

# The Catholic **TIMES**

The Diocese of Columbus' News Source

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## RESPECT LIFE MONTH: FAMILY EMBODIES THE CULTURE OF LIFE

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Editor's reflections by Doug Bean

## Pro-life families generously respond to kids in need

Don't believe abortion promoters when they try to discredit the pro-life movement as a bunch of overzealous people who care only about the unborn and not about children born into difficult situations. The stories of two families in this week's Respect Life issue serve as living proof to refute that highly inaccurate portrayal.

Rob and Bernadette Rodgers, members of Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church, soon will be adding to their large family when they adopt a deaf teenager from a Ukrainian orphanage. He would have aged out of the system at 16 and been left to live on the streets with little hope for the future. Dima should feel right at home when he arrives in America. Four of the Rodgers' eight living children also are hearing impaired.

And that's not all. After losing one of their biological children at 25 months from a pulmonary embolism after a surgical procedure, they decided to take in children with special needs as foster parents for several years, until their biological family expanded to the point that required their full attention. But they remain involved in supporting the foster system.

MaryBeth Eberhard, a member of Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, wrote two stories that describe the joys and challenges of raising two special needs children as part of a large Catholic family. She and her husband adopted one of their daughters when they learned she was afflicted with the same condition as one of their sons.

Both families are devoted and

active in their parishes. With all that they face, no one would begrudge them for focusing on their own daily struggles, but they give of themselves to others in need in multiple ways and to their parishes.

Their pro-life witness is edifying and inspiring.

With the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops designating October as Respect Life Month, we should all be inspired in our own ways to support the culture of life in our families, communities, schools, workplaces and parishes.

A number of counties and parishes in the diocese have active right-to-life organizations. They do everything from praying at abortion clinics to assisting mothers in need both spiritually and materially. So much good work is done by amazingly dedicated groups.

One example is Bottoms Up, which collects diapers throughout central Ohio for mothers in need. Mary Garden Showers provides mothers-to-be with a beautiful baby shower and essential gifts to make them feel special for choosing life.

Everyone can pray for an end to abortion. One way is through 40 Days for Life, an international campaign that has expanded this fall to more than 30 nations and includes prayer, fasting, community outreach and peaceful all-day vigils in front of abortion businesses.

In the Columbus area, Greater Columbus Right to Life is coordinating 40 Days for Life. Parishes and individuals are encouraged to take part in the prayer vigils through Nov. 3 at the Founder's Women's Health Center, 1243 E. Broad St., Columbus.

Life is winning.

## Facilities Office spearheads efforts to help diocese care for creation

By Sheri Rogers

The diocesan Facilