



DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

CATHOLIC TIMES

A journal of Catholic life in Ohio

JANUARY 7, 2018
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
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CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGES OFFER TRAVELERS
A SPIRITUAL AND EMOTIONAL JOURNEY

Editor's reflections

A new year, a new editor

By Doug Bean, Editor



If you've opened the paper and turned to this column, you might be surprised to find a familiar face is no longer here. Dave Garick decided to call it a career. The final issue of 2017 was his last as *Catholic Times* editor.

After overseeing the *Times* for 10 years, Dave has begun a well-deserved retirement with his lovely wife, Barbara. Dave has worked as a newsman for 40 years in broadcast and print journalism. He is among a dying breed of journalists who learned the art of reporting before the age of blogs, social media, and 24/7 yap-trap commentary. Dave not only has proved to be an excellent writer, columnist, reporter, and editor, but he also has been a man of service in the church and with many charitable organizations.

With Dave as its driving force, the *Catholic Times* evolved into a respected source of news and information with a major emphasis on local content. He reached out to parishes, schools, missions, and ministries in this expansive diocese to bring a variety of stories to readers.

Under Dave's watch, the *Times* initiated a popular series of feature stories on diocesan parishes. That will continue. Those stories reflect the dedication of clergy, staff, and parishioners in urban and rural areas that otherwise might go unnoticed, but provide inspiration to others. Readers often comment that they enjoy learning about programs and devotions that have made an impact in communities.

The *Times* will continue to offer the same columns and features that you've come to enjoy, and we also will welcome new ideas. We encourage you to provide feedback, suggestions and tips, for stories.

Dave was guided by the principle that the Catholic press exists to serve the bishop, his diocese, the people, and, most importantly, God. Nothing will change in that respect as the *Times* moves forward into 2018 and beyond.

As Dave has mentioned previously, readers might be surprised to learn that the *Catholic Times* is

brought to you by a dedicated, talented and hard-working staff of three. That's right; three people crank out the newspaper each week.

Reporter Tim Puet and designer Alexandra Keves work hard every day, using their God-given gifts and talents to provide useful content for the faithful subscribers who support the *Times*.

So the foundation is solidly in place. As any builder worth his salt knows, the edifice will collapse without proper support. We have that here.

But change is always a bit daunting when you're starting something new. That's when we rely on our faith. No one can accomplish anything in this world without divine assistance. We're also reminded to pray for all those people who are unemployed and underemployed, those who were laid off without cause, those who have given up searching for a job, and those in despair who struggle to provide for themselves and their families. There is always hope in the Lord.

In this first issue of 2018, the *Times* chronicles the pilgrimages taken by several diocesan parishes and groups. What a blessing to be able to visit these holy sites. It should remind us that we're all on a pilgrimage to walk in the footsteps of Jesus – whether one has the opportunity to take such a trip or simply to pray at Mass, in front of the Blessed Sacrament at adoration, or at home. Only through Our Lord, with the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the angels and saints, can each of us carry out our mission in life.

Prayers are very much needed and appreciated for the *Times* during this period of transition. God bless all of you, and may the new year be filled with happiness, holiness, and many graces. We're always interested to hear your thoughts. Contact information is listed at the bottom of this page.

Happy New Year and praised be Jesus Christ, now and forever, as we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord this Sunday!



FATHER JAMES
CHRISTOPHER CSASZAR

Passed away on December 20, 2017

Funeral Mass for Father James Christopher Csaszar, 44, who died on Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017, was held Friday, Dec. 29 at the Church of the Resurrection in New Albany. Burial was at Resurrection Cemetery, Columbus.

He was born on Feb. 26, 1973, in Westerville to James J. and Roberta Csaszar and earned a bachelor's degree from the Pontifical College Josephinum and a theology degree from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He was ordained a priest on June 26, 1999, by Bishop James Griffin at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.

He was an associate pastor at Zanesville St. Nicholas Church, then served as pastor at Kenton Immaculate Conception, the Perry County consortium (New Lexington St. Rose, Corning St. Bernard, Junction City St. Patrick and the Crooksville Church of the Atonement), and the Church of the Resurrection. He also had pastoral duties at Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans High School.



OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
Clergy Assignment

Msr. John K. Cody, to administrator pro tem, Church of the Ascension, Johnstown, effective Dec. 5, 2017.



Front Page photo:
A group led by Father
Jeff Rimelspach, pastor
of Columbus St. Marga-
ret of Cortona Church,
joins other pilgrims
in St. Peter's Square
in October 2017 for
Pope Francis' weekly
outdoor audience.

Photo/Father Jeff Rimelspach

CATHOLIC
TIMES

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Father James Black's funeral homily for Father James Csaszar

"I am convinced, that neither death, nor life ... nor present things, nor future things ... nor height, nor depth ... will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord"

These words of St. Paul were written, not just for the people of Rome in his day, but also transcend time to bring us comfort, strength and profound hope today in this time of pain. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

To his family, his brother priests and deacons and to all of you as parishioners and friends of Father Jim Csaszar, I offer my promise of prayer and support. Bishop Campbell has also asked me to pass on his prayers to all of you. He had surgery previously scheduled for this morning that was unable to be moved.

We appreciate the presence of Bishop Griffin here with us and his support. It is the moments of connecting to others who mourn, that we have all shared in the past days, that reaffirm our faith in the ultimate power of Jesus Christ. This is a faith which Father Jim loved so much and to which he was so dedicated.

Though we mourn in different ways and at different depths, the same Jesus Christ reaches His healing hand to us and restores us.

As we gather here, in this place of prayer, place of comfort and peace, a place that speaks in grand ways of the presence of God, I direct your attention to two of the smallest objects; the image of the infant Savior in His crib and the small flame that sits atop the

Paschal Candle.

What connects these two objects is what we know as the Incarnation of God. The human life of Jesus sent to bring glad tidings to the poor and proclaim liberty to captives. A life that would bring a light that forever scatters the darkness of our world.

As we remain in the octave of our Lord's Nativity, we remember that this infant Savior came into this world that we might know the love, mercy and healing power of God. Jesus' life in this world endured both the joys and pains that are a part of our earthly life, but ultimately revealed to us the all saving mercy, love and power of the Resurrection!

At this time, we so need a God who has endured pain, and we have one. Let us ask this God to begin or continue to bring peace and comfort to us. Let His mercy be our consolation and His love be our comfort. Know that whatever darkness we may encounter in our lives is defeated by that small light that now stands before Father Jim as his comfort and peace.

I would like to speak especially to Father Jim's family. He loves you so much. Whenever he spoke of you, which was often, his face lit up with joy!! The vacations, family dinners and various opportunities to spend time with you were often recounted in joyful detail. I particularly recall his love of embarrassing any of you if you came to Mass.

I think he especially enjoyed doing that! As I asked you which quality of your Uncle Jamie you enjoyed

most, it shouldn't be a surprise to any of us here, that your first response was his sense of humor! This humor is something that we will all remember about Jamie.

I think there are basically two types of humorists; one who likes to be funny, the other, one who enjoys making people laugh. I think your son, brother and uncle was the latter. It wasn't so much about him or bringing attention to himself, but rather it was about you, or anyone to whom his humor was directed. His intent was about bringing joy to us and making us happy. Sometimes this humor was even musically accentuated by the accordion. Perhaps you didn't know that he had that talent. I don't know which impressed me more, his ability to play the accordion, or his uncanny ability to produce it almost upon request!

I am sure that all of us have our favorite humorous memory of Jamie, Uncle Jamie and Father Jim. May those memories lift us when we need them.

Let us remember and cherish the many good things that he brought to our lives. To his family, I'm sure he will hold a special presence among you whenever you gather. To my brother clergy, let us be the best priests and deacons we can be, bringing the joy, mercy and love of the infant savior to God's faithful. To all of us, may the never dimming light of Christ, born to us of the Virgin Mary, light our way, guide our steps, and lead us all to eternal life.

Amen.

Deacon Burke-Sivers to speak at several parishes

For the next several days, several parishes in the Diocese of Columbus will welcome one of the nation's most dynamic and sought-after Catholic speakers, Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, for his central Ohio mission tour.

Many will remember Deacon Burke-Sivers, known as "The Dynamic Deacon," from last year's diocesan Catholic Men's Conference, where he was enthusiastically received by thousands of men and lauded for his no-nonsense approach to living the faith.

Deacon Burke-Sivers has an unstoppable love for the Catholic Church and its teachings and brings that energy to his presentations to help provide a deeper encounter with Jesus Christ and to act as the catalyst to encourage his audience to undergo a deeper faith experience.

From Saturday, Jan. 6 to Saturday, Jan. 13, he will bring his powerful and passionate preaching to Sunbury St. John Neumann, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Powell St. Joan of Arc, Newark St. Francis de Sales, and Colum-

bus St. Catharine churches.

His schedule includes talks on marriage and family life, discerning God's will, the sacraments, living our strengths, men's spirituality, and the new evangelization. He also will preaching the Gospel at weekend Masses at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

Deacon Burke-Sivers lives in Portland, Oregon, with his wife, Colleen, and is the father of four children. He is assigned to Immaculate Heart Catholic Church in Portland.

The following is the schedule for Deacon Burke-Sivers' talks. A free-will offering will be taken at each event.

Saturday, Jan. 6: 10 to 11 a.m., Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, 9633



E. State Route 37, men's breakfast. Topic: "Men's Spirituality: Spiritual Fatherhood." Registration encouraged on parish website: www.saintjohnsunbury.org. 5 p.m., Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3730 Broadway, preaching the Gospel at Sunday Vigil Mass. 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, "Come, Let Us Adore Him: The Purpose and Meaning of Eucharistic Adoration."

Sunday, Jan. 7: 8 and 9:30 a.m., noon, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, preaching the Gospel at Sunday Mass. 7 to 8 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, "Profession of Faith (The Creed): What We Believe and Why."

Monday, Jan. 8: 6:30 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, "Living Your Strengths." Part of discipleship summit which also includes talk by Father Paul Noble, St. John Neumann pastor. Registration encouraged on parish website.

Tuesday, Jan. 9, 7 to 8 p.m., St. John

Neumann Church, "Catholic Families: The Model for a Culture of Love and Life."

Wednesday, Jan. 10, 7 to 8 p.m., Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, "Catholic Families: The Model for a Culture of Love and Life."

Thursday, Jan. 11, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Newark St. Francis de Sales Church, 40 Granville St., "Growing in Faith."

Friday, Jan. 12, 7 to 8 p.m., Newark St. Francis de Sales Church, "Meeting Jesus: Theology of the Body."

Saturday, Jan. 13, 7 to 8 a.m., Newark St. Francis de Sales Church, men's breakfast. Topic: "Men's Spirituality: Spiritual Fatherhood." Registration encouraged on parish website: www.stfrancisparish.net. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (time of talk unspecified), Our Lady of Perpetual Help, men's retreat sponsored by Powell St. Joan of Arc Church. Topic: "Your Sins Are Forgiven." 7 to 8 p.m., Columbus St. Catharine Church, 500 S. Gould Road, "The Pursuit of Happiness."

‘Thank you for your service’

By Sister Constance Veit, LSP

Together with another Little Sister, I was invited to represent our congregation at a somewhat exclusive reception during the Christmas season. We were happy to bring two of our residents along with us.

One of them, a 97-year old veteran of World War II, proudly wore his best tweed sport coat and his VFW garrison cap, decorated with a host of ribbons. The other, an immigrant and artist, is the widow of a Navy veteran.

During the reception, we sampled the luscious buffet, admired the beautiful Christmas decorations and met a few notable personalities. But what really struck me was all the attention and affection the partygoers gave our two residents, especially our retired airman.

Women and men, both old and young, paused to let him pass through the crowd in his wheelchair, offered to wait on him, and thanked him for his service. More than a few people knelt beside him to ask about his military experience and his life story, listening attentively as he sketched out the details of his long life. Our resident felt so special! He returned home beaming and is still talking about this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

The reverence and esteem of the VIPs we met that day for our elderly residents was moving. “Thank you for your service,” they kept repeating.

Without diminishing in any way the unique contribution of our veterans, it struck me that this is something we should be saying to all of our elders. “Thank you for your service ... as sons and daughters, parents and grandparents, aunts and uncles. ... Thank you for your service as educators, nurses, factory workers, engineers, farmers, and businessmen.”

More profoundly, we should thank our elders for their wisdom, their faithfulness, and their selfless generosity toward us. We owe them a great debt of gratitude for all they share with us and pass on to us – their faith, their life experience, their family history, and the history of our communities and nations. We need to remember our



A World War II veteran is thanked for his service. Photo courtesy Little Sisters of the Poor

elders, take a lively interest in them and offer them our support so that they will be able to go on contributing to the formation of new generations.

Pope Francis often has said that a people that does not take care of grandparents has no future. Let’s keep this in mind as we begin a new year, and especially as we gather from Washington to San Francisco this month to march for life.

These annual prolife events commemorate the Supreme Court’s *Roe vs. Wade* decision that legalized abortion in our nation in 1973, so it goes without saying that they focus on the unborn. But the elderly need our protection, too.

The fact that physician assisted suicide is now legal in Washington, D.C., and California should drive this point home as we pound the pavement for life at these events. I would like to propose that after we have marched for life this January, we return home and reach out to the elders in our family, our neighborhood, or our local nursing home to say “Thank you.” Thank you for giving me life! Thank you for your service to family, community, and this great nation! Thank you for passing on your wisdom, your experience, and your faith to my generation!

Pope Francis has said that he longs for “a church that challenges the throwaway culture by the overflowing joy of a new embrace between young and old.” In 2018, let’s help make his dream a reality.

Sister Constance Veit is director of communications for the Little Sisters of the Poor.



DeSales receives Top Pick award

Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School received the CBUS Top Pick award from The Columbus Dispatch as best private school for the second year in a row. Recipients were chosen in voting by the newspaper’s readers. DeSales assistant principal Jim Jones (left) and principal Dan Garrick are pictured at the Top Picks gala, which took place in the Walter Student Commons at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School.

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School

Fisher Catholic Foundation receives \$1 million donation

The William V. Fisher Catholic Education Foundation and the St Mary’s of the Assumption Foundation of Lancaster have received a \$1 million donation from Harold R. and Libby Schorr in memory of their parents, Joseph A. Schorr Jr. and Florence Nangle Schorr.

This gift will ensure that students interested in obtaining a Catholic education at Lancaster St. Mary School and Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School will financially be able to do so.

Harold Schorr, a member of the Lancaster St Mary High School Class of 1939, and his wife supported various community causes, none as dear to them as Catholic education. Their commitment continued after the last of their eight children graduated more than 35 years ago.

Harold and his brother Robert, part of the St. Mary High School Class of 1935, created an irrevocable trust, with the assistance of Fairfield National Bank, for the two Lancaster schools.

For more information regarding the gift made to the St. Mary’s of the Assumption Foundation

and how you also can give, contact St. Mary Church at (740) 653-0997.

Mike Schorr and his sister Beth said, “We are very happy that the gift will help children attend a Catholic school. We hope other families will see an opportunity to make a similar gift in their will or estate plan.”

The Schorrs hoped that announcing this gift after their death might persuade others to consider local Catholic education in their charitable giving, both during their lives and in their estate planning.

The Fisher Catholic Education Foundation has asked The Catholic Foundation to steward the Schorrs’ gift on its behalf. Any additional donations may be made to the William V. Fisher Catholic High School Endowment Fund by visiting www.catholic-foundation.org/fisher-catholicendowment. For more information on Fisher Catholic’s endowment fund, contact Scott Hartman at shartman@catholic-foundation.org or (614) 443-8893.

Dover World War II veteran receives belated honors

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, Catholic Times

Jesse “Jack” Reese of Dover never forgot how he and his eight fellow crew members managed to make it across the dark gray sea from Germany to England during World War II in a crippled B-17 bomber that was flying barely above the ground.

Neither did the French and American governments.

Reese, 92, a Dover St. Joseph Church parishioner, recently was presented the French Legion of Honor by Guillaume Lacroix, the French consul general in Chicago, in a ceremony at the church’s family life center.

Three years ago, at the same site, he belatedly was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC) by Air Force Col. Jim Jones, commander of the 121st Air Refueling Wing.

The honors were in recognition of the heroism of the crew members on Dec. 31, 1944, when their plane, nicknamed “Ole Skatterflak,” part of the 337th Bombardment Squadron of the 96th Bombardment Group, was hit by many 20-millimeter shells while attacking the shipyards and submarine enclosures in Hamburg, Germany.

Four crew members were wounded, but Reese helped successfully repel enemy fighters from his position as the plane’s tail gunner.

“The navigator was awarded the Silver Star for his efforts in getting the plane home,” Reese said. “The bombardier, the pilot, and the waist gunner all received DFCs. The rest of us on the crew also were supposed to get DFCs, but the paperwork got lost.

“A few years ago, one of the the pilots wrote people and really pushed things and I received the DFC,” said Reese, one of three members of the crew still living.

The French government in recent years has made a concerted effort to recognize American veterans of World War II with the Legion of Honor.

“Our bomb group association recommended that we send details of our story to the French consulate, and that’s how this came about,” Reese said. “It took about a year.

“The original plan was to give us the awards in Chicago. But when the



Guillaume Lacroix, French consul general in Chicago, pins the French Legion of Honor on World War II veteran Jesse “Jack” Reese in a ceremony at the Dover St. Joseph Church family life center.
Photo by Pat Burk, courtesy Dover-New Philadelphia Times Reporter

consulate asked if there was somewhere local where the ceremony could be, I knew the church hall had plenty of room.”

The Legion of Honor is France’s highest award for distinguished service in France in World War II. It was created by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802.

More than 70 years after the deed that earned him the award, Reese still recalls it in vivid detail. This is a condensed version:

“As we were going over our target, flak hit the right stabilizer. Right after that, a bunch of Messerschmitt 109s passed through our bomb group.

“A 20-millimeter shell hit the nose compartment and wounded the bombardier and the navigator. Another 20-millimeter shell hit the radio room and wounded the waist gunner. We went out of formation, and that made us the target for more 109s.

“I don’t know how many times we got hit. The ball turret gunner and I kept firing for about a half-hour. Fortunately, the Germans were dumb enough to attack from only one direction, and they eventually stopped.

“We still had to get across the North Sea and the navigator’s electronic instruments were knocked out, but he had a sextant, and that’s what we used for navigation. We were never more than

500 feet up, and we’d go up 100 feet and down 100 feet. It was a rather challenging experience, to say the least.

“Once we hit the English coast, we headed for Woodbridge Air Base, which had a three-mile emergency runway. The hydraulic support for the landing gear was damaged, so the engineer cranked it down by hand. We had a rough landing, bounced a couple of times, and stopped right at the end of the runway.”

The plane’s home base wasn’t contacted immediately, so the crew members were listed as missing in action for a short time. The New Year’s Eve flight was the crew’s 35th and last mission.

In mid-January, 1945, Reese sailed from Southampton, England, on the SS Uruguay, which had been converted into a troop ship, and by Jan. 30, he was back in the United States. He was processed at Camp Atterbury, Indiana; was on furlough in his hometown of Homeworth, Ohio; and finished the rest of his service time at a convalescent hospital at the Santa Ana, California, air base. He was discharged on Aug. 8, 1945, with the rank of staff sergeant, two years and two days after entering the Army Air Corps, now the U.S. Air Force.

He was drafted into the military while he was a junior at Alliance High School. He completed his high school

education at the Santa Ana air base, then graduated from Mount Union College in Alliance, and had an 18-year career as a teacher and coach at Dundee, Tuscarawas Valley, and Dover schools. He and his wife, Connie, then spent 20 years operating restaurants in Uhrichsville and New Philadelphia and another 10 years working for Buehler’s Markets. They also had a business producing spaghetti sauce and salad dressing from one of their restaurants.

Connie Reese died in 2016. The couple were married for nearly 69 years. Reese has a son living with him and has a son living in Massillon and a daughter who is deceased. He also has a granddaughter, a deceased grandson, and three great-grandchildren. He is commander of Dover American Legion Post 205, a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and a fourth-degree member of Knights of Columbus Council 1973.

When he was awarded the Legion of Honor, Reese also received proclamations from the Tuscarawas County commissioners, Dover Mayor Richard Homrighausen, and the area’s representatives in both houses of Congress and of the Ohio legislature.

“He’s an American hero, but he’s a French hero because without him, without his companions, without these great men and women, my country would not exist,” the French consul general said.

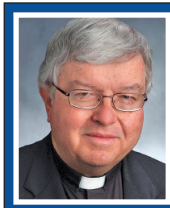
“You saved us from the Nazis, not the Germans. The Germans are our friends now. But you saved us from the Nazis, who wanted to destroy our country, destroy our values, destroy our families. And without the assistance of America, the French flag would not be flying.

“It is a great honor for me as a grandson of a World War II veteran of France to be here with you and being the one who, on behalf of the French Republic, will pin the Legion of Honor, which is the highest ranking distinction in France,” Lacroix said.

“I’m accepting this honor that the president of France has bestowed on me, and I’m accepting it for myself and for the entire crew of Ole Skatterflak,” Reese said. “We had a nine-man crew, and worked as a crew. That’s how we were able to complete 35 missions.”

(Information from the Dover-New Philadelphia Times Reporter was used in this story.)

The 'Catholic' Ten Commandments; Non-sacramental marriage



QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. Recently I read an article stating that the “Catholic” Ten Commandments are different from those given to Moses. According to this article, Catholics deleted the Second Commandment -- about no idols or graven images -- and then split the last one into two in order to make up for that deletion.

(It went on to say that the original Second Commandment was eliminated because of the statues in Catholic churches and the fact that Catholics offer prayers to Mary and to the other saints.) Can you elaborate on the difference and why? (Macomb Township, Michigan)

A. The precise division and numbering of the Ten Commandments has, as the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* explains, varied over the course of history (No. 2066). Catholics traditionally use the formulation proposed by St. Augustine in the fifth century.

The full text of the Ten Commandments as revealed to Moses comes from two scriptural sources -- Exodus 20:2-17 and Deuteronomy 5:6-21. For both Protestants and Catholics, the currently accepted catechetical formulations represent an abbreviation of those biblical texts.

Exodus 20:2-6, for example, says: “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall not have other gods beside me. You shall not make for yourself an idol or a likeness of anything in the heavens above or on the earth below or in the waters beneath the earth; you shall not bow down before them or serve them.

“For I, the Lord, your God, am a jealous God, inflicting punishment for their ancestors’ wickedness on the children of those who hate me, down to the third and fourth generation; but showing love down to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.”

All that is summarized by Catholics in the words: “I am the Lord your God; you shall not have strange gods before me.”

In prohibiting graven images, Catholics believe that the Lord was referring to such incidents as the golden calf (Exodus 32),

which some Jews of the Old Testament actually worshipped as divine. Catholics do not believe that God thereby prohibited all religious images -- especially since Moses himself directed that replicas of cherubim angels should adorn the Ark of the Covenant (Exodus 25).

Some Protestant worship sites, in fact, mirror Catholic churches in displaying images of the saints in stained glass, and no one actually worships those images or imagines them to be divine; they simply remind us of the holy lives of our heroes in the faith and offer them for imitation.

When Catholics pray to the saints, we are not worshipping them, but only asking for their help.

Q. A marriage took place in a Catholic church. The groom had not been baptized, and the couple later divorced. Now this same woman is planning to marry a different man and wants the marriage to be celebrated in the Catholic Church.

What procedure must she follow to see that this can happen? (I understand that the first marriage would not be considered a sacrament, since the first groom was not baptized.) (St. Cloud, Minnesota)

A. Catholics can receive permission from their diocesan bishop (called, technically, a dispensation from disparity of cult) to marry someone who has never received Christian baptism -- which is evidently what the woman in question did for her first marriage. It is true, as you say, that this marriage was not a sacramental one; as the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states, baptism is “the door that gives access to the other sacraments” (No. 1213).

And if the non-baptized spouse could not receive a sacrament in that wedding ceremony, neither could the baptized one. You can’t have a “half-sacrament.”

Nevertheless -- in response to your question -- that first marriage was still a valid marriage in the Catholic Church’s eyes, a holy covenant.

So, if the woman now wants to marry a different man in a Catholic ceremony, she would first need to obtain a church annulment for her earlier marriage. She should speak with her parish priest or contact her diocese to inquire about beginning that process.

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

Globetrotter visits Columbus St. Mary



Columbus native Zeus McClurkin of the Harlem Globetrotters visited Columbus St. Mary School in the German Village neighborhood to perform some of the team’s basketball tricks and talk to students about the ABCs of Bullying Prevention program designed by the team in coordination with the National Campaign to Stop Violence. (McClurkin is shown teaching school principal Kayla Walton how to spin a ball in the photo below.) The 30-minute program focuses on the words “action, bravery, and compassion” and tools that children can use on a daily basis to reduce bullying.



The Globetrotters equate what it means to be part of a team to how children can support one another to help stop bullying, using participation from students and the team’s signature ballhandling skills and humor to get their message across. The Globetrotters, who played in Columbus on Dec. 28, bring their message to more than 350 schools and youth centers in cities where they perform. Photo courtesy St. Mary School

ODU freezes tuition, room, board

Ohio Dominican University trustees have approved a freeze in the university's tuition and room and board rates for the 2018-19 academic year. The move affects students in ODU's undergraduate, graduate and adult and continuing education programs.

Nearly all of ODU's full-time undergraduate students received some form of financial assistance in the 2017-18 academic year, including scholarships, grants, loans, and work-study funds. More than \$37 million was awarded to ODU students from university, federal, and state funds, as well as private donations.

In addition, all first-time freshmen are considered for ODU's four-year merit scholarships, which range from \$52,000 to \$76,000, and its honors scholarships, which range from \$80,000 to \$122,000. As a result of these resources, the out-of-pocket expenses for many families to attend ODU compare favorably with what they would pay to attend Ohio's public universities. Learn more about ODU's financial aid options at ohiodominican.edu/FinAid.

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THE "BITTER PILL" OF FALSE LIBERATION



MAKING SENSE
Out of Bioethics
Father Tad Pacholczyk

A major study published on Dec. 7 in the *New England Journal of Medicine* concludes that hormonal contraception increases the risk of breast cancer for women. The research used all of Denmark as its sample, following nearly 1.8 million Danish women of childbearing age for over a decade. The study, as described by *The New York Times*, "upends widely held assumptions about modern contraceptives for younger generations of women," especially the view that "newer hormonal contraceptives are much safer than those taken by their mothers or grandmothers." It also establishes that the risk to women increases with longer periods of use. Major media outlets have done their best to minimize the implications of the study and "soften the blow" for the millions who, for decades, have faithfully embraced a "contraceptive mentality."

This mentality has promoted contraception, especially the Pill, as a path for women to move toward equality with men by enabling them to reap the "benefits" of the sexual revolution.

But Mary Rice Hasson, director of the Catholic Women's Forum at the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, notes that the reality for women is very different, and "our lived experience has shown that this is a false promise." Countless women, she emphasizes, have ended up being vulnerable to, and harmed by, the sexual revolution and its promotion of contraception as "the solution." They have been given a "bitter pill" in the form of the Pill.

In a remarkably prescient passage dating back to July 1968, Pope Paul VI already foresaw this in his encyclical *Humanae Vitae*, the momentous and beautiful document explaining not only the moral problems with contraception, but also its devastating effects on men, families and women in particular.

Contraception, he writes, opens a wide and easy road "towards conjugal infidelity and the general lowering of morality. Not much experience is needed in order to know human weakness, and to understand that men — especially the young, who are so vulnerable on this point — have need of encouragement to be faithful to the moral law, so that they must not be offered some easy means of eluding its observance. It is also to be feared that the man, growing used to the employment of anti-conceptive practices, may finally lose respect for the woman and, no longer caring for her physical and psychological equilibrium, may come to the point of considering her as a mere instrument of selfish enjoyment, and no longer as his respected and beloved companion."

Paul VI offers a profound, but unpopular, observation — that contraception is harmful to women, and is, in

fact, anti-woman. The widespread adoption of the "contraceptive mentality" has led inexorably to a new perspective on women, namely, that they should be more like men, and therefore they should, like men, become impregnable, through the ongoing practice of contraception. Very young women, sometimes just entering puberty, are now placed onto regimens of hormonal contraception that can continue for years or even decades. From this perspective, their ability to conceive life becomes tantamount to a malady needing to be remedied, a "defect" that renders them "unequal" to men. Strikingly, though, ever greater numbers of women are discovering an authentic and liberating form of feminism as they come to the awareness that, in the words of Hasson, "we don't have a design flaw. Being a woman is good ... and it's a wonderful thing."

Wonderful, too, is that confident feminism and liberating sense of self-control that enables a woman to choose abstinence before marriage, rather than contraception, and, once married, to choose periodic abstinence in agreement with her husband if their circumstances indicate they ought to avoid a pregnancy.

Hormonal contraceptives, meanwhile, throw a wrench into the works on a number of different levels. Beyond setting up a woman to be "used" by men, the Pill (and hormone-releasing IUDs) cause significant alterations in her delicately balanced physiology. These include restricting her ability to ovulate, altering her cycles and secretions, and modifying her uterine lining — in effect, forcing her body into a pseudo-pregnant state to exclude the possibility of a real pregnancy. Whenever a woman takes these kinds of steps to disrupt her natural fertility, it should come as little surprise that her body rebels in one fashion or another, including possible weight gain, headaches, depression, and the heightened and well-documented risk of thrombotic stroke, myocardial infarction (heart attack), and — as confirmed by the recent study — breast cancer. A woman's body doesn't stand in need of being "fixed" by these powerful drugs that wreak havoc on her biology.

The Church's ageless but countercultural teaching on contraception respects and uplifts women. It supports them in an authentic feminism that affirms their uniquely important maternal role in family and society, and esteems their fruitfulness in marriage not as a defect, but as a real gift.

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

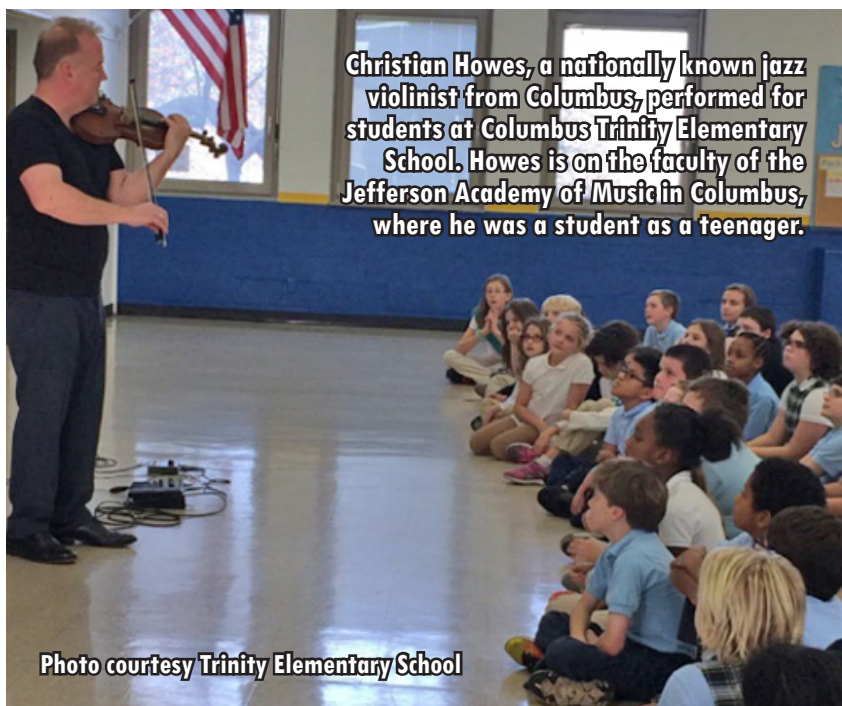
Delaware St. Mary School gifts for homeless

Children at Delaware St. Mary School brought in items for the homeless on the eve of St. Nicholas Day. They put them out with their stockings, and St. Nicholas brought them candy canes in exchange for their donations. The third-grade classes of Nikki Ford and Paige Oman created blessing bags to be passed out to those in need.

Photo courtesy St. Mary School



Trinity students hear Christian Howes



Christian Howes, a nationally known jazz violinist from Columbus, performed for students at Columbus Trinity Elementary School. Howes is on the faculty of the Jefferson Academy of Music in Columbus, where he was a student as a teenager.

Photo courtesy Trinity Elementary School

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Our Lady of Prompt Succor: A Mother Running to Our Aid

Often in my Christian journey, I am reminded that God's timeline is different than mine. While I'm busy praying every prayer I can find, He's at work. The problem, for me, is that I don't always see results immediately.

"Hey God," I call, "it's been a week since I started that novena. I know, a few more days to go. But, well, would You mind sending me a little signal or something?"

The silence that greets me doesn't annoy me quite as much as it used to. I've come to expect it; it's part of the lesson in patience and trust that's going to take me the rest of my life to learn.

In an age of instant communication, I'm not so different from everyone else. When I text a friend, I'll usually have a reply in an hour or less. When I send an email, I can usually expect an answer that day, though I may not say so. When I call someone and leave a message, I know my phone will ring soon with a return call. How can my expectations for God's answers be any different, given the background of today's world?

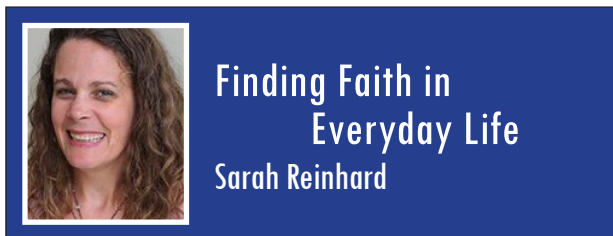
In Our Lady of Prompt Succor, I thought I had found a Mary who was on the express train of my modern day mentality. Prompt, after all, means "instant," right? And "succor" is just another word for "help."

"Woohoo!" I cheered to myself, "I have a new patron!"

Then I realized that Mary has been called Our Lady of Prompt Succor for almost 200 years. Two hundred years ago, instant communication was possible only if you were in the same room as the person you were trying to reach.

Persistence, though, is a powerful motivator, and when coupled with miracles, it seems to grab God's attention and be the secret ingredient behind miracles, sometimes even shaving the wait to nothing.

Our story of persistence and the miracles it started begins in 1727, when French Ursuline nuns arrived in New Orleans, Louisiana, and established a convent



and what remains the oldest school for girls.

In 1800, they faced not only an immense workload: Many of the nuns had fled when the territory went from Spanish to French control, fearing the anti-clerical mentality. After the death of Mother Saint Xavier Farjon, one of the seven who had stayed and a mainstay, they wrote to Mother Saint Michel Gensoul in France, asking for assistance.

It was not a good time to ask for help from France, where the French Revolution was tearing apart the Church and attacking all who were associated with it. The bishop insisted that only the pope could give the approval, and probably thought that was the end of the matter.

Mother Saint Michel, though, was not to be stopped by the impossibility of the situation: Pope Pius VII was held prisoner by Napoleon's forces and no communication could get through. She wrote her letter and took her plea to the Blessed Mother, promising to spread devotion to Our Lady of Prompt Succor if her request was met.

Mother Saint Michel kept the promise she made to Mary, and the statue of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, which is still at the Ursuline convent in New Orleans, came with her when she arrived in Louisiana in 1810. In the last 200 years, Our Lady of Prompt Succor has been given credit for miracles that seem impossible, both for their immediacy and their apparent hopelessness.

We can look to the statue of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, where Mary holds the child Jesus, both of them crowned in gold. Jesus is holding a small globe with a Cross on top. They are looking in different directions, keeping the world under their watch. The crowns tell us that they're in charge, taking care of us, and we can rest easy knowing the whole world is in Jesus' hands even as Mary, His mother, cradles us in her embrace with her Child.

It was as I reflected on the symbolism of this statue, on the visual impact it made on me, that I wondered, suddenly, if "succor" - the word I had equated with "help" - could mean more. Might "succor" also imply this motherly embrace? Could it lead me to reflect more about how I'm held as I wait for an answer to an

urgent request? Was "succor" more than just a two-hundred-year-old way of saying "help"?

As it turns out, one of the longer definitions I found for "succor" has its roots in the Latin succurrere, "to run to the aid of." As I read this, I thought of the time I fell down the stairs in our old farmhouse. They're steep and tricky, nothing like the shallow, gradual inclines found in newer houses. When my foot slipped halfway down, I was carrying my two-year-old daughter in my arms. My first reaction was to shield her, and before I passed out, I asked my husband if she was OK. She was fine, and though I broke my arm, it was a small price to pay for my child's safety.

Mary, as Our Lady of Prompt Succor, is holding Jesus close. He's old enough to wiggle free, to drop the globe He's holding. And though we know He never would, we can rest assured, knowing that Mary is holding Him, surrounding Him - and us - with her motherly embrace. In this image, we have a reminder that Mary will run to our aid in our need, that she will shield us in her arms and hold us close.

Though the divine timeline and mine aren't always the same, encouraging me to continue to grow in patience and trust, I feel comforted knowing that, in those times of great and pressing need, there's an image of Mary to hold me close.

Sarah Reinhard is a Catholic wife, mother, and writer based in central Ohio and employed by Our Sunday Visitor. Get her Catholic take every weekday at <http://bit.ly/TripleTakeOSV>.

St. Francis Outreach Christmas



Every Christmas season, Catholic Social Services' St. Francis Catholic Outreach Center located in Portsmouth collects donations and gifts for families in Scioto County. The Center lies in the heart of one of the poorest counties in Ohio and provides families access to emergency assistance, family strengthening classes, soup kitchen, food pantry, clothing, and post abortion healing support. This year, the collections provided a fun but practical gift for the kids. Pictured in the St. Francis chapel are 100 sleeping bags that were ready to be delivered.

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ST. MARGARET PASTOR, PILGRIMS TRAVEL TO ITALY

By Father Jeff Rimelspach

On Monday, Oct. 2, our group of 16 pilgrims left Columbus, bound for Italy. After a stopover in Newark, New Jersey, we landed in Venice to begin our pilgrimage. Seeing the waterways and canals of Venice inspire wonder at how a city of this size gets by with having waterways for streets and boats for taxis.

St. Mark's Square was dry, which was good, since two weeks earlier, the square had been under water. The Basilica of St. Mark, the patron of Venice, was filled with people and pigeons. The image of the lion abounds in Venice, since the lion is a symbol of St. Mark the Evangelist.

We then went into the Dolomite region of northern Italy, where the white, sparkling mountains with their jagged points presented a beautiful sight. Because of the shifting fortunes of war, this region has belonged to both Italy and Austria over the years and has been part of Italy since World War II. But the people have chosen to identify primarily with their German-Austrian heritage by speaking German and having primarily German architecture in their homes and towns.

When we entered the cathedral in Bolzano, Italy, we were taken aback by a large picture of a man which was hanging in the sanctuary. As we learned from our guide, this man was a native of Bolzano, Josef Mayr Nusser, who earlier in



From left: Beth and Phil Bowen celebrate their wedding anniversary at the Trevi Fountain in Rome; hungry pilgrims share a meal in Bologna, Italy; the pilgrimage group gets ready to enter the Vatican Museum beneath the dome of St. Peter's Basilica.



Photos courtesy Father Jeff Rimelspach

the year was declared "Blessed" by Pope Francis. His remains are buried in the cathedral.

Arriving in Bologna the next day, we went first to the town square. When we arrived, it was filled with thousands of young people dressed in identical T-shirts, singing lively church songs, and dancing. We learned that the Diocese of Bologna was sponsoring a diocesan Eucharistic youth conference that day. I would guess there were more than 3,000 enthusiastic young people filling the square.

Then we proceeded to the Church of St. Dominic, the founder of the Dominican Order. Our group was privileged to have Mass at the altar encasing the remains of St. Dominic. This was a moving experience for all of us.

Next, we went to the small nation of San Marino, located on a beautiful mountain surrounded by Italy, but independent since its inception. We learned about

St. Marinus, who is credited with founding the country in the fourth century. On this clear, sunny day we had a great view for miles around and clearly saw a large portion of the Adriatic Sea coast. That night, we arrived in Cortona, one of the goals of our pilgrimage because it is the home of our parish's patron saint. The next day, we were joined by my classmate in ordination, Father Tim Hayes, who was on sabbatical just outside of Florence for three months. We had arranged ahead of time that he would meet us there, for Cortona is relatively close to Florence.

Father Hayes and I celebrated Mass at the Basilica of St. Margaret, on the highest point of the medieval walled city of Cortona. The Mass was at the altar where Margaret is entombed. This was a special place, where we prayed for all of our parishioners back home at Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church.

After leaving Cortona, we arrived in Assisi on Oct. 8, having just missed the Feast of St. Francis on Oct. 4. Assisi is a lovely town, nestled on a hillside. We visited many churches dedicated to St. Francis and St. Clare, who were both from Assisi. For me, the most meaningful site was the Church of San Damiano, where Francis was praying one day when Jesus spoke to him from the crucifix.

His message was "Francis, repair my church, for it has fallen into ruins." Francis naturally thought God was asking him to repair the specific church building, but God had much greater plans in store. God wanted him to reform the universal church with a vibrant renewal of fervor in the faith. He began the Franciscan Order in Assisi to accomplish that task.

From Assisi, we arrived in the Eternal City of Rome, where the ancient blends into the present. We visited all four major basilicas

– St. Peter's, St. Paul's Outside the Walls, St. Mary Major, and St. John Lateran, the cathedral church of Rome and of the pope.

We were privileged to celebrate Mass with our group in the crypt area of St. Peter's Basilica. Several couples on the pilgrimage were celebrating significant marriage anniversaries. During this special Mass, we celebrated the Order of Blessing Married Couples on the Anniversary of Marriage. Then we went on a tour of the Vatican Museum, which is cavernous with all of its pieces of art, and ended in the Sistine Chapel.

The next day, we saw the Colosseum, the Trevi Fountain, the Pantheon, and the Roman Forum. At the Basilica of St. Mary Major, we celebrated Mass in the crucifix chapel. Then on Wednesday, Oct. 11, we saw Pope Francis at his weekly outdoor audience.

It was a brilliant, clear day, with the sun drenching St. Peter's Square. Our tour guide was able to get our group in the first row behind the barricade where the popemobile would be passing. We were within 12 feet of the pope when he came by. He was filled with joy, which he exuded

to each of us. He offered a reflection on Luke 12:35-36 and its message of the hope that comes from vigilant waiting. As he said, "No night is so long as to forget the joy of the dawn."

Following the audience with the pope, we flew to the island nation of Malta, which was one of the last stops St. Paul made on his final journey that took him to Rome. He was shipwrecked off Malta and spent three months there, as recorded in Acts 27 and 28.

We celebrated Mass at the Grotto of St. Paul in Malta, where Paul lived during his three-month stay

there. Since we had just seen St. Paul's Basilica in Rome, where Paul is buried, it was a moving experience for us. We also learned a great deal about the Knights of St. John in Malta and their role in the Crusades. There were many lovely, panoramic views from the high points on this island in the Mediterranean Sea.

This wrapped up our wonderful pilgrimage, with our faith renewed and deepened. We flew home on Oct. 14. It was a great experience!

Father Rimelspach is pastor of Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church.

PILGRIMS LEARN LESSONS WALKING TO ROME

By Matthew Fowler and Robert Duncan/Catholic News Service

After weeks of navigating difficult terrain, avoiding wild animals and steep cliffs, the devoted pilgrims and hiking enthusiasts who manage to traverse the 155 miles between Assisi and Rome on foot arrive in St. Peter's Basilica and report a special kind of payoff.

"It's very moving when you get there and walk through the doors of St. Peter's," said Bret Thoman, director of St. Francis Pilgrimages. "It's almost like walking from the world into heaven."

The Way of St. Francis is a network of walking trails that connects Assisi to Rome. Created 15 years ago by the government of Italy's Umbria province, it attempts to mirror the path likely trod by St. Francis of Assisi when he went to Rome to meet Pope Innocent III in 1209. The actual historic route remains unknown.

"When you arrive (at St. Peter's), you're usually kind of beat up. You have blisters, your legs are sore, your feet are sore, your joints are sore," Thoman said, but still the pilgrims are grateful for the hard lessons learned along the way.

Deacon Terrance Marcell, a 79-year-old serving at Holy Rosary Parish in Edmonds, Washington, said the challenge of walking the "cammino" -- as it is called in Italian -- gave him a renewed sense of what is truly important in life.

"I'm not going to worry about my golf score any more like I did," he said just before finishing his pilgrimage in late October. "I can think back and realize that

I need a little bit more patience with people, with my family."

Pilgrims encounter true wilderness on the trail to Rome, and Thoman said he prepares them for encounters with the dogs, wild boar, snakes and other creatures that inhabit the Italian forests.

"It's a real-life journey out in nature," said Thoman, who has been organizing Catholic tours of Italy with his wife for the past 15 years.

To keep on schedule, pilgrims walk between nine and 12 miles daily, stopping only to eat and sleep. Many of the pilgrims Thoman leads opt to stay in hotels, since, he says, "after a hard day's hiking most pilgrims have had enough penance."

Marcell said that encountering quaint scenes of rural Italian Catholic life summoned vivid memories of his youth.

"The icons, the little churches and the sanctuaries have brought an image and have reminded me of my roots as a child," he said.

Father Vincent Gilmore, the pastor of Holy Rosary Parish, said that punctuating each day of hiking with the celebration of Mass helped him feel connected to the saints who had taken similar paths throughout history.

"For me, it's a way of joining heaven and earth while I am walking," Father Gilmore said. "In the Eucharist, there is no time, you enter the space of God, which is really outside of time," and therefore it brings together "all the people who have walked these lands in the present."



From top: Pope Francis in the popemobile; Jane Wieland (left), Father Jeff Rimelspach, and Ann Meese at the Colosseum in Rome; Don Schmitt (left) and Jim Bertolino at a statue of St. Francis in Assisi; the "motorcade" of Malta's prime minister; a Pietà in the cathedral of Cortona, Italy.



Ready students collect Angel Tree gifts

Members of the Columbus Bishop Ready High School Student Council led the school's annual Angel Tree drive for the Salvation Army. Gifts were collected by each home room for distribution during the Christmas season.

Photo courtesy
Bishop Ready High School



Bishop visits Our Lady of Bethlehem



Every December, Bishop Frederick Campbell comes to Columbus Our Lady of Bethlehem School and childcare to visit the students from six weeks old to kindergarten age who attend classes there. He explains the history behind his vestments and wears them as he reads the Christmas story from the Gospel of Luke. The students always enjoy hearing the bishop's stories of his childhood and sharing the joy of the season.

Photo courtesy Our Lady of Bethlehem

Flaget robotics team qualifies for district



The Techno Brick Rats, Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School's Lego robotics team, will take part in district competition in Dublin this month after qualifying at a tournament in Grandview Heights. The team meets weekly after school.

Its project, titled "Natural Disaster Purification System," focused on creating a machine which would remove standing water from storm-ravaged areas after hurricanes and floods. The machine, known as a solar panel mobile purification system, takes toxic water and purifies it to be used on site for immediate use.

In addition to presenting the project for judging, students also were judged on their ability to work together as a team, on robot design, and on programming the robots to perform particular missions as assigned by the FIRST Lego League. This year's mission was "Hydro Dynamics." The students

learned about programming logic and robot design and worked to program their robots to complete various tasks.

Each mission completed successfully earned points for the team and added to its overall score. The team is made up of students from grades four to seven. More than 20 students regularly participate in team meetings, but the school may take only 10 students to competition. Third-grade teacher Dianne Cryder has been in charge of the team since 2008. Technology coordinator Sue Blum also works with the team.

Members of the competition team, with their coaches, are (from left): first row, Avery Brown, Ryan Blum, Sam Byrd, Jake Byrd, and Bella Flores; second row, Sue Blum, Meryl Haller, Will Fleck, Faleen Lassen, Alyssa Dudley, Dianne Cryder, and Emma Powers. Photo courtesy Bishop Flaget School

Chaplain says 40 years with Badgers 'a wonderful experience'

By Mary C. Uhler

Catholic News Service

When the Wisconsin Badgers' football team traveled to the Orange Bowl last week to play Miami, accompanying them was Msgr. Michael Burke.

Better known as "Father Mike" to the coaches and players, he has been the team's chaplain for 40 years.

He began working with the team when he was on the faculty of Holy Name Seminary in Madison, Wisconsin. The Badgers used the seminary fields and facilities for their summer training camp for many years.

Father Mike was a faculty member, rector, and vocation director during the years from 1977 until the closing of the seminary in 1995.

He remembers the training camps well. "The team was usually at the seminary for over three weeks," he recalled in an interview with the *Catholic Herald*, newspaper of the Diocese of Madison. "They were locked in and had to stay there the entire time. They certainly got focused, since there were no distractions."

Father Mike believes he was the first team chaplain in the Big Ten Conference. Now, all but three of the schools' teams have chaplains. Ohio State is one of the Big Ten schools that does not have a team chaplain, a team spokesman told the Catholic Times.

Throughout his years as chaplain for the Badgers, Father Mike has offered encouragement and support to the coaches and players of all faiths.

He has performed 104 weddings of players and of coaches and countless baptisms. "They still stay connected with me," he said. "They send lots of pictures."

"Football is very intense," Father Mike observed. "The players have to balance going to school, practicing, and keeping their head straight when they're 18 years old. Many of them have issues with their families."

He said the current head coach, Paul Chryst, and the assistant coaches let Father Mike know if players have personal problems. "It could be a father who's in jail or someone in the family has cancer. I can be there to offer support."

Father Mike said his work with the team is really like being pastor of a parish. "It's very rewarding," he said. "They keep me young."

Father Mike retired in July as pastor of St. Maria Goretti Parish in Madison, where he served since 1996. Since retirement, Chryst told him, "We'll keep you busy."

The priest's encouragement of players "has happened thousands of times," Chryst told the *Catholic Herald*. "Father Mike really helps our team."

Father Mike prays with players of all faiths before



the Badgers' games, including in position groups.

During the games, he stands on the sideline with the players and coaches. He wears a clerical collar, and at the Wisconsin-Iowa game in November, he got hit and knocked down by an Iowa player.

He said the Iowa player noticed his collar and said, "Sorry, Father," and helped him up.

Father Mike said he has been impressed by the spirituality of the Badgers' players and coaches. He said the players' parents have noticed the change in their children, with many of them going to church more frequently.

The coaches and players also put their faith into ac-

tion. This became evident this year when Wisconsin played Florida Atlantic University at the time Hurricane Irma hit Florida.

The Florida Atlantic coaches and players ended up staying in Madison from game day on Saturday until the following Wednesday.

Wisconsin's athletic director, Barry Alvarez, and his wife, Cindy, along with Chryst's wife, Robin, and the wives of other coaches made the Florida Atlantic crew welcome, as did Father Mike himself, who was out every day meeting with the visitors.

"It was impressive to see how we all helped the Florida Atlantic people. Many of them were worried about their families back home. Some of them wrote me thank-you notes when they got back," said Father Mike. "It was a win-win situation all around."

Father Mike believes a lot of Wisconsin's success this past season was due to the strong spirituality among the coaches and players, starting with Chryst, who is Catholic and attributes much of his success as a coach to the influence of his father, the late George Chryst, who died 25 years ago.

Ordained a priest in 1974, Father Mike said he has been happy. "I'm so grateful I had the opportunity to do what God wanted me to do. I've been blessed with wonderful parents, brothers, sisters and friends. I've made so many wonderful friends over the years."

He retired in July but said he's busier than ever, ministering at a Catholic high school as well as at a Catholic-run nursing facility and a hospice. And he still makes time to serve as chaplain of the Badgers' football team.

"It's been a wonderful experience," he emphasized.

The Badgers' coaches and players think he's "the greatest" and hope he stays around for many more years.

St. Andrew candy sale helps Red Cross

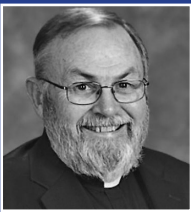


The fifth-grade Challenge group at Columbus St. Andrew School raised \$129.61 for American Red Cross disaster relief efforts by selling candy during lunch periods. The group coordinated, planned, executed, and calculated all the profit from the sale as part of a unit on business and economics. Leftover candy was donated to the Ronald McDonald House. To show its appreciation, the Red Cross printed certificates in each student's name and sent a speaker to the class to explain how the donation would be used. The fifth-grade challenge group includes (from left) Jonny Koeninger, Clare Graczewski, Nora Ott, and MacKenna Barrett. Other members are Quaid Cahill, Mia Fusco, and Arav Fernandes.

Photo courtesy St. Andrew School

The Epiphany of the Lord (Cycle B)

Completing the full story of Christmas



Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

**Isaiah 60:1-6;
Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6;
Matthew 2:1-12**

In Eastern Churches, this is the true celebration of Christmas because the feast focuses on the actual recognition of Jesus as the “born” king of the Jews. This emerges as soon as the “magi from the east” arrive in Jerusalem. They actually ask, “Where is the one who is born king of the Jews?”

That contrasted with Herod, who was *appointed* king of the Jews by the Romans. If one is “born king,” he would take the place of an appointee. That is what later causes Herod such grief, leading him to try to kill the legitimate heir to the throne. This puts a lot of weight on the testimony of the “magi from the east.”

Herod put stock in what they sought by consulting with the chief priests and the scribes about where the Christ (or *anointed one*) was to be born. Kings were **anointed**, not crowned, in the Biblical world, which means Herod knew the implications of one born with the right to be anointed as king. It would have meant that Herod was a pretender to the throne and that the newborn was a threat to his power. The priests answer that he was to be born in Bethlehem, land of

DeSales players sign letters of intent



Three graduating Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School football players signed letters of intent just before Christmas to continue their careers in college. They are (from left): Brandon Derrow, Colorado State; Brian Asamoah, Oklahoma; and Ty Van Fossen, Cincinnati.

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School

Judah. They then quote “the prophet” (Micah 5:2): “And you Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; out of you will come a ruler, who will shepherd my people Israel.”

