebrated on Christmas Eve. This Mass is overcrowded, and seating is at a premium. Most parishioners arrive 30 to 45 minutes early. The successful bidders usually waltz in just before Mass begins, leaving standing those who did not (or could not) make a winning bid.

In the Vatican's *Instruction on Implementing the Constitution on Sacred Liturgy*, issued in 1964, we were told that pastors should ensure that, especially in the celebration of the Mass, "the equality of the faithful is clearly apparent and that any suggestion of moneymak-

ing is avoided" (No. 35). Doesn't this practice violate that directive? (Columbia, Missouri)

A. Your question hits home for me in a personal way. In the parish from which I recently retired (after 24 years as pastor), there was a long-standing practice of doing exactly what you describe.

At our parish school's annual fundraiser, a pew at the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass would be auctioned off -- usually with a winning bid of around \$1,000. That Mass was, of course, the best attended of the year -- with twice as many people as seats.

I confess that, although I was never comfortable with this particular stratagem, I did not have the backbone to step in and end it.

I just didn't want to dampen the initiative of the committees that ran the dinner -- some of whom enjoyed this auction item in particular and would battle one another in the bidding. (I did, though, blow the whistle when it was suggested one year to auction off two pews instead of one!)

Like you, I always felt bad for the standees who had to watch the "winning family" file in -- sometimes, as you said, at the last minute. Now, blessed with the objectivity (and the safe impunity) of retirement, I agree that it was not a good practice.

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

Helping Hands: Feeding the Hungry

The Helping Hands food ministry of Reynoldsburg St. Pius Church has played a significant role for the past decade in assisting the Reynoldsburg food pantry with the same name.

Opened in 1958, the Reynoldsburg Helping Hands pantry serves families who live within the Reynoldsburg school district. Under the direction of parishioner Janet Munjas, a retired teacher who served in Reynoldsburg schools for more than 40 years, it helps supply more than 45 families per week with necessities such as canned foods, soups, and breakfast cereals, as well as personal items including toothpaste, shampoo, and deodorant.

Its shelves are stocked by community donations and supplemented by trips to the Mid-Ohio Foodbank. Cash donations are used in shopping locally for milk, eggs, and other perishable products.

St. Pius X Helping Hands coordinators Bill and Jean Richards speak regularly with Munjas to identify monthly pantry needs. They then communicate those needs to the parish community through the parish bulletin and website and a poster in the church vestibule. Donations are gathered in a large collection box inside the church doors, and the Richardses gather and deliver these items to

the main pantry. Donations usually are collected on the fourth weekend of each month.

The Helping Hands food ministry was initiated by former parishioner Debby Kessler after approval from the Pastoral Advisory Council and began its collections in November 2008. When Kessler relocated from the parish in 2013, the Richardses took over the ministry's leadership.

"We have a very generous parish family here at St. Pius X," they said. "They have faithfully supported this ministry for years. We are happy to be the bridge that connects these generous donations with those who need them. Giving back in this way gives us personal satisfaction. We see this ministry as a corporal work of mercy by feeding the hungry."

From 2013 to 2017, donations to the ministry have averaged approximately 50 bags or boxes each month. That increased in 2017 to 55 per month.

Help is needed through your continual donations of food and personal items. The Richardses invite you to help them on collection days, too. "We welcome anyone who would like to help us carry donations out to our car," they said. "If you're interested in helping, please contact us at bjr0730@att.net."

ODU student-veterans to host 5K run

Ohio Dominican University's student-veteran association, Sua Sponte, will host a 5,000-meter run on Saturday, April 21 to inspire servicemen and service-women to advance their education following military service. The race will begin at 10 a.m. in front of Erskine Hall on ODU's campus at 1215 Sunbury Road.

Participants may sign up at <https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Columbus/SuaSponte5k>. Race packets will be available from noon to 5 p.m. on April 19 and 20 in the Bishop Griffin Student Center at 1216 Sunbury Road and from 8 to 9:30 a.m. on race day.

The cost varies from \$5 to \$15. Contact Rebecca Sunday with any questions at (918) 289-4659 or sundayr@ohiodominican.edu.

All proceeds from the event will go toward enhancing student-veteran life and services on campus and creating a better learning environment for all.

Military veterans also are invited to take this opportunity to explore ODU's convenient and affordable certificate and degree programs.

Cash prizes will be split between the first three male and female finishers. All finishers will receive a medal.



Our Lady of Bethlehem artwork

Kindergarten students at Columbus Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Childcare display their artwork and certificates for their entries in the diocesan art show that took place earlier in March. Our Lady of Bethlehem serves children from six weeks old through kindergarten during the school year, as well as offering before- and after-school child care. It also has a summer program for children in preschool through grade six.

Photo courtesy Our Lady of Bethlehem School

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

DIRECTOR OF LITURGY & MUSIC MINISTRY

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church and School, a large Catholic parish in Grove City, Ohio, seeks a Director of Liturgy & Music Ministry.

As Director of Liturgy, candidate will work with pastor to coordinate the formation and preparation of liturgical ministers and committees, and attend to appropriate arts and environment for all liturgical celebrations.

As Director of Music Ministry, candidate will collaborate with individual choir directors to oversee, research, direct, and/or administer all music ministries of the parish including, but not limited to, children's choir, cantors, traditional choir, folk choir, bell choir, and praise and worship band. Ideal candidate will also serve as choir conductor and/or principal organist for traditional choir.

The qualified individual will hold a degree in Liturgy, Music Ministry, or an equivalent. Other requirements include knowledge of all Catholic liturgical music documents and Catholic liturgy; proficient organ and keyboard skills; familiarity with the Liturgical Guidelines of the Diocese of Columbus with principles and dimensions of the Catholic faith formation; proven administrative skills and interpersonal relations; and skills in conflict resolution, management and supervision, visioning and planning, budget preparation, and collaboration.

Compensation is commensurate with candidate's education and experience. Employment offer is contingent on the successful passing of the mandatory background screening and completion of the VIRTUS "Protecting God's Children" course.

For more information, please contact David J. Frea, Parish Administrator, (614) 353-9688.

Send resume with cover letter to:

dFrea@OurLadyOfPerpetualHelp.net

THE EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

By: Rick Jeric

Holy Week, Batman



Let me go way off the normal path. I guess I have done so at times in the past. Just for Holy Week, I thought I would offer a meditation based on the television series "Batman" from the 1960s. Not that anyone needs this, but it is something different.

My inspiration seems to be getting stranger with age. I trust that most of us recall the show, along with the heroes and villains. If you are too young to remember, I apologize, and there is always the internet. We start with Batman himself, or Bruce Wayne. Defender of all that is good, and the one who defeats evil every time. A role model for all. Jesus does all these things, too, but in real life, and to perfection. He is God, and He loves us no matter what we try to get away with. Next is Robin, or Dick Grayson. Always striving to say and do the right thing. Always means well. But he never quite gets it. Batman always has the answer and always bails him out. St. Peter was a lot like this, and so are we. We want to overcome all the evil and challenges. But all too often, we just do not get it. Jesus is right there to bail us out. Forgive me, Lord. Thank you for your never-ending love and forgiveness. Aunt Harriet was always there, worrying and taking care of Bruce and Dick. How would any of Holy Week have been possible without Mary? We know she did whatever it took to take care of Joseph and Jesus. Thank you, Lord, for the gift of your Blessed Mother. Thank you, Mary, for saying "Yes." She is the best intercessor we could ever have. Alfred was as faithful a butler as anyone could hope for. And he was always there, in the mansion and batcave. St. John was faithful and stayed with Jesus and Mary right to the end, even witnessing Jesus' last words and breath. Lord, may we never run away or stray from you, and remain faithful to the end. Batgirl was a defender of good, also, but I always thought that it took her a while to be a factor. Being Commissioner Gordon's daughter, she probably grew up rather privileged and got into all sorts of trouble. But Batman inspired her to turn her life around and to be good, faithful, and loyal. St. Mary Magdalene had a rough past, but saw the light and love of Jesus. May we always be able to confidently come crawling back to Jesus in the love and embrace of the Sacrament of Penance. Commissioner Gordon was always trying to keep everyone safe by calling on Batman. Seeing the bat signal in the sky was another way to remind people that they were protected. St. Andrew was so excited and inspired when he was called by Jesus that he brought Peter to Him. He wanted everyone to know that they were safe and protected, since the Messiah was here. But after Jesus' arrest, he ran away with the others. How often do I turn my back on Jesus? I run the other way and let sin control me, even when I am excited and inspired by the love of Jesus. But we can never give up. God's love is endless and His forgiveness is always there.

Finally, there are the good citizens of Gotham City. Batman unconditionally took care of the citizens, no matter how fickle or lost they were. Jesus loves every one of us. We always see His Sacred Heart, not a sacred brain. He forgives us whenever we ask. He loves us whenever we sin again. He forgave His executioners. He loved everyone involved in His Passion and death. That is one of the great lessons of Holy Week and the Triduum. No matter what I do, no matter how guilty I feel, no matter how often, the loving embrace of God's forgiveness is immediate and infinite. Yes, even for the likes of Caiaphas (the Joker), Herod (the Riddler), Pilate (Mr. Freeze), the Scribes and Pharisees (Eggheads), and Judas (False Face). Let us take advantage of the Sacrament of Penance this Holy Week.

Living Stations at Lancaster St. Mary

Eighth-grade students from Lancaster St. Mary School presented the Living Stations of the Cross to the school and parish on March 9. Mary was played by Kate Crow and Jesus was represented by Patrick Kenney. Teachers Kathleen Van Evra and Cheryl Cale organized and directed the presentation.

Photo courtesy St. Mary School



St. Anthony students create Stations



Students in Amy Moonis' fifth-grade class at Columbus St. Anthony School created their own Stations of the Cross, to be displayed in the school's main hallway during Lent.

Photo courtesy St. Anthony School



St. Andrew Lenten prayer service

Third- and fifth-grade students of Columbus St. Andrew School presented a Lenten prayer service. Students from the two grades sang songs, led the school in prayers, and presented items representing the Beatitudes. Pictured are (from left) Quaid Cahill, Clare Garzewski, Nora Ott, Cara Lalli, Andrew Zarick, Chase McKnight, and Layla Stewart.

Photo courtesy St. Andrew School

Delaware St. Mary science fair qualifiers

Eighteen Delaware St. Mary School students qualified for the district science fair earlier this month at The Ohio State University-Marion by earning superior ratings on science fair projects.

They are (from left): first row, Nick Long, Grant Gilseman, Kaleb Cantrell, Claire Dinovo, Charlie Yonkura, Deanna Blasko, Kristina Kurtz, Ana Galuzny, and Olivia Oyster; second row, Megan Kerckmar, Kelsi Clark, Paolo Sferrella, Adam Carreno, Caleb Pinkerton, Matthew Heidenreich, Alexa Francis, Lilly Jacknewitz, and Payton King.

Photo courtesy St. Mary School



Retrouvaille can save your marriage!

Has your marriage become unloving or uncaring? Your relationship grown cold and distant? Thinking about a separation or divorce? Already separated or divorced, but you wish to try again? The Retrouvaille program may help you.

Retrouvaille of Columbus will be sponsoring its next program from Friday, April 27 to Sunday, April 29. It consists of a weekend experience and follow-up sessions.

All inquiries are confidential. For more details or to register, go to HelpOurMarriage.com or call (1-800) 470-2230.



The slippery slope of sloth

Have you ever thought about the sin of sloth? It's number four on the list of the seven deadly sins.

I haven't thought about it, either, until recently, when I would catch myself having difficulty attending to temporal and spiritual responsibilities.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (No. 2094) states that "spiritual sloth goes so far as to refuse the joy that comes from God, and to be repelled by divine goodness."

Wow, that's more serious than I thought!

"Because of laziness, the rafters sag; when hands are slack, the house leaks" (Ecclesiastes 10:18).

I was looking at sloth as laziness in my temporal activities, but, more importantly, I was reminded how much sloth leads us away from God.

If we ignore our day-to-day responsibilities, we can fall prey to the evil one, who would like us to think we don't have what it takes to serve God. Sloth can lead us into a lonely pit of selfishness and despair.

St. Thomas Aquinas said, "Sloth is sluggishness of the mind which neglects to begin good. It is evil in its effect if it so oppresses man as to draw him away

entirely from good deeds."

It's not holy or healthy to be slothful. So how do we get off the slippery slope of sloth?

We are nearing the end of Lent, so, hopefully we've been trying to be faithful to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Acts of love, where we put the needs of others first, can strengthen us. Reading holy Scripture fortifies us. Frequenting Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation help lead us away from sin and toward God.

In my own life, I see the lure of sloth in unstructured time, so I often ask the Holy Spirit to order my day and set my priorities. Isn't it amazing how much we can accomplish when we ask the Holy Spirit to guide us? Haven't you been amazed at what you can do when you seek God's will in your daily affairs... especially when you think you don't have the time, energy, or resources you need?

"I can do all things through Him who gives me strength" (Philippians 4:13).

Some closing thoughts for staving off sloth:

First, we can pray and ask God for everything, any-



HOLY AND HEALTHY

Lori Crock

thing, big and small. Don't limit God. He knows our needs better than we do, and He delights in helping us with even our smallest corporal concerns.

Second, we can look deeper to see what is tempting us to sloth. There may be an issue behind our sloth that needs to be taken to prayer or addressed with a spiritual director or a faithful friend.

Finally, sloth is a sin against God and will harm us spiritually, especially if we are not fulfilling the duties of our vocation.

We have to fight like St. Paul to be Christlike, put on the armor of God, and run to finish the race ... because God is counting on us.

Lori Crock is a strength coach, SoulCore leader, Catholic writer, and speaker in Columbus. She is a Plain City St. Joseph Church parishioner who is online at holyanthealthycatholic.com.

New Walsh building honors Catholic faith

Woven throughout the new global learning center at Walsh University in North Canton are visible reminders of the Catholic faith. Intentionally incorporated into its design are elements that pay homage to the university's Catholic roots and values and honor its founders, the Brothers of Christian Instruction.

Classrooms, computer labs, and digital production studios have been named for prominent patron saints and respected church leaders who represent the fields of work being studied in the building.

By naming these classrooms in a highly visible way, the university is exposing Catholic and non-Catholic students to a deeper understanding of their faith and providing a modern, relevant connection to the Catholic vocation of their chosen professions.

Named classrooms include: the St. Gabriel Media Center, a research media facility with 24 computers and a knowledge bar, named for the patron saint of communications; the St. Maximilian Kolbe Recording Studio, honoring the patron saint of journalists; the Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Film Editing Studio, named for "the apostle of radio and television," perhaps the best-known Catholic preacher of the 20th century; and the Mother Angelica Video Production Lab, paying tribute to the founder of the EWTN networks, who was a Canton native.

Within the center, it was a priority to provide a space dedicated to adoration and prayer. The chapel, named for St. Teresa of Kolkata, provides an intimate space for individual prayer and reflection, as well as smaller ministry events. Features of the chapel include religious artifacts that honor the legacy of the Brothers of Christian Instruction.

The \$11.4 million global learning center is a two-story, nearly 44,000-square-foot building featuring complete wireless connectivity, a 16-foot video wall, a cafeteria, and laboratories to support programs in computer engineering, digital media, graphic design, and video production.

Three interdisciplinary research institutes on civ-

ic engagement, food design/sustainability, and community health will support collaboration of faculty, students, and guests on issues impacting local and national communities.

The new building was funded by donor contributions to Walsh's We Believe campaign. Launched in 2012 and concluding this past December, the largest capital campaign in Walsh history exceeded all goals and raised nearly \$32 million, surpassing its goal of \$30 million.





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HOLY WEEK ~ 2018

Holy Week: The apex of Catholic worship

By Father Michael Gentry

Pastor, Columbus St. Thomas the Apostle Church

If we would call ourselves followers of Jesus Christ, our lives become a very simple proposition. God created us for one purpose and one purpose only: to become saints.

Most people look shocked when I tell them that their only real fulfillment comes in sainthood. A sense of false humility, despair over the many ways we have strived for sainthood and failed, or years of building beliefs that life has some other meaning often cause us to recoil from the thought or to discard it out of hand.

But the testimony of salvation history is clear. God created each one of us to share in His divine life. The two accounts of creation in the first chapters of Genesis represent His two solemn promises. First, this world is His world and, though evil may be present, even rampant, it never will prevail against His design in creation. Second, those who are faithful to Him are His people. Through all of the drama, suspense, and transformation of both personal and communal life, the grace of our baptism binds us to our Father in Heaven.

We can ignore this bond. We can take it for granted. But though time and death will take everything else from us, that bond will remain. Because of this, it is the one thing to which we always will have recourse. After everything has passed away, we will look into the face of God and say only, "Thank you, Father, for choosing me as your own."

God demonstrates His faithfulness to His two promises in every moment. In the Garden of Eden, after sin first enters the world, God issues an invitation to reconciliation, asking "Where are you?" He does not condemn Adam and Eve. He does not seek to punish them. If they will only confess their sins, He offers forgiveness and restoration to the

dignity and intimacy for which He created us. When they refuse, God loves them so much that He lets them live through the consequences of their choice.

At Mount Sinai, knowing we are unable to distinguish sin and sanctity on our own, He gives us the Ten Commandments, which summarize what we are to do and not to do to remain on the path to sainthood.

In the fullness of time, God fulfills His promises in a complete and definitive way, demonstrating the dignity and intimacy of the human person, by sending His only Son to take on human flesh. During his earthly ministry, He instituted the Sacraments so that we would live with visible signs of His faithfulness and receive His life-giving and life-transforming grace, so that we will see and know His enduring faithfulness to us and be restored to the life He has in store for us.

The Catholic celebration of Holy Week is the apex of Catholic worship through the year. Leading up to this time, all of our prayer and work is directed to the reality made real, present, and tangible for us in this time.

The discipline of Lent has cleansed our hearts and cleared our minds so that our confidence in God's faithfulness grows and the beauty of the life He has in store for us becomes more deeply rooted in our hearts.

God's mercy keeps us safe from the memory of the hurts and failures of the past. God's hope restores our belief that sainthood is for us not only possible, but something worth committing our entire lives to attaining. God's love sweeps aside the fear and anxiety that haunts us as He penetrates all within us that is still waiting to know Him.

During this week of awe and wonder, look into the eyes of our risen Lord. Tell Him, "Lord, thank you for choosing me for your own."



Christians wave palm and olive branches during the annual Palm Sunday procession on the Mount of Olives overlooking the Old City of Jerusalem in 2017. CNS photo/Debbie Hill

Holy Week events in the Diocese of Columbus

Several parishes in the Diocese of Columbus are planning special Holy Week activities in addition to the traditional blessing of palms on Palm Sunday, the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, the Celebration of the Lord's Passion, along with Stations of the Cross in many cases, on Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil service. These special events include the following:

Ada Our Lady of Lourdes – Mime Stations of the Cross with eighth- to 12th-grade students, Friday, March 30, noon.

Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal – "After the Passion" production exploring the events from the Crucifixion to the Resurrection from the Apostles' point of view, Sunday, March 25, 7 p.m.

Columbus St. Christopher – Tenebrae service, designed to recreate the sense of betrayal, abandonment, and agony related to Good Friday, Friday, March 30, 7:30 p.m.

Columbus St. Elizabeth – Easter egg hunt, Saturday, March 24, 10 a.m.

Columbus St. Francis of Assisi – Soup supper with Stations of the Cross, with parishioners at each station telling how it relates to their lives, Wednesday, March 28, 6:30 p.m.

Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral – Diocesan Chrism Mass, with Bishop Frederick Campbell blessing holy oils to be used in parishes throughout the diocese and diocesan priests renewing their commitment of service, Tuesday, March 27, 6 p.m.; Walking Stations, stopping at 14 sites around downtown, Friday, March 30, 8 to 11 a.m., starting at cathedral; Tenebrae service, featuring the Cathedral Schola and including Talis' *Lamentations of Jeremiah*, Friday, March 30, 8 p.m.

Columbus St. Matthias – Living Stations, Tuesday, March 27, 7 p.m.

Columbus St. Stephen – Procession around the church property, with Stations in Spanish, Friday, March 30,

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center – Living Stations, Friday, March 30, 3 p.m.

Delaware St. Mary – Walking Stations, Friday, March 30, 11 a.m.; ecumenical prayer service, Friday, March 30, noon; blessing of Easter food baskets, Saturday, March 31, 8:30 a.m.

Dover St. Joseph – Walking Stations led by parish youth group, Friday, March 30, noon. Living Stations in Spanish, Friday, March 30, 8 p.m.

Lancaster St. Mark – Parish's annual Easter cantata, followed by reception; free goodwill donations accepted, Sunday, March 25, 7 p.m.

New Philadelphia Sacred Heart – "Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs," featuring the Tuscarawas Philharmonic Orchestra and adult chorus with music from Baroque works including Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*, Handel's *Messiah*, and Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Sunday, March 25, 2 and 4:30 p.m.

Portsmouth Catholic churches – Last Supper representation by Missionary Servants of the Word, Thursday, March 29, 6 to 7 p.m., St. Mary Center; Stations of the Cross representation by Missionary Servants of the Word, Friday, March 30, 9 a.m. to noon, Holy Redeemer Park; Walking Stations, Friday, March 30, 6:30 p.m., Holy Redeemer; Easter egg hunt, Sunday, April 1, 10 a.m., Holy Redeemer.

Reynoldsburg St. Pius X – Living Stations, Sunday, March 25, 6 p.m.; Tenebrae service, Wednesday, March 28, 7:30 p.m.; men's ministry sponsors walk with wooden cross along eight-mile course on bike trails and sidewalks of Reynoldsburg, Saturday, March 31, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; blessing of Easter food baskets, Saturday, March 31, 1 p.m.

Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains – Living Stations featuring parish families, Sunday, March 25, 4 p.m., followed by soup supper.

Students pray for end to gun violence



Most diocesan high schools conducted events on Wednesday, March 14, as part of a nationwide observance marking the one-month anniversary of the shooting deaths of 17 students in a Florida high school and calling for an end to gun violence. Columbus Bishop Hartley students had a voluntary choice of attending a prayer service in the school chapel (pictured) or of gathering in the school gymnasium to observe 17 minutes of silence. The nationwide observance included a walkout from classes at some schools. This did not occur in the Diocese of Columbus, but students at schools including Hartley and New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic were encouraged to walk up to other students, particularly those they may not usually speak to, and talk to them, rather than walking out. Commemorative services at other diocesan schools included special prayers and petitions, Scripture readings, and music; the saying of the rosary or 17 Hail Marys; talks by people affected by gun violence and by students; lighting of candles; writing of thank-you notes to first responders; and reciting of the names of those killed in the Florida shootings.

Photo courtesy Bishop Hartley High School



Flaget receives bird sanctuary grant

Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School has received a \$1,151 grant from the AEP Access to Environmental Education Fund to assist the school in becoming a bird sanctuary for native Ohio songbirds. The grant is being used for purchase of a bluebird feeder, postings, water fountains, and predator guards to protect a bluebird monitoring area already in place. Flaget students enjoy a well-rounded STEM education with many hands-on activities. The sanctuary assists songbirds that are struggling to survive against invasive species and a dwindling food supply. This opportunity affords the students multiple learning opportunities, as well as a refuge for native wildlife species. The fourth-grade class monitors and evaluates the school's program for feeding and watering bluebirds. Fourth-graders are pictured with their check from the AEP fund and one of the bluebird houses for the bluebird trail.

Photo courtesy Bishop Flaget School



'Paws for Books' at St. Bernadette

"Paws for Books" was the theme of this year's book fair at Lancaster St. Bernadette School. Dr. Jennifer Morrow of the Lancaster Animal Clinic (pictured) and Dr. Robert Guinan from the Morris Animal Clinic shared their expertise about pets and brought some animals with them. Students also spent time with professional dog trainer Nicholas Hafford. In addition, classes discussed dog bite safety, took a virtual tour of the New York Humane Society, took measurements of their stuffed animal "pets," and watched a video on veterinary job opportunities. One class calculated the cost of owning a pet and another built structures for their "pets" from blocks and other building materials.

Photo courtesy St. Bernadette School



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Happy Easter from ODU

He is not here, for he has risen, as he said he would.
— Matthew 28:6

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LETTERS, continued from Page 3

“This is one of the most loving, unexpected surprises I have ever received in the mail. Thank you, Olivia, for your beautiful heart and for loving on birth mothers! What a sweet, sweet reminder from BraveLove.”

“Just the little oomph of happiness I needed. Thank you to the dear girl who wrote me. And thank you @joinbravelove for including me.”

“As a birth mom, I received one of these letters. Honestly, it came at the perfect time. On the 15th my birth son will be one, and it's been a struggle for me. But when this letter came in the mail, it was so wonderful and just made my whole week! Truly appreciated it. Thank you!!!”

Later in January, BraveLove decided to feature several of the letters from Olivia and her classmates on a set of greeting cards which it offered for sale as a Valentine's Day promotion and continue to be available. Each card features one of the letters, plus space for the sender to add words of encouragement when mailing the card to someone. Olivia's letter also is featured in an ongoing campaign that encourages people to send messages of encouragement on the BraveLove website so they can be seen by birth mothers and others viewing the site.

BraveLove executive director Laura Bruder said the letters reached not only the birth mothers who were their intended recipients, but more than 20,000 people on Facebook alone. Olivia said she has been periodically receiving postings of 10 to 15 responses from BraveLove for the past two months.

“Not every day do I receive emails from eighth-graders. So when Olivia's message popped in my inbox, I knew this was going to be special,” Bruder said. “Since then, I've continued to be amazed by the impact this simple act of kindness has had on birth mothers and families nationwide. It's Olivia, the parents, her classmates, the teachers and principal who have together made this beautiful effort possible.

At BraveLove, we were just humbled to have been the messenger. On behalf of birth mothers everywhere, thank you all for talking about adoption and honoring birth mothers in such a profoundly simple way.”

Olivia said the response to her let-



Olivia Oyster and cards she inspired.

ters is encouraging her to continue her advocacy on behalf of birth mothers and the adoption process. “It's so important to dispel the myths about adoption,” she said. “I want to keep talking to people about adoption, especially the language people use when referring to adopted children, because that can make a big difference, especially with the children themselves.

“You can't emphasize enough that adopted children were chosen by their adoptive parents and that in most cases, their birth mothers chose to allow their children to be adopted because they felt it was the best thing for the child. These children were not ‘given away.’”

Olivia and the other children who wrote letters to the birth mothers are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, March 24. “Through their letter-writing campaign, they've provided an example of how the Holy Spirit can be at work in everyone's life,” said Polletta, their teacher.

“It's the epitome of what Catholic education is about,” said Stull, their principal. “You couldn't find a better way of teaching children about caring for others and respecting every human life. It's a great example of how doing small things with great love can make a huge difference.”

For more information about BraveLove, go to www.bravelove.org. Follow the organization (@joinbravelove) on Facebook and Instagram. To add your voice to Olivia's efforts supporting birth mothers, go to www.bravelove.org/Olivia.

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (Cycle B)

Passion story, Old Testament are intertwined



Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11
Mark 14:1-15:47

The first two readings and the Psalm response are always the same for Palm Sunday. The Gospel story of the Passion varies from year to year between Matthew, Mark, and Luke. The Passion in John's Gospel is always proclaimed on Good Friday.

Thus, every year we hear of the one with the well-trained tongue who offered his back to those who beat him and his cheeks to those who plucked his beard. Because this reading repeats year after year, we Christians adopt the frame of mind that Isaiah was predicting the Christ event, specifically Jesus' ignominious death, to use a rather outmoded word that means "shameful." But Isaiah had his own time and place. When he wrote those words, he may have been speaking of himself or of the Jewish people.

We dare not forget that Mark wrote his Passion account with the ability to consult Isaiah and the other prophets and Psalms and to frame his story around this "suffering servant" motif. When we appropriate the Old Testament in this way, without an awareness that the authors who produced those works had other things in mind, we deny them a place at the table.

Paul incorporates an early Christian hymn in his Philippians letter as he reflects upon the nature of Christ. Paul (or the unknown author of the hymn) sticks to Christian sources until he gets to the end of this hymn, when, in verse 10 ("... at the name of Jesus every knee shall bend ... and every tongue proclaim ..."), there seems to be a clear reference to Isaiah 45:23, where the Lord says, "To me every knee shall bend; by me every tongue shall swear."

That brings us to Mark's Passion, which is far too long to provide a decent commentary in this small space. I shall, instead, point to clear Old Testament quotes or references from this Passion and invite readers to look at the original passages as part of their Holy Week meditations.

The first clear reference in the remark about always having the poor refers to Deuteronomy 15:11: "The needy will never be lacking in the land." During the Passover meal, as we would expect, there is a reference to Exodus 12:6, 14-20, when Mark mentions the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Exodus pointed out that this was to be a seven-day feast. When Jesus announces that one of those eating with him will betray him, Psalm 41:9 seems to be the reference: "Even my trusted friend, who ate my bread, has raised his heel against me."

At the last supper, when Jesus says "This is my blood of the covenant," the reference is Exodus 24:8 (and Zechariah 9:11), when Moses sprinkles the people with the blood of the covenant. Mark quotes directly from Zechariah 13:7 when he uses the words "I will strike the shepherd and the sheep will be dispersed." When he says to Peter and James and John, "My soul is sorrowful even to death," Mark seems to be referring to Psalm 42:5 and Psalm 43:5 and perhaps Jonah 4:9. When the disciples all flee when Jesus is arrested, it fulfills Zechariah's prophecy that the sheep would be scattered (Zechariah 13:7).

When Jesus stood silent before the high priest's questioning, Mark had Isaiah 53:7 in mind. He quotes Daniel 7:13 when he says "You will see the son of man coming on the clouds of heaven." The use of the expression "seated at the right hand of power" comes from Psalm 110:1. When the high priest tears his garments, it recalls Numbers 14:6, a sign of utter frustration, rage, and lament. Surprisingly, scholars seem unable to explain the origins of the practice. The word for "tearing" is found only in Hebrew among ancient Semitic languages, which is unusual, so we have nothing to compare it to.

The high priest's accusation of blasphemy and the charge that Jesus must die is based on Leviticus 24:16, which has to do with an act of blasphemy in which the blasphemer uses the name of the Lord. In the Passion, we must suppose that when Jesus claimed to be seated at the right hand of the Power, it was a sufficient enough offense, by a rather loose interpretation of Leviticus 24:15-16.

In the offer of "wine drugged with myrrh," Mark probably had Psalm 69:21(22) in mind: "for my thirst they gave me vinegar." The division of clothes and the casting of lots for them come from Psalm 22:18: "they divide my garments among them; for my clothing they cast lots." The passers-by who mock him recall Psalm 22:7(8), which reads "All who see me mock me; they curl their lips and jeer; they shake their heads at me." Psalm 109:25 also speaks about shaking heads in mockery.

When darkness covers the earth as Jesus is crucified, Mark probably is thinking of Amos 8:9: "I will make the sun set at midday and in broad daylight cover the land with darkness." The cry of Jesus on the cross is a quote from Psalm 22:1: "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachtani? (My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?)" The language was Aramaic. If he were quoting the Psalm in Hebrew, he would have said "Eli, Eli," which is what the Psalm says in Hebrew: "Eli, Eli lamah azabtani." Mark did not know much Hebrew.

From this brief review, it is easy to see how intertwined with the Old Testament the Passion story is. It should heighten our interest in both Testaments as we ponder how Mark drew from the Old Testament to fashion his Gospel Passion story.

Father Lawrence Hummer, pastor at Chillicothe St. Mary Church, can be reached at hummerl@stmarychillicothe.com.

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY

Isaiah 42:1-7
Psalm 27:1-3,13-14
John 12:1-11

TUESDAY

Isaiah 49:1-6
Psalm 71:1-4a,5-6ab,15,17
John 13:21-33,36-38

WEDNESDAY

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 69:8-10,21bcd-22,31,33-34
Matthew 26:14-25

HOLY THURSDAY

Exodus 12:1-8,11-14
Psalm 116:12-13,15-16c,17-18
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-15

GOOD FRIDAY

Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Psalm 31:2,6,12-13,15-17,25
Hebrews 4:14-16;5:7-9
John 18:1-19:42

HOLY SATURDAY

(1) Genesis 1:1-2:2
Psalm 104:1-2,5-6,10,12-14,24,35
(2) Genesis 22:1-18
Psalm 16:5,8-11
(3) Exodus 14:15-15:1
Exodus 15:1-6,17-18 (Ps)
(4) Isaiah 54:5-14
Psalm 30:2,4-6,11-13
(5) Isaiah 55:1-11
Isaiah 12:2-3,4-6 (Ps)
(6) Baruch 3:9-15,32-4:4
Psalm 19:8-11
(7) Ezekiel 36:16-17a,18-28
Isaiah 12:2-3,4bcd,5-6 (Ps) or
Psalm 51:12-15,18-19
(8) Romans 6:3-11
Psalm 118:1-2,16-17,22-23
(9) Mark 16:1-7

Getting ready for Synod 2018

The headline on March 3rd story at the CRUX website was certainly arresting — “Cardinal on charges of rigged synods: ‘There was no maneuvering!’” The cardinal in question was Lorenzo Baldisseri, secretary-general of the Synod of Bishops, and not only were his voluble comments striking, they were also a bit disconcerting. Did I simply imagine the uproar on the floor of the Synod on Oct. 16, 2014, as bishop after bishop protested an interim report generated by Baldisseri and his colleague, Archbishop Bruno Forte, that did not reflect the discussions of the previous two weeks? Were the complaints about the suffocating Synod procedures Cardinal Baldisseri outlined prior to Synod 2015 an illusion? Didn’t 13 cardinals write Pope Francis in the most respectful terms, suggesting alterations in those procedures to ensure the open discussion the pope insisted he wanted?

But, hey, memory is a tricky thing and this is the season of mercy, so let’s let bygones be bygones and concentrate now on Synod 2018, which will discuss youth ministry and vocational discernment. Those are very important topics. The Church in the United States has had some success addressing them, despite challenging cultural circumstances, so perhaps some American leaders in youth ministry and vocational discernment could be invited to Synod 2018 to enrich its discussion on the Synod floor and off it (where is where most of the interesting conversations at these affairs take place).

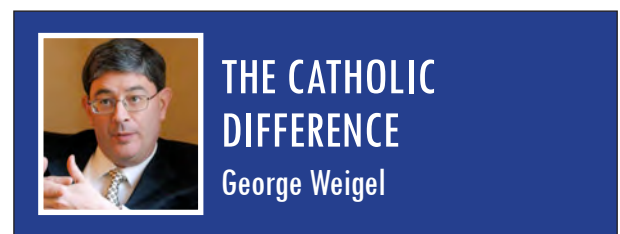
Curtis Martin is the founder of the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS), which is arguably the most creative campus ministry initia-

tive in the post-Vatican II Church. FOCUS sends recent college graduates back to campuses as missionaries and has had such success in the U.S. that FOCUS missionaries are now working in Europe. There’s a lot the bishops at Synod 2018 could learn from Martin’s experience.

Then there’s Anna Halpine, president of the World Youth Alliance, a network of pro-life young people all over the world who witness to the joy of the Gospel and the Gospel of life in an extraordinary variety of social and cultural settings. WYA has also designed and deployed innovative educational programs and women’s health centers that, building out from the Church’s teaching on the inalienable dignity of the human person, offer life-affirming alternatives to the moral emptiness of too many elementary school curricula and the death-dealing work of Planned Parenthood on campuses. Surely there’s something to be shared at the Synod from this remarkable enterprise.

Bishop David Konderla of Tulsa, Oklahoma, was the director of campus ministry for 11 years at Texas A&M, where St. Mary’s Catholic Center has set the gold standard in traditional campus ministry and created a model for others to emulate. Over the past 20 years, Konderla and his predecessors have fostered more vocations to the priesthood and religious life than that school with the golden dome in northwest Indiana, while helping many Aggie men and women prepare for fruitful and faithful Catholic marriages. Bishop Konderla would make a very apt papal nominee to Synod 2018.

Msgr. James Shea, president of the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota, has taken up the



mantle of the late Dr. Don Briel in creating a robust, integrated Catholic Studies program on his growing campus. Shea’s goal, like Briel’s, is to form mature young men and women intellectually, spiritually, and liturgically, so that they can be, in the 21st century, Pope Francis’s “Church permanently in mission.” He has things to say about how to do this, and Synod 2018 should hear them.

Then there is Father Thomas Joseph White, OP, a banjo-playing, bourbon-appreciating theologian of distinction, who (with his Dominican brother, Father Dominic Legge) has created the Thomistic Institute to bring serious Catholic ideas to prestigious universities across the U.S. The Institute’s lectures and seminars fill the intellectual vacuum evident on so many campuses today — the vacuum where thought about the deep truths inscribed in the world and in us used to be. Father White is being redeployed by his community to Rome this fall, so he’ll be a Number-64 bus ride away from the Vatican. The Synod fathers should meet him, and perhaps he and Cardinal Baldisseri, an accomplished pianist, could jam.

So by all means, let’s have “no maneuvering” at Synod 2018. But let’s also have some American expertise there, for the good of the whole Church.

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

Columbus Catholic Renewal sponsors ‘Wild Goose’ seminar

Columbus Catholic Renewal is sponsoring a four-week seminar titled “The Wild Goose is Loose” from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesdays from April 11 to May 2 at Columbus St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd.

The seminar materials were created by Father Dave Pivonka, TOR. “Wild Goose” is an ancient Celtic term for “Holy Spirit.”

Using this name aptly catches the wonder and impact the Holy Spirit has in the lives of people from all over the nation who will share their stories on video.

The seminar also will feature teaching on the attributes of the Holy Spirit and practical applications on how to respond to the Holy Spirit, who desires to be present in a manner that brings light out of darkness, freedom out of bondage, order out of chaos, and life out of death.

There is no fee for the program. To register, go to <http://www.ccr Columbus.org> or call (614) 500-8178. Child care will be available upon request. For more information, contact Dan Canlas at (614) 989-7890 or Ruth Shaner at (614) 882-7387.

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Pray for our dead

ABBOTT, Marian "MaryAnn," 89, March 14
St. Aloysius Church, Columbus

CAPPARUCCINI, Anthony, 84, March 13
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

CARPENTER, William R., 88, March 12
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

CONWAY, William M., 78, March 13
St. Patrick Church, London

EGAN, Robert L., 80, March 15
St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

FLAIM (FRYE), Sandra L. (Stern), 73, March 12
Holy Family Church, Columbus

HANF, Charles M., 83, March 15
Christ the King Church, Columbus

HART, Anna K. (Gerner), 92, March 16
St. Aloysius Church, Columbus

HICKS, Elizabeth (Smolak), 82, March 13
Immaculate Conception Church, Dennison

HUPRICH, June (Trachsel), 84, March 12
St. Joseph Church, Dover

KINT, Joan K. (Rumler), 74, March 11
St. Paul Church, Westerville

MACEYKO, Steven J. "Hub" Jr., 84, March 9
Sacred Hearts Church, Cardington

MILAM, Bruce G., 62, March 4
Our Lady of Peace Church, Columbus

MONTERO, Dr. Jovelina (Mozo), 87, March 11
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

MOORE, Laura A. (Middleton), 95, March 13
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

RONEMUS, Mary J. (Roberts), 83, March 10
Holy Cross Church, Columbus

SCALI, Antonio, 83, March 16
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

SKUBE, Donald T., 59, March 12
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

SUTTER, Clarice E. (Condrin), 96, March 14
St. Anthony Church, Columbus

TEHAN, Nancy (Drake), 89, March 13
St. Peter Church, Columbus

Sister Elizabeth Anne Heery, OP

Funeral Mass for Sister Elizabeth Anne Heery, OP, 83, who died Thursday, March 8, was celebrated Thursday, March 15 at the Dominican Sisters of Peace Motherhouse. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born Eileen Heery in 1934 in Astoria, Long Island, New York to James and Elizabeth (Kiernan) Heery, entered the congregation of the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace) in 1954, and professed her vows on July 9, 1956.

She was a licensed practical nurse and worked in the

St. Mary of the Springs Infirmary (now the Mohun Health Care Center) in Columbus from 1956 to 1982, served at St. Francis/St. George Hospital in Cincinnati in 1982 and 1983, then returned to St. Mary of the Springs, where she worked in supportive services from 1983 until retiring in 2010. She had been a resident of the Mohun center since 2013.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, James, Anthony, and John; and sisters, Mary Emslie and Kathleen Pitarra. Survivors include brothers, Joseph and Philip; and sister, Rita Churpita.

Paul F. O'Neil

Funeral Mass for Paul F. O'Neill, 88, who died Thursday, March 15, was celebrated Tuesday, March 20 at Columbus St. Andrew Church. Burial was at Sacred Heart Cemetery, Monongahela, Pennsylvania.

He was a retired fundraising consultant who served as the first development director of Mount Carmel Medical Center and Mount Carmel East Hospital and as executive director of the Ohio Republican Party's finance committee. He was on the board of directors of the former Salesian Boys Club in Columbus and was a member of the Friends of the Pontifical College Josephinum and the Serra Club of Columbus.

He grew up in the Pittsburgh area and was a graduate of Duquesne University. Before coming to Columbus, he worked in Pittsburgh for the Ketchum Inc. and Fuller Smith and Ross advertising agencies and was a board member for the Big Brothers of Allegheny County.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Bernard and Elizabeth (Reilly) O'Neill; wife, Ann (Hannigan); brothers, Bernard, John, Daniel, and Phillip; and sisters, Margret Bergbrede and Anne. Survivors include daughters, Madeline (Frank) Fraas and Louise Reilly O'Neill; and two grandchildren.

Lula Belle Williams

Funeral Mass for Lula Belle Williams, who died Saturday, March 10, was celebrated March 17 at Cleveland St. Adalbert/Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church. Burial was at Cleveland Memorial Gardens.

A memorial Mass for her was celebrated Monday,

March 19 at Columbus St. James the Less Church, where her son, Father Clarence Williams, CPpS, is pastor.

Other survivors include her husband; Clarence; sons, Thomas, Charles, Willie Earl, and Carl; 15 grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren.

HOLY WEEK

at St. Patrick's Church

Monday thru Wednesday of Holy Week

- 7:00 a.m. Mass
- 11:45 a.m. Mass
- 12:15 p.m. Confessions (until done)
- 12:15–7:00 Exposition and Adoration
- 7:00–7:30 Sung Vespers and
Benediction (Incense)
- 7:30 p.m. Confessions (until done)

Holy Thursday

- 7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper
with Eucharistic Procession
- After Mass Adoration till Midnight and
Confessions (until done)
- 11:30 p.m. Reading of *Sermo Dominicus*

Good Friday

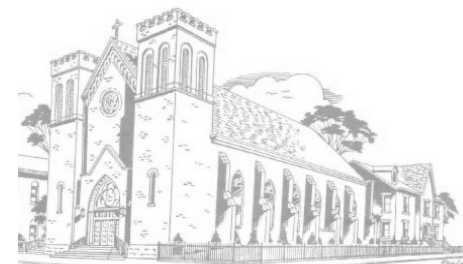
- Noon–2:45 Seven Last Words of Christ
(Fr. Giles Dimock, O.P.)
and Confessions
- 3:00 p.m. The Celebration of the
Passion of the Lord and
Veneration of Cross
- 7:30 p.m. Songs & Psalms of Tenebrae

Holy Saturday

- 8:30 p.m. Easter Vigil

Sunday of the Resurrection

- Easter Mass
- 7 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12 p.m.



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MARCH

22, 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.

Sung Vespers at St. Margaret of Cortona

6:30 p.m., St. Margaret of Cortona Church, 1600 N. Hague Ave., Columbus. Sung Vespers as part of parish's weekly Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by Stations of the Cross at 7. 614-279-1690

Eucharistic Holy Hour at Sacred Heart

7 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour with the intention of deepened holiness and an increase in the virtue of fortitude for the Holy Father, bishops, and priests, concluding with Benediction, social period, and refreshments. 614-372-5249

Talk on Catholic Social Teaching at St. Brigid

7 to 8:30 p.m., St. Brigid of Kildare Church, 7179 Avery Road, Dublin. Talk on Catholic social teaching with Msgr. Joseph Hendricks, parish's pastor. 614-761-3734

Holy Week Talk at Marion St. Mary

7 p.m., St. Mary Church, 251 N. Main St., Marion. Talk on "The Mysteries of Holy Week" with Father Ryan Schmit, parochial vicar. 740-382-2118

All fund-raising events (festivals, bazaars, spaghetti dinners, fish fries, bake sales, pizza/sub sales, candy sales, etc.) will be placed in the "Fund-Raising Guide." An entry into the Guide will be \$18.50 for the first six lines, and \$2.65 for each additional line. For more information, call Douglas Bean at 614-224-6530.

'Happenings' submissions

Notices for items of Catholic interest must be received at least 12 days before expected publication date. We will print them as space permits. Items not received before this deadline may not be published.

Listings cannot be taken by phone.

Mail to: The Catholic Times

Happenings,

197 East Gay St., Columbus, OH 43215

Fax to: 614-241-2518

E-mail as text to tpuet@columbuscatholic.org

Frassati Society Meeting at Columbus St. Patrick

7 p.m., Aquinas Hall, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Parish's Frassati Society for young adults meets for monthly "Christ in the City" program, which includes Eucharistic adoration, confessions, Taize chant, and Dominican Compline, followed by fellowship and drinks at Claddagh Irish Pub. 614-224-9522

22-24, THURSDAY-SATURDAY

Fisher Catholic Presents 'Guys and Dolls'

7 p.m., Fisher Catholic High School, 1805 Granville Pike, Columbus. School presents the classic musical "Guys and Dolls." Tickets \$10 adults, \$6 students. 740-654-1231

23, FRIDAY

Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts at St. John Chrysostom

7 p.m., St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church, 5858 Cleveland Ave., Columbus. Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, a Vespers service with Holy Eucharist. 614-882-7578

DeSales Presents 'Godspell'

7 p.m., St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, Columbus. School presents the musical "Godspell." Tickets \$10. 614-267-7808

23-25, FRIDAY-SUNDAY

Men's Silent Retreat at St. Therese's

St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Silent retreat for men, sponsored by Catholic Laymen's Retreat League, directed by Father Maurice Emetu. Theme: "Finding Joy and Peace through a Deepened Friendship with Christ."

24, SATURDAY

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 Preview Day

9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Bishop Griffin Center, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Preview day for prospective students, featuring campus tours and discussion on courses, activities, and financial aid.

Franciscan Sisters Discernment Day

9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., St. Benedict Church Convent, 319 N. 7th St., Cambridge. Discernment day sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity. Begins with optional Mass at 8:35. Includes sisters talking about the religious life, an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Evening Prayer, and 5 p.m. Sunday-vigil Mass. Lunch provided. 740-432-5853

Easter Egg Hunt at St. Elizabeth

10 a.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Parish's annual Easter egg hunt. 614-891-0150

Women's Morning of Reflection at Plain City

10 a.m. to noon, Parish activity center, St. Joseph Church, 670 W. Main St., Plain City. Women's morning of reflection, with a presentation by Kathy Maggied on "Speak, Lord, Your Servant Is Listening -- Coming to Know the Voice of God in Our Lives," followed by Lori Crock with SoulCore prayer and movement activity. Light snacks provided. Come dressed comfortably. Bring a mat if you have one. 614-578-3957

Frassati Society Tours Jubilee Museum

10:30 a.m., Jubilee Museum and Catholic Cultural Center, 57 S. Grubb St., Columbus. St. Patrick Church Frassati Society for young adults tours nation's largest museum of Catholic artifacts. Cost \$10. 614-224-9522

Pascha Foods Sale at St. John Chrysostom

11 a.m. to 1 p.m., St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church, 5858 Cleveland Ave., Columbus. Annual Pascha (Easter) foods sale, including Pascha bread loaves; pi-rogi; nut, apricot, and poppyseed rolls; lamb-shaped cakes; and religious gifts. 614-882-7578

25, SUNDAY

Exposition at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

9:15 to 10:15 a.m., Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 5133 Walnut Road S.E., Buckeye Lake. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament each Sunday during Lent. 740-928-3266

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education

10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. "Early Jewish Mysticism" with Michael Swartz, professor of Hebrew and religious studies at The Ohio State University.

Praise Mass at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

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

Mass Ad Orientem at Columbus St. Patrick

Noon, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Celebration of Mass Ad Orientem (with priest facing the altar). 614-224-9522

St. Catherine of Bologna Secular Franciscans

2 to 4:30 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave., Columbus. Meet in church for prayer, followed by general meeting, ongoing formation, and fellowship. Visitors welcome. 614-895-7792

Tuscarawas Philharmonic at New Phila. Sacred Heart

2 and 4:30 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 139 3rd St. N.E., New Philadelphia. "Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs," featuring the Tuscarawas Philharmonic Orchestra and adult chorus with music from Baroque works including Bach's "St. Matthew Passion," Handel's "Messiah," and Vivaldi's "Gloria." 330-343-6976

DeSales Presents 'Godspell'

3 p.m., St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, Columbus. School presents the musical "Godspell." Tickets \$10. 614-267-7808

Living Stations at St. Peter in Chains

4 p.m., St. Peter in Chains Church, 2167 Lick Run Lyra Road, Wheelersburg. Living Stations of the Cross featuring parish families, followed by soup supper. 740-574-5486

Sung Vespers at Cathedral

4:45 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Singing of Vespers preceding 5:15 p.m. Mass. 614-241-2526

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. 614-237-0401

Living Stations at St. Pius X

6 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Living Stations of the Cross. 614-866-2859

Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter

7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. 706-761-4054

'After the Passion' at Church of Our Lady

7 p.m., Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. "After the Passion," a play exploring events from the crucifixion to the resurrection from the Apostles' point of view. 614-861-1242

Easter Cantata at St. Mark

7 p.m., St. Mark Church, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Parish's annual Easter cantata, followed by reception. 740-653-1229

26, MONDAY

Adoration and Reconciliation at New Philadelphia

5 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 139 3rd St. N.E., New Philadelphia. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, with Reconciliation available, and Evening Prayer at 6:30. 330-343-6976

Bethesda Post-Abortion Healing Ministry

6:30 p.m., support group meeting, 2744 Dover Road, Co-

lumbus (Christ the King convent, first building west of the 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 Scripture readings.

27, TUESDAY

Padre Pio Prayer Group at St. John the Baptist

12:30 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 168 E. Lincoln Ave., Columbus. Padre Pio Prayer Group meeting, including rosary, devotions, and 1 p.m. Mass. 614-294-5319

Chrism Mass at Cathedral

6 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Diocesan Chrism Mass, with Bishop Frederick Campbell blessing holy oils to be used in parishes throughout the diocese in the coming year and diocesan priests renewing their commitment of service. 614-224-1295

Rosary for Life at St. Joan of Arc

Following 6:15 p.m. Mass, St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Recital of Rosary for Life, sponsored by church's respect life committee.

Living Stations at St. Matthias

7 p.m., St. Matthias Church, 1582 Ferris Road, Columbus. Living Stations of the Cross. 614-267-3406

28, WEDNESDAY

Liturgy of the Hours at Newark St. Francis de Sales

6 p.m., St. Francis de Sales Church, 40 Granville St., Newark. Liturgy of the Hours every Wednesday during Lent. 740-345-9874

'A Very Mary Lent' at Delaware St. Mary

6:30 to 8 p.m., St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware. "A Very Mary Lent" series concludes with a viewing of the film "The Passion of the Christ." 740-363-4641

Soup Supper at St. Francis of Assisi

6:30 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, Soup supper with Stations of the Cross, with parishioners at each station telling how it relates to their lives. 614-299-5781

Evening Mass at St. Matthias

7 p.m., St. Matthias Church, 1582 Ferris Road, Columbus. Celebration of final Mass of parish's Wednesday evening Lenten Mass series. 614-267-3406

Frassati Society Movie Viewing

7:15 p.m., AMC Easton Theater, 275 Easton Station, Columbus. Columbus. St. Patrick Church Frassati Society for young adults views the new movie "Paul, Apostle of Christ." Cost \$10.49. 614-224-9522

Tenebrae Service at St. Pius X

7:30 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Tenebrae service, designed to recreate the sense of betrayal, abandonment, and agony related to Good Friday. 614-866-2859

29, THURSDAY

Last Supper Representation at Portsmouth St. Mary

6 to 7 p.m., St. Mary Center, 524 6th St., Portsmouth. Representation of the Last Supper by Missionary Servants of the Word. 740-354-4551

Bishop Campbell Celebrates Mass of the Lord's Supper

7:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bishop Frederick Campbell celebrates the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper. 614-224-1295

Sermo Dominicus at Columbus St. Patrick

11:30 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Sermo Dominicus, a reading of Jesus' last discourse (John chapters 14 to 17). 614-224-9522

30, FRIDAY

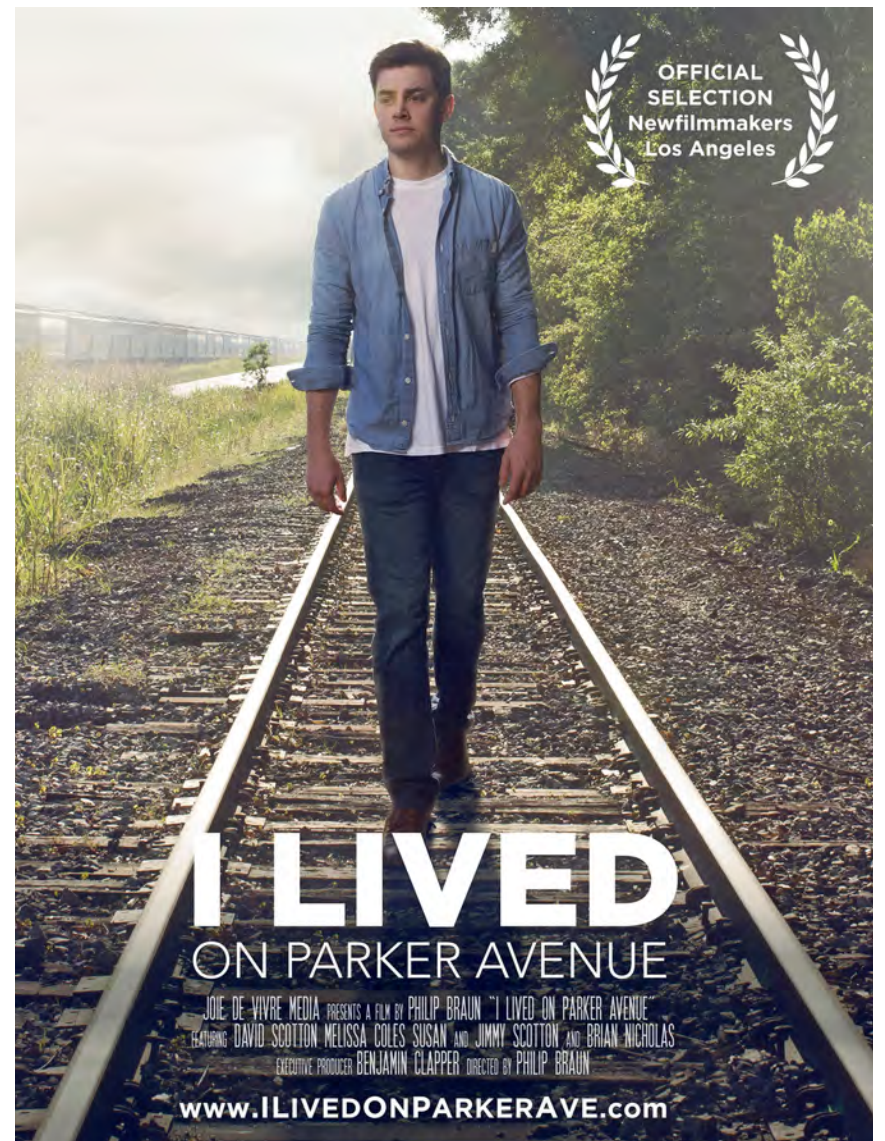
Walking Stations of the Cross in Downtown Columbus

8 to 11 a.m., starting behind St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Annual Walking Stations of the Cross, stopping at 14 sites around downtown Columbus to commemorate Jesus' crucifixion and reflect on various social issues. 614-241-2540



DOCUMENTARY

I LIVED ON PARKER AVENUE



In a touching documentary, a son reunites with his mother who almost aborted him.

Catholic News Agency

Melissa Coles found herself pregnant at the age of 18.

Fearing that she and the father could not support a child, she went to the local abortion clinic on Parker Avenue in Indianapolis. But right before the abortion, she told the doctor, “I can’t do this” and left.

Melissa’s son David was born on Dec. 22, 1993. Soon after, he was adopted by the Scotton family in Louisiana, who had been longing for a child.

David was raised by the Scotttons, knowing that he was adopted and almost aborted. Eventually, he began to speak at public events, sharing his story with pro-life groups. He won the Louisiana Pro-Life Oratory Contest at Jesuit High School in New Orleans, drawing local recognition for doing so.

Soon afterward, his birth mother, Melissa, contacted the adoption agency to see if David would be willing to meet her. David agreed.

Reflecting on the decision, he told Catholic News Agency in a recent interview, “I wanted to thank my biological parents for leaving the abortion clinic

and giving me the life I have today.”

“I am forever thankful they chose the adoption option for me,” he said.

Around the same time, the executive director of Louisiana Right to Life, Benjamin Clapper, reached out to David to see if he would be interested in filming the reunion between him and his biological parents.

Clapper’s original idea of filming the reunion as a pro-life video clip soon turned into the makings of a film titled *I Lived on Parker Avenue*.

The short documentary, directed by Philip Braun III and produced by Joie De Vivre Media, was released online on March 8. The film explores the story of David’s birth parents, the Scotton family, and David’s own journey in discovering where his life began.

“From day one, our goal with this film was to reclaim the beauty of adoption,” David said. “I’ve dedicated so much of the last five years of my life, for free, to simply get this message out there.”

A film premier for the documentary took place held at the Louisiana Governor’s Mansion.

The documentary’s message struck a particular chord with the governor, John Bel Edwards and

his wife, who were instructed by their doctors to abort their own daughter after discovering a birth defect during pregnancy. However, they rejected the abortion.

David, who has promoted the film across the nation, to members of Congress and on television appearances, hopes that the documentary will showcase the extraordinary journey of adoption and invite women considering abortion to consider adoption instead.

“I hope those who watch will see what the adoption option can do. Without the adoption option, I would not be here today ... my parents would not have the gift of their only child, nor would my grandparents have the gift of their only grandchild. That’s what adoption does. It can save lives and build families,” he said.

Moving forward, David plans on “always keeping in touch” with his birth parents, saying, “I am looking forward to seeing my biological sister and half-sister grow up as well.”

The documentary *I Lived on Parker Avenue* is available online for free or for DVD purchase, and was also featured at the NewFilmakers Los Angeles annual DocuSlate festival in December.

The Good Friday Vigil with the Holy Virgin



3:00pm Veneration of the Cross
7:00pm Stations of the Cross
7:30pm Vigil with Our Lady begins
Confessions offered from 7pm—12 Midnight
Vigil Concludes at 10:00am Holy Saturday
Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary prayed every hour

Holy Family Church 584 West Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

Why a Catholic Cemetery?

Traditionally, Catholics have their family burial place in a setting which reflects their faith and devotion. Catholic cemeteries are among the greatest testimonials of our faith.

Catholic cemeteries are not mere memorials to the dead, but monuments to eternity. They are religious shrines with statues, chapels, mausoleums, and outdoor devotional settings that evoke feelings of faith and the universal hope of the resurrection.

When a Christian dies, he remains part of the community he shared. At the Catholic cemetery, Christians are united not by race or age or affluence but by unity in their belief in the resurrection and everlasting life.



The Catholic Cemeteries of Columbus Offer . . .

CHAPELS – Available for Committal Services and Masses

MAUSOLEUMS – Community Garden Crypts and Personal Family Crypts

IN-GROUND BURIAL SPACE – Select from Monument, 8-Inch Marker and Lawn Level Marker Space

COLUMBARIUMS & NICHEs – Serving your cremation needs

MONUMENTS & MARKERS – Direct to You Through Our Offices

FULL-TIME ADVISORS – Providing You with Personal Service

LOW DOWN PAYMENTS and **INTEREST-FREE PAYMENT PLANS**



Steve Skinner



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Our advisors are available to help you plan for the type of cemetery service that you want. Whether it be mausoleum entombment, ground burial, cremation services, purchase of a monument or marker, or just some help with the rules and regulations, you will receive professional and courteous service along with accurate, reliable information. If you would like more information about St. Joseph, Resurrection, and Holy Cross Cemeteries call the phone numbers listed below and talk to one of your cemetery professionals today!

St. Joseph Cemetery

614-491-2751

6440 S. High St./ Rt. 23 S.
Lockbourne, Ohio 43137

Mt. Calvary Cemetery

614-491-2751

518 Mt. Calvary Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43223

Resurrection Cemetery

614-888-1805

9571 N. High St./Rt. 23 N.
Lewis Center, Ohio 43035

Holy Cross Cemetery

740-927-4442

11539 National Rd. SW/Rt. 40 E.
Pataskala, Ohio 43062

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