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CATHOLIC TIMES

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**JOIN CELEBRATES 50 YEARS
OF SERVING PEOPLE IN NEED**

The Editor's Notebook

Living a life of love and service

By David Garick, Editor

Start by doing what's necessary; then do what is possible; and suddenly, you are doing the impossible. – St. Francis of Assisi.

Being Christian is not just calling ourselves Catholic. We do not encounter Christ only within the splendor of stained-glass windows standing before his holy altar. Christ shares his very being with us not as an end in itself, but as an impetus for us to go forth and share his love with the whole world.

Three times, Our Lord asked Peter, "Do you love me?" Each time, Peter said, "Yes, Lord. You know that I love you." And the Lord replied, "Feed my sheep." If we are to be true disciples of Christ, if we are to truly love him, we must pass that love on to one another. He has told us that the whole of the law of God is summed up in the commandment to "Love the Lord with all your heart, and all your soul and all your mind, and the second is like unto it, love your neighbor as yourself."

We must go out of our homes and our churches and bring Christ to the poor, the suffering, the disheartened. The numbers are huge. The task seems impossible. But as the quote from St. Francis at the beginning of this column suggests, God has a way to make all things possible.

This edition of *Catholic Times* looks at JOIN, the Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs, a perfect example of how local Catholics are taking the faith outside the walls of the traditional church and sharing it with people in need.

Pope Francis speaks often of this important ministry to the poor and marginalized: "The Church must step outside herself. To go where? To the outskirts of existence, whatever they may be, but she must step out. Jesus tells us: 'Go into all the world! Go! Preach! Bear witness to the Gospel!' (cf. Mark 16:15). ... In this 'stepping out,' it is important to be ready for encounter. There is another important point: encountering the poor. If we step outside ourselves, we find poverty. Today – it sickens the heart to say so – the discovery of a tramp who has died of the cold is not news. Today, what counts as news is, maybe, a scandal. A scandal: ah, that is news! Today, the thought that a great many children do not have food to eat is not news. This is serious, this is serious! We cannot put up with this! Yet that is how things are. We cannot become starched Christians, those overeducated Christians who speak of theological matters as they calmly sip their tea. No!" Pope Francis says. "We must become courageous Christians and go in search of the people who are the very flesh of Christ."

The church exists in the place where Christ is present, reaching out with love to those in need. That is how he ministered in Palestine 2,000 years ago. That is how he commanded all of his disciples to continue his ministry. That is what he asks us to do today ... if we truly love him.



USCCB president decries massive shooting at Texas Baptist church



A man and woman attend a candlelight vigil after a mass shooting on Nov. 5 at the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas. A lone gunman entered the church during Sunday services, taking the lives of at least 26 people and injuring several more.

CNS photo/Sergio Flores, Reuters

By Catholic News Service

The U.S. Catholic Church stands "in unity" with the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas, and the larger community after a shooting during Sunday services took the lives of at least 26 people and injured at least 20 others.

Those who died ranged in age from 5 to 72 years old, and included 14-year-old Annabelle Pomeroy. Her father, Frank Pomeroy, is pastor of the church, but he was not at the service.

"We stand in unity with you in this time of terrible tragedy -- as you stand on holy ground, ground marred today by horrific violence," said Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

With San Antonio Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller, "I extend my prayers and the prayers of my

brother bishops for the victims, the families, the first responders, our Baptist brothers and sisters, indeed the whole community of Sutherland Springs," Cardinal DiNardo said.

Law enforcement officials told CNN that a lone gunman entered the church at about 11:30 a.m. CST while 50 people were attending Sunday services. Almost everyone in the congregation was shot. Sutherland Springs is 30 to 40 miles southeast of San Antonio.

Two law enforcement officials told The Associated Press the suspect was Devin Kelley, described as a white male in his 20s. He parked at a gas station across the street from the church, crossed the street and allegedly began firing as he walked toward the church and then continued firing once in-

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Front Page photo:
Anne-Marie Larou, a volunteer counselor for the Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs (JOIN), talks to a client of the agency, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

CT photo by Ken Snow

CATHOLIC TIMES

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Bishop Frederick F. Campbell, DD, PhD ~ President & Publisher

David Garick ~ Editor (dgarick@columbuscatholic.org)

Tim Puet ~ Reporter (tpuet@columbuscatholic.org)

Alexandra Keves ~ Graphic Design Manager (akeves@columbuscatholic.org)

Mailing Address: 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215

Editorial/Advertising: (614) 224-5195 FAX (614) 241-2518

Subscriptions (614) 224-6530 FAX (614) 241-2573

(subscriptions@columbuscatholic.org)

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War brings only death, cruelty, pope says at U.S. military cemetery

By Carol Glatz

Catholic News Service

“No more, Lord, no more (war)” that shatters dreams and destroys lives, bringing a cold, cruel winter instead of some sought-after spring, Pope Francis said, looking out at the people gathered for an outdoor Mass at a U.S. war memorial and cemetery.

“This is the fruit of war: death,” he said, as the bright Italian sun lowered in the sky on the Feast of All Souls, Nov. 2.

On a day the church offers special prayers for the faithful departed with the hope of their meeting God in heaven, “here in this place, we pray in a special way for these young people,” he said, gesturing toward the rows of thousands of graves.

Christian hope can spring from great pain and suffering, he said, but it can also “make us look to heaven and say, ‘I believe in my Lord, the redeemer, but stop, Lord, please, no more war,’” he said.

“With war, you lose everything,” he said.

Before the Mass, Pope Francis placed a white rose atop 10 white marble headstones. The majority of the stones were carved crosses; one was in the shape of the Jewish Star of David.

As he slowly walked alone over the green lawn and prayed among the thousands of simple grave markers, visitors recited the rosary at the World War II Sicily-Rome American Cemetery and Memorial site in Nettuno, a small coastal city south of Rome.

In previous years, the pope marked All Souls Day by visiting a Rome cemetery. This year, he chose to visit a



CNS photo/Paul Haring

U.S. military burial ground and, later in the day, the site of a Nazi massacre at the Ardeatine Caves in Rome to pray especially for all victims of war and violence.

“Wars produce nothing other than cemeteries and death,” he said after reciting the Angelus on All Saints Day, Nov. 1. He explained he would visit the two World War II sites the next day because humanity “seems to have not learned that lesson or doesn’t want to learn it.”

In his homily at the late afternoon Mass on Nov. 2, Pope Francis spoke off the cuff and said people do everything to go to war, but they end up doing nothing but destroying themselves.

“This is war: the destruction of ourselves,” he said.

He spoke of the particular pain women experience in war: receiving the letter with news of the death of their husband, child, or grandchild.

So often people who want to go to war “are convinced they will usher in a new world, a new springtime. But it ends up as winter -- ugly, cruel, a reign of terror and death,” the pope said.

Today, the world continues to head off fiercely to war and fight battles every day, he said.

“Let us pray for the dead today, dead from war, including innocent children,” and pray to God “for the grace to weep,” he said.

Among the more than 7,800 graves at the Nettuno cemetery, there are the remains of 16 women who served in the Women’s Army Corps, the Red Cross,

or as nurses, as well as the graves of 29 Tuskegee airmen. Those buried or missing in action had taken part in attacks by the U.S. and its allies along Italy’s coast during World War II.

After the Mass, the pope visited the Ardeatine Caves, now a memorial cemetery with the remains of 335 Italians, mostly civilians, brutally murdered by Nazi German occupiers in 1944.

The pope was led through the long series of tunnels and stopped to pray several minutes in silence at a bronze sculpted fence symbolizing the twisted, interlocking forms of those massacred. Walking farther along the dark corridors, he placed white roses along a long series of dark gray cement tombs built to remember the victims.

The victims included some Italian military, but also political prisoners and men rounded up in a Jewish neighborhood. They were all shot in the back of the head in retaliation for an attack on Nazi soldiers. The Nazis threw the bodies into the caves and used explosives to seal off access. After the war, a memorial was built on the site. Rabbi Riccardo Di Segni, chief rabbi of Rome, sang a short prayer, and the pope prayed to God, merciful and compassionate, who hears the cries of his people and knows of their sufferings. Through the risen Christ, Christians know that God is not the god of death, “but of the living, that your covenant of faithful love is stronger than death and a guarantee of resurrection,” he said. After returning to the Vatican, the pope was to visit the grotto under St. Peter’s Basilica, where many popes are buried.

The Catholic Foundation joins the #GivingTuesday movement

The Catholic Foundation again will join the #GivingTuesday movement on Tuesday, Nov. 28. The global day of giving harnesses the collective power of individuals, communities, and organizations to encourage philanthropy and celebrate generosity worldwide.

#GivingTuesday takes place annually on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving and the widely recognized shopping events Black Friday and Cyber Monday. It is designed to kick off the Christmas season and inspire people to improve their communities and give back in impactful ways to the parishes, schools, and charities they support.

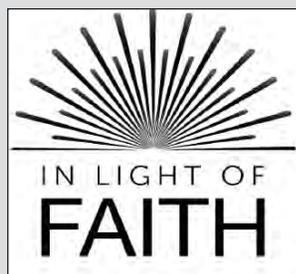
With all the commercials, advertisements, and me-



dia coverage surrounding the season, the true meaning of Thanksgiving and Christmas often gets lost in the shuffle. #GivingTuesday can revive the spirit of

giving and selflessness. As Catholics, we naturally want our giving to coincide with the teachings of our faith. You can ensure this happens by giving through The Catholic Foundation, which has hundreds of funds that go to parishes, schools, and social service agencies in your community. Everyone can participate in #GivingTuesday, and you can make your gift extra special by donating in honor of, in memory of, or on behalf of a friend or loved one.

Visit www.catholic-foundation.org/funds to search for your parish, school, or organization’s fund in the search box on the left side. If you don’t see your fund listed, contact Scott Hartman at shartman@catholic-foundation.org or (614) 443-8893.



By Elise Italiano
Catholic News Service

A CALL FOR INTERGENERATIONAL SOLIDARITY

I can still feel the thick plastic cover over the checkered tablecloths under my fingers, still smell the faint aroma of almond extract mixed with something like mothballs in my nose.

The week leading up to Christmas was the same every year of my childhood. In less than 24 hours, my brother and I made the rounds with my parents to the kitchen tables of every living great-aunt and great-uncle we had in New Jersey, and to the homes of a few “paisanos,” who I later learned were not actually of any blood relation to us.

I remember looking forward to the annual tradition. As soon as we stepped into each successive house, a fresh plate of cookies was placed on the table. I will never forget the anticipation of my mother lifting the standard limit on sweets for a whole day.

Looking back now, I appreciate so much more. It was a dedicated time that my parents set aside for us to learn about our family’s history. It shaped our own sense of identity and what we learned to value as adults.

My relatives would laugh so hard with one another, reminiscing about their own youth. We still tell some of the stories that we heard around those tables, as if we had witnessed the events firsthand.

Looking at the ways in which the church can hear the voices of young people has been the primary focus of this column – but it is also worthwhile to turn that question on its head. One such way is through a promotion of intergenerational solidarity. It’s a challenging message for a culture that idolizes youth, and one in which older family members often live independently or in the care of people outside of a family.

One of Pope Francis’ favorite messages to young people has been to remember the elderly, to draw near to them and to learn from them. Earlier this year, Pope Francis pleaded with young people not to keep the elderly “in the closet” and encouraged them to foster intergenerational dialogue and relationships.

It’s for this reason that Pope Francis has very often stressed the importance of grandparents. “Your grandparents have the wisdom, and furthermore, they have the need for you to knock on the door of their hearts to share their wisdom,” he said this September to the Shalom Catholic Community. He himself keeps a note from his grandmother in his breviary that he uses every day.

Yet the pope has also said that young people should go out of their way to encounter and welcome the elderly who are not their family members. This will require proactive measures on our part, perhaps requiring us to go to the peripheries of our churches and communities to find them.

We should also ask our priests and pastoral staff where we can find them. Too often, they go unnoticed and are beckoning for company and community.

It will certainly require more listening than it does talking. It may involve awkward silences and patience and walking a little bit slower than usual. But isn’t the whole point of accompaniment to share in someone else’s journey, no matter its current direction or pace?

Pope Francis has reminded us that “the church regards the elderly with affection, gratitude and high esteem. They are an essential part of the Christian community and of society.”

As the 2018 synod on vocational discernment aims to put the realities of young people front and center for the church, we’d also be wise to heed the wisdom of those who have prepared the way ahead of us.

Italiano is executive director of communications for The Catholic University of America.

Cathedral Healing Mass and service

A Mass of healing and healing service will take place at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 20 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St.

The healing service will follow the Mass and include Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, veneration of a relic of the True Cross of Christ, and an opportunity for everyone present to speak individually with a priest and have him say prayers of healing for what they seek. The sacrament of Anointing of the Sick also will be available. The service will close with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

All persons who seek Christ’s healing are invited, especially those who suffer

with physical illness and infirmities, in addition to those in seek emotional and spiritual healing. All caregivers, family members, and members of the medical community also are invited.

Parking is available at the rear of the cathedral and is accessible off East Gay Street. There is a handicapped-accessible elevator in the courtyard (west side of the cathedral) on East Broad Street. Healing Masses take place at the cathedral on the third Monday of every other month. This will be the last Healing Mass at the cathedral for 2017, Dates for 2018 Healing Masses there are Jan. 15, March 19, May 21, July 16, Sept. 17, and Nov. 19.

Talk, Mass to honor St. Albert the Great

Columbus St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., will be the site of a talk on Thursday, Nov. 9 and a Mass on Wednesday, Nov. 15 to honor St. Albert the Great, patron of scientists.

St. Albert was a German bishop in the mid-13th century and was a member of the Dominican Order, whose priests serve St. Patrick Church.

Father Stephen Dominic Hayes, OP,

will deliver the talk on “Faith, Science and the Catholic Church” at 7 p.m. Nov. 9 in the parish’s Aquinas Hall as part of its monthly “Into the Deep” lecture series.

The Mass on 7 p.m. Nov. 15 will be a Dominican Rite sung Mass, featuring the parish choir. Latin-English programs will be provided. Refreshments will be available.

Newark retreat center to host morning of reflection

Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center, 2734 Seminary Road S.E., Newark, will host an Advent morning of reflection with Sister Louis Mary Passeri, OP, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 16. The theme will be “The Precious Present,” focusing on Advent as a time to pray and reflect on God’s

generous gifts to each of us.

The event fee of \$20 includes a continental breakfast. Register by calling (740) 928-4246 or online at www.stspeterandpaulretreatcenter.com. If you have questions, email info@stspeterandpaulretreatcenter.org. Registration deadline is Monday, Dec. 11.

SHOOTING, continued from Page 2

side. He was wearing black tactical-type gear and used an assault weapon.

After he left the church, he was confronted by a local resident who had a rifle “and engaged the suspect,” the AP said, quoting Freeman Martin, who is with the Texas Department of Safety. The suspect was later found dead in his vehicle some distance away. It was not clear if he died from a self-inflicted gunshot or from wounds suffered when the resident shot him.

His motive was not immediately known. He had been in the Air Force but was discharged for bad conduct, allegedly for domestic abuse, and served a 12-month sentence in confinement after being court-martialed in 2012.

“We ask the Lord for healing of those injured, his loving care of those who have died and the consolation of their families,” Cardinal DiNardo said. “This incomprehensibly tragic event joins an ever-growing list of mass shootings, some of which were also at churches while people were worshipping and at prayer,” he continued.

“We must come to the firm determination that there is a fundamental problem in our society. A culture of life cannot tolerate, and must prevent, senseless gun violence in all its forms. May the Lord, who himself is peace, send us his spirit of charity and non-violence to nurture his peace among us all,” the cardinal said.

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17-01-100A JH (10/17)

Mass formally opens canonization cause for Black Elk

By Catholic News Service

During a Mass to formally open the sainthood cause for Nicholas Black Elk, the Native American was described as someone who merged the Lakota and Catholic cultures in a way “that drew him deeper into the mystery of Christ’s love and the church.”

Black Elk’s love for God and Scripture led him to become a catechist, fulfilling the mission of all disciples, said Bishop Robert D. Gruss of Rapid City, South Dakota, in his homily at the Oct. 21 Mass at Holy Rosary Church in Pine Ridge, South Dakota.

The bishop said that for 50 years, Black Elk led others to Christ, often melding his Lakota culture into his Christian life. “This enculturation can always reveal something of the true nature and holiness of God,” he said, adding that Black Elk always “challenged people to renew themselves, to seek this life that Christ offers them.”

Bishop Gruss said Black Elk’s life as a dedicated catechist, spiritual leader and guide “inspired many to live for Christ by his own story.” With the formal opening of his cause, Black Elk now has the title Servant of God.

Black Elk was born sometime between 1858 and 1866. He died on Aug. 19, 1950, at Pine Ridge.

The bishop said the process for the sainthood cause for Black Elk is a long one. First, he must show a reputation for holiness that spread to others.

The first phase involves gathering testimony about his life and his virtues. Bishop Gruss said Black Elk’s public and private writings are being collected and examined. This documentary phase can take many years.

“Where the process ends is now up to the Holy Spirit and Congregation for the Causes of Saints. Our task now is to continue to gather more information, testimony about his life, and to pray that he is found worthy to have his cause moved forward,” he said.

The road to canonization involves three major steps: First is the declaration of a person’s heroic virtues, after which the church declares the person “venerable.” Second is beatification, after which he or she is called “blessed.” Third is canonization, or the declaration of sainthood.

In general, two miracles must be accepted by the church as having occurred through the intercession of the prospective saint: one must occur before beatification, and the other after beatification.

The bishop also encouraged the congregation to follow Black Elk’s example, stressing that all Christians are called into the missionary field.

“Like Black Elk, if we are docile to the Lord’s will, devoting our lives to him, we will be out working for his kingdom of mercy, love and peace,” he said.

The bishop also stressed that today’s Catholics should not live “isolated religious lives” but instead should recognize they are called to be “God’s servants and instruments of Christ’s love in building and advancing his kingdom. Each of us has to decide how we can participate,” he added.

Last February, Bishop Gruss appointed Bill White as the diocesan postulator of Black Elk’s sainthood cause. White is an enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe on the Pine Ridge Reservation. Deacon Ben Black Bear from St. Francis Mission is translating some of Black Elk’s writings from Lakota to English.

Deacon Marlon Leneauh, Rapid City’s diocesan director of Native American ministry, described Black Elk as a revered holy man among the Lakota who bridged the gap between traditional native spirituality and Catholicism.

“He showed his people that you did not have to choose between the two; you could be both. He did not abandon his native ways when he became a Christian. To him it was together -- praying to the one God,” Deacon Leneauh said.

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Ending of Our Father; OK to write off church donations?



QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. Protestants have their own form of the Lord's Prayer, ending with, "For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory. Amen." I read in a book by a Catholic author, first published in 1911, that "such an addition was not uttered by Our Lord. Catholics consequently do not use it." Please comment. (Columbus)

A. The answer is not quite as simple as the 1911 author suggests. True, most biblical scholars agree that the "Protestant ending" ("For thine is the kingdom ... etc.") is not included in the earliest Greek manuscripts of the Gospels. So "Catholic" versions of the Bible (the *New American Bible*, for example, which is the one read at Mass) have never included those words as coming from Jesus (neither in Matthew 6:9-13 nor in Luke 11:2-4).

But certain manuscripts written less than a century later do include this additional phrase, and early Christians in the Eastern part of the Roman Empire began to use it to complete the Lord's Prayer when it was offered at Mass. The *Didache*, a first-century teaching document and manual of worship, likewise indicates the use of this prayer-ending at Chris-

tian worship.

So, while the phrase was most likely not uttered by Jesus, it is both theologically sound and historically rooted.

Q. In Matthew's Chapter 6 (verses 3-4), Jesus says, "When you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right is doing, so that your almsgiving may be secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you."

I have always considered donating to the church (or to any charity) something that is between me and God. However, many churches now track what you give to allow you to take advantage for tax purposes.

So, my question is this: If I were to write off the contributions I give to the church, wouldn't that be contradicting the teachings of Jesus? For a long time, I've just assumed the answer was "Yes" and never considered doing this. What is the church's opinion? (Fayetteville, Arkansas)

A. The key to answering your question comes just before the two particular verses you have quoted. Jesus was warning against putting one's holiness on public display. He said, "When you give alms, do not

blow a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets to win the praise of others" (Matthew 6:2).

Taking a tax deduction for charitable donations does not, in my mind, violate that caution. In your own case, you would not be seeking to draw attention to yourself, not boasting to the crowd about your splendid generosity; no one, in fact, would know what you had done except you and the IRS (and perhaps your tax accountant).