After this, Herod summons the magi to inquire of them when they had seen the star at its rising. We will return to the star in a moment. Their answer led him to order the deaths of all males two years old and younger in Bethlehem. Alert readers will recall chapter one of Exodus, where the Pharaoh ordered the deaths of all the Hebrew male children at birth. Matthew had this narrative in mind throughout this infancy narrative of the birth of Jesus, continuing it when later the Holy Family flees into Egypt, only to return when Herod dies.

Now it is time to go star-gazing. Many ancient peoples believed stars arose at the birth of great people. They were regarded as signs from the gods of their future greatness. Comets, on the other hand, were regarded as portents of death, usually of reigning monarchs. Efforts have been made since the 17th century to explain what that star might have been, through looking back in time for evidence of the appearance of supernovas or comets that would have appeared in that region. Father Raymond Brown wrote a fascinating book I highly recommend, *An Adult Christ at Christmas*, exploring many of these issues in detail.

Matthew has none of these later reference points when he wrote his Gospel. What he did have was a primarily Jewish Christian audience and the Old Testament Scriptures, in particular Numbers 22-24. In these chapters, a foreign king, Balak, summons a seer from the East, Balaam, to come with the power of a magician to curse the Israelites who were fleeing Egypt. Balaam receives a vision in the night, not to curse the Israelites, but to bless them. In one such blessing, he says in Numbers 24:17: “a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel.”

If this passage inspired Matthew, it fits other themes in the Gospel. It is a likely backdrop for Matthew’s entire Gospel, which saves us searching the heavens looking for clues of what the star’s origin was. Within the Scriptures themselves, Matthew found what he was looking for to parallel Israel’s quest for liberation and freedom during the Exodus journey. The Christians’ link with Judaism is affirmed by tying these ancient themes to the life journey of Jesus – a journey which has its unique dangers, modeled on Israel’s journey from slavery into freedom. In the case of Christ Jesus, the journey is not completed until his resurrection from the dead, which brings life to us all. This then is the full story of Christmas, and makes it easy to see why Eastern Churches celebrate this as the real Christmas. Christ is born, and praise to him!

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

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7 or Acts 10:34-38
Psalm 29:1a,2,3ac-4,3b,9b-10
Mark 1:7-11

TUESDAY
1 Samuel 1:9-20
1 Samuel 2:1,4-8 (Ps)
Mark 1:21-28

WEDNESDAY
1 Samuel 3:1-10,19-20
Psalm 40:2-5,7-10
Mark 1:29-39

THURSDAY
1 Samuel 4:1-11
Psalm 44:10-11,14-15,25-26
Mark 1:40-45

FRIDAY
1 Samuel 8:4-7,10-22a
Psalm 89:16-19
Mark 2:1-12

SATURDAY
1 Samuel 9:1-4,17-19;10:1a
Psalm 19:8-10,15
Mark 2:13-17

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF JANUARY 7, 2018

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 I, Seasonal Proper of the Liturgy of the Hours

Viva Cristo Rey!

In the 1920s, when the United States had a quasi-Stalinist regime on its southern border, “*Viva Cristo Rey!*” was the defiant battle cry of the *Cristeros* who fought the radically secular Mexican government’s persecution of the Church. “*Viva Cristo Rey!*” were likely the last words spoken by Blessed Miguel Pro, SJ, whose martyrdom in 1927 may have been the first in history in which the martyr was photographed at the moment of death. Today, in the United States, “Cristo Rey” has a different, although not wholly unrelated, meaning – for it’s the name of an important experiment in Catholic education for poor children.

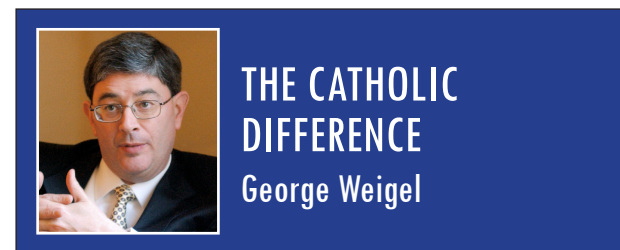
The Cristo Rey network of Catholic high schools, which began in Chicago in 1996, is something different in U.S. Catholic education today. Many Catholic schools are closing because of decreasing enrollments and financial pressures; the Cristo Rey network is opening new schools. Instead of losing students, Cristo Rey is attracting new students. And the Cristo Rey schools are doing this by serving low-income families in inner-city areas, through a distinctive combination of Catholic educational commitment, partnerships with local businesses, and creative financing.

As a recent report by the Massachusetts-based Pioneer Institute put it, Cristo Rey schools “are returning Catholic education to urban areas. In its unique model, students receive a college-preparatory education and participate in a work-study program in which they learn employable skills and earn money to help pay their tuition.” And while other approaches to funding Catholic high schools in inner-urban areas – parishioner tithing, soliciting alumni, raising tuitions, and so forth – have shown what the report delicately calls “uneven” and “disappointing” results, schools in the Cristo Rey Network are experiencing real success: since the first Cristo Rey high school opened in Chi-

cago 21 years ago, 31 other Cristo Rey schools have opened across the country (*one is in Columbus-ed.*), and the network hopes to open eight more by 2020. More than 11,000 students are being empowered in Cristo Rey schools today, and 13,000 have graduated from the schools in the past two decades.

The local business connection is one key to Cristo Rey’s success. As the founder of this remarkable experiment, Father John Foley, SJ, put it, getting high school kids entry-level jobs as part of their education, was, at the beginning, simply a way “to pay the bills.” But then other factors came into play. To cite the Pioneer Institute study again, over time, “the corporate work study program took on a more meaningful, transformative role. It became a self-esteem builder as teenagers saw they were earning money to help pay for their own education. They learned office skills in environments in which many had never envisioned themselves working. And they developed interpersonal skills with people outside their peer networks including supervisors, company presidents, and coworkers.”

All of this was made possible by local businesses that saw the point of giving impoverished local kids whose parents agreed to pay some tuition a chance at higher education; family financial buy-in is as important to the Cristo Rey model as corporate partnerships. Cristo Rey also works because of a more demanding, and lengthy, high school schedule in which the Cristo Rey students work five eight-hour days per month in their jobs while attending classes during a longer



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE
George Weigel

school day (and year), 15 days a month.

It’s real work in the businesses and hard work in class, yet the demands appeal to students. As Father Foley put it, “When you go to any of our schools and say to the kids, ‘What do you like about our school?’ inevitably it’s the job. The kids feel like an adult. They’re treated like an adult. They feel like they’re part of something and they’re taken into account.” And the corporate partners seem to agree: the partnerships have an 88 percent retention rate.

This is Catholic social doctrine – which teaches the empowerment of the poor and the unleashing of their potential – in action. Catholic schools in inner-city America have always been the Church’s most effective anti-poverty program. Keeping those schools alive under very different circumstances than those portrayed in *The Bells of St. Mary’s* means meeting serious challenges through creative educational programs and imaginative funding. The Cristo Rey schools, which are some of the best news in U.S. Catholicism in 2018, are shining examples of both.

Blessed Miguel Pro would approve.

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

Cathedral Healing Mass and service

A Mass of healing and healing service will take place at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 15 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 seeking 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. 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.

For more information, call (614) 224-1295.

PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of heaven, blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in necessity. Oh, star of the sea, help me and show me herein, you are my Mother. Oh, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to secure me in this necessity. There are none who can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my Mother. Oh, Mary conceived without sin, pray for us, who have recourse to thee (repeat three times). Oh, Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hand (repeat three times). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads that I can obtain my goals. You gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me, and in all instances in my life, you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. (this prayer should be said for three consecutive days)

- GW



St. Bernadette students learn about fire safety

Firefighters from Lancaster City Engine Company No. 3 visited the kindergarten class at Lancaster St. Bernadette School to explain the importance of fire safety. The students climbed into the truck and handled the equipment as they learned. Each student received a firefighter’s hat for being so attentive.

Photo courtesy St. Bernadette School

Pray for our dead

BENDER, John G., 85, of Columbus, Dec. 14
St. Michael Church, Hollidaysburg, Pa.

BENEDETTI, Myrna F. (Weethee), 81, Dec. 30
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

BUSCH, Dorothy F. (Lokie), 89, Dec. 16
Immaculate Conception Church, Dennison

CANINI, Patrick J., 76, Dec. 18
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

CHERRY, Mary B. (O'Brien), 89, formerly of Columbus, Dec. 22
St. John Vianney Church, Houston

CONLIN, LaVerne T. (Gray), 88, Dec. 22
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

DENNIS, Alice (Heffron), 74, Dec. 20
St. Joseph Church, Circleville

ECONOMOS, Alice A. (Gottron), 89, Nov. 19
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

FARABAUGH, David F., 83, Dec. 24
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

FELDMEIER, Jeanne R. (Herman), 74, Dec. 20
St. Mary Church, Groveport

GRANNAN, Evelyn (Marbach), 93, Dec. 23
St. James the Less Church, Columbus

GREELY, Wendy L. (Chilelli), 65, Dec. 4
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

HADDOW, Rose M. "Re" (Hanson), Dec. 23
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

HAGMAN, Donald A., 84, Dec. 26
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

HEFNER, Armelene "Gabby," 91, Dec. 17
St. Paul Church, Westerville

HILL, Geraldine C. "Niney" (Kelley), 92, Dec. 27
St. James the Less Church, Columbus

HOOKER, Richard N., 68, Dec. 23
Immaculate Conception Church, Dennison

KAY, Karl E. II, 68, Dec. 25
St. Mary Church, Groveport

KUHN, Stanley C. "Bud," 91, Dec. 25
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

MAGDA, Josephine J., 93, Dec. 23
St. John XXIII Church, Canal Winchester

MESSERLY, Jerome E., 88, Dec. 25
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

MONTE, Joseph, 90, Dec. 21
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

PLUMLEY, Ronald J., 60, Dec. 21
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

RITCHEY, John G., 75, Dec. 22
St. Matthias Church, Columbus

ROGERS, Johanna H. "Anneke," (Welman), 78, Dec. 22
St. Agnes Church, Columbus

SBERNA, Frank, 72, Dec. 21
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

SCHLEUB, Margaret "Carole" (Spires), 79, Dec. 19
Christ the King Church, Columbus

SCHMELTZER, Paul C., 98, Dec. 25
St. Mary Church, Bremen

SHEERAN, David, 53, Dec. 28
St. Rose Church, New Lexington

SNOKE, Virginia S. (Parsons), 91, Dec. 21
St. Mark Church, Lancaster

SNYDER, Rose (Mosbrucker), 96, Dec. 16
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

STEILEN, Theodor H., 74, formerly of Columbus, Dec. 16
St. Margaret Mary Church, Winter Park, Fla.

STULDREHER, Donald J., 82, formerly of Columbus, Dec. 26
St. Pius X Church, Indianapolis

TITKO, Marguerite E. (Petitti), 93, Dec. 22
Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Marysville

WORLEY, Rita M. (Gleich), 92, Dec. 17
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

YOUNG, Jerry R., 76, Dec. 23
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

ZELLERS, Andrew, 41, Dec. 22
Ss. Simon and Jude Church, West Jefferson

Cardinal Law, whose legacy was marred by sex abuse scandal, dies

By Catholic News Service

Cardinal Bernard F. Law, who had been one of the United States' most powerful and respected bishops until his legacy was blemished by the devastating sexual abuse of minors by priests in his Archdiocese of Boston, died on Dec. 20 in Rome at the age of 86.

Before the abuse scandal forced his resignation in 2002, Cardinal Law had been a leading church spokesman on many issues.

Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley of Boston said in a Dec. 20 statement, "As archbishop of Boston, Cardinal Law served at a time when the church failed seriously in its responsibilities to provide pastoral care for her people, and with tragic outcomes failed to care for the children of our parish communities."

Cardinal O'Malley also recognized that his predecessor's death "brings forth a wide range of emotions on the part of many people. I am particularly cognizant of all who experienced the trauma of sexual abuse by clergy, whose lives were so seriously impacted by those crimes, and their families and loved ones. To those men and women, I offer my sincere apologies for the harm they suffered, my continued prayers

and my promise that the archdiocese will support them in their effort to achieve healing."


Cardinal Law's funeral Mass was on Dec. 28 at St. Peter's Basilica. Pope Francis offered a short benediction.

Bernard Francis Law was born on Nov. 4, 1931, in Torreon, Mexico, and was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Natchez-Jackson (now Jackson), Mississippi in 1961. His education included studies at the Pontifical College Josephinum.

He was appointed as bishop of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, Missouri, in 1973 and as archbishop of Boston in 1984, and became a cardinal in 1985.

The collapse of Cardinal Law's authority and status began in January 2002 with the criminal trial of serial child molester John Geoghan, who had been allowed to stay in active ministry for three decades before he was finally removed and subsequently laicized. A series of investigative reports on the issue by *The Boston Globe* made national headlines.

Pope St. John Paul II appointed Cardinal Law in 2004 as archpriest of the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome. He retired in 2011.





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JANUARY

4, 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.

Scripture Study at Columbus St. Patrick

7 p.m., Aquinas Hall, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Part 2 of Scott Hahn's 11-part "The Bible and the Sacraments: A Journey Through Scripture."

614-224-9522

4-6, THURSDAY-SATURDAY

Manger Display and Festival of Trees at Jubilee Museum

10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Jubilee Museum and Catholic Cultural Center, 57 S. Grubb St., Columbus. Mangers at the Museum exhibit of hundreds of Nativity sets from around

the world, plus display of trees decorated by various Columbus organizations. \$10 adults, \$5 seniors and students.

614-600-0054

5, FRIDAY

St. Cecilia Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

St. Cecilia Church, 434 Norton Road, Columbus. Begins after 8:15 a.m. Mass; continues to 5 p.m. Saturday.

Monthly Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Begins after 9 a.m. Mass; continues through 6 p.m. Holy Hour.

All-Night Exposition at Our Lady of Victory

Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8 p.m. until Mass at 8 a.m. Saturday.

6, SATURDAY

Fatima Devotions at Columbus St. Patrick

7 a.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Mass, followed by devotions to Our Lady of Fatima, preceded by confessions at 6:30.

614-240-5910

Mary's Little Children Prayer Group

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. 8:30 a.m., confessions, 9 a.m., Mass, followed by Fatima prayers and Rosary (Shepherds of Christ format); 10 a.m., meeting.

614-861-4888

First Saturday Devotion at St. Joan of Arc

8:30 a.m., St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Mass, followed by rosary in reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, concluding with Fatima prayers.

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.

Lay Missionaries of Charity Day of Prayer

9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Monthly day of prayer for Columbus chapter of Lay Missionaries of Charity.

614-372-5249

First Saturday Mass at Holy Family

9 a.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. First Saturday Mass for world peace and in reparation for blasphemies against the Virgin Mary, as requested by Our Lady of Fatima.

614-221-1890

Bishop Ready Scholarship Exam

9 to 11 a.m., Bishop Ready High School, 707 Salisbury Road, Columbus. Scholarship exam for students who will enter as freshmen in the fall.

614-276-5263

Men's Breakfast With Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers

10 to 11:30 a.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. Men's breakfast with nationally known speaker Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, "the Dynamic Deacon," from Portland, Oregon. Topic: "Men's Spirituality: Spiritual Fatherhood." Registration required.

740-965-1358

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

Deacon Burke-Sivers Preaches at Grove City

5 p.m., Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3730 Broadway, Grove City. Deacon Burke-Sivers preaches the Gospel at Sunday Vigil Mass.

614-875-3322

Talk on Adoration With Deacon Burke-Sivers

6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3730 Broadway, Grove City. Deacon Burke-Sivers speaks on "Come, Let Us Adore Him: The Purpose and Meaning of Eucharistic Adoration."

614-875-3322

Frassati Society Game Night

7 p.m., Party house, Chatham Village, 966 Chatham Lane, Columbus. Game Night with Columbus St.

Patrick Church Frassati Society for young adults. **Filipino Mass at St. Elizabeth**

7:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Mass in the Tagalog language for members of the Filipino Catholic community.

614-891-0150

7, SUNDAY

Deacon Burke-Sivers Preaches at Grove City

8 and 9:30 a.m., noon, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3730 Broadway, Grove City. Deacon Burke-Sivers preaches the Gospel at Sunday Vigil Mass.

614-875-3322

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education

10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Part 5 of seven-part video series on "Wisdom: God's Vision for Life" by Jeff Cavins and Thomas Smith.

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

Talk on the Creed With Deacon Burke-Sivers

7 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers speaks on "Profession of Faith (The Creed): What We Believe and Why."

740-965-1358

Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter

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

706-761-4054

Compline at Cathedral

9 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Chanting of Compline, the Catholic Church's official night prayer.

614-241-2526

8, MONDAY

Discipleship Summit With Deacon Burke-Sivers

6:30 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. Discipleship summit with Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers and Father Paul Noble, St. John Neumann pastor. Registration required.

740-965-1358

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.

9, TUESDAY

Calix Society Meeting

6 p.m., Panera restaurant, 4519 N. High St., Columbus. Monthly meeting of the Calix Society, an association of Catholic alcoholics. Preceded by 5:30 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Peace Church, across street from meeting site.

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

Talk on Catholic Families With Deacon Burke-Sivers

7 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37,

Sunbury. Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers speaks on "Catholic Families: The Model for a Culture of Love and Life."

740-965-1358

10, WEDNESDAY

Center for Dominican Studies Lecture Series

Noon to 12:30 p.m., St. Catherine of Siena Room, Erskine Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Center for Dominican Studies lecture with Sister Doris Regan, OP, speaking on "Mission Across the Miles."

Turning Leaves and Tea Leaves

2 to 3:30 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus. Turning Leaves and Tea Leaves book club with Dominican Sisters Marialein Anzenberger and Colleen Gallagher.

614-416-1910

Alcohol Server Training Program at St. Joan of Arc

2 p.m., Parish hall, St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Ohio Investigative Unit's Alcohol Server Knowledge training program, providing information to parish staff and volunteers about laws and guidelines for serving alcohol at church events. Registration deadline Jan. 5.

614-224-2251

Talk on Catholic Families With Deacon Burke-Sivers

7 p.m., Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3730 Broadway, Grove City. Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers speaks on "Catholic Families: The Model for a Culture of Love and Life."

614-875-3322

11, THURSDAY

Women to Women Listening Circle at Corpus Christi

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Women to Women program for women of all ages and life circumstances. Begins with soup lunch until noon, followed by listening circle. No child care available on-site.

614-512-3371

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.

'Growing in Faith' Talk With Deacon Burke-Sivers

6:30 to 7:30 p.m., St. Francis de Sales Church, 40 Granville St., Newark. Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers speaks on "Growing in Faith."

740-345-9874

Theology on Tap Meeting

7 p.m., St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Theology on Tap discussion and social group for young Catholics, with Bishop Frederick Campbell speaking. RSVP to cbustheologyontap@gmail.com or Columbus Theology on Tap Facebook page.

Awakening Faith Program at St. Paul

7 to 9 p.m., Room 1, lower level, St. Paul Church, 313 N. State St., Westerville. First session of six-week Awakening Faith program for inactive Catholics who wish to reconnect with their Catholic roots.

614-882-2109

12, FRIDAY

Theology of the Body Talk With Deacon Burke-Sivers

7 to 8 p.m., St. Francis de Sales Church, 40 Granville St., Newark. Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers speaks on "Meeting Jesus: Theology of the Body."

740-345-9874

Downtown Serra Club Luncheon

Noon to 1 p.m., St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. Father Stewart Wilson-Smith, CSP, of the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center speaks to Downtown Columbus Serra Club.

614-486-4293

13, SATURDAY

Men's Breakfast With Deacon Burke-Sivers

7 to 8 a.m., St. Francis de Sales Church, 40 Granville St., Newark. Men's breakfast with Deacon Burke-Sivers. Topic: "Men's Spirituality: Spiritual Fatherhood." Registration required.

740-965-1358

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 Doug Bean 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.

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CONCERT

Early Music in Columbus

The 38th season of the Early Music in Columbus concert series continues with Columbus-based ensemble The Early Interval on Friday, Jan. 5 at 8 p.m. at the Huntington Recital Hall on Capital University's campus at College and Main streets in Bexley, and on Sunday, Jan. 7 at 3 p.m. at First Congregational Church, 444 E. Broad St., Columbus. A free pre-concert talk with the artists will begin 30 minutes before each performance.

The program begins with the medieval *Play of Herod*, a 12th-century liturgical "mystery" play that tells the story of the Magi's visit to the infant Jesus in song. Masques were a festive Twelfth Night tra-

dition, beginning in the Renaissance, and reached their height of popularity in the early 17th century. Ben Jonson's *Christmas, his Masque* premiered in 1616 as a lighthearted entertainment. A little more than 400 years later, a fresh interpretation will feature songs and dances by English court composers, including Thomas Campion and Thomas Lupo.

The Early Interval was formed in 1976 and has performed medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque music for audiences all over Ohio and beyond. The ensemble performs vocally and on early wind, string, keyboard, and percussion instruments.



The Early Music in Columbus concert series features regional, national, and international artists who specialize in music from the medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque periods on reproductions of historical instruments.

Tickets are \$30 general admission, \$25 for seniors (ages 62 and up), and \$12 for students. Tickets may be purchased at the door, online at www.earlymusicincolumbus.org, or charged by phone. To order tickets by phone, contact Sarah Hixon at (614) 973-1961.

BOOK REVIEW

Table talk: Author shares stories from his meals with St. John Paul II

By **Cindy Wooden**/Catholic News Service

For 25 years as pope, St. John Paul II would invite people to his table each day -- sharing breakfast, lunch, dinner and conversation with a wide variety of cardinals, bishops, theologians, writers and friends.

George Weigel, the author and scholar, was one of those guests on dozens of occasions. and it was over a meal that he asked Pope John Paul the questions that form the core of *Witness to Hope: The Biography of Pope John Paul II*, published in 1999. The meals and conversations continued, providing information for the sequel, *The End and the Beginning: Pope John Paul II -- The Victory of Freedom, the Last Years, the Legacy*, published in 2010.

His last dinner with St. John Paul was Dec. 15, 2004.

Now Weigel is sharing the mood, anecdotes and reflections on the table talk in the more personal *Lessons in Hope: My Unexpected Life with St. John Paul II*.

"What people really wanted was not more heavily footnoted, annotated scholarly biography," Weigel said. "What people wanted were stories, stories that would make him come alive again."

Interviewed in Rome Dec. 12, Weigel said he decided "to tell the story of our conversations," which took

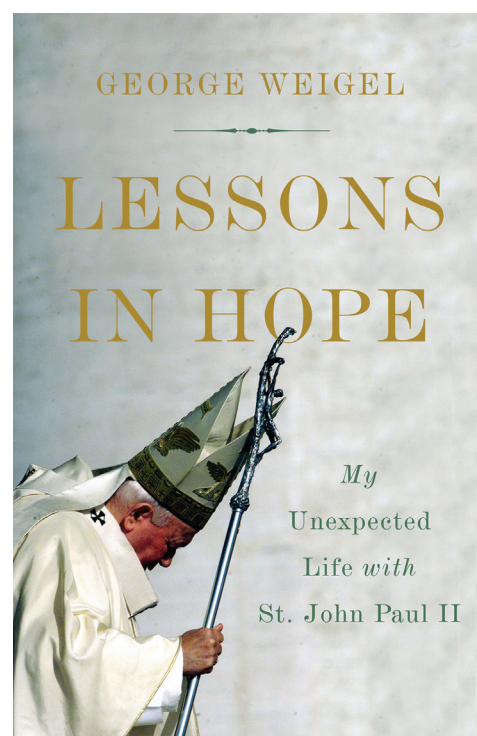
place over a dozen years. But for that to make sense, he said, he also had to write about events and experiences in his life that prepared him to understand the history, philosophy and theology discussed around the table.

Of course, he said, the conversations also included both lighter moments and personal ones, such as when Pope John Paul asked how Weigel's mother was doing after his father died.

Sharing a meal and a table was important to Pope John Paul, Weigel said, because he "understood that a pope who relies only on the official channels of information -- nuncios, Curia, bishops' conferences -- is not going to get all the information he needs because that information is being filtered bureaucratically."

"The table rather than the desk was his favorite point of encounter," the author said.

The conversations gave the pope different points of view on the situation of the church, on issues of theol-



ogy and on political and social realities around the world, Weigel said.

Then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, once told Weigel that "major documents and audience themes would be hashed out over lunches in the papal apartments."

But, he said, at the same time, friendships were very important to him and he made sure to nourish them at the dinner table.

Pope John Paul would ask his guests their opinions about books, films, world leaders and political situations. "He was the most insatiably curious man I have ever met," Weigel said. "He always wanted to know what was happening."

The pope's curiosity, he said, was less a "tic" than a sign that "he really did believe in the providential guidance of history," which meant he needed to stay informed "in order to find the providential footprints."

LESSONS IN HOPE

A RELUCTANT PILGRIM TRAVELS TO THE HOLY LAND

By Aimee Walton

I went kicking and screaming. That is not exactly the start to a positive reflection about a pilgrimage to the Holy Land; however, this is my story and that is how it started. It's funny; the Lord has ideas for me, and, being a petulant child, I am always asking, "Are you sure?" This particular story began many years ago. My mother-in-law, Marlene Walton-Welsh, was an amazing, faith-filled Catholic woman. She traveled to the Holy Land, and when she returned, she said it was her wish for her children to be able to go and experience what she had. Marlene said it had deepened her spiritual life. I enjoyed hearing about her travels through Israel, seeing photos of the sites, and discussing the spiritual aspects of her trip. Yet in my heart, I thought, "That's wonderful for her, but not something I want to do."

Sadly, a little less than six years ago, Marlene was diagnosed with a terminal illness. During that time, she would tell her family, "Go to the Holy Land. It's something you need to do." After she passed away, my husband and I discussed it and decided that we needed to honor her request and go to the Holy Land, along with Marlene's sister, Carole. That is where the kicking and screaming came in. I am a mother of seven children, and at the time, four of them were still school-age. I thought it was irresponsible and risky for me to go to the unstable Middle East with young children at home. Nevertheless, because of my husband's reassurance and persistence, I went on the pilgrimage. It is a good thing I listened to him, because the experience was life-changing.

I am a history junkie at heart, so visiting ruins that were older than the time of Jesus Christ was surreal. One site in particular, Beit She'an National Park, was a settlement that dated back to 6000 BC. To actually stroll down the streets and touch marble and stone that had stood for centuries was astonishing. During our travels, we saw the Roman aqueducts that transported water to the city. Absorbing the immense history was fascinating. At the same time, I recognized that sites like those were engaging because of their history and ability to withstand the elements for thousands of years, not because of their spiritual connection.

I was not sure what to expect when I arrived at the holy sites. My simple brain, with its human skepticism, had trouble wrapping itself around certain places. While the churches were beautiful and the landscape was breathtaking, I wondered how one could be certain that those were the actual sites where Christ was present. Our visit to Capernaum answered some of my skepticism. Over the ruins of an ancient foundation believed to be the house of Peter, a memorial church had been constructed. The floor was glass and allowed visitors to have a bird's-eye view of the ancient house. This site alone caused something small to stir inside me. The following day, the group took a ride on the Sea of Galilee on a replica of a boat from the time of Jesus. My daughter thoughtfully pointed out before we left that "There is no other Sea of Galilee, so Our Lord was in this same place." While we were enjoying the scenery, her words



replayed in my head.

As we made our way into Jerusalem, the affectionate feelings I had about Israel were hard to describe. I knew something profound was beginning to take root in me. Our group journeyed down the Mount of Olives and arrived at the Garden of Gethsemane. The ancient olive trees were behind a gated area for their preservation. As we made our way around them, we found one persistent tree that had grown so far beyond the fencing that pilgrims actually could touch the wood. Despite its gnarled, rough trunk, this area of the tree was as smooth as a newborn baby's skin because of the continual touching of passing pilgrims. As strange as it may seem, the moment I touched the tree, I felt a physical connection to all that I had experienced so far in my journey through the Holy Land.

We entered the Old City of Jerusalem through St. Stephen's Gate. Within the walls, the first place we stopped was St. Ann's Church. While the church was lovely, with its beautiful statue of Our Lady as a young girl, it was a site located just outside that captivated me. This was the pool of Bethesda, and, based on archeological findings, it also was considered an authentic site. We toured many other places in Old Jerusalem, but our last stop of the day at the Western Wall touched me with unexpected profoundness. Also called the Wailing Wall, this small part of the Temple's retaining wall has stood since the time of Herod the Great. It is considered the holiest place for the Jewish people to pray, and prayers of the faithful are inserted into the cracks within the stone blocks. The reverence paid at this site was profoundly moving.

I went on this pilgrimage to honor the request of a woman I loved deeply. I truly did not have any expectations; however, I was surprised at how the pilgrimage moved me once I returned home. I have found that as I read daily devotionals or attend Mass, my experience of the holy sites brings the Scriptures to life. It is almost as



Left: Father David Schalk, Aimee and David Walton. Above: Dominican Sisters Nadine Buchanan (left) and Louis Mary Passeri. Right: Aimee (left) and her Aunt Carole at St. Lazarus Church. Photos courtesy Aimee Walton



if my connection to the Scriptures runs deeper because all my senses have been touched. For me, God works very quietly and subtly. My expectation was that I would go on the trip, experience the sites and the culture of Israel, then return home and check it off my so-called bucket list. But as it has been said before, "If you want to make God chuckle, tell him your life plans." Something was planted in my heart on that visit and took root. When we returned home, I told my husband that we needed to go back and share this experience with others. I recognized the change I felt in my life, and I knew that I wanted that for others. Since that first hesitant visit, I have gone to the Holy Land twice, with another trip planned in February. As part of those trips, my husband and I have led over 70 people on pilgrimage. Someone who made the last pilgrimage with us asked me what my favorite site in Israel was. My response without batting an eye was "Your face." Leading others to Israel's Holy Land is such a tremendous blessing.

Aimee and David Walton continue to lead pilgrimages to the Holy Land. If you have an interest in traveling to Israel, contact her at (740) 225-6136.

OUR LADY OUTREACH NETWORK TAKES THIRD TRIP TO MEXICO

The Our Lady Outreach Network of Chillicothe St. Peter Church took its third annual mission trip to Mexico this summer, visiting the *Rancho de Los Ninos* Orphanage in the Guadalupe Valley of the province of Baja California.

“Much was done, many relationships were cultivated, and seeds of hope for a better future were sown in the hearts of the children and the pilgrims,” said Bob Dye, one of the founders of the network.

Father Michael Hartge, parochial vicar of St. Peter, Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne, Waverly St. Mary, and Zaleski St. Sylvester churches, and Father Joseph Klee of Columbus Sacred Heart Church were the pilgrimage’s spiritual leaders. The mission trip also included a tour of Mexico City and the celebration of Mass at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The group then traveled to Tijuana, where it joined with more pilgrims from the Chillicothe parish.

“We spent some time at the Tijuana border fence that divides the United States and Mexico and observed firsthand the heartbreaking reality of the separated families who meet there in hopes of seeing a loved one,” Dye said.

Funds the network has raised for the orphanage have provided for the filing of legal documents so the orphanage can be certified by the government; building repair and maintenance; installation of 14 new beds in a dor-



From left: Father Joseph Klee, Father Michael Hartge, Sister Lineta Mary, FIH, and Mary Ann McNichols of Chillicothe.

Photos courtesy Bob and Kathy Dye

mitory for special-needs children; and installation of 33 solar panels, which has cut the orphanage’s electric bill in half.

An Oktoberfest and five-kilometer run sponsored by the network raised \$3,500 for more improvements to the orphanage and the continuing education of its 75 children. An additional \$2,000 from the event will be used to build a school in India’s Kerala province for the Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, a religious order with four sisters serving in Chillicothe.

The network is planning to go to Puebla, Mexico, in 2018 for a return trip to the *Mater Filius* house for expectant mothers, which the group first visited in 2016. A re-enthronement of the house to the Sacred Heart of Jesus will be part of the visit.

The pilgrimage also will include a



Children of Rancho de Los Ninos Orphanage with new backpacks on first day of school.

visit to *Una Nueva Esperanza* (A New Hope), a hospice for children suffering from leukemia. The hospice cares for children and one accompanying adult family member during the often-prolonged stay required for leukemia treatments.

The pilgrims also will visit a senior citizen center, an orphanage, and the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, where Mass will be celebrated by Fa-

ther Sean Dooley, another parochial vicar for the parish consortium that includes St. Peter. Some members of the group will make a return visit to *Rancho de Los Ninos* to further strengthen the parish’s bond with the orphanage.

A trivia night, featuring a macaroni cookoff, will take place at the parish, 118 Church St., on Saturday, Jan. 27 to raise funds for the pilgrimage.



Pilgrims on their last day in Baja California.



Chillicothe pilgrims at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe.