



DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

CATHOLIC TIMES

A journal of Catholic life in Ohio

MARCH 4, 2018
THE THIRD WEEK OF LENT
VOLUME 67:22



STATE FAIR BUILDING BECOMES WORSHIP SITE
AT ANNUAL CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

Editor's reflections by Doug Bean, Editor

Christ's true presence makes marvelous deeds possible

Ordinary people do extraordinary things.

We know that some of the saints were able to accomplish supernatural feats, but mere mortals also are doing amazing work every day in the world around us.

Take Chase Mitchell, for example. The fifth-grader at Columbus St. Mary School in German Village has used his birthday and Christmas money and inspired others to donate to the fund to repair the historic parish church, which was significantly damaged by a lightning strike in August 2016. (Read more on Page 8).

Organizers and founders of the Columbus Catholic Men's and Women's Conferences, which took place during the past two weekends at the state fairgrounds, took an idea and turned those events into the largest of their kind in the United States. (See stories and photos from the men's conference on pages 10 to 13). More than 3,000 people attended each conference to listen to inspiring speakers, have the privilege of attending Mass celebrated by Bishop Frederick Campbell, and go to one of many priests from the Diocese of Columbus for confession.

There are enough stories of everyday people performing acts of charity to fill an entire newspaper each week. We should give thanks and praise to all those who serve God in humble ways – in our churches and schools, as missionaries, caring for the elderly and infirm, in soup kitchens and shelters, in public service, in the military, in the domestic church of the home, and especially those who never will receive an award or any recognition in the media.

Some of those deeds require individuals to pick up and carry heavy crosses that can seem almost unbearable, whether it's the death of loved ones close to us, drug or alcohol addiction, family members gone astray, or something else. But it's heartening to hear the words of Our Lord in the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans (8:31-32), which

was read this past weekend during the Second Sunday of Lent:

“Brothers and sisters, If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed Him over for us all, how will He not also give us everything else along with Him?”

He gives Catholic priests the extraordinary gift, through the power of the Sacrament of Holy Orders, to transform simple bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Our Lord every day at Masses throughout the globe. Christ comes among us as bread from heaven and is really present in the holy Eucharist.



At the men's and women's conferences, it is always a sight to behold when thousands of Catholics kneel on the hard floors in reverence during the Eucharistic processions or before the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle during Adoration.

Last Sunday's second reading from St. Paul to the Romans continues (verses 33-34): “Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died – or, rather, was raised – who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.” We just need to ask for divine assistance.

We've heard it said many times that Christ is waiting for us to visit Him. We also hear people say they don't need to go to a church to pray. It is true that prayers can and should be said anywhere. But when you think about the awesomeness of Jesus coming among us in His body, blood, soul, and divinity in our Catholic churches, why would anyone not want to be with Him as long as they're physically able?

A recent convert put it this way: “I learned of what Adoration was and thought, ‘I want to go sit with Jesus. I should go try that! So I began a weekly time of visiting Eucharistic Adoration, which eventually led to visiting many Mass services because I was hungry for more of the peace that I was experiencing in Adoration. I wanted more of Jesus.’”

As Catholics continue on their Lenten journey and meditate on Christ's death and resurrection, may God fuel a desire in each of us to want more of Him.

Right: A monstrance with the Body of Christ is positioned in front of the tabernacle for Eucharistic Adoration at the Columbus Catholic Men's Conference. CT photo by Ken Snow



Front Page photo:
Men attending the Catholic Men's Conference at the state fairgrounds on Saturday, Feb. 24 kneel before receiving the Eucharist at the Mass which closed the event.

CT photo by Ken Snow

CATHOLIC TIMES

Copyright © 2018. All rights reserved.
Catholic Times (USPS 967-000) (ISSN 745-6050) is the official newspaper of the Catholic Diocese of Columbus, Ohio. It is published weekly 45 times per year with exception of every other week in June, July and August and the week following Christmas. Subscription rate: \$25 per year, or call and make arrangements with your parish. Postage Paid at Columbus, OH 43218.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Catholic Times, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus, OH 43215. Please allow two to four weeks for change of address.

Bishop Frederick F. Campbell, DD, PhD ~ President & Publisher
Doug Bean ~ Editor (dbean@columbuscatholic.org)
Tim Puet ~ Reporter (tpuet@columbuscatholic.org)
Alexandra Keves ~ Graphic Design Manager
(akeves@columbuscatholic.org)

Mailing Address: 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215
Editorial/Advertising: (614) 224-5195 FAX (614) 241-2518
Subscriptions (614) 224-6530 FAX (614) 241-2573
(subscriptions@columbuscatholic.org)

A REGULAR CLEANING OF YOUR SOUL

By Father Geoffrey A. Brooke Jr.
Catholic News Service

As a child, I always disliked going to the dentist. As an adult, I can't say I'm excited to go to the dentist, but I still make time to go. Even though it's not our favorite, we still go.

Now contrast that with going to confession. If we don't see the value in going to confession, or we don't like it, then most adults just stop going. So what has to change? Perhaps we need to all grow in our understanding of the sacrament of reconciliation. Can going to the dentist give us a clue?

One of the first questions people ask is "Why do I have to go to a priest?" We are confessing our sins not so much to the priest, but rather to God. The priest acts in the person of Christ, and furthermore represents the church, so that the penitent may be reconciled to both God and the church.

If one has a toothache, one goes to the dentist, not a car salesman. Why? Because the dentist is trained and prepared to cure you. God desires to heal you from your sins, and the priest has been entrusted by the church to carry out that ministry.

I've had a lot of dentists. Some I liked more than others. That's natural, but regardless of whether I liked the dentist or not, when I needed dental care, I went.

One of the things that can hold us back from the sacrament of reconciliation is our relationship with the priest. Sometimes, if we've had a bad experience with a priest, unlike the dentist, we just stop going.

If there is more than one priest in your parish or area, it's OK to prefer one over another, but it's not OK to not go at all because you don't like one. It's not about you and the priest; it's about you and your relationship with God.

When asked why people don't go to confession any more, I respond, "Because people don't sin any more." One of the realities of a society that follows the dictatorship of relativism and denies both sin and its consequences is that there is no longer the "need" to go to confession.

If you haven't done anything wrong, then why do you need to go to confession? We cry out that something is



wrong if it hurts or offends someone. If no one is hurt or offended, then it must be OK for me to do.

We forget that sin always offends God and it damages the communion of the church. Denying the existence of sin and the need for confession is like saying we don't need to go to the dentist because we don't have teeth.

The connection with the dentist is nothing new, as the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* recalls, St. Jerome once quipped more than 1,600 years ago, "for if the sick person is too ashamed to show his wound to the doctor, the medicine cannot heal what it does not know" (No. 1456).

This is why when confessing sins to the priest, we must tell all of them. God wants to heal you from your sins, all of them. It's important to state the type of the sin and how many times. Be specific, but not too detailed.

Don't just say, "bad thoughts." Those could be so varied, from someone struggling with depression, to lustful thoughts, to anger or something else. Mentioning the number not only keeps nothing hidden, but there's a difference between a bad habit and a one-time mistake.

Dentists recommend a regular cleaning every six months. The church places the obligation of going to confession at least once a year, or before receiving Communion any time we've committed a mortal sin. Even if you aren't having any pain, you still go see the dentist every six months

to clean away all the slow buildup. If you are having a toothache, you go right away.

The same is true with our sins. We go any time we've committed a mortal

sin, but we can also go to be cleansed of the slow accumulation of venial sins.

Dentists encourage daily brushing and flossing. To be better prepared to make a good confession, make an examination of conscience; do so daily, not just as you're rushing from your car to the confessional. Additionally, go to confession not once a year, but once a month, to be cleansed of the sins that are building up and bearing you down.

The sacrament of reconciliation isn't about God condemning us for our sins, nor is it about the priest; rather, it's an invitation to be healed by God's mercy. When we hold nothing back and regularly seek out the love of God that is waiting for us, it will not seem so scary at all.

You might just walk out of the confessional happy and, dare I say, smiling. Just make sure you see your dentist, too, so that smile is nice and bright.

Father Brooke is a priest of the Diocese of Jefferson City, Missouri.

SEVEN STEPS TO A BETTER CONFESSION

Catholic News Service

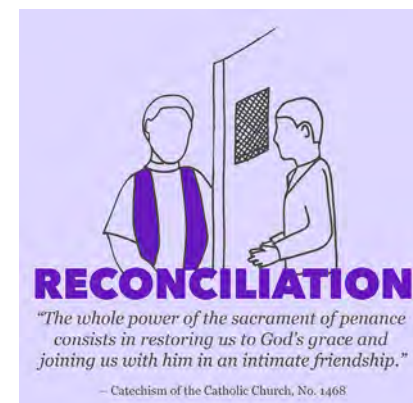
Whether it's been a while since your last confession or you go regularly, Father Geoffrey A. Brooke Jr. has seven tips to make the experience more fruitful.

Prepare with an examination of conscience. "Just as it is with tests and interviews, so it is also true with confession," Father Brooke says. "It is best to prepare." Examinations of conscience can be found on diocesan websites or the U.S. bishops' website (www.usccb.org).

Arrive early. "Confessions are no different than life. 'You snooze, you lose,'" says Father Brooke. Get there early to avoid a long line so you don't feel rushed, he adds.

Be specific, but not too detailed. "The church asks us to confess our sins in both kind and number," Father Brooke explains, but that doesn't mean providing unnecessary information.

Remember, it's not a counseling office. If you walk out of confession saying the priest's advice was terrible and questioning the value of the sacrament, then there's a problem, says Father Brooke. "If you need counseling, make an appoint-



ment with the priest. If you want God's healing grace, go to confession."

Try not to overexplain. You don't have to explain the theology behind why what you did is a sin, Father Brooke says. But if you're unsure, it's better to ask.

Go regularly. Father Brooke recommends going to confession once a month so that individuals "grow in self-awareness and in their relationship with God."

Fear not. Don't worry, Father Brooke says "the priest doesn't desire to remember your sins." Focus on the bigger picture and "be not afraid of receiving God's merciful love."



St. Anthony students mark 100 days of school

Columbus St. Anthony School kindergarten and first-grade students celebrated the 100th day of the school year by counting, playing, painting, and creating with 100 items to celebrate working hard, getting up early, and following all the rules of school. Shown with a tower of 100 Solo cups are (from left): Gabriella Achempong, Dylan Hernandez, Smith Acha, Lennox Osang, and Rashid Kargbo.

Photo courtesy St. Anthony School

ODU to host Vatican observatory director

Ohio Dominican University will welcome Brother Guy Consolmagno, SJ, on Tuesday, March 20 as he presents a talk on "Religion, Science and the Common Good," sponsored by the Center for Dominican Studies, at 7 p.m. in the Colonial Room in Sansbury Hall on ODU's campus, 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

Brother Consolmagno is the director of the Vatican Observatory and president of the Vatican Observatory Foundation. He is widely published in a variety of academic journals, having written extensively on the topics of astronomy, faith, and science. His research explores the connections between meteorites and asteroids, and the origin and evolution of small bodies in the solar system.

He previously was an assistant professor of physics at Lafayette



College in Easton, Pennsylvania, and on the governing boards of many professional organizations. After taking vows as a Jesuit brother in 1991, he studied philosophy and theology at Loyola University in Chicago and physics at the University of Chicago. He was assigned to the Vatican Observatory in 1993.

He received bachelor of science and master of science degrees in planetary science from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and a doctorate in planetary science from the University of Arizona. He also has received honorary doctorates from Georgetown University and Santa Clara University and was awarded the Carl Sagan Medal for communication to the general public by the American Astronomical Society's planetary sciences division.

Ohio Dominican receives gift for theater restoration

Ohio Dominican University has received a \$75,000 donation from Huntington Bank to help restore and modernize its historic performance arts venue, the Sister Mary Andrew Matesich, OP Theater, located inside Erskine Hall on ODU's campus at 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

The donation enables the university to begin phase two of its \$1 million theater renovation project. Crews will begin restoring the theater's plaster and woodwork, painting its walls, and making other critical repairs and updates this summer. Completion of phase two is anticipated in December.

"Huntington's generous gift enables us to embark on a particularly exciting phase of this project – one in which we will witness our beautiful theater brought back to life," said Dr. Robert A. Gervasi, ODU president. "We are extremely grateful to all who have supported the project, including corporate partners like Huntington, who recognize the importance of preserving historic venues such as our theater and who appreciate the outstanding education that Ohio Dominican offers its students."

"We're very pleased to help preserve

this historic treasure and gathering place for the Ohio Dominican campus community," said Sue Zazon, Huntington Bank central Ohio president. "The Matesich Theater is a one-of-a-kind venue for inspiring intellectual curiosity and creativity, and we look forward to helping the university restore the theater to its former glory as a renowned destination for prominent speakers, conferences, and the arts."

The university is raising funds to complete phase three of the theater renovation, which will involve replacing carpeting and seats. ODU welcomes anyone who desires to contribute at ohiodominican.edu/Theater.

Built in 1929, the Matesich Theater provides a venue for creativity, culture, discussion, and debate. For 89 years, it has hosted national speakers and world-renowned lecturers, convocations, concerts, musical presentations, book launches, international programs, commencements, and additional important events. It has a capacity of 798 people. After the renovations are completed, capacity will be 646. It was named in 2002 for Sister Mary Andrew Matesich, OP, who was ODU's president from 1978 to 2001.

160th Anniversary of the Apparition of Lourdes

64th ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE

LOURDES, NEVERS, PARIS

GAVARNIE & ST. JEAN DE LUZ

JULY 1 – JULY 11

Accompanied by :

Clergy, Medical Staff & Volunteers to Assist Pilgrims

Deadline for Reservations March 30th

CATHOLIC TRAVEL

1-877-276-7279,

EMAIL: lourdespilgrimageoffice@comcast.net

Website: lourdes-pilgrimage.com

Local Contact: Linda Woolard

Email: lindawoolard@windstream.net

Tel: 740 323-3105



Events at Immaculate Conception

Columbus Immaculate Conception Church, 414 E. North Broadway, will host a mission on the theme of “Hope” from Sunday, March 4 to Tuesday, March 6 at 7 p.m. and will present the second of three sessions in its “Modern Face of Addiction” series on Monday, March 12 at the same time.

Demystifying the key aspects of hope will be the focus of the three mission talks to be given by Father Charles Shonk, OP, parochial vicar of Columbus St. Patrick Church, a frequent contributor to St. Gabriel Catholic Radio AM820’s *Domini-can Dimension* program.

Drawing from Scripture and Catholic teaching, Father Shonk will address questions such as “What is hope?” “Do you need it?” “Will it make you happy?” and “How do you get more of it?”

Arming parents with the knowledge and tools necessary to keep their children safe in a digital society is the topic of the second part of the “Modern Face of Addiction” series.

Jesse Weinburger, a nationally recognized internet safety expert and author of *The Boogeyman Exists: And He’s in Your Child’s Back Pocket*, will be the featured speaker, covering topics such as understanding the basics of social media, cyberbullying, sexting, sexual predation and sextortion; understanding the most popular apps and how they might affect a child’s safety; digital parenting and how parents are accidentally complicit; and much more.

No children will be allowed in the presentation space at Marian Hall for this event, sponsored by the parish’s home and school association.

Traveling in time to ancient Egypt

Columbus St. Andrew School sixth-grade students embarked on a journey of self-directed learning by doing research on the pharaohs and gods of ancient Egypt. Each student chose a god or pharaoh, researched, and created a historically accurate 3-D sarcophagus with designs that demonstrated the chosen subject’s importance. Some even went so far as to complete their sarcophagi with a true “mummy.” Pictured are (from left) Julien Brandon, Marie Rudzinski, Ellie Moore, Ella Ruhe, and Nicholas Scharfenberger.



Each student chose a god or pharaoh, researched, and created a historically accurate 3-D sarcophagus with designs that demonstrated the chosen subject’s importance. Some even went so far as to complete their sarcophagi with a true “mummy.” Pictured are (from left) Julien Brandon, Marie Rudzinski, Ellie Moore, Ella Ruhe, and Nicholas Scharfenberger.

Photo courtesy St. Andrew School

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

DIRECTOR OF LITURGY & MUSIC MINISTRY

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

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

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

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

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

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

Send resume with cover letter to:

dFrea@OurLadyOfPerpetualHelp.net

Men may now join Knights online

The Knights of Columbus, the world’s largest Catholic fraternal organization, is allowing eligible Catholic men to join the organization online.

The new membership program is the result of listening sessions and surveys of members and nonmembers. The research discerned a desire for a new way to join the Knights, one that offers members a digital experience of the order.

It will do so while allowing the Knights’ practices and traditions to remain intact, including the structure of local councils and the various degrees members may attain.

“The online membership experience is tailored to younger potential members, reflecting society’s expanding digital footprint, which we seek to employ as part of our long-term growth strategy,” said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson.

“It allows a faster way to become a Knight, along with access to a wealth of digital content that promotes growth and engagement. The virtual can become more concrete as the online member deepens his faith, then moves into more active participation in his parish and community. This comes with the ability for him to transfer to local council

membership.”

The digital experience for online members includes faith formation, access to relevant literature on the Knights’ insurance program, opportunities to get involved in local charitable programs, and news updates on the order’s efforts to advance the pro-life cause, religious liberty, and family values.

Online members also receive regular newsletters from the Knights’ headquarters in New Haven, Connecticut, on a variety of topics, with resources and information that will help members lead with faith, protect their families, serve others, and defend their values.

The Knights of Columbus was founded in 1882 by Venerable Father Michael McGivney in New Haven.

The organization was formed to provide charitable outreach and care for the financial well-being of Catholic families, focusing on the protection of widows and orphans and on strengthening the faith of its members. It has grown to include almost two million members worldwide.

The Knights set a record for charitable donations in 2016, with more than \$177.5 million in donations and more than 75 million hours of service valued at \$1.8 billion.

Sidewalk ashes? Where to get married?



QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. After receiving ashes at an Ash Wednesday morning Mass, I returned home and turned on the television news. It showed some priests in a neighboring town who were out on the sidewalk in front of their church marking with ashes the foreheads of any interested lunchtime passer-by.

They were in priestly vestments and their church had a saint's name, but is this a Catholic practice? Aren't Catholics supposed to attend Mass to get their ashes? (New Middletown, Indiana)

A. I am wondering whether the clergymen you saw on television may not have been Catholic. I say that because this year in my own neighborhood, two Protestant ministers unpacked their jars of ashes as they stood on a downtown street corner and called out courteously to those who walked by, "Free ashes for Ash Wednesday. Would you like ashes and a prayer?"

I have also read that, for the last 12 Ash Wednesdays, a group of Protestant clergy in St. Louis have offered "drive-through" ashes in car windows to drivers who stopped at a downtown intersection.

But as a spokesman for the St. Louis Archdiocese explained, that is not the common practice of Catholics. "For us," he said, "Ash Wednesday is

a time to slow down and assess your spiritual life. So taking time out and going to Mass or a service is an important part of that."

I have at times given ashes to people in other settings whose work schedules on that day made it difficult for them to come to church, but my strong preference (and the Catholic Church's) is to do this at Mass -- remembering, too, that the Eucharist is of course even more important than the ashes.

Q. My daughter is soon to be engaged to a young man who attends a Lutheran church. She has received all of her Catholic sacraments and attends Mass regularly. Now she is in turmoil about where to get married.

Her future in-laws are expecting them to marry in his hometown Lutheran church, where his family are adamant members -- and that is the town where the couple expect to settle and raise their family.

I am wondering what the Catholic Church's guidelines are and how she can be married with the blessing of the Catholic Church. Whenever we try to discuss the matter, my daughter ends up in tears.

She doesn't want to convert to Lutheranism, and she doesn't want to disappoint her own family or his. Can you offer any

insight that might help? (central Minnesota)

A. Please relax, and have your daughter do the same. The solution is right at hand. Your daughter can be married in her husband's Lutheran parish church and still have the marriage recognized and blessed by the Catholic Church.

She and her fiance would need simply to meet with a local Catholic priest sometime ahead of the wedding to do the necessary paperwork in applying for the Catholic diocese's permission.

The priest will explain that your daughter will need to promise to continue to be faithful to her own Catholic faith and practice and that she will do all she reasonably can, within the context of the marriage, to see that any children are baptized and brought up as Catholic.

Her husband will not need to promise anything, but simply be aware that this is the commitment your daughter is making. If they would like, they can even ask a Catholic priest or deacon to participate in the marriage ceremony -- perhaps sharing some of the prayers or readings with the Protestant clergyman.

In circumstances like these, a wedding ceremony that is mutually agreed upon and mutually planned can do a lot to bring two families into a deeper harmony at an important time.

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

Ready 'Gifts of the Heart' honorees

Columbus Bishop Ready High School seniors Daniel Houston and Jaide Lehnert received the school's Gifts of the Heart award on Ash Wednesday. The award is given annually to one or more seniors by the Student Council in recognition of service given above and beyond the school's service requirements.

Houston was honored for his work with the Run the Race Club, which provides programs that promote personal and educational achievement, along with healthy snacks and meals, to children on the west side of Columbus.

"Something I have been taught at Run the Race is to take the initiative," he said. "The best leaders are proactive. They don't wait for someone else to tell them what to do. They find and solve problems and meet and create challenges. ... Service is not about just getting your hours done. It's about changing someone's life and making a differ-



ence for the better."

Lehnert has volunteered for several organizations and talked about her activities with the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio. "Over my four years at Bishop Ready, I have learned not to complete my service hours for a grade, but instead provide my time to change and help the lives of others," she said. "I have met some of the most incredible people and have learned an abundance of life lessons to carry with me forever."

Photo courtesy Bishop Ready High School

Our Lady of Bethlehem open house

Columbus Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Childcare, 4567 Olentangy River Road, will host an open house from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, March 7.

The school serves children from six weeks old through kindergarten during the school year, as well as offering before- and after-school child care. It also has a summer program for children in preschool through grade six.

Its mission since its founding in

1956 has been to provide exceptional faith formation and early education in a safe, nurturing community to each student and family it serves.

Our Lady of Bethlehem's programs foster optimum growth, development, and academic success in each young child. The school's unique blend of tradition, proven curriculum, and individualized care and education give children a strong foundation for lifelong learning.

Christ Child Society day of reflection

Women of the diocese are invited to attend a day of reflection sponsored by the Christ Child Society of Columbus on Wednesday, March 21 at Columbus St. Andrew Church, 1899 McCoy Road.

The day starts at 8:30 a.m. with morning refreshments. Guest speaker Pam Heil will talk about "Living a Life of Authentic Love". There will be time for group dis-

cussions and lunch, and the day will end with Mass.

The cost is \$35. Register by sending a check payable to the Christ Child Society of Columbus and mailing it with your name, address, phone number, and email address to CCS Day of Reflection, 1835 Hickory Hill Drive, Columbus, OH 43228, or register online at www.christchildssociety.org by Monday, March 5.

Columbus Catholic Renewal sponsors retreat

Columbus Catholic Renewal is sponsoring its annual men's and women's retreat, with the theme "Reflections on Our Journey in Faith," from 6 p.m. Friday, March 16 to noon Sunday, March 18 at St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. The retreat will be led by Walter Matthews, who has been involved with the Catholic charismatic renewal for more than 40 years.

In 1990, Pope St. John Paul II appointed Matthews to a five-year term as a member of the Pontifical Council for the Laity, the Vatican department at the direct service of the pope, in charge of promoting participation of the laity in the Catholic Church's life and mission. In 1994, he served a term as an adviser to the U.S. Bishops' Committee on the Laity.

He has spoken at conferences and retreats throughout the United States, Canada, Jamaica, Trinidad, and Japan. He will lead participants in a soulful search of their spiritual journey to a climactic session, "Encountering Jesus Christ in the Power of the Holy Spirit."

The retreat includes Mass on Friday and a Saturday Vigil Mass, an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, five talks, prayer ministry, and fellowship. The cost is \$150 for singles and \$200 for married couples and includes overnight accommodations and five meals. The cost for commuters is \$90 for singles and \$160 for married couples with all meals included; with no meals, it is \$50. Scholarships may be offered based on need and availability.

Columbus Catholic Renewal, also known as Catholic Charismatic Renewal, Inc., is under the authority of Bishop Frederick Campbell through his appointed liaison, Father Dean Mathewson. For information or a registration form, visit www.ccrco-lumbus.org or call (614) 500-8178.

Information meeting on Lourdes pilgrimage

An informational meeting for a pilgrimage celebrating the 160th anniversary of the apparitions at Lourdes will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 7 in the lounge area of Granville St. Edward Church, 785 Newark-Granville Road.

Father Michael Mary Dosch, OP, and Father Joseph Allen, OP, will be the spiritual directors for the pilgrimage, which will take place from Sunday, July 1 to Wednesday, July 11, and will be sponsored by the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office of Catholic Travel in Rockville, Maryland. The pilgrimage will travel to Lourdes, Nevers, Paris, Gavarnie, and St. Jean de Lux, France.

Pilgrims who just returned from Lourdes will talk about their trip at the informational meeting.

Refreshments will be served. Those wishing to attend are asked to RSVP to Linda Woolard at (740) 323-3105 or lindawoolard@windstream.net.

SORTING THROUGH "SOLUTIONS" TO THE HIV/AIDS PANDEMIC



MAKING SENSE Out of Bioethics

Father Tad Pacholczyk

Each year, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infects about 50,000 people in the United States and more than two million worldwide. Reducing the number of infections with this virus, which causes AIDS, is a high priority for public health officials. However, some strategies to reach this goal raise significant moral concerns.

These concerns arise when experts seek to reduce infection rates by assuming that men and women lack the freedom to change their sexual behaviors or exercise self-control, when they fail to acknowledge that self-restraint is possible and morally required, especially in the face of life-threatening disease.

One strategy for trying to control the pandemic includes "pre-exposure prophylaxis," or PrEP, which involves an uninfected person taking a daily dose of the drug Truvada, an anti-retroviral medication. When someone takes the Truvada pill each day and later is exposed to HIV through sex or injectable drug use, it can reduce the likelihood that the virus will establish a permanent infection by more than 92 percent. While the drug may have side effects, it is generally well-tolerated.

Many activists in the gay movement have argued that PrEP should be widely available and promoted, though other activists strongly disagree. AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) founder Michael Weinstein has stressed, for example, that there are likely to be compliance issues. When someone is required to take a regimen of drugs every day in order to be protected, he argues, it is reasonable to expect that some will fail to do so. A 2014 article in *The Advocate*, a gay news outlet, notes that,

"When asked why so few people have started PrEP, experts give plenty of reasons — cost, worries about long-term effects, and lack of awareness about the regimen itself among both doctors and patients are chief among them. But one top reason is the stigma of using PrEP. Weinstein's name and the name of his organization, AHF, have become synonymous with the stigma surrounding PrEP use. In an April Associated Press article, Weinstein declared that PrEP is 'a party drug,' giving license to gay and bisexual men to have casual, anonymous sex. He's called it a 'public health disaster in the making,' as his oft-repeated argument is that the most at-risk people will not adhere to taking a pill each day."

These compliance concerns have led some researchers and clinicians to look into the possibility of one-time "disco dosing," in which an individual would take the medication, in a high dose, prior to each anticipated "risky weekend."

There are other problems with PrEP as well. Some researchers have noted that once people start on the drug, their risk compensation changes, meaning they engage in more sex with "non-primary partners." Even if PrEP reduces rates of HIV infection, as studies have suggested, the incidence of other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) may rise due to risk-compensation behaviors. PrEP can provide a false sense of security and encourage the lowering of inhibitions.

These kinds of approaches directed towards certain "at-risk populations" clearly raise concerns about sanctioning or supporting immoral behaviors. Medical professionals have raised objections of conscience when it comes to prescribing PrEP to HIV-negative men who indicate they are, or will be, sexually active with other men. They may raise similar objections to providing prescriptions for "disco dosing." Writing such prescriptions means cooperating in, or facilitating, the evil actions of others.

Is pre-exposure prophylaxis always illicit? Not necessarily. For example, if a medical professional were to prescribe Truvada to the wife of a man who was infected through premarital or extramarital sexual activity, it would be for the purposes of protecting the wife from infection during marital relations, and would not involve the problem of promoting or facilitating unethical sexual behaviors.

STDs constitute a serious danger in an age where sexual behaviors are becoming ever more indiscriminate. STD outbreaks and pandemics often have their origins in unchaste behaviors and morally disordered forms of sexuality. The Centers for Disease Control notes that "men who have sex with men (MSM) remain the group most heavily affected by HIV in the United States. CDC estimates that MSM represent approximately 4 percent of the male population in the United States but male-to-male sex accounted for more than three-fourths (78 percent) of new HIV infections among men and nearly two-thirds (63 percent) of all new infections in 2010." We should not be supporting or facilitating behaviors involving multiple sexual partners. These sexual practices, in the final analysis, are not only immoral in themselves, but also reckless and clearly contributory to the spread of STDs.

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

Rebuilding continues at St. Mary German Village

By Doug Bean, Times Editor

After a recent morning Mass at Columbus St. Mary School in German Village, Chase Mitchell was given the honor of being the first student to sign one of the trusses that will be placed in the historic church which is under renovation next door.

The fifth-grader started raising money more than a year ago on his own for the repair and restoration project for the church at 684 S. 3rd St. A lightning strike in August 2016 caused extensive damage to the 150-year-old structure.

Mitchell, whose family was on hand for the truss-singing ceremony, has donated hundreds of dollars of his own money from lunches, Christmas, and birthdays, and has asked others for financial help.

At first, he never told his parents what he was doing. They only found out from the school office. But word has spread. Not only has he inspired fellow students, families, neighbors, and parishioners, but other outsiders have been moved to contribute. Classmates even have written letters to celebrities and famous people in an attempt to solicit donations.

More money is desperately needed. The total cost to repair the German-Gothic church is estimated to be \$6 million. So far, approximately \$2.5 million has been raised.

Construction work has slowed while waiting for additional monetary sup-

port. Contractor Bryan Hamilton said Father Kevin Lutz, the parish's pastor, initially hoped the church could reopen around Christmas, but a more realistic goal is Easter 2019, contingent on fundraising.

The church was closed indefinitely in October 2016. Sunday Masses have been held since then in the school gym.

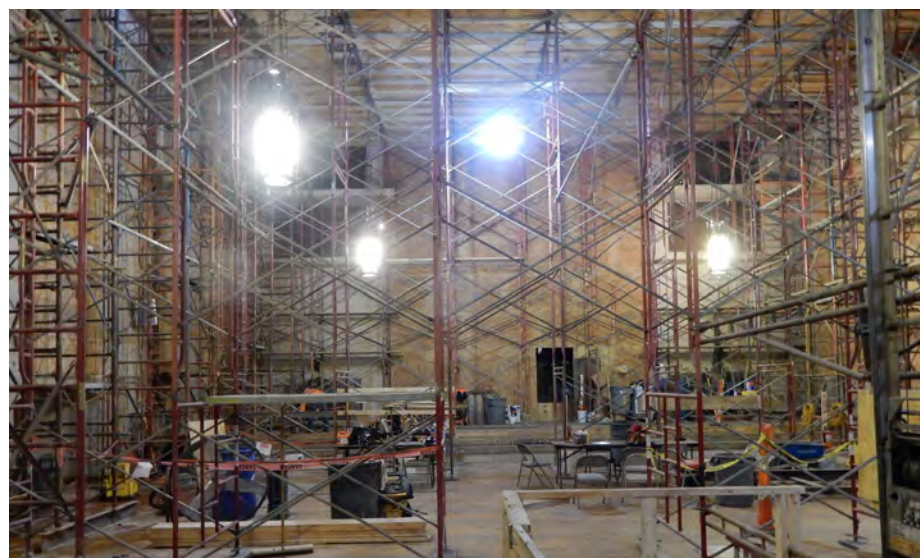
The lightning strike caused one of the trusses supporting the roof to slip down about four inches, resulting in damage that compromised structural integrity and exposed other issues in need of immediate attention.

A recent tour showed the magnitude of the necessary repairs. Only a shell of the magnificent church is visible while scaffolding remains in place throughout the sanctuary.

Hamilton said notches recently were cut into brick walls for support beams that will add stability. The extensive work includes the refurbishing of stained-glass windows, replastering and repainting the ceiling, and repairing the organ, which was installed in 1901.

St. Mary's was built in 1868, the same year that the Diocese of Columbus was established. The 197-foot-high bell tower was added in 1893 and restored in 1994. The church previously was renovated in 1987.

Anyone who wishes to contribute at any time and in any amount to the St. Mary's Endowment Fund at The Catholic Foundation is invited to do



so at www.catholic-foundation.org/stmarygv. This fund is set up specifically to provide for the operating needs at St. Mary's. If anyone has any questions on how to contribute or how they can support St. Mary's in other ways, they should contact Scott Hart-

man, vice president of Development, at (614) 443-8893 or shartman@catholic-foundation.org.

Donations also may be sent to "Grand Old Saint Mary" Restoration Fund, 672 S. 3rd St., Columbus OH 43206.



Chase Mitchell, a fifth-grade student at Columbus St. Mary School in German Village, is the first to sign one of the trusses that eventually will be placed next door in the historic church, which is being renovated after suffering damage from a lightning strike in 2016. Father Kevin Lutz, the parish's pastor, looks on after celebrating a morning Mass in the school gymnasium.

CT photos by Doug Bean

PRINCIPAL OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Blessed Sacrament Church, founded in 1905, in Newark, Ohio, is seeking an experienced Catholic Educator for the position of principal of Blessed Sacrament School, a K-8 Catholic School located at 394 E. Main Street, Newark, Ohio beginning the summer of 2018 for the 2018-2019 school year.

"Blessed Sacrament School is a Catholic, Christ-centered community whose mission is to educate the whole child—body, mind, and soul—in order to form life-long disciples of Christ who love the Truth, practice the Faith, and live virtuous lives." (Mission Statement).

We are seeking a principal who is a demonstrated leader capable of helping us grow in our mission of evangelization and excellence in education. Position requirements: must be a practicing Catholic; Master's Degree; in possession of an administrator's license or be eligible for one; current FBI/BCI background check; proof of attendance at Protecting God's Children seminar; and completed the online administrator's application for the Diocese of Columbus.

Position Expectations:

- spiritual leadership to implement the New Evangelization
- instructional leadership to lead the school in educational excellence
- proven leadership and management experience with excellent written and verbal skills

Salary will be commensurate with candidate's education and experience.

Please contact Human Resources Assistant for Teacher Personnel, Jeanne Gissel, with your expression of interest by mailing resumes and questions to jgissel@columbuscatholic.org. Include in your submission a cover letter of interest, resume, educational philosophy, and a list of five references.



Mary, putting my priorities in order

When my oldest daughter was four, she had many career aspirations, and she often would share them in a long list. She would announce out of the blue that she was going to be a cowgirl, an artist, a flower picker, and a cheerleader when she grew up. For my part, I encouraged this diversity in interests.

One day, she asked me what I would be when I grow up. “Well,” I said. “Why don’t you tell me what you’re going to be again?” It was a different list that day: artist, veterinarian, doctor, gardener, singer, and butterfly catcher. When she was done, she waited.

“OK,” I said, “I guess I’ll be a mommy.”

She wasn’t so easily fooled. “What else?”

“Um, how about a wife, a writer, a secretary, a teacher, and a horseback rider?”

When I asked her a few hours later if she wanted to be a mommy, her speed in saying “No!” made me wonder if I was a bad example.

And then I realized that there’s just no glamour in the job, at least not when I am the mommy in question.

I don’t wear sparkly shoes or shiny clothes, or act hip. I’m often sporting mysterious stains on my outfits, and I’m usually the enforcer of “no dessert until you’ve eaten your meal.” Though I chauffeur her to fun places and narrate “pretend stories,” I’m not in tune when I belt out my favorite songs, and it’s just as likely that I’ll yell as cry when I’m stressed about this vocation of motherhood.

Being a mom was never on my list of things to pursue, either. I never expected to get married, and I was certainly never going to have children. I look at myself now with wonder and shock. ... I have children and — get this! — I’m enjoying it!



**Finding Faith in
Everyday Life**
Sarah Reinhard

Mary, under the title of New Eve, speaks to the role of women in God’s plan. She shows us the cross we must bear — whether it’s the juggling act that modern multitasking women face or the invisible struggles of daily life. Mary didn’t face many of the challenges we face today. She didn’t have to schedule her online time around her morning prayer time while making sure her preschooler had the right occupations to allow it all to happen.

Even so, Mary’s “Yes” to Gabriel’s offer, an offer that would mean a lot of inconvenience, a barrel of heartache, and more joy than the world could imagine, was the answer to Eve’s “Yes” to the snake in the Garden of Eden.

When Mary said “Yes,” all of heaven must have rejoiced. We think of it as one word, as a simple reply. Think of it, instead, as God’s giving woman a hand in the salvation that was to come. Jesus didn’t need a mother, but he chose to have one. God didn’t need humanity, yet he chose to create us. Mary didn’t need an unexpected pregnancy to foil her plans for the future, yet, even so, she agreed to it.

Women have a role in God’s plan, and they always have. We joke about Eve causing the Fall by giving the apple to Adam, but God created woman in the beginning for a reason. Mary reminds us as women that God has a purpose for us, and it’s a beautiful, holy purpose. We are designed to say “Yes” to God, and though it may be difficult,

Mary gives us a model.

I find myself constantly resisting what God wants for my life, sometimes unconsciously. It’s so natural to want to be in control, to try to seek the life I see “out there” in the big world. But when I do that, when I look past the life I have right in front of me, I fail to say “Yes” as Mary did. When I set my goals without asking God what he intends for me, I say “No” to the grace that’s all around me in the vocation I’m resenting, not embracing.

When I see Mary as the New Eve, I have a perfect look at what it means to live my vocation as wife and mother. But I can’t ignore that in the background, there’s an ideal in Joseph, too, a man who said “Yes” and who shows me how to welcome sacrifice. Why don’t I say “Yes” to sacrifice as they did? Is the apple of the life I want beckoning me to ignore God? How would I handle the life of Mary and Joseph?

In the answers to those questions, I find a painful truth: I wouldn’t do so well. I don’t do so well with the comfy life I have now. Send me back in time and insert an angel, and I’m more likely to pull an Eve than a Mary. My little four-year-old prophet with her montage of ambitions reflects the modern attitude toward vocations: forsake the plain in favor of the glitzy, seek the allure instead of the grace, settle for the excitement instead of the joy.

Mary’s role, bringing Light to the world, wasn’t on my short list of dreams. She did it through her vocation as wife and mother, and by doing it, she gives me, in my current state of life, a role model of the highest order.

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

80 YEARS educationfirst credit union

www.educo.org
614-221-9376

Visit Our Website To See All Our 80th Anniversary Money-Saving Offers.
We’re Celebrating 80 Years of Putting You First!

NCUA Federally Insured by NCUA
ESU
Proudly Serving the Catholic Diocese since 1936

Some restrictions may apply. Membership eligibility is required.

MODLICH
Monument Company

Beautifully handcrafted

614-276-1439 modlich-monument.com

Pray the Rosary



Dr. Scott Hahn



Chris Stefanick



Jeff Cavins

Story by **TIM PUET**, *Catholic Times* Reporter
 Photos by **KEN SNOW**

Participants at annual Catholic men's conference are given challenge of commitment

Bishop Frederick Campbell challenged those in attendance at Columbus' annual Catholic Men's Conference to dedicate themselves fully to Jesus in the way St. Joseph did, through "a commitment both of lips and of example."

The challenge was part of the bishop's homily at the concluding Mass of the 21st annual event, which brought 3,100 men from throughout the diocese together on Saturday, Feb. 24 at Cardinal Hall on the state fairgrounds. The event also featured talks by nationally known Catholic speakers Jeff Cavins, Chris Stefanick, and Dr. Scott Hahn on the theme "Cast Your Nets ... Become Fishers of Men." Music was provided by Brendan O'Rourke and Aaron Richards throughout the day, and by the Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral choir at Mass.

Bishop Campbell said an article he recently read in a theological journal concerning the meaning of masculinity noted that "men most frequently define themselves by facing challenges." For Christian men, "this involves the strong development of fortitude, of Christian courage," he said.

It also sometimes involves "some very silly choices, especially if we are young," the bishop said, recalling an incident of his youth in south-

ern New York state when he nearly fell into an area known as Devil's Gorge at a site called Jerusalem Hill, but was rescued by his father.

He followed that tale with his challenge, which was based on the Gospel reading for the day's Mass. The reading included Jesus' words "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect," which are found in Matthew's Gospel just after Jesus' command in the Sermon on the Mount to love one's enemies.

"This is one of the most stringent commands of Our Lord," the bishop said. "Jesus came to reveal how we are to be perfectly human. ... Today, he uses the example of love of one's enemies as the 'vinegar test' of Christian love."

"A theologian once said 'Grace is free, but it is not cheap,'" Bishop Campbell said. "That's the challenge for us, to live the presence of the whole Christ and make the commitment Moses called Israel to make" by observing all the Lord's statutes and decrees, as described in the segment of the Book of Deuteronomy which was the first reading for the Mass.

The bishop said St. Joseph's commitment provided a model for such behavior, quoting an ancient description of Jesus' foster father: "*Tacuit et fecit*" — He was silent

and he did it."

"Part of the challenge of being a committed Christian man is very specific," Bishop Campbell said. "That is being faithful to your marriage vows, the guardian of your family, the educator of the young, showing gratitude for what you have been given and a desire to pass it on without diminishment or blemish."

"All the surveys I have read about preserving the faith of young people say the surest way to pass the faith on is within the family, through your own example as a model of prayer, hope, commitment, and a profound sense of guardianship."

Cavins, in his talk opening the

conference, said, "Love your families with the spirit of St. Joseph and the Holy Trinity. I can't think of anything that's a better way of making you a better husband and father than an intimate relationship with Jesus through prayer — sitting and talking with him and saying 'This is the anchor of my life.'"

"Men want to become heroes," he said. "If we're following the theme of the conference and casting our nets, we have to start with ourselves and ask if we are disciples. To follow Jesus as a disciple gets down to having a relationship with him."

Cavins, who is best-known for his *Bible Timeline* series telling the

story of salvation history, said the foundation of being a disciple is imitating Christ, just as in the time of Jesus, the foundation of being a Jewish rabbi's disciple was to imitate the rabbi in all things.

Cavins said most rabbis of that day had about five disciples, whom a rabbi would choose at around age 14 from among young boys who were being taught Jewish traditions while also learning their father's trade. Cavins said Jesus' disciples instantly recognized his commands to "come, follow me" and "take my yoke upon you" because they were the same commands a rabbi would use in singling out someone as being

worthy of further study with him.

"Being a disciple wasn't up to you," Cavins said. "It was up the rabbi, and the consideration he used was 'Do I think you have what it takes to imitate me?'"

"When it comes to Jesus casting his nets, it starts with you saying 'Yes, I will become like you, Jesus.' You have the extraordinary privilege of being chosen by the greatest rabbi in the history of the world — and oh, by the way, he's God."

"He knows you can become like him, but you can't become like him without him," Cavins said. "You have to say 'I have to act like Christ and not focus on myself.' This is

what changes the world, and each of us can do it.

"Jesus didn't follow anyone else, because he was God. This is what people meant when they said 'He speaks with authority.'"

"Often, the toughest time to be a disciple is at home" because of the distractions of everyday life, Cavins said. "Saying 'Yes' to Jesus means saying 'Yes' to your relationships — with your wife, your children, with all the people important to you."

"Hear God's call and make up your mind to do something," he continued. "Are you going to be a student of your life and grow from your mistakes, or are you going to be a victim? God is calling you not to be victims, but to be sons, to become like him because of him, to rise above the fray in society, to rise above the world."

"When people see how you live and love in faithfulness, they are more apt to ask 'What makes you what you are?' You respond by saying 'I am imitating Christ.' Think of yourself as a disciple. Avoid just saying 'I'm a Christian,'" Cavins said.

"Do you think the church is per-

Left: Conference musicians Aaron Richards (left) and Brendan O'Rourke. Right: The Eucharist is distributed at the closing Mass of the 2018 Catholic Men's Conference at the state fairgrounds.



fect? I do. I believe the Catholic Church is the perfect expression of God's identity and gives us a clear, full look at who God is. It's what enables us to say 'I am a disciple of Jesus' and gives us the opportunity to live out what this means."

Stefanick's talk focused on what he described as the seven habits of modern-day apostles, which he had the audience repeat as he listed each one — keep first things first; make time for it; give; don't let fear get in the way; present faith as a part of reality; witness the faith with your life; and pray as you do it.

Much of the talk concentrated on the first of those habits, based on perhaps the most familiar of all Gospel verses, John 3:16 — "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life."

"This is the best news ever," Stefanick said. "It reveals that faith is a love story. If we don't understand it, we understand nothing of what the church is. If you see marriage in the context of a love story, with the ultimate purpose of creating new life, the rest of marriage becomes profoundly beautiful. Otherwise, it's a bad idea, full of burdensome rules."

"It's the same way with the Catholic Church. The world has a false

notion of the Catholic life as full of burdens. It's forgotten the love story, the story that God is love, that God has literally put himself in a box for us. The purpose of human existence is to become united with this God, who is love," as expressed in John 3:16.

"Don't be so busy serving God that you don't have time to talk about God when the opportunity exists," said Stefanick, who has brought his "Reboot!" program on the basics of the Gospel to a number of diocesan parishes for several years. "Evangelization takes time, and the ordinary form for evangelization is friendship. Only in that context do you have the right to be heard."

"Be courageous" when talking about your beliefs, he said. "Courage is not the absence of fear, but a decision not to let fear dictate your actions. God's plan has made the eternal destiny of others contingent on you. It always requires discomfort to reach out to others, but don't be afraid. Just be yourself."

"Just saying things like 'Thanks for the change, and God bless you,' or 'I'm praying for you' has an impact," Stefanick said. "If you're sharing who you are, most people won't get angry. Penn of the famous magic team of Penn and Tell-

CONFERENCE, continued from Page 11

er is an atheist, but he puts it well when he says ‘How much do you have to hate someone if you believe eternal life is possible, yet don’t tell them that?’”

“Faith enhances reality,” Stefanick said. “It makes the experience of life not narrower, but bigger. My six children don’t resent Jesus, because we don’t present our faith as an isolated topic. If we present this example as fathers, even if our kids start wandering from the faith, they’re not going to be pushing it away.”

Echoing some of Cavins’ words, Stefanick said. “It’s tough to live the faith at home. My kids are always watching. They’ll say, ‘Daddy, people who talk about Jesus don’t use that word.’ You can’t fool them. The kids see I’m self-centered, but they also see me asking for forgiveness, and that this gives Dad a joy, a peace, and a purpose nothing else can. You don’t have to be perfect to be authentic. Just be who you are, and pray as you do it.

“Don’t be afraid to ask Jesus to convert souls. This is something we’ve stopped asking for. Jesus saw what was in every heart, and that’s why he treated everyone differently. Ask him to show you what to say when you encounter someone who wants to talk about the faith. He wants us to open our hearts to the world even as it re-

jects us, because we’re his sons and daughters. He wants us to be more like himself.”

Stefanick’s talk was followed by a Eucharistic procession, a brief period of Eucharistic Adoration, a talk on the Sacrament of Reconciliation by Father Jonathan Wilson, pastor of Newark Blessed Sacrament Church, and the opportunity to receive the sacrament from one of more than 60 priests during a lunch break. This was the first time Adoration was part of the main conference program, in addition to being an early-morning pre-conference activity.

Father Wilson continued the conference theme by reminding the audience, “We are confronted by nets in our lives – the nets of our attachment to sin and how it holds us back. As we encounter Jesus in his Real Presence in the Eucharist, we have a chance to encounter him in Reconciliation” in a way unique to each individual.

Hahn spoke after lunch and said this was the third time he had been invited to give a talk at the conference, which organizers say is the Midwest’s largest annual gathering of Catholic men. “There’s nothing like this in the entire country. This is the work of God,” he said.

Hahn said it’s no coincidence that the conference is timed to take place at

the beginning of Lent. “Pope Francis reminds us that the main purpose of Lent is to keep alive the idea that being a Christian can be accomplished only by becoming a Christian continually – a theology of continuing conversion I discovered more than 30 years ago” when becoming a Catholic, he said.

Hahn was a prominent Protestant theologian whose attempts to disprove the Catholic Church’s claims to authority ended in his embracing Catholicism. He teaches Biblical theology and the New Evangelization

at Franciscan University of Steubenville and is founder and president of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology. Two of his six children are studying to be priests of the Diocese of Steubenville.

“Lent is like a miniature snapshot of our lives as we prepare to enter the glory of our own death and resurrection,” he said, describing the season as “a spiritual boot camp.”

“The New Evangelization means

See CONFERENCE, Page 13

Catholic Medical Association at Catholic Men’s Conference



Days after the Catholic Medical Association’s St John Paul II Guild of Central Ohio was established as a legal entity in the state of Ohio, some of its member physicians participated in the Catholic Men’s Conference on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the state fairgrounds.

Organizers said they received “an overwhelming outpouring of support” at their exhibit from the men who attended the conference.

“Animated discussions spontaneously sprang up in excited tones as many connections were made that only the Holy Spirit knows where the journey will go,” the group said in a statement. “The nascent organization is growing quickly.”

Anyone within the healing arts is invited to become a member, including nurses, physician assistants, dentists, podiatrists, and others. The CMA website is <http://cmabus.com>.

Activities the guild plans for the rest of 2018 include a health care retreat from Friday, April 20 to Sunday, April 22; a White Mass for those within the healing arts and others on or near Thursday, Oct. 18, the Feast of St. Luke; attending the annual national CMA conference for physicians throughout the world; a medical student “boot camp” to prepare future Catholic physicians for their vocation in the 21st century; and a Hippocratic Oath dinner.

Photo: Members of the Catholic Medical Association’s St. John Paul II Guild of Central Ohio discuss their organization with attendees at the Catholic Men’s Conference on Saturday, Feb. 24, at the state fairgrounds.



The Angelic Warfare Confraternity, which promotes chastity, was one of more than 50 Catholic organizations with displays at the Catholic Men’s Conference on Saturday, Feb. 24.

CONFERENCE, continued from Page 12

re-evangelizing the de-Christianized,” he said, citing the Pew Research Center’s findings that less than 30 percent of American adults who were raised Catholic told the researchers that they still are going to Mass at least once a month.

“This means all of us active in the faith are called on to share it,” he said. “The only homily some people may hear is our friendship. To withhold an opportunity to share what we believe with them is like a betrayal of friendship.”

Hahn, like the speakers before him, emphasized the importance of fathers setting an example of faith in their homes. He cited a Southern Baptist Convention survey stating that if a child is the first person in a household to become a Christian, there is a 3.5 percent probability everyone else in the household will follow; if the mother is first, that figure rises to 17 percent; and if the father is first, it jumps to 93 percent.

“Surveys in Switzerland have showed the same thing,” he said. “Two-thirds to three-fourths of those surveyed who had a father active in the faith said they were regular churchgoers, compared to one in 50 without a churchgoing father.

“We are sent forth not just to go into the world, but to go home and show how changed our lives have been,” he said. “The greatest gift we can give our children is the respect we show our wives.”

Hahn said he constantly keeps in mind advice given him by the late Father Michael Scanlan, TOR,



Representatives of Wilderness Outreach, which offers men the opportunity for spiritual growth through outdoor experiences, saw a log at their display at the Catholic Men’s Conference on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the Cardinal Center in Columbus.

longtime president of Franciscan University, who he said was his greatest spiritual influence. “Father Scanlan said, ‘God opposes the proud, even when they’re right,’” Hahn said. “Remember, we all are sinners in need of a Savior, and we’re here at boot camp to learn and to share, to be saints on a Lenten journey that’s not a sprint, but a marathon.”

He recalled feeling devastated by the events of Sept. 11, 2001, going to the chapel at Franciscan to pray before the exposed Eucharist that day, and asking why God allowed such things to happen.

“It was a terrible day, but the more I contemplated the Real Presence that day, the more I realized that Good Friday actually was the darkest day in history,” he said. “And yet God took the greatest sin committed by the human race – the death of his Son – and turned it into the greatest good that would bring salvation. If he could do this transformation then, he can do it now, more than we can imagine.”

Hahn concluded his talk with the tribute to St. Joseph cited by Bishop Campbell, describing Mary’s husband as “the Silent Knight,” an ultimate example of the phrase “Actions speak louder than words.”

“We are made for more, but can’t make it home as we are,” Hahn said. “God sends us crosses, but gives



us the cup. He gives us all we need, and will get us and our loved ones home, not just tonight, but forever. This is why we go forward as Catholic apostles.”

Since its beginning at Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church in 1997 with one speaker and about 150 men in attendance, the conference has grown steadily and moved to larger sites, going to four other parishes and Ohio Dominican University before moving in 2010 to the fairgrounds, where it has taken place at steadily larger sites – the Lausche Building from 2010 to 2013, the Voinovich Center from 2014 to 2016, and the Cardinal Center in 2017 and this year.

The event draws groups of 50 or more men from several parishes. This year, large contingents came from Canal Winchester St. John XXIII, Columbus Immaculate Conception, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, St. Andrew, St. Catharine, St. Elizabeth, St. Mary, St. Patrick, and St. Peter, Delaware St. Mary, Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare, Gahanna St. Matthew, Granville St. Edward, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Hilliard St. Brendan, New Albany Resurrection, Newark Blessed Sacrament, Powell St. Joan of Arc, Reynoldsburg St. Pius X, Sunbury St. John Neumann, Westerville St. Paul, and Worthington St. Michael churches.



**First Friday Masses
In Honor of
The Sacred Heart of Jesus
12:15 pm & 7:00 pm**

Holy Family Church
584 West Broad Street • Columbus, OH 43215

St. Margaret of Cortona 1600 N. Hague Ave. Phone: 614.279.1690

Best Fish Fry Dinner in Town!

**Fridays during Lent
February 16 - March 23 • 4:30 - 7:30 PM**

Fried Ocean Perch or Baked Cod, with French Fries,
Baked Potato, Macaroni & Cheese, Cole Slaw,
Applesauce, Roll & Butter,
and homemade Desserts. Free coffee!

Adults - \$10.00; Seniors - \$9.50;
Children (10 & under) - \$5.00 (Free under 3)
Pop, Beer, Seconds, & Carryouts available. Info: 279-1690

Third Sunday of Lent (Cycle B)

God the Redeemer sets the terms of the covenant



Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

**Exodus 20:1-17;
1 Corinthians 1:22-25;
John 2:13-25**

In Masses where the RCIA rites are celebrated, the alternate readings will be used. These comments address the “B” cycle readings for the Third Sunday of Lent.

In Hebrew, the text begins, literally, “God spoke all these words saying.” Some Jewish commentators rightly point to the Lord’s self-description as “the one who brought you out of the land of Egypt” as showing that “God’s claim on Israel is as its Redeemer, not as Creator.” Although God is both Creator and Redeemer, what is important for a covenant is freedom, which the Lord accomplished for Israel, by delivering the people from slavery. Isaiah the prophet (chapters 40-56) combines the two notions into what has been called “creative redemption.”

Here, God the Redeemer sets the terms of the covenant, precisely because the people had been redeemed by the Lord. This chapter comes after the Hebrews are well into the desert of Sinai after leaving Egypt. By this covenant, the Lord is bound to them as their God forever and they become the Lord’s people forever. Everything stems from their sole relationship with the Lord as their God, which is why this command comes first: “You shall have no other gods besides me.” If we get that right, then observance of the rest falls into place.

The Gospel is John’s version of the cleansing of the Temple. Unlike the Synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke), John places this incident near the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus. The others use the event as a climax of sorts to the run-ins Jesus had with other Jewish authorities. John uses it

as the beginning of his troubles, from which all the other troubles flow. John does say it happened “as the Jewish Passover was near,” which agrees with the time frame of the Synoptics.

This is the first of at least three Passover feasts mentioned in John, which is a more realistic portrait of a practicing Jew in first-century Palestine than the Synoptics’ placement of Jesus only in his final Passover in Jerusalem. It must be noted that Luke 2:41 says, “Each year, his parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover.” In each successive celebration of Passover in John, a significant event occurs (Chapter 5, probably referring to Passover; Chapter 7, for the Feast of Tabernacles; chapter 10:22 begins another Jerusalem visit for the Feast of the Dedication; finally, after Lazarus dies in chapter 11, Jesus remains in or near Jerusalem after that until the end). As we see, most of John’s Gospel takes place in Jerusalem and in and around the Temple.

The reaction to Jesus ridding “the Temple precincts” of the moneychangers is a surprising non-reaction on the part of his disciples: “His disciples recalled the words of Scripture: ‘Zeal for your house consumes me’” (Psalm 69:9). “The Jews” (used throughout John to indicate opponents of Jesus) responded, “What can you show us, authorizing you to do these things?” Jesus refers to the destruction of “this Temple” and “I will rebuild it in three days.” John then notes that he is talking about the temple of his body, while his opponents think of the actual Temple.

No one reacts to the violence done to the buyers and sellers, which was taking place in the outer court of the Temple, rather than the Temple proper. In the Synoptics, his crucifixion and death follow shortly afterward. People love to cite this scripture when they see people selling raffle tickets and the like in the gathering space and they want to express their disapproval. The two are separate issues, but generally, people do not welcome their sacred space being violated by anything.

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

St. Pius mission on ‘Lent: Gloom or Grace?’

The annual parish mission at Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church will look at how we celebrate Lent as it focuses on the theme “Lent: Gloom or Grace?”

It will take place from Sunday, March 4 to Tuesday, March 6 at 7 p.m. and will be led by Father Richard Fragomeni (pictured), professor of liturgy and teaching and chair of the department of Word and worship at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, who will examine Lent through the lens of the virtues of faith, hope, and love. Topics will be “Faith and the

Family,” Sunday; “Hope for the Journey,” Monday; and “Love and Sacrifice,” Tuesday.

There also will be two morning sessions on Monday and Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the parish activity center, where the encyclical *Laudato Si’* will be discussed. For more information, call the parish office at (614) 866-2859.



The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
2 Kings 5:1-15b
Psalm 42:2-3;43:3-4
Luke 4:24-30

TUESDAY
Daniel 3:25,34-43
Psalm 25:4bc-5ab,6-7bc,8-9
Matthew 18:21-35

WEDNESDAY
Deuteronomy 4:1,5-9
Psalm 147:12-13,15-16,19-20
Matthew 5:17-19

THURSDAY
Jeremiah 7:23-28
Psalm 95:1-2,6-9
Luke 11:14-23

FRIDAY
Hosea 14:2-10
Psalm 81:6c-11b,14,17
Mark 12:28-34

SATURDAY
Hosea 6:1-6
Psalm 51:3-4,18-21b
Luke 18:9-14

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF MARCH 4, 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, Alabama, 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, Alabama. (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.

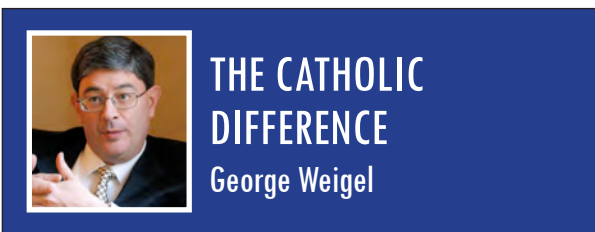
We pray Week III, Seasonal Proper of the Liturgy of the Hours

Rethinking “mission territory”

In his June 1908 apostolic constitution *Sapientia Consilio*, Pope Pius X decreed that, as of November 3 that year, the Catholic Church in the United States would no longer be supervised by the Vatican’s missionary agency, the Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith (*Propaganda Fide*). American Catholicism had grown up. The U.S. Church would now be a mission-sending Church, not “mission territory.”

This pattern has long characterized the organization of the world Church. Young local Churches begin as “mission territory” and their bishops are chosen in consultation with what’s now called the “Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples” (but which everyone in Rome still refers to by its old name, “Propaganda,” or simply “Prop”). After these young Churches demonstrate that they can stand on their own spiritually, organizationally, and financially, they cease being “mission territory” and relate to the Roman Curia like the older local Churches; the bishops of these newly “graduated” local Churches are thus chosen in consultation with the Congregation for Bishops.

The rapid de-Christianization of Europe, however, prompts a thought experiment: What should the Church do when this process of ecclesial maturation slips into reverse? Where do venerable but collapsing local Churches “fit” in their relationship to the Curia, the central government of the Catholic Church? If there can be a (sometimes lengthy) period of ecclesiastical apprenticeship during which a young, growing local Church is supervised by *Propaganda Fide*, might there be a parallel arrangement for decaying older local Churches, in which they’re taken into a form of ecclesiastical trusteeship aimed at rebuilding their evangelical, catechetical, and pastoral strength? And if we can imagine that (admittedly bold) move, which Roman agency should be the trustee?



For purposes of this thought-experiment, my nominee would be the Pontifical Council for Promoting the New Evangelization. It seems the logical place. For John Paul II’s 1990 encyclical *Redemptoris Missio*, the *Magna Carta* of the New Evangelization, called for urgent evangelism among Christians who had fallen away from the practice of the faith, or who had been poorly catechized, or who had, more likely, suffered both maladies, the latter contributing to the former.

That seems to describe most of the Church in western Europe. So perhaps the Church’s central administration should stop relating to dying European local Churches as if they weren’t dying, and recognize that they are, in fact, mission territory. But rather than putting such local Churches back under the supervision of “Prop,” put them into trusteeship under the supervision of a reconstituted and restaffed Pontifical Council for the New Evangelization – just like a failed company that goes into Chapter 11 bankruptcy is supervised by a trustee until such time as the company can stand on its own feet again.

What would happen under this “trusteeship”? Again, let’s think outside the box. The trustee agency would recommend to the Pope replacements for failed bishops and nominees for empty sees, drawing candidates from around the world who had demonstrated success in enlivening a sclerotic or corrupt local Church. Pastoral life in the moribund local Church and the structures of its national bureaucracy would be examined by Catholics who are expert in making organization serve evangelization; those consultants would then make recommendations to the Pontifical Council for the New Evangelization for mandated reforms. There would be apostolic visitations of seminaries and houses of religious formation, led by seminary rectors and religious men and women from living and growing communities,

who would recommend needed changes. The trustee agency would then mandate their implementation.

Where might this form of trusteeship be tested? How about Germany? The practice of the faith is dying there. Senior German churchmen have made clear that they believe something different than what’s in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, whether the issue is the nature of marriage, the ethics of human love, the character of the Holy Eucharist and the priesthood, the authority of revelation, or the enduring effects of baptism. And what could be more appropriate on the quincentenary of the Reformation than to call German Catholicism to a thoroughgoing Catholic reform?

Perhaps this thought experiment – putting the German Church into ecclesiastical trusteeship – isn’t the answer to the Church’s German problem. But recognizing that Germany is mission territory is the beginning of any serious analysis of a grave situation, and any serious thinking about how it might be addressed.

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

ODU preview day on March 24

Ohio Dominican University will host a preview day from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 24, in the Bishop Griffin Student Center on ODU’s campus at 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

Interested high school students and their families can register for the event by visiting ohiodominican.edu/Preview.

During preview day, students can take a campus tour, explore available majors, discuss available financial aid options, enjoy a complimentary meal, learn about student clubs and honors programs, meet with professors in their field of interest, and talk with current students about why they chose to attend ODU.

Students who are not able to attend the day may schedule a private visit to campus at ohiodominican.edu/Visit or by calling ODU’s undergraduate admissions office at (614) 251-4500.

JOHN N. SCHILLING INC.
 Since 1894
 Air Conditioning ~ Heating
 Roofing ~ Sheet Metal Work
 1488 Bliss St.
 614.252.4915

SHERIDAN FUNERAL HOME
 740-653-4633
 222 S. COLUMBUS ST., LANCASTER

LANDSCAPING
 OAKLAND NURSERY
 VOTED BEST IN THE U.S.
 Now is the best time to plan and design your landscape. Patios, pools, walk-ways, retaining walls, lawn sprinkler systems
 268-3834

PLUMBING

MUETZEL
 Since 1967
 Plumbing - Heating - Cooling
 614-299-7700

GEORGE J. IGEL & Co., INC.
 2040 ALUM CREEK DRIVE . COLUMBUS, OHIO
 614.445.8421 . www.igelco.com

SITE DEVELOPMENT . EARTHWORK . UTILITIES . CONCRETE
 STABILIZATION . EARTH RETENTION . ROLLER COMPACTED CONCRETE

SENIOR HEALTH CARE BY ANGELS
 Our caring home companions help seniors live at home. Hygiene assistance, meals, housework, up to 24 hour care. Top references. Affordable rates.
 VISITING ANGELS 614-538-1234
 614-392-2820

DISCOVER THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE
 Rely on the Knights of Columbus to protect your family’s future.

James B. Valent, General Agent
james.valent@kofc.org
 740-280-0280
 LIFE INSURANCE . DISABILITY INSURANCE . LONG-TERM CARE . RETIREMENT ANNUITIES

KIDDIE ACADEMY
 EDUCATIONAL CHILD CARE
 Kiddie Academy® of Westerville
 614-568-4450 • kiddieacademy.com/westerville

Pray for our dead

ATKINSON, Russell L., 69, Feb. 24
St. Luke Church, Danville

BANGERT, Elizabeth A. (Gerhardt), 87, Feb. 22
Christ the King Church, Columbus

BRENON, Donald E. "Mike," 93, Feb. 24
Our Lady of Peace Church, Columbus

BUDD, Noah R., 71, Feb. 20
St. Michael Church, Worthington

CHRIST, Rita M. (Paul), 93, Feb. 22
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

CLOUSE, Mary J. (Schmelzer), 86, Feb. 18
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

FREY, Donald E., 86, Feb. 18
St. Mary Church, Delaware

HAZEL, Don L., 87, Feb. 19
Ss. Simon and Jude Church, West Jefferson

McGARITY, Matthew J., 58, Feb. 18
Resurrection Cemetery Chapel, Lewis Center

MUIR, David L. "Whitey," 56, Feb. 18
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

O'REILLY, Joyce (Virginia) (Bradley), 83, Feb. 20
St. Paul Church, Westerville

PATACCA, John A., 66, Feb. 19
St. Joseph Church, Dover

PETRAKIS, William N., 79, Feb. 21
St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus

ROBERTS, Patricia A. (McCaffery), 73, Feb. 13
St. Rose Church, New Lexington

SMELTZER, Richard J., 91, Feb. 11
St. Rose Church, New Lexington

ST. CYR, Roger J., 71, Feb. 18
St. Peter Church, Columbus

STIVISON, Dorothy A. (Dalton), 90, Feb. 17
St. John Church, Logan

TOMPKINS, Raymond K., 78, Feb. 24
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

TOTH-CHANDLER, Elizabeth R. (Magyarosi), 89, Feb. 21
St. Ladislav Church, Columbus

WESOLEK, Eugene W. Jr., 87, Feb. 21
St. Joan of Arc Church, Columbus

YORK, Mary D. (DeBellis), 88, Feb. 22
Holy Cross Church, Columbus

YOUNG, Payton E., 17, Jan. 21
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

ZAG, Nancy A., 79, Feb. 20
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

ZARBAUGH, Lawrence "Snake," 76, Feb. 23
St. Mary Church, Groveport

Rita L. Tope

Funeral Mass for Rita L. Tope, 92, who died Sunday, Feb. 18, was celebrated Thursday, Feb. 22, in Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born on Jan. 28, 1926, to Walter and Martha (King) Owens, was a 1944 graduate of Columbus St. Mary High School, and was a member of Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church.

Ann M. Hentz

A funeral service for Ann M. Hentz, 88, who died Friday, Feb. 23, was held Wednesday, Feb. 28 at the Cotner Funeral Home in Reynoldsburg. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was employed as an accountant by the Pontifical College Josephinum for more than 20 years. She graduated from Hillsdale (Michigan) College

with a degree in home economics. She was a retired employee of the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus, operated by the Dominican sisters of Peace, and also worked for the Lazarus department store and the Ohio Bell Telephone Co.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Charles. Survivors include a son, James, and a daughter, Cheryl.

with a degree in home economics.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Lawrence and Irma (Diest) Davis; son, Bruce; and brother, Donald. Survivors include her husband, John; sons, David Holtom, Andrew (Michele) Holtom, and Rick Hentz; daughters, Beth (Robert) Parsons and Linda (Mark) Bryant; 20 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

CLASSIFIED

St. Mary Magdalene
Books, Games, Puzzles, DVD Sale
Sunday, March 4 • 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
K of C will have Egg, Sausage and Pancake
Breakfast until 12:30 p.m.
473 S. Roys Ave., Columbus

St. Margaret of Cortona Church
1600 N. Hague Ave, Columbus
20th Annual
"Best Fish Fry Dinner in Town!"
Fridays during Lent, Feb. 16 - March 23,
4:30 - 7:30 PM
Fried Ocean Perch or Baked Cod, with French Fries, Baked Potato, Macaroni & Cheese, Cole Slaw, Applesauce, Roll & Butter, and homemade Desserts. • Free coffee!
Adults - \$10; Seniors - \$9.50;
Children age 10 & under - \$5 Free under 3
Pop, Beer, Seconds & Carryouts available.
Info: 279-1690

St. Christopher Church
LENTEN PASTA DINNER
1420 Grandview Ave./Trinity School Cafeteria
Fridays - 2/16 - 3/23 • 5 - 7 PM
\$8/Adults, \$5/Kids, \$30/Family
Meatless pasta sauce provided by local area restaurants
March 2 - LaScala
March 9 - Bravo Italian Kitchen

LENTEN FISH FRY
Fridays 5-8 pm, Feb 16-Mar 23
ST. MICHAEL CHURCH
5750 N. High St., Worthington
Fish Dinner: Regular \$9.00, Small \$7.00
Macaroni-Cheese Dinner: \$7.00
Sides: (Clam Chowder, Mac/Cheese) - \$2.00,
Desserts - \$1.00
Dine In, Drive Thru & Carryout

Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church
1559 Roxbury Road, Marble Cliff (Parish Life Center)
FISH FRY DINNERS
Fridays, 2/16 - 3/23 • 4:30 - 7 pm
Fresh Ocean Perch (fried)
Baked Potatoes, French Fries or Rice
Salad or Slaw, Beverages, Dessert included
\$10 Adults, \$5 Kids - Carryouts available

ST. LADISLAS PARISH
277 Reeb Avenue
ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER
Sunday, March 11, 2018 • 12-5PM
PASTA, HOME MADE MEATBALLS & SAUCE, SALAD,
BREAD, HOMEMADE DESSERTS & BEVERAGE
ADULTS: \$9 CHILD/SENIORS: \$6
CARRYOUTS AVAILABLE.
RAFFLE.



THIS LENT

invite a friend to

LISTEN TO AM 820



H A P P E N I N G S

MARCH

1, THURSDAY

Cenacle at Holy Name

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

Sung Vespers at St. Margaret of Cortona

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

Eucharistic Holy Hour at Sacred Heart

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

Scripture Study at Columbus St. Patrick

7 p.m., Aquinas Hall, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Part 4 of Scott Hahn's 11-part "The Bible and the Sacraments: A Journey Through Scripture."

Talk on Poverty, Homelessness at St. Brigid

7 to 8:30 p.m., St. Brigid of Kildare Church, 7179 Avery Road, Dublin. Talk on poverty and homelessness with prison minister Rich Northrop and Sister Ana Gonzalez, OP. **614-761-3734**

Introduction to Centering Prayer at Newman Center

7:30 p.m., St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave., Columbus. Introduction to centering prayer with Father Vincent McKiernan, CSP. **614-291-4674**

2, 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.

First Friday Masses at Holy Family

12:15 and 7 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. First Friday Masses in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. **614-221-4323**

Catholic Men's Luncheon Club

12:15 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Catholic Men's Luncheon Club meeting, with Bill Hinger speaking on Eucharistic Adoration.

Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts at St. John Chrysostom

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

Candlelight Stations at Cols. Immaculate Conception

7 p.m., Immaculate Conception Church, 414 E. North Broadway, Columbus. Stations of the Cross by candlelight in the style of the Taizé monastic community.

Eucharistic Vigil at Holy Cross

Holy Cross Church, 205 S. 5th St., Columbus. 7:30 p.m. Mass, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with various prayers, ending with Benediction around 11.

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.

3, 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. **614-221-4323**

Day of Reflection at St. Elizabeth

9 a.m. to 3 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Lenten day of reflection with Father Eugene Chianain, CFIC. Breakfast, lunch provided.

Diocesan Youth Conference at St. Cecilia

10 a.m. to 9 p.m., St. Cecilia Church, 440 Norton Road, Columbus. Annual diocesan youth conference, with keynote talks by Bishop Campbell and Bob Rice of Franciscan University, parent workshop with youth minister Pam Heil, music, prayer, group discussions, two meals, and closing Mass. Theme: "Rise to Joy." **614-241-2565**

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**

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.

4, SUNDAY

Exposition at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

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

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education

10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Second of two talks on "Job Wasn't Really Patient" with Scripture scholar Angela Burge.

Mass Ad Orientem at Columbus St. Patrick

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

Appalachian Project Fundraiser at St. Catharine

3:30 to 5 p.m., St. Catharine Church, 500 S. Gould Road, Columbus. Fundraiser marking 25 years of annual summer youth project in southern Ohio sponsored by St. Catharine, Christ the King, and other east Columbus parishes. Videos, talks, raffle, apple crisp and ice cream.

Exposition at Coshocton Sacred Heart

4 to 5 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, Walnut Street and Park Avenue, Coshocton. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, concluding with Benediction.

Sung Vespers at Lancaster St. Mary

4 p.m., St. Mary Church, 132 S. High St., Lancaster. Evening Prayer featuring sung Vespers. **740-653-0997**

Sung Vespers at Cathedral

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

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**

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**

4-6, SUNDAY-TUESDAY

Parish Mission at St. Edward

1 p.m. Sunday, 7 p.m. Monday-Tuesday. St. Edward Church, 785 Newark-Granville Road, Granville. Parish mission led by Father John Corbett, OP. Theme: "Seeing, Striving, Binding: Faith, Hope and Love in Today's World."

Parish Mission at St. Pius X

7 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Parish mission with Father Richard Fragomeni of the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. Theme: "Lent: Gloom or Grace?" Sessions at 9:30 a.m. Monday and Tuesday will discuss the encyclical "Laudato Si'."

Parish Mission at Cols. Immaculate Conception

7 p.m., Immaculate Conception Church, 414 E. North Broadway, Columbus. Parish mission led by Father Charles Shonk, OP. Theme: "Hope." **614-267-9241**

5, MONDAY

Eucharistic Adoration at Our Lady of Victory

7 to 8 a.m., Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. First Monday Eucharistic Adoration, beginning with Morning Prayer, concluding with Mass. Adoration and Reconciliation at New Philadelphia 5 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 139 3rd St. N.E., New Philadelphia. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, with Reconciliation available, and Evening Prayer at 6:30.

Evening Prayer at St. John Neumann

6:30 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. Evening Prayer led by Deacon Carl Calcara.

Marian Prayer Group at Holy Spirit

7 p.m., Day chapel, Holy Spirit Church, 4383 E. Broad St., Columbus. Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle prayer group for Catholic family life. **614-235-7435**

6, TUESDAY

Our Lady of Good Success Study Group

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

North Columbus Serra Club Meeting at Josephinum

Noon, Jessing Center, Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. North Columbus Serra Club meeting, with talk on Marian apparitions by Deacon John Nahrgang of the Diocese of Phoenix.

Adoration, Confession, Mass, Bible Study at Dover

5 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 613 N. Tuscarawas Ave., Dover. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and confessions, followed by Mass at 6 and "A Biblical Walk through the Mass" at 7 in family life center. **330-364-6661**

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.

Abortion Recovery Network Group

7 p.m., Pregnancy Decision Health Center, 665 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus. Abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program, and wants to stay connected. **614-721-2100**

7, 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 Carol Ann Spencer, OP, speaking on "Lent: A Time to Focus Discipleship." Third of four parts. **614-251-4722**

Liturgy of the Hours at Newark St. Francis de Sales

6 p.m., St. Francis de Sales Church, 40 Granville St., Newark. Liturgy of the Hours every Wednesday during Lent. **740-435-9874**

ODU Adult Education Information Session

6 to 7 p.m., Room 274, Bishop Griffin Center, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Information session on ODU adult education programs.

Prayer Service at New Philadelphia Sacred Heart

6:15 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 139 3rd St. N.E., New Philadelphia. "A Light for My Path -- Praying the Psalms on the Way of the Cross," combining a prayer service with the Stations. Free-will offering for Pathway to Wellness.

'A Very Mary Lent' at Delaware St. Mary

6:30 to 8 p.m., St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware. "A Very Mary Lent" series with Deacon Todd Tucky and adult faith formation director Jule Lutz. Theme: "Contemplating the Face of Christ with Mary."

Evening Mass at St. Matthias

7 p.m., St. Matthias Church, 1582 Ferris Road, Columbus. Celebration of Evening Mass, continuing every Wednesday during Lent. **614-267-3406**

Marian Devotion at St. Elizabeth

7 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Marian devotion with Scriptural rosary, followed by Mass and monthly novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, with Father Ramon Owerla, CFIC.

Open House at Our Lady of Bethlehem School

7 to 9 p.m., Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Child-care, 4567 Olentangy River Road, Columbus. Open house for parents of prospective students at school which serves students from six months old to kindergarten. **614-459-8285**

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

'Happenings' submissions

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

Listings cannot be taken by phone.

Mail to: The Catholic Times

Happenings,

197 East Gay St., Columbus, OH 43215

Fax to: 614-241-2518

E-mail as text to tpuet@columbuscatholic.org

focus on
ART

BOOK REVIEW

HEROISM AND GENIUS

By Lisa Bourne

“Heroism and Genius: How Catholic Priests Helped Build and Can Help Rebuild Western Civilization,” by William J. Slattery. Ignatius Press (San Francisco, 2017). 292 pages, \$24.95.

The Catholic Church was the designer and primary builder of Western civilization, which was made possible largely by her priests offering their service and sacrifice, a recently released book says.

Through its recounting of a multitude of examples, *Heroism and Genius* details how, in carrying out their mission to teach, sanctify, and govern, Catholic priests of the Dark Ages had an integral hand in building Christendom – often at great cost.

Author William Slattery also provides decisive and exact instruction for priests today on how to rebuild Christian civilization in a new “dark age.”

“The hour has already struck, and we have awoken to the fact that we now live in a post-Western secularized civilization that is not only anti-Christian in its culture, but, indeed, antihuman, due to its agenda to redefine the individual person in defiance of nature,” Father Slattery writes in his introduction.

He says that just as the priesthood spearheaded the transformation of society during the construction of Western civilization, priests, through sanctifying souls and guiding them to God, once again will be the “irreplaceable builder(s) of a truly Christian civilization.”

Heroism and Genius is a comprehensive history lesson through a Catholic lens, acknowledging parallel human and divine elements.

It first outlines the Catholic Church’s role in shaping Western civilization, then explains the gradual forming of the “embryo of medieval Christendom.” The book then illustrates the pivotal role priests had in forming some of the social, artistic, and economic institutions of Western civilization generating from Catholicism.

These institutions include the ancient Roman rite of the Mass (the traditional Latin Mass), medieval chivalry, an unprecedented idealizing of womanhood, and a resulting culture of romanticism, Gothic architecture, Gregorian chant, and free-market

economics.

It also examines the advent of Celtic confession and the birth of the parish and the monastery, as well as the Catholic principles of the dignity in labor and the state’s role as protector of individual freedoms.

Significant figures in early Western civilization discussed in the book include “fathers of Western culture” Sts. Ambrose, Augustine, Leo the Great, and Gregory the Great, along with Charlemagne and his chief adviser, Alcuin. The contributions of Benedictine and Celtic monks also are noted.

Slattery explains that *Heroism and Genius* offers sketches, not portraits of the myriad priests who contributed to building Western civilization. He hopes the reader will be prompted to learn more about them. He also notes that he wanted to offer a more personal glimpse of these men than would normally be found in historical, sociopolitical volumes.

The book is thoroughly sourced and offers several charts and maps to illustrate timelines and geography related to the discussion at hand, as well as photos and other artwork depicting people and locales.

Slattery also includes the contributions of many laypersons and non-Catholics, and he pays tribute to the numerous priests who did not gain renown for their part in building Western civilization, yet still exhibited the heroism and genius of Catholicism.

“There were so many others who were, and will remain, quiet unsung heroes, the ordinary yet so extraordinary priests who quietly worked and prayed and shepherded their people – and made an eternal difference to eternal souls,” he writes.

Slattery, who originally is from Ireland and has given Ignatian retreats in North America, has founded a new order of priests, the Society of Ignatians, whose candidates are set to begin formation later this year.



HEROISM AND GENIUS

HOW CATHOLIC PRIESTS
HELPED BUILD—AND CAN HELP REBUILD—
WESTERN CIVILIZATION

WILLIAM J. SLATTERY

IGNATIUS

His book has received praise from notable ecclesiastical corners, including Cardinals Robert Sarah, Raymond Burke, and Walter Brandmuller, along with author Michael O’Brien and EWTN host Father Mitch Pacwa, SJ.

Slattery says that all of us have a role to play in rebuilding Christian civilization and that Catholicism must be outward bound.

He asks what type of world we’d be living in today if these priests of history who exhibited the heroism and genius of the Catholic faith had not existed, or had they not fulfilled their threefold mission to teach, sanctify, and govern.

Heroism and Genius is not meant to lionize individuals or evoke nostalgia, he says.

Rather, it’s a “shout to contemporary priests as they stand at a crossroads of history and confront the Western civilization of the past and the dictatorship of relativism of the present.”

“Remember who you are and what you once achieved,” Slattery writes. “Recall the crucially important social consequences of your priesthood; remember that the priest, by being truly teacher, sanctifier, and shepherd, changes society and builds Christian civilization – that he simply cannot fail to change the world by being an authentic priest of Jesus Christ!”

Lisa Bourne is a Catholic freelance writer based in Des Moines, Iowa.

Caviezel to play St. Luke in upcoming St. Paul biopic

Catholic News Agency

It has been more than a decade since Jim Caviezel played Jesus in *The Passion of the Christ*. This spring, he will play St. Luke in another major religious film, *Paul, the Apostle of Christ*, opening in theaters on Friday, March 23.

Unlike the *Passion*, Caviezel will not be the main actor in the film: James Faulkner, star of HBO's *Game of Thrones*, Lord Sinderby on PBS' *Downton Abbey*, and Pope Sixtus IV on Starz' period drama *Da Vinci's Demons*, will portray Paul.

Faulkner also has read each of Paul's letters in the New Testament in a series to be released by the American Bible Society.

"James Faulkner is to Paul as Christopher Reeve is to Superman. ... This guy was born to play Paul. When he was walking around, it was in his behavior. You couldn't find someone else who organically nails it like this," Caviezel recently told *USA Today*.

The movie follows St. Paul in the last days of his life, facing Roman imprisonment for preaching Christianity while waiting execution under Emperor Nero. Luke, a physician, is able to visit his fellow Christian in jail.

Caviezel said the movie's theme centers on forgiveness and merciful love, a message relevant today, and he recalled a powerful scene in which Paul restrains Luke from calling for justice on the Roman oppressors.

"Forgiveness starts with not just



Jim Caviezel as Luke and James Faulkner as Paul are seen in the film "Paul, Apostle of Christ."
CNS photo/Sony Pictures

love, but ardent love," Caviezel told *USA Today*.

"It's really easy to love people who think like you think; it's very hard to treat someone with a polar opposite view with the same dignity and respect you would treat a friend. That's this movie's core message."

Eric Groth, one of the film's executive producers, said "it was real important to tell the story of God's mercy."

"His message of love and life and mercy is so important for us today," Groth said to an invitation-only audience of about 60 at an advance screening of the film on Thursday,

Feb. 15 at the St. John Paul II National Shrine in Washington.

Groth is head of ODB Productions. He said the initials stand for "Outside Da Box."

The company has made, by his estimate, about 250 short films for Catholic religious education programs and a series of 15 shorts based on each of the 15 sections of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

He gave credit to Sony Pictures for its willingness to go out on a limb with the movie.

"They stretched partnering with a Catholic organization, they stretched in the idea, they stretched in the screening schedule," which had started a few months before the March 23 premiere, Groth said. A constant comment he said he had received from preview audiences was that the film was "imbued with Scripture without it having been read to them."

Since Caviezel played the role of Christ, he has received offers for parts in other religious movies, but is picky about the movies that change scriptural stories.

"It's like, 'We want to change this, pull that out,'" Caviezel said. "I'm like, 'This book has been around a lot longer than any of us in Hollywood.'"

"I have the faith to believe it's still good for us now.' That's one of the greatest things about (*Paul*.) You don't realize it, but it's actually scriptural."

While the release of *Paul* is still a month away, Caviezel is also excited about another movie, the sequel to *The Passion*, again directed by Mel Gibson.

Caviezel has not disclosed the sequel's tentative schedule for the filming date, but has hinted at some surprises in the retelling of Christ's resurrection.

"There are things that I cannot say that will shock the audience," he said. "But I'll tell you this much: The film (Mel Gibson's) going to do is going to be the biggest film in history. It's that good."

Mel Gibson has talked about the movie in the past. He has said it has taken time to develop a script that sheds a new light on Christ's resurrection without making it "weird."

"The resurrection. Big subject. Oh my God," Gibson told *USA Today*. "We're trying to craft this in a way that's cinematically compelling and enlightening so that it shines new light, if possible, without creating some weird thing."

Paul, Apostle of Christ is set to open Friday, March 23, in Columbus and on more than 2,000 screens in the United States and at least 15 other nations.

Information from Catholic News Service was used in this report.

40 Days for Life continues through Palm Sunday

The 40 Days for Life prayer vigil, which began on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14, is continuing daily through Palm Sunday, March 25 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. in front of the Founders Women's Health Clinic, 1243 E. Broad St., Columbus.

The campaign, in its 11th year, is organized locally by Greater Columbus Right to Life with the help of dozens of individuals, small groups, and churches joining to enhance the work that is done every day by sidewalk counselors and prayer partners.

An estimated 750,000 volunteers in 741 cities in 47 nations have volunteered for more than 5,200 local 40 Days for Life campaigns. To date, 94 abortion clinics or abortion-referring centers have closed, and at least 170 people have left their jobs as abortion clinic employees as a result of a 40 Days for Life vigil.

The international 40 Days for Life organization said the mothers of at least 49 babies have left abortion clinics after encountering a 40 Days volunteer this spring. The number of such mothers has surpassed 14,000 worldwide since the vigils began in 2007.

On the first day of the Columbus campaign, volunteers from Columbus St. Patrick and Holy Family and Worthington St. Michael churches were joined by eighth-grade students from St. Michael School in Worthington (pictured). In the students' own words:

"As I stood there outside the clinic, I thought about all those expectant women about to abort their babies for whatever reason. I thought about how maybe,



just maybe, if they had someone to love and support them, they wouldn't be in this position" – Sarah.

"It was really sad seeing people go in and out of the clinic. As I prayed, I thought about the women and the babies and what they might be thinking or going through. I really hope we made an impact on at least one person walking in or out" – Gianna.

"How much longer is this going to go on? And what else can I do to stop this insanity? I saw about four people come out of the abortion clinic and I instinctively started praying even harder for them. The trip was a way of being actively pro-life" – Hope.

Beth Vanderkooi, Greater Columbus Right to Life

executive director, said the students' reflections were similar to what volunteers have told her about their first experiences with the vigil. "A lot of people are hesitant to pray outside of the clinic. They worry that it will be chaotic, that it will be awkward, or that they will be stereotyped as uncaring or hateful. In reality, it is often a deeply moving experience that brings peace, God's love, and truth to a place that desperately is calling out for all three," she said.

Those willing to spare an hour to take part in this campaign are invited to visit the Greater Columbus Right to Life webpage at www.gctrl.org/40-days-for-life to learn more. Everyone also is invited to join with the Knights of Columbus at Our Lady of Peace Church, who are sponsoring a fasting schedule with the purpose of fulfilling the prayer and fasting mission of 40 Days for Life and Lent.

"When I think of 40 Days for Life, my heart always goes to the story of Jesus praying at Gethsemane in Matthew 26. When he returns to the disciples, he finds them asleep, and in verse 40, he asks, 'Could you not watch with me one hour?' If you've ever wondered, 'Could I do more?', I invite you to give just one hour to Our Lord in prayer as part of the 40 Days for Life campaign this Lent," Vanderkooi said.

The mission of Greater Columbus Right to Life is to build a culture that protects innocent human life from conception until natural death. Last year, volunteers from the organization contributed nearly 3,000 hours of prayer in front of Ohio's oldest abortion clinic.

Photo courtesy Greater Columbus Right to Life

Therapy dog brings joy, stress relief to students

Catholic News Service

Every Wednesday morning, Bo roams the halls at St. James-Seton School in Omaha, Nebraska.

But he's not a student ducking class -- he's a golden retriever/Labrador mix eager to offer a friendly greeting to everyone he meets.

As a trained therapy dog, Bo helps students de-stress before and after school and between classes by providing unconditional love and comfort as they pet and hug him.

His owner, Suzi Richardson, the school's director of student services, began bringing her seven-year-old dog to school in October to greet students at the beginning of the day, walk the halls between classes or rest in her office, ready for any students who need some "Bo time."

One student who especially benefited from Bo's special brand of love is Sydney Gatzemeyer, a kindergarten student being treated for brain cancer.

Currently in remission, Sydney required frequent trips to the school nurse's office for temperature checks or when not feeling well, which upset her, said her mother, Sarah Gatzemeyer.

"I think it's great for the kids," Sarah said. "Dogs

just have that sense of when someone doesn't feel good. Sometimes that's all a child needs is someone to make them comfortable."

And other students agree.

"Bo is very nice and makes my day, especially if I'm upset or stressed about school or my schoolwork," sixth-grader Nathan Davis said. "He helps me a lot with my emotions and helps me calm down so I can be ready for school."

"I think Bo is extremely beneficial because, not only is he a fun companion to have around, but he's very beneficial to kids with anxiety issues," said seventh-grader Ella Daly. "He's very calming and we love having him around."

For Richardson, sharing Bo's gentle, friendly nature with students is a way to give back. When her daughter was recovering 10 years ago in a hospital from a brain injury suffered in a snowmobile accident, visits from a therapy dog made a significant difference in her attitude and recovery, Richardson said.

She also was impressed with how therapy dogs help her grandson, who is on the autism spectrum.

Richardson met Bo as a one-year-old shelter dog that had been abused and needed love.



She trained him and gained certification for him through Paws for Friendship, a volunteer group whose members share their pets with people needing comfort worldwide.

Therapy dogs visit people in hospitals, retirement and nursing homes, schools, hospice facilities, and other places where people need comfort or simply need something to lift their day.

"Bo has been a great stress reliever," Richardson said.