The federal tax code is designed with certain social benefits in mind -- in the case of charitable and religious deductions, to encourage taxpayers to help those who are helping others. And the money you save by way of the permissible deductions actually frees up even more funds to be used for noble purposes.

My only regret is that this option is available only to those who itemize deductions on Schedule A of their federal tax return -- which means that it can help you only if you choose not to take the standard deduction instead. And since each year only about 30 percent of tax filers itemize, the generosity of more than two-thirds of Americans offers no additional tax benefit.

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

Father Reichert retires

A retirement celebration for Father James L. Reichert took place on Sunday, Nov. 5 at the Church of the Ascension in Johnstown. Father Reichert retired from full-time ministry on Thursday, Oct. 12 after 46 years as a priest of the Diocese of Columbus, including the last 14 years as pastor in Johnstown.

Father Reichert, 72, grew up in Columbus, attended St. John the Evangelist School and Holy Family High School, and graduated from Bishop Ready High School. His priestly formation took place at St. Charles Seminary in Columbus and Mount St. Mary Seminary of the West in Norwood. He was ordained on May 29, 1971 by Bishop Clarence Elwell at his home church, Columbus St. John the Evangelist.

During his first nine years as a priest, he was in residence at Columbus St. Agatha Church and served as associate pastor at Columbus St. Catharine and Zanesville St. Nicholas churches, with his duties also including teaching at Columbus Bishop Watterson and Bishop Hartley and Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans high schools.

He was pastor at Columbus Holy Name for 11 years and Groveport St. Mary for 12, also spending some of that time as a chaplain at The Ohio State University Hospitals, before becoming pastor in Johnstown.

Anyone wishing to send Father Reichert a card or note of congratulations may address it in care of the Church of the Ascension, 555 S. Main St., Johnstown OH 43031.

Bishop Flaget receives playground grant

Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School received a \$7,000 grant from The Catholic Foundation as part of the Foundation's 2018 responsive grants cycle.

The pillars of focus for grant opportunities from the Foundation include: parish life -- addressing the capital and infrastructure needs of diocesan parishes; Catholic education and faith formation -- addressing the capital, education, evangelization, and faith formation needs of the faithful; social service -- addressing the needs of the

marginalized in parish communities; and vocations -- addressing the need for Holy Orders, the call to religious life, and marriage.

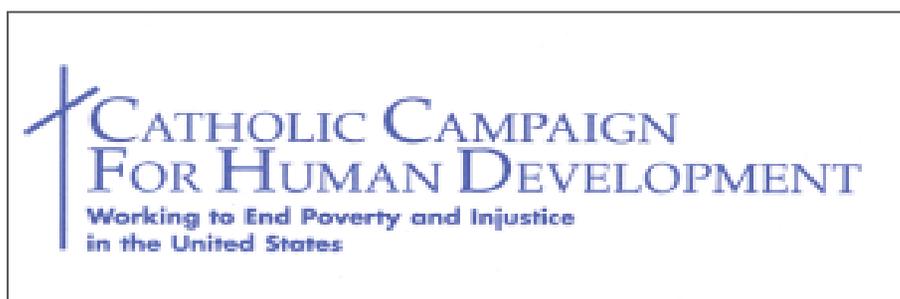
The Catholic Foundation is a non-profit, charitable organization that receives and manages assets to provide perpetual funding for the parishes, schools, and ministries within the 23-county Diocese of Columbus. For more information on how you can be involved in giving, contact the Foundation at (614) 443-8893 or toll-free at (866) 298-8893.

Watterson open house date is Nov. 19

Columbus Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road, will host its annual open house from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19. Prospective students are welcome to tour the facilities, meet faculty, staff, and coaches, and learn about the school's academic, faith, service, and co-cur-

ricular programs. The school's principal, Deacon Chris Campbell, will speak at 2 p.m.

For more information, contact admissions director Mary Kate Campbell at (614) 268-8671 or mcampbell@cducation.org.



THE EVERYDAY CATHOLIC



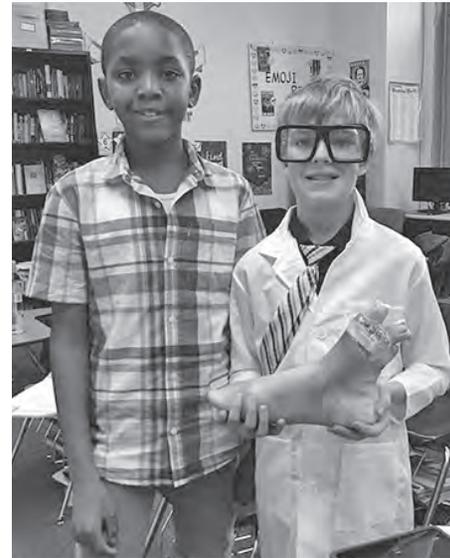
By Rick Jeric

Take a Knee or Two

Even though it seems to be going away slowly, the silent protest by some NFL players has captured our attention. It is personal and political at the same time. It stirs emotions and elicits reactions. The practice of taking a knee during our national anthem is considered disrespectful to our flag as our national symbol, and to our veterans who fought and gave their lives so that knee could be taken, but also is considered a legitimate form of protest to draw our attention to a deeper issue. It all depends on who you are. I think it also depends on what you are made of, your upbringing, and your environment. I thank God for my life that was formed by great parents and family, a Catholic education, a college degree, the best wife and children imaginable, good and stable employment and benefits, money saved for retirement, and a very nice and safe neighborhood in the suburbs. All good reasons to take a knee – or two – and say “Thank you” to God. I drive my nice car downtown to work each day, and function in a neighborhood that I would not choose to live in. I look out my office window and see the alley where a 13-year-old African-American boy was shot and killed by police after brandishing a pellet gun. I can shelter myself from the world around me, but I cannot ignore it. I can be angry at millionaires playing a game for a living, but I also can be open to a more sympathetic understanding of the world in which many of them grew up. Maybe I can take a knee or two in prayer before and after the game, and ask God for the grace to be positive and compassionate. If I feel strongly about this issue, I can even turn off the television and focus on that prayerful knee or two. I will never know what it is like to be raised by one parent, or none at all, in a tough neighborhood where crime, drugs, and guns are the norm, and grass, flowers, fancy grocery stores, soccer fields with irrigation systems, schools with food courts for lunch, a student parking lot full of new cars, bicycle and jogging paths, and even roundabouts with nice brick trim and ornamental shrubs are not the norm. None of these things are bad. But I think it remains our responsibility to be grateful and humble, along with being sensitive. We can be like the Pharisee in Luke’s Gospel who goes to the temple and prays, “God, I thank you that I am not like others.” Or we can be like the tax collector who prays, “God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.”

We have many reasons to take a knee or two. And we should do so more often. I know I should. Instead of getting caught up in what athletes are doing on Sunday, we should all be on both knees for one simple hour on Sunday, receiving the richest gift of all in Jesus Christ. Then, putting that love into action each day in our families, schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods will have a real impact on societal norms and inequitable circumstances. Similarly, I will never know what it is like to be in the military or to fight to defend my country. I cannot imagine giving my life so that others can live in peace and freedom. Suffering through a prisoner of war camp, then coming home to live a normal life is hard to comprehend. Sacrificing life and limb and coming home to ungrateful citizens is awful. This Veterans Day weekend, take a knee or two for them, living and deceased. No matter where we live or what kind of life we enjoy, we owe it to our veterans. The knees we take, whether in worship or protest, are borne on the backs of our veterans. Thank you! And as St. Paul writes to the Philippians, “At the name of Jesus, every knee should bend in Heaven and on the earth ... and every tongue proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Trinity students play ‘Westing Game’



Sixth-graders at Columbus Trinity Elementary School dressed as characters from “The Westing Game,” a mystery novel by Ellen Raskin which won the 1978 Newbery Medal recognizing a distinguished contribution to American children’s literature. Pictured are Christian Kouam (left) and Jacob Blubaugh (left photo) and Madi Dickson (left) and Zelma Hutton (right photo). They participated in a scavenger hunt modeled after a variation of “Pokemon Go!” titled “The Westing Game Go!” They used QR scanners to scan hidden codes scattered around the school after answering questions about the book, in which eight pairs of two people each try find what caused the death of title character, Sam Westing, a reclusive businessman.

Photo courtesy Trinity Elementary School



All Saints Day at St. Andrew

Columbus St. Andrew School students celebrated All Saints Day by researching and presenting the story of a saint’s life and dressing as that saint. Pictured are (from left) Kelly Koval as St. Rose of Lima; Morgan Kessler as St. Teresa of Avila; and Margot Susi as St. Catherine Laboure.

Photo courtesy St. Andrew School



All-school rosary at St. Anthony

Columbus St. Anthony School students and staff took time out of their day to pray the rosary together. Older students guided younger students during the prayers with rosaries they made as part of a school club known as the Glory Beaders. The club was started by eighth-grade teacher Kelly Buzenski. Pictured is sixth-grader Rebecca Fekru (right) helping first-grader Vanessa Kotey say the rosary during an all-school prayer service.

Photo courtesy St. Anthony School

DeSales staff grateful to PBS for lounge makeover



The staff at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School says “Thank you” to the Public Broadcasting Service and local PBS affiliate WOSU-TV for the school’s newly refurbished teachers lounge and for the educational resources the network offers.

DeSales teacher Ruth Seggerson won the grand prize in the “Teach Boldly” sweepstakes hosted by PBS Education, earning the school a teachers lounge makeover courtesy of PBS and WOSU.

PBS launched the sweepstakes last fall as part of a yearlong celebration of educators across the nation. Throughout the year, PBS and member stations invite teachers to share ideas, learn from peers, and find daily inspiration at the PBS Teachers’ Lounge. This creative, digital space offers weekly insights from outstanding teachers and thought leaders in the education space and features timely resources that teachers can use to enhance their work in the classroom.

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School

*Congratulations to
Father James L. Reichert
on the Celebration of his Retirement
after 46 years as a Priest
in the Diocese of Columbus*



Ordained May 29, 1971
Taught at Watterson HS, St. Agatha residence 5/71
Assistant, St. Catharine, taught at Hartley, 8/74
Associate Pastor, St. Nicholas, Zanesville, taught at Rosecrans 7/78
Pastor, Holy Name, Columbus; 7/80
Pastor, St. Mary, Groveport, 7/91
Pastor, Church of the Ascension, Johnstown, 7/03
Retired October 12, 2017

*A retirement celebration was held on
Sunday, November 5, 2017 at
Church of the Ascension in Johnstown*

If you would care to send Father Reichert
a card or note of congratulations, please send it
in care of Church of the Ascension
555 S. Main Street • Johnstown, OH 43031



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Thankful for the Gift of Presence

Thursday, Nov. 9 is the feast of the dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome, the official church of the pope. The Mass readings for that day, not surprisingly, have to do with temples of one sort or another. The first reading is from Ezekiel 47, but let's start a bit earlier in the book.

In chapters 40 to 48 of Ezekiel, the prophet describes a vision in which God transports him to a high mountain in Israel and an angel gives him a tour of a new city. The vision is long and full of details: precise measurements of walls, inner courts, outer courts, door jambs, and Temple outbuildings, as well as the new Temple itself. Ezekiel witnesses the glory of God returning to fill the Temple, and God tells him that it again will be the divine dwelling place in the midst of the people.

In addition to seeing the physical structures, Ezekiel learns the rules for those who serve in the Temple, how land is to be appropriated, how feasts are to be observed, and a list of protocols and procedures for



GRACE IN THE MOMENT

Mary van Balen

Temple worship and sacrifices that would make a royal event planner's head spin.

As I read these verses, I was glad it was Ezekiel and not me who had been instructed to remember every detail so he could share them with the exiled Israelites when he returned to them in Babylon. They had pretty much lost hope. Jerusalem had fallen, and despite the prophet's valiant efforts to help them recognize that its destruction was imminent, many had clung to the illusion that Jerusalem would survive and they would go back home, resuming life as usual. I can identify with that. It's a human tendency to ignore signs that portend the coming of something calamitous or the slow creep of something bad.

Next comes the description of the spring in the Temple. That's the first reading for Nov. 9. It's abbreviated in the *Lectionary* (To get the full effect, I suggest reading all the first 12 verses.), but it's still a magnificent image. A stream begins in the Temple, runs under the threshold, and flows to the Dead Sea, swelling into a river too deep for anyone to cross.

When it reaches the sea, it makes the salt water fresh, teeming with all kinds of fish and water creatures. People flock there with nets. Wherever the

river flows, it brings life and healing. Trees along its bank produce new, delicious fruit every month. Even their leaves are medicinal. All this because it is God's life flowing from the sanctuary.

When I read these words, I wanted to jump in. I wanted to splash through the river and sink beneath the water, let it do its healing, and then burst up through the surface full of hope, energy, and joy, free of the worries and concerns that fill my heart. Perhaps that's how the Israelites felt when they listened to Ezekiel recount the story.

The good news is that God doesn't dwell in temples or churches. Paul writes to the Corinthians, and to us, that we are the temples of God. (1 Corinthians 3: 16-17) The Spirit lives in each of us, neighbor and stranger alike. The glorious, healing, life-giving Presence that Ezekiel sees coming from the Temple flows in and through all, gracing the people and places it touches. We don't have to look for that river streaming down from the city on a hill; that "river" is everywhere. We can sink into Holy Presence wherever we are. Incarnation means God has entered into the matter of creation. We are immersed in that Presence, whether we realize it or not. Open to it, Grace transforms us and all it touches. We can move into our deepest center and meet God there.

God is truly with us: strength in our struggles, joy in our celebrations, hope when we are tempted to despair. God walks with us when we are afraid, offers rest when we have worn ourselves out, waits when we are too busy to notice, fills what is empty, mourns with us in our grief, and sits with us when we don't know what else to do.

The last words in Ezekiel, naming the new city, sum up this wondrous reality: "The name of the City shall henceforth be 'The Lord is here.'" (48:35)

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December 9, 2017
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All Preorders must be picked up by
1:00pm or items will be offered for
general sale.



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November 28, 2017

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From left: The office of the Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs (JOIN), 578 E. Main St., Columbus, which shares a building with the clothing distribution center of the diocesan St. Vincent de Paul Society; Lisa Keita, director of JOIN since 2015; Sister Annemary Miller, SNDdeN, a JOIN volunteer, talks to Thelma Bullock, who has been assisted in various ways by JOIN since 1989; Mary Fabro, a longtime volunteer counselor for JOIN, talks to a client. JOIN was started 50 years ago as a way of helping 10 inner-city parishes better serve the poor and the needy. The agency provides basic needs for about 25,000 people annually. CT photos by Ken Snow

JOIN has been meeting people's basic needs and providing hope for 50 years

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, Catholic Times

Thelma Bullock is an enthusiastic, articulate woman who has been living on the limited income provided by a monthly Social Security disability check since 1989, when she was injured at work and lost her job. In that year, she began coming to the Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs (JOIN) to help her meet the challenges that are a daily part of her struggle to make ends meet.

"I became homeless and lost everything, but JOIN has always been there for me," she said during a recent visit to

the JOIN office at 578 E. Main St., Columbus. "The people at JOIN saved my life. They have helped me in so many ways, some of which I can't explain. Today, I obtained a gas card and some toiletries and household products – little things, but when you have to stretch your paycheck, they're all important.

"Over the years, I've received food and clothing, and JOIN helped me purchase a pair of glasses. One time when I had a bad headache, they provided me with ibuprofen. But the most important thing is that they have the best attitude. They'll provide whatever they can, within reason, or if it's something they don't cover, they'll tell you where to go

for help. They're very resourceful.

"And they're so easy to talk to. They lift your spirits. They're joyful, yet at the same time, they're serious about what they do. If they didn't feel that way, they wouldn't be here. I would tell anyone who comes here to not be afraid to ask for things. If you tell them what you need, they'll find a way to help. They have saved me from destruction and disaster."

Multiply Bullock's story by about 25,000 – the number of people assisted by JOIN in the year between July 1, 2016 and this past June 30 – and you have an idea of the impact of this agency of the Diocese of Columbus on the city of Columbus as it has performed its continuing mission of meeting people's basic needs and providing hope for the past 50 years.

The organization has no motto, but a fitting one would be these words of "the apostle of charity," St. Vincent de Paul: "It is our duty to prefer the service of the poor to everything else, and to offer such service as quickly as possible."

Columbus Bishop John Carberry and the pastors of 10 inner-city parishes founded JOIN in 1967. A *Catholic Times* story from that time said they wanted to make the local church a community "where the spirit of the Gospel

JOIN volunteer counselor Jeane Zettler talks to a mother and her son.

is a mandate for planning and working together" to help the poor and the needy of the area served by those parishes.

During much of its first decade-and-a-half, the agency operated out of various parts of the diocesan office building at 197 E. Gay St. and provided limited help, usually assisting one or two families a day. When the late Father Thomas Cadden was appointed diocesan vicar of Catholic charities and social concerns in 1979, he realized JOIN could be doing more. Two years later, he asked JOIN volunteer Ruth Beckman if she could take over as director and run it more like a business.

Beckman agreed, becoming the face and the voice of JOIN for the next 34 years as its director, until she retired at age 80 in 2015 to take care of the health issues of her husband of 60 years, Jack Beckman, and to spend more time with her eight grown children and her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Her successor, Lisa Keita, had been director of the St. Francis Center in McArthur since 2010 when she was asked by Beckman to take her place. Keita also remains director of the McArthur center, but said she visits there only about once a month to perform administrative duties. Most of its day-to-day operations are handled by operations manager Ashley Riegel.

"I was completely intimidated at the thought of taking over for Ruth, but she

was confident in me," Keita said. "She's been very good about allowing me to do things in my own way. We do stay in touch, but it seems like most of the time, we see each other at funerals, as she's so busy with Jack and her family. She always comes to the annual JOIN Christmas dinner and usually joins us at the annual JOIN Mass at St. Joseph Cathedral, but had to miss the 50th anniversary Mass in June because she was out of town."

Shortly after Beckman became director, the JOIN offices moved across East Gay Street, from the diocesan building into a structure shared with the former cathedral book store. When that site was sold so condos could be built there, JOIN relocated in 2007 to a larger building at 578 E. Main St., which has parking and direct freeway access and is shared with the clothing distribution center operated by the diocesan St. Vincent de Paul Society.

JOIN serves clients from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 2 p.m. every weekday, with the exception of legal holidays. The clothing center is open from 10 a.m. to noon Monday through Thursday and accepts donations from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays.

Keita said JOIN serves between 85 and 90 families on an average day, with the number reaching 100 or more at times. People most frequently visit the agency to obtain Central Ohio Transit

Authority bus passes. The organization distributed 1,437 COTA passes this past July alone.

The second-most-frequently requested service involves providing vouchers for the fee needed to obtain an Ohio or out-of-state birth certificate – an item which is necessary when applying for a state driver's license or identity card. JOIN issued 436 birth certificate vouchers in July. For the 2016-17 fiscal year, it distributed 9,500 bus passes and issued 3,187 birth certificate vouchers.

Other items provided by JOIN include hygiene and household goods; referrals to food pantries; assistance with rent payments (in partnership with a parish St. Vincent de Paul Society) and with utility payments; gasoline and grocery gift cards; prescription assistance; diapers and formula; work shoes or boots; bags of groceries; locks; funeral assistance; and arrangements for eye exams and glasses.

"Our biggest growth in recent years has involved the number of birth certificate vouchers we provide," said Sister Sharen Baldy, SCN, JOIN associate director, who has been with the organization for the past 15 years. In Ohio, the fee for a birth certificate is \$21.50, which the vouchers cover.

"You can't move in society without a birth certificate, which many people don't have for various reasons, particularly if they were incarcerated, are

homeless, or had things stolen from them," she said.

Sister Sharen said people can't just walk in and ask for a birth certificate voucher; they must have a letter of reference from another agency. "Out-of-state birth certificates are harder to obtain, especially if you have no other ID, but we do what we can in those cases," she said. "We try to find a sibling, a parent, or someone who lives nearby who can help validate a person's identity." Many birth certificates need notarized to become valid, and Sister Sharen is a notary.

"We are not a pantry, but we always have some nonperishable food available to provide a bag of groceries which will be enough for a meal or two," Keita said. "There are many parish and community pantries where we can refer people for more long-term help.

"We also don't provide furniture or clothing, but with the St. Vincent de Paul clothing center open in the same building at the same times we are in the morning, it's easy to refer people there." JOIN also refers families needing school clothing to Charity Newsies and other organizations specializing in such assistance.

No two cases handled by JOIN are alike, with each having a challenge of its own. Keita said one memorable situation the agency recently dealt with in-

See JOIN, Page 12

JOIN "Wish List"

The Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs helps people in a variety of ways through the generosity of supporters. Please consider donating the following items to the organization:

- Soap
- Shampoo and Conditioner
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Deodorant
- Toilet paper
- Tissues
- Razors
- Adhesive bandages
- Antiseptics
- Diapers and wipes
- Infant formula
- Canned goods
- Other nonperishable items, especially canned meat
- Cleaning supplies
- Mops and buckets
- Laundry detergent and bleach
- Small kitchen appliances
- Dishes and cutlery
- Kitchen decorative items
- Rain ponchos
- Umbrellas
- Gloves and scarves
- Above all, YOUR PRAYERS

Please consider having a parish or organization drive to supply JOIN with the most-needed items. Individual contributions also are welcome.

Items can be delivered to JOIN most weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call in advance to coordinate and confirm. JOIN is at 578 E. Main St., Columbus. Its phone number is (614) 241-2530. JOIN director Lisa Keita may be reached at lkeita@columbuscatholic.org.

JOIN, continued from Page 11

volved the parents of three children.

“The father, who is only in his 40s, found out in August that he has Stage 4 cancer,” she said. “He is the sole source of income, because the mother is the caregiver for her father. The family had no income until the father could obtain Social Security payments, and that takes some time because of the paperwork involved. The family came to JOIN, and we were able to help pay their rent through a fund that one of our benefactors set up for this kind of situation.”

“A lot of times, people come from out of state to Ohio because they were promised they’d find work here, only to find there’s nothing,” Keita said. “We had one couple like this who came from Atlanta. The wife has severe neuropathy in her feet. They were living in their car, and the car died.

“It just happened that somebody had donated a car to us – not the kind of donation we generally receive. We were able to give them reliable transportation, and now the husband is doing day labor. Some days, he earns enough that they can sleep in a motel, and sometimes they still sleep in the car. But they now are a little more secure.

“We have one guy who gets cars roadworthy for us when we call on him, and he’s a great help. Really, it’s amazing how often we have things donated to us at just the right time,” she said. “Not long ago, someone donated a backpack to us. I just held on to it, and a few days later, a woman came to us and asked if we had a backpack because a bully had destroyed her kid’s backpack. The one that was donated was sitting there ready for her. It’s like God was right there. This sort of thing isn’t unusual at all.”

For the coming Thanksgiving season, JOIN will distribute 400 boxes containing food from the Byron Saunders Foundation, a central Ohio organization which provides Thanksgiving meals annually to more than 3,000 families in need.

JOIN does not make a special Christmas appeal, but provides assistance to 150 to 200 families at Christmastime, when it also distributes handmade toys provided by the Woodworkers of Central Ohio organization.

Keita and Sister Sharen are two of JOIN’s three full-time staff members. The third, Pat Huffman, answers the phone and helps with prescription and



Left: A JOIN client at the agency’s intake window. Right: JOIN volunteer Art Wohlfrom stocks nonperishable food.



CT photos by Ken Snow

food pantry requests. The organization also has seven part-time workers, including Sister Bernadette Campbell, OP, and Sister Annemary Miller, SNDdeN, and at least 50 regular volunteers, many of whom have assisted JOIN for 10 years or more.

Art Wohlfrom of Columbus St. Agatha Church has been a JOIN volunteer for three or four years, visiting a few times a month and stocking the pantry to make sure it maintains an adequate supply of food for emergencies.

“You can’t help but be affected by what you see here,” he said. “People come here because of their need, and they know JOIN will provide them with something which will be of real use to them, which they often wouldn’t be able to have otherwise. We see God’s charity and God’s work in action every day.”

During the year, JOIN receives help from many parishes and other organizations, including Cristo Rey Columbus High School, which provides students to perform various tasks five times a month as part of its work-study program. Keita started to list some of the other groups which provide assistance, then said “there are so many I know I’ll forget some. Without them, we’d be much more limited in what we can do.”

“I leave here some days and I’m so tired, but then I wake up the next day and I’m ready to go because I know how important the work is that JOIN does,” Sister Sharen said. “I see the face of Christ in people, and that’s why I come here. I became a Sister of

Charity of Nazareth to serve the poor, and I’m living that mission daily.”

“We do a lot of things at JOIN that are important, but perhaps the most significant thing is that we just sit and listen to people,” Keita said. “Everybody’s need is real. No one wakes up saying ‘I’m looking forward to going to JOIN and to standing in line for a bus pass,’ but these are the situations that befall people.

“I’m grateful to the people we are privileged to serve and to those whose funds, faith, and prayers allow us to perform this service. The people who ask for our help every day are God’s children. They need us. JOIN needs to be here. And whoever chose that name for us 50 years ago knew what they were doing, because what we do allows the grace and the gifts the Catholic Church brings to join with

the needs of the individuals we serve and to come together in the spirit of Jesus’ love,” she said.

To celebrate its 50th anniversary, JOIN has set up a jubilee fund with a goal of \$50,000 to continue its crucial services. Individuals are asked to consider a gift of \$50, but any amount will be gratefully accepted. Checks may be made payable to “JOIN Jubilee Fund” and sent to JOIN, 578 E. Main St., Columbus OH 43215.

One-time or continuing contributions to join also may be made through The Catholic Foundation’s JOIN Endowment Fund. The fund’s identification number is 320AAJ. For more information, go to <https://catholicfoundation.org> or mail your contribution to the Catholic Foundation, 257 E. Broad St., Columbus OH 43215.

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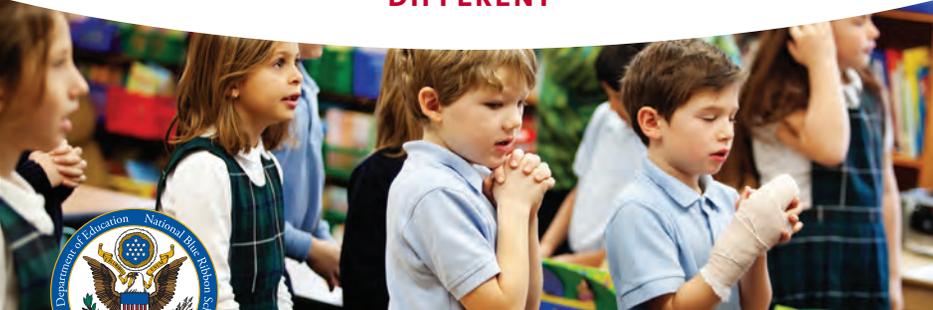


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SEVEN PARISHES SPONSOR COUNTY FAIR BOOTH



The seven parishes in the Fairfield-Hocking-Pickaway Deanery sponsored an information booth at the Fairfield County Fair in Lancaster last month. The fair traditionally is Ohio's final county fair of the year. Attendance for this year's fair was about 95,000. John Albert of Lancaster St. Mary Church said that the booth is part of a broader evangelization effort within the deanery and that most people who stopped by took home a rosary. Also available were a brochure about the deanery's parishes; prayer cards; information on parochial schools, Catholic organizations, and the Pregnancy Decision Health Centers; and books from the "Dynamic Catholic" series by authors including Matthew Kelly and Scott Hahn. Two volunteers from each parish staffed the booth. This was the second year all the deanery's parishes combined for a booth. For many years previously, Lancaster St. Mary School had a display at the fair. The parishes are St. Bernadette, St. Mark, and St. Mary, all in Lancaster; Bremen St. Mary; Sugar Grove St. Joseph; Logan St. John; and Circleville St. Joseph.

Photo courtesy Lancaster St. Mary Church

www.columbuscatholic.org

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)

Wisdom hastens to make herself known to all



Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

**Wisdom 6:12-16;
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18;
Matthew 25:1-13**

The book of Wisdom dates to the last half of the first century BC. It was written by a Jew who knew Greek and who probably lived in Alexandria, Egypt. Alexandria was a great center of learning and had a large Jewish population. Wisdom was written in Greek. It is only preserved in Catholic Bibles as part of the canon of inspired writings. Protestants list it among the apocryphal works of the Old Testament.

The Greek word *Sophia* is feminine, so the author personifies Wisdom throughout the book as “She.” Thus, we have in verse 13, “She hastens to make herself known in anticipation of their desire.” She is readily available to those who seek her. Whoever looks for her early in the morning (“at dawn”) will find her sitting at the gate, meaning she is always near. Possessing wisdom is actually something that frees one from worldly cares because the wise one is able to put all things in their proper context. Wisdom actually responds to those who seek her by making herself easily available. The whole presentation has some intriguing imagery.

The Wisdom reading is paired with another of the parables: that of the 10 bridesmaids awaiting their master’s return from the wedding. Only Matthew includes this parable in his Gospel, but figuring out the real meaning is not as easy as it seems. The presentation of the five foolish ones necessarily brings an ironic humor with it. The parable is about the need for perseverance and waiting, while remaining prepared. Prudence is required above all else, and the need for prudence ties it to the first reading. It probably reflects the latter part of the first century, when

many people had begun to waver on the enthusiastic expectation that the Lord was returning soon. As a result, they were growing symbolically tired of waiting and were beginning to ignore the heart of the Gospel, which called for repentance and care for the poor, among other things.

Most commentators on the passage indicate that we know next to nothing about first-century marriage customs in the Holy Land. Most also note that we never hear of the bride in the story, only the groom. That makes it hard to know about details in the parable. Was the bride already in the groom’s house as he finished negotiations about the dowry? Why were the virgins there? To act as an honor guard to welcome the groom home when negotiations were finished?

The foolish virgins are mentioned first because they brought no oil along, which was as senseless then as it would be now to bring along a flashlight without any batteries. It is small wonder the Greek uses a form of “moron” to describe them. Picture it. What do they say? “Oops?” When they ask the wise ones to share their oil “for our lamps are going out,” it confuses the reader, who has first read that they “brought no oil.” The wise ones send them to buy their own oil, in the middle of the night, in first-century Palestine, where nights were meant for sleep, and they go! Surely Matthew intends the irony. As we would expect, while they are off trying to find an oil merchant in the middle of the night, the bridegroom comes, the ones waiting for him go into the feast, and the door is locked.

Notice that the issue cannot be that they fell asleep, because all 10 fell asleep. That makes the concluding line unexpected: “Therefore stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour.” The foolish virgins did not plan properly for their job. That’s why they were left outside. Some want to know “Where’s the mercy?”, thinking the bridegroom is the Lord Jesus. Yet Matthew never identifies the bridegroom. It’s a parable.

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

St. Joan of Arc plans March for Life bus trip

Powell St. Joan of Arc Church is sponsoring a bus trip to the March for Life in Washington on Friday, Jan. 19. The bus will leave the church parking lot at 10700 Liberty Road on the evening of the preceding day and will return to Powell in the early hours of Saturday.

Those wishing to participate are asked to gather at the church at 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 18 to load the bus, review the itinerary, and pray. The bus will leave at 9, with the trip taking seven to eight hours.

In Washington, those on the bus will participate in the youth rally at the Capital One Arena; the adult and family Mass at St. Mathew’s Cathedral; the rally on the National Mall before the march; and the march itself. Following the march will be a tour of the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, and dinner. The bus will leave at 8 p.m.

The cost is \$90 per person. For more information, contact Matt Mazur at (419) 410-4110 or mpmaze@gmail.com.

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
Wisdom 1:1-7
Psalm 139:1-10
Luke 17:1-6

TUESDAY
Wisdom 2:23-3:9
Psalm 34:2-3,16-19
Luke 17:7-10

WEDNESDAY
Wisdom 6:1-11
Psalm 82:3-4,6-7
Luke 17:11-19

THURSDAY
Wisdom 7:22b-8:1
Psalm 119:89-91,130,135,175
Luke 17:20-25

FRIDAY
Wisdom 13:1-9
Psalm 19:2-5
Luke 17:26-37

SATURDAY
Wisdom 18:14-16;19:6-9
Psalm 105:2-3,36-37,42-43
Luke 18:1-8

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 12, 2017

SUNDAY MASS

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

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

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

(Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).
Mass from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 6:30 a.m. on ION TV (AT&T U-verse Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirecTV Channel 305).

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

DAILY MASS

8 a.m., Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Birmingham, Ala. (Encores at noon, 7 p.m. and midnight). See EWTN above; and on I-Lifetv

(Channel 113 in Ada, Logan, Millersburg, Murray City and Washington C.H.; Channel 125 in Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown and New Philadelphia; and Channel 207 in Zanesville); 8 p.m., St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

We pray Week IV, Seasonal Proper of the Liturgy of the Hours

“You have to decide”

In writing *Lessons in Hope: My Unexpected Life with St. John Paul II*, one of my secondary intentions was to bury two urban legends: that John Paul II asked me to write his biography and that *Witness to Hope* and its sequel, *The End and the Beginning*, are “authorized” or “official” biographies. Alas, the straightforward refutation of these myths in *Lessons in Hope* hasn’t done the job in some quarters. So let’s try again:

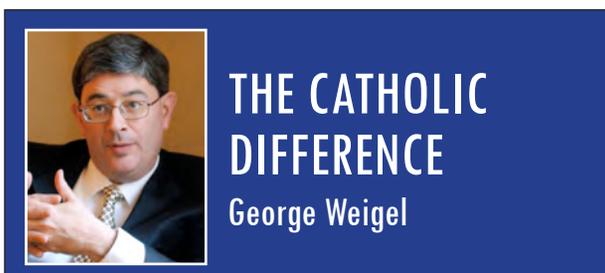
First, John Paul II did not ask me to write his biography. The project was my idea and the pope agreed to cooperate with it.

Second, *Witness to Hope* and *The End and the Beginning* were neither “authorized” nor “official,” and they were vetted by absolutely no one.

And within point two lies a tale of much more importance for 21st-century Catholicism than correcting confusions about my work.

As you’ll discover in *Lessons in Hope*, I met with John Paul II in March 1996 to discuss the ground rules for my writing his biography and the history of his pontificate. During dinner in the papal apartment, I told the pope that two things were necessary to make the project work. The first was that I had to have access to him, his associates, his friends, and some papers that might otherwise be locked up for decades. And the second? “You can’t see a word of what I write until I hand you the published book.” To which the 264th bishop of Rome replied, “That’s obvious. Now let’s talk about something interesting.”

But why was it “obvious?” Many another world leader (not to mention churchman) would have asked for at least a discrete peek, and perhaps far more, be-



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE George Weigel

fore agreeing to cooperate with an author. Not John Paul II. He had spent his entire priesthood preaching and teaching moral responsibility; the book was my responsibility; so neither he nor anyone in his circle would be looking over my shoulder, red pencil or scissors in hand.

In his pre-papal life as a university chaplain, Father Karol Wojtyła’s signature phrase as a confessor and spiritual director was “You have to decide.” As one of his friends and penitents put it to me, “He’d mastered the art of listening. We’d talk for hours but I never heard him say, ‘I’d advise you to. ...’ He’d throw light on a problem. But then he would always say ‘You have to decide.’” Helping his young friends to see the good and choose it as a matter of habit – growth in virtue – was the Wojtyła pastoral method.

And it had nothing to do with a notion being bandied about by some in the Church today: that there are no moral rules applicable in all situations.

For while Father Wojtyła was helping his friends learn the art of moral discernment, Professor Wojtyła was working with his colleagues and doctoral students at the Catholic University of Lublin to get moral philosophy out of what a third-generation Wojtyła

protege called the “trap of reflection.” In that trap, there are no boundary markers for the moral life and moral choosing is untethered from any authority, be that authority revelation or reason: the moral life is always inside my head.

Wojtyła and his colleagues thought that such self-absorption led to moral vertigo, a dizziness that made for disorientation and unhappiness. That was bad enough. But the Lublin scholars also believed that the deconstruction of morality by forms of radical subjectivism had helped underwrite the horrors of the 20th century. The roads to Auschwitz and the Gulag camps were paved with the shards of a once-solid moral edifice within which men and women had previously faced the challenges of moral decisionmaking with the aid of stable reference points, not by their intuitions or feelings.

So John Paul II’s insistence that my work was my responsibility was more than a vote of confidence in me, and a shrewd recognition that papal vetting would render *Witness to Hope* highly suspicious. Far more importantly, it was an expression of his pastoral and theological convictions about the human capacity for responsibility: with the help of grace, we can choose and decide wisely and well, if we open ourselves to the liberating power of the moral truths found in revelation and reason. And those truths are truths for all seasons and all circumstances.

Those convictions need strengthening at all levels of the Catholic Church today.

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



Data Analyst Position

The Catholic Foundation

The Catholic Foundation continually strives to attract, select, and develop people who are talented, passionate, and can help fulfill our mission. The Foundation is currently looking for a Data Analyst.

The Data Analyst will administer all database operations including devising and implementing data standards, ensuring data quality, and collecting and reporting constituency information. Additionally, the Data Analyst will serve as lead staff member in charge of database system transitions; filter and clean data by reviewing computer reports and performance indicators to locate and correct data and coding problems; and coordinate performance, security, regular maintenance and upgrades between database vendors and The Catholic Foundation. To see a complete job description, visit www.catholic-foundation.org/employment.

Qualified candidates should submit a resume and cover letter no later than November 17, 2017 to:

admin@catholic-foundation.org

Italian consulate honors Watterson teacher

Columbus Bishop Watterson High School Italian teacher Kelly Lombardo Matthews was honored at the Italian consulate in Chicago, where she was presented with its Midwest Award for Leadership in the Teaching of the Italian Language and Culture. She is pictured with Deacon Christopher Campbell, the school’s principal. “Your efforts in the promotion of the Italian language and culture through instruction are evident in the excellent results achieved by your students of



Italian at Bishop Watterson High School,” said Maria Manca, of the Detroit office of the consulate. “With the sincere hope that your dedicated efforts in the promotion of the Italian language may continue to inspire students at Bishop Watterson High School, as well as the local community and groups, I renew my sincere congratulations to you on this well-deserved honor.” Matthews, a 2002 Watterson graduate, also leads the exchange program with Watterson’s sister school in Florence, Italy, and is moderator for the school’s Italian Club and co-moderator for student activities.

Photo courtesy Bishop Watterson High School

Pray for our dead

BELLOTTI, Virginia L. (Summers), 97, Nov. 1
St. Paul Church, Westerville

CROSBIE, Peggy (O'Neill), 94, Oct. 29
Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus

FAUSNAUGH, Carolyn R. (McDaniel), 77, Oct. 30
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

FROST, Arlene L. (Snyder), 82, Nov. 1
St. Margaret of Cortona Church, Columbus

GARCIA, Manuel, 81, of Westerville, Nov. 4
St. Mary Church, Helena, Ohio

GINNETTI, Gina, 86, Nov. 1
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

HAUSER, Derrell B., 89, Nov. 3
Christ the King Church, Columbus

KERSCHER, Paul A., 88, Nov. 3
Resurrection Cemetery Chapel, Lewis Center

MATHIAS, Olga H. (Buzzelli), 90, Nov. 2
St. James the Less Church, Columbus

MITCHELL, Phillip B., 75, Nov. 1
St. Dominic Church, Columbus

NGUYEN, Isabelle T., 17, Nov. 3
St. Augustine & Gabriel Church, Columbus

PIACENTINI, Ophelia (Salvatore), 93, Nov. 4
St. John the Baptist Church, Sunbury

SCHOEPPNER, Joan L., 91, Oct. 26
St. Margaret of Cortona Church, Columbus

SEESHOLTZ, James R., 65, Oct. 28
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

UCKER, Catherine I. "Renee," 83, Nov. 1
St. John Church, Logan

VONA, Nora A. (Cummings), 85, Nov. 1
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

WHITNEY, James W., 83, Aug. 2
St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury

WRIGHT, Charles W., 92, Nov. 2
Holy Family Church, Columbus

John N. Klinger

Funeral Mass for John N. Klinger, 62, who died Sunday, Nov. 5, was held Friday, Nov. 10 at Westerville St. Paul Church. Burial was at Resurrection Cemetery, Lewis Center.

He was a 1973 graduate of Columbus North High School and retired from the Beechwood branch of the U.S. Postal Service in Columbus after 33 years as a letter carrier. He was a steward and

trustee of the National Association of Letter Carriers for many years.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Norbert and Mary Eloise (Schwendeman) Klinger. Survivors include his wife, Eileen (Mirasola); sons, Joseph and Ryan; brother, Father Charles Klinger, pastor of Westerville St. Paul Church; and sisters, Janet (Larry) Dowda and Joyce.

Walter R. Kuhn Jr.

Funeral Mass for Walter R. Kuhn Jr., 74, who died Saturday, Oct. 28, was held Friday, Nov. 17 at the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center.

He was born on May 8, 1943 in Brooklyn, New York to the late Walter and Mildred (Onorato) Kuhn. He was a 1960 graduate of Brooklyn Preparatory High School and received a bachelor's degree in English and philosophy from Canisius College in Buffalo, New York and a master's degree in dramatic literature from Purdue University.

He was a mortgage banker in Detroit and Plymouth, Michigan; Boca

Raton, Florida; and Columbus, where he moved in 1979. In 1984, he changed careers and became a theology teacher and campus minister, first at Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School and later at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory High School. He later was employed by Nationwide Investment Services.

Survivors include his wife, Donna (Dalton); daughters, Amy (Matthew) Raymond, Jennifer, and Emily (Joseph) Gerrick; sister, Regina Allen; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Mary M. Dorrian

Funeral Mass for Mary M. Dorrian, 84, who died Saturday, Oct. 28, was held Tuesday, Nov. 7 at Columbus St. Timothy Church. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born on Aug. 8, 1933 in Cincinnati to Joseph and Clara Weber.

She received a bachelor's degree from St. Mary of the Springs College (now Ohio Dominican University) and did postgraduate studies in art at The Ohio State University and

the Columbus College of Art and Design. She was a teacher at the Pontifical College Josephinum and for the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and husband, Michael. Survivors include sons, Michael (Lorie) and Joseph (Kimberly); daughters, Anne (Bill) Lenzotti and Beth; sister, Barbara (Jim) Deutschle; and nine grandchildren.

CLASSIFIED

Salvation is free, not a 'pay to save' deal with God, pope says

By Junno Arocho Esteves/Catholic News Service

When it comes to salvation, God does not seek any form of compensation and offers it freely to those in need of his love, Pope Francis said.

A Christian who complains of not receiving a reward for going to Mass every Sunday and fulfilling certain obligations "doesn't understand the gratuity of salvation," the pope said in the homily at his Nov. 7 morning Mass.

"He thinks salvation is the fruit of 'I pay and you save me. I pay with this, with this, with this.' No, salvation is free and if you do not enter in this dynamic of gratuity, you don't understand anything," he said.

The pope reflected on the day's Gospel reading from St. Luke, in which Jesus recounts the parable of the banquet of a rich man who, after having his invitation spurned by his guests, invites "the poor and the crippled, the blind and the lame" to enjoy his feast.

The pope said those who rejected the rich man's invitation were "consumed by their own interests" and did not understand the man's generosity.

"If the gratuitousness of God's invitation isn't understood, nothing is understood. God's initiative is always free. But what must you pay to go to this banquet?" the pope asked. "The entry ticket is to be sick, to be poor, to be a sinner."

Saints Simon and Jude Catholic Church ANNUAL FALL BAZAAR

Sat, November 11, 9 am - 3 pm
Crafts, baked goods and basket raffles
9350 High Free Pike, West Jefferson, Ohio
(corner of SR 142 and I-70)

ST. ANDREW HOLIDAY BAZAAR

1899 McCoy Rd. 43220
November 11, 9 am-3 pm
Many and varied crafters,
buckeyes, raffles--including
OSU quilt, and bake sale!
Lunch available, no admission charge!

Corpus Christi Church CHRISTMAS BAZAAR/FUNDRAISER

December 2nd ~ 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
December 3rd ~ 8:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Bake Sale/Gifts/\$1k 1st prize raffle
1111 Stewart Ave., Columbus

HOLIDAY CRAFT BAZAAR & BAKE SALE

Saturday, November 18, 9-3pm
Our Lady of Lourdes
Catholic Community Center
1033 W. 5th St., Marysville
67 Tables of Holiday Crafts
Free Admission

WOMEN'S CLUB - HOLIDAY BAZAAR & CRAFT SHOW

Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church
1559 Roxbury Road, MarbleCliff
Saturday, November 4, from 9-3 pm
Many, many vendors, the Italian Kitchen,
bake sale, white elephant sale, and more...

To advertise your holiday events,
please call Dave Garick at
614-224-5195 ext. 1146

H A P P E N I N G S

NOVEMBER

9, 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.

Holy Hour at Holy Family

6 to 7 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Holy Hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by meeting of parish Holy Name and Junior Holy Name societies, with refreshments. 614-221-4323

Ohio Dominican Early Assurance Programs Info Session
6 to 7:30 p.m., Battelle Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Information session on ODU medical school and physician assistant early assurance programs. 614-251-4453

Theology on Tap Meeting

7 p.m., El Vaquero restaurant, 3230 Olentangy River Road, Columbus. Theology on Tap discussion and social group for young Catholics, with Sister Pat Dual, OP, of the Dominican Sisters of Peace speaking on "Life Decisions and Discernment." RSVP to cbustheologyontap@gmail.com or Columbus Theology on Tap Facebook page.

'Into the Deep' Talk at Columbus St. Patrick

7 to 8:30 p.m., Aquinas Hall, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Monthly "Into the Deep" series on the Catholic faith continues with talk by Father Stephen Dominic Hayes, OP, on "Faith, Science, and the Catholic Church." 614-224-9522

Celebrating Catholic School Virtues Gala at St. Charles
7 p.m., St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. Tenth annual Celebrating Catholic Schools Gala, benefiting diocesan school tuition assistance program. 614-221-5829

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 David Garick at 614-224-5195.

'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 Catholic Times Happenings, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215 Fax to 614-241-2518

E-mail as text to tpuet@columbuscatholic.org

10-11, FRIDAY-SATURDAY

Watterson Presents 'Brothers Grimm Spectaculation'

7 p.m., Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road, Columbus. School's theater department presents "The Brothers Grimm Spectaculation." Tickets \$5 to \$10. 614-268-8671

11, 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.

Cristo Rey Columbus Entrance Examination

9 a.m., Cristo Rey Columbus High School, 400 E. Town St., Columbus. School entrance examination for students meeting school's income guidelines. 614-223-9261

Frassati Society Pilgrimage to Somerset St. Joseph

5 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Parish's Frassati Society for young adults leaves for pilgrimage to Somerset St. Joseph Church, Ohio's oldest Catholic parish, returning at approximately 10 p.m. 614-224-9522

12, SUNDAY

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education

10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Part 1 of seven-part video series on "Wisdom: God's Vision for Life" by Jeff Cavins and Thomas Smith.

Open House at DeSales High School

11 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, Columbus. Open house for prospective students and their parents. 614-265-3380

Open House at Our Lady of Peace School

12:15 to 1:30 p.m., Our Lady of Peace School, 40 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus. Open house for prospective students and their parents. Tour school and talk with staff, students, and parents. 614-267-4535

Kateri Prayer Circle at St. Mark

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

Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic Meeting

1:30 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Meeting of St. Catherine of Siena chapter, Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic.

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

Catholic Conversations Series

6 to 8 p.m., Sports on Tap, 4030 Main St., Hilliard. Monthly Catholic Conversations series for anyone 21 and older, sponsored by Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona and Hilliard St. Brendan churches. Speaker: Msgr. Frank P. Lane, Catholic Trivia Night. Participants are asked to donate \$5 toward cash prizes for the top three players. RSVP to nancywhetstone@gmail.com or julienaporanol@gmail.com.

Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter

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

13, MONDAY

Ohio Dominican TESOL Information Session

6 p.m., Room 276, Bishop Griffin Center, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Information session on ODU master of arts in teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL) program. 614-251-4615

St. Joseph's Hermitage Taste and See Celebration

6:30 p.m., Pasqualone's Ristorante, 5766 Emporium Square, Columbus. Fourth annual Taste and See wine tasting and dinner benefiting St. John's Hermitage, a place of sanctuary and rest in northwestern Scioto County for priests, deacons, and seminarians. Plans for new hermitage chapel to be unveiled. Tickets \$60, or \$100 per couple. 614-431-9791

Bethesda Post-Abortion Healing Ministry

6:30 p.m., support group meeting, 2744 Dover Road, Columbus (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.

Frassati Society Trivia Night

7 p.m., Yabo's Tacos, 3051 Northwest Blvd., Upper Arlington. Trivia Night sponsored by Columbus St. Patrick Church Frassati Society for young adults. 614-224-9522

14, TUESDAY

Our Lady of Good Success Study Group

11 a.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Monthly meeting of Our Lady of Good Success study group. Eucharistic Holy Hour in church, followed by catechesis study and discussion. 614-372-5249

Borromeo Lecture at St. Charles

Noon, St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. School's 17th annual Borromeo lecture, with talk by national religion reporter Kenneth L. Woodward. Tickets \$25; includes lunch. 614-252-9288

Holy Hour at Columbus St. Francis of Assisi

St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave., Columbus. Monthly Holy Hour following 6 p.m. Mass. 614-299-5781

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.

EnCourage Ministry Monthly Meeting

6:30 p.m., EnCourage, an approved diocesan ministry dedicated to families and friends of persons who experience same-sex attraction. EnCourage respects the dignity of every person, promotes the truth of God's plan for each of us, and focuses on sharing our love. Confidentiality is maintained. Call for site. 614-296-7404

15, WEDNESDAY

Abortion Recovery Network Group

9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Westerville Area Resource Ministry, 150 Heatherdown Drive, Westerville. Abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program, and wants to stay connected. 614-721-2100

'Theology of the Common Good' Talk at ODU

11 a.m., Matesich Theater, Erskine Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Talk on "Interaction of Light With the DNA" with Dr. Bern Kohler, Ohio State University chemistry professor. School's annual St. Albert the Great Lecture, part of series based on ODU's theme for the academic year, "The Common Good." 614-251-4453

Pontifical College Josephinum Lecture Series

7 p.m., Jessing Center, Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. Father Jared Wicks, SJ, Josephinum scholar in residence, speaks on "Learning from Luther: Penitential Living Toward Holiness" as part of college's "Building Spiritual Bridges to the Community" lecture series. 614-885-5585

Dominican Rite Sung Mass at Columbus St. Patrick

7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Dominican Rite Sung Mass for the Feast of St. Albert the Great, patron of scientists, featuring parish choir. Latin-English programs provided. 614-224-9522

16, THURSDAY

Prayer Breakfast at Newark Catholic

6:30 to 7:45 a.m., Newark Catholic High School, 1 Green Wave Drive, Newark. Inaugural Catholic community prayer breakfast, with speaking program beginning at 7 a.m. featuring 1961 NCHS graduate Father Michael Gribble and including testimonials from recent graduates. \$15 in advance or \$20 at door. 740-344-3594

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.

Abortion Recovery Network Group

7 to 8 p.m., Gateway Center, 2670 N. Columbus St., Lancaster. Abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program, and wants to stay connected. 614-721-2100

Open House at Bishop Hartley

7 to 9 p.m., Bishop Hartley High School, 1285 Zettler Road, Columbus. Open house for prospective students and their parents. Hear from principal, meet teachers and coaches, experience technology program, take campus tours. 614-237-5421

Open House at St. Agatha School

7:30 to 8:30 p.m., St. Agatha School, 1880 Northam Road, Columbus. Open house for prospective students and their parents. 614-488-9000

16-19, THURSDAY-SUNDAY

St. Charles Presents 'Shakespeare (Abridged)'

8 p.m. Thursday-Sunday, 3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. School's theater department presents "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)." Tickets \$5 to \$10. 614-252-6714

17, FRIDAY

Fior Angelico Concert at Cathedral

8 p.m. (pre-concert talk at 7:30), St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Concert by Fior Angelico chamber chorus, performing Spanish songs for lamentation and rejoicing. Part of Early Music in Columbus series. Tickets \$30; \$25 for seniors and \$12 for students. 614-973-1961

18, 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.

Bishop Hartley Admissions Testing

9 a.m., Bishop Hartley High School, 1285 Zettler Road, Columbus. Admissions testing for prospective members of school's Class of 2022. Students who wish to be considered for a scholarship must take test on either this date or Dec. 9. Preregistration is required. 614-237-5421

Centering Prayer Group Meeting at Corpus Christi

10:30 a.m. to noon, Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Centering prayer group meeting, beginning with silent prayer, followed by Contemplative Outreach DVD and discussion. 614-512-3731

focus on ART

The complete works of William Shakespeare

The drama department of Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., will present its fall production, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)* at 8 p.m. Thursday to Sunday, Nov. 16 to 19 and 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 18 and 19.

Adult tickets are \$10 each and student tickets are \$5. Reservations may be placed by calling the school's main office at (614) 252-6714 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., weekdays.

This irreverent, fast-paced romp through the Bard's plays ran for an incredible nine years at the Criterion Theater in London's West End.

Join the madcap cast as it weaves its way through all of Shakespeare's comedies, histories, and tragedies in one wild ride that will leave you breathless and helpless with laughter.

The play, which promises to summarize all 37 of



Shakespeare's plays in 97 minutes, was written by Adam Long, Daniel Singer, and Jess Winfield, former founding members of The Reduced Shakespeare Company.

It has become one of the world's most popular shows and is notable for holding the (self-proclaimed) world record for the shortest-ever performance of *Hamlet*, clocking in at 43 seconds, as well as the fastest performance of *Hamlet* backwards, at 42 seconds.

Warning! This show is a high-speed roller-coaster type condensation of all of Shakespeare's plays, and is not recommended for people with heart ailments, bladder problems, inner-ear disorders, outer-ear disorders, Shakespearean scholars, degrees in Elizabethan

than history, and/or people inclined to motion sickness. St. Charles Theater cannot be held responsible for expectant mothers!

The play is dedicated to "all the brave men and women who have lost their lives in the performance of Shakespeare's works."

Photo: Cast members of Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School's performance of "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)" include (from left): first row, Joseph Roe, Claire Ferguson, Matthew Turek, Mariel Trinidad, and Noah Kuhr; second row, Julia Kelley, Campbell Smith, and Jaz Nappier.

Performances will be at 8 p.m. Thursday to Sunday, Nov. 16 to 19 and 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 18 and 19.

Photo courtesy St. Charles Preparatory School

Thanksgiving Concert

Paul Melcher, music director at Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes Church, and his wife, Chelsea (both pictured), will present a Thanksgiving concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19 in the church, 1033 W. 5th St.

Joining them will be Joshua Zoppa on trumpet. This concert will feature hymns, operatic arias, and Broadway tunes for soprano, as well as inspired piano and trumpet selections.

The concert is free. A free-will donation will be graciously accepted.



The Nutcracker

One of central Ohio's most beloved holiday traditions since 1974 -- BalletMet's *The Nutcracker* -- again will be presented from Friday, Dec. 8 to Sunday, Dec. 24 at the historic Ohio Theater, 39 E. State St., Columbus. Set to Tchaikovsky's original score performed by the Columbus Symphony Orchestra, the ballet will be choreographed by former BalletMet artistic director Gerard Charles.

As in previous years, a number of Catholic dancers will appear in the production.

They include (from left): first row, Malia Hevezi, Emily

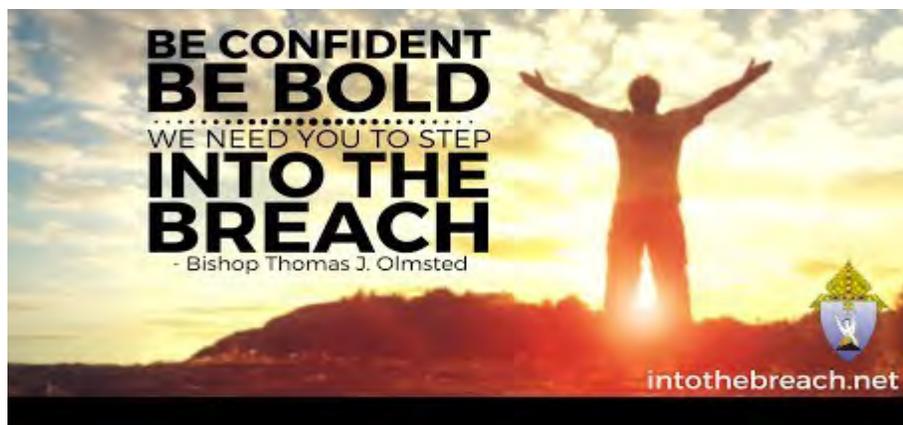


Bartlett, Daniel Barnes, Lucia Carolina Guardia Perez, and Kaitlynn Hanna; second row, Lizzy Bruening, Alana Sayat, Isabelle Lapierre, and Grace Ortega; third row, Mary Claire Smith, Katie Bartlett, Seth Pettis, Kate Fields, and Melody M. Crigger; fourth row, Lily Rosati Yoos and Frankie Bonte.

Photo provided by Ballet Met

Delaware St. Mary students celebrate All Saints Day

Delaware St. Mary School celebrated All Saints Day with fifth-grade students dressing as the saints they studied during the first quarter of the year. The school also had a fall fun festival in October, followed by a "trunk or treat" program, which featured a dinner and 40 families distributing Halloween treats. About 400 students participated, Photo courtesy St. Mary School



St. Pius X men's retreat planned for December

Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, will host its annual men's retreat from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1 and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, followed by the Sacrament of Reconciliation, with Mass at 5 p.m.

The theme for the retreat is "The Gates of Hell Shall Not Prevail: Taking the Battle Beyond the Breach." The retreat will be led by John Bradford of Wilderness Outreach. It will begin Friday evening with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by an introduction to the weekend, and fellowship.

Talks by Bradford on Saturday will

help participants understand their identity as Catholic men, the meaning of fatherhood, and how to tap the power of the Holy Spirit to take the battle beyond the breach, unleashing the Gospel in a world desperate for it. There also will be opportunities for small-group discussion, quiet time, and private and communal prayer.

The cost is \$30 and includes snacks and beverages Friday night and breakfast and lunch Saturday. Contact John Zacovic at (614) 322-9473 or jzacovic@insight.rr.com for more information. Register online at <http://spxreynoldsburg.com>. The registration fee will be collected Friday evening.



AM 820

CATHOLIC RADIO



Lend an ear!

Pope takes questions from children in hurricane-hit Texas, Puerto Rico

By Junno Arocho Esteves

Catholic News Service

Pope Francis said that there are no easy answers to the suffering and destruction wrought by hurricanes and that while such disasters happen naturally, humankind must also take responsibility for not caring for the environment.

In a video chat with young children participating in a program of the international network of *Scholas Occurrentes* on Oct. 26, the pope spoke with children from Texas and Puerto Rico, where Hurricanes Harvey and Maria struck hardest.

“If God loves us all, why did he make hurricanes and heavy rains?” asked Pedro Garcia, a 9-year-old Mexican-American boy living in Houston who lost his home after Hurricane Harvey struck Texas.

The pope said that there are questions even the most intelligent person can’t answer and that can only be answered with “solidarity, with a hug and to be close to those who suffer.”

“When I am asked these kinds of questions -- I confess with all sincerity -- I don’t know how to answer,” Pope Francis said. “Do you know why? Because there isn’t an answer. The only thing I can do is look at the cross and ask, ‘Why did God allow his son to be crucified?’”

The only answer to Christ’s suffering on the cross and the sufferings of others, he continued, is God’s love because “when Jesus was on the cross, he never forgot that his father cared for



him and loved him.”

“When these misfortunes happen to us, we cannot forget that the father loves us,” the pope said.

However, he also said that people must take responsibility for actions that have contributed to the worsening of such natural disasters and pleaded with men and women to “care for the world and for nature.”

“But no, we want to build a pipeline so that we can make more money.’ Yes, why do you need money? So that you can pay for the funeral service because that is where this will take you, your country, the earth and all of us. Care for the earth!” the pope said.

Pope Francis also spoke with chil-

dren from Loiza, Puerto Rico, one of the poorest areas on the island that was devastated by Hurricane Maria in September.

Ariana, a 5-year-old girl, cast a serious look at the pope and said, “Hi, Pope Francis. When are you coming to Puerto Rico?”

The young girl cracked a little smile as Pope Francis laughed at the directness of her question.

“I don’t know when I will go to Puerto Rico because it isn’t easy to prepare a trip and there are many things that need to be studied,” he answered. “But one day, I will go; I want to get to know (Puerto Rico) and I want to get to know you.”

Alejandro, 8, didn’t ask a question but pleaded with the pope, “in the name of all the children like me,” to “remember Puerto Rico because we are going through a very difficult situation.”

The pope thanked Alejandro and sent a greeting “to all the children of Puerto Rico” and encouraged them to “keep moving forward.”

Before ending the conversation, Ariana had one final request for the pope: “Papa, I ask you to pray for Puerto Rico’s recovery and for peace in the world.”

Visibly moved by the little girl’s request, the pope said “Yes, my dear, I will do that. And if you children pray for peace in the world, you will be heard. Do not doubt that.”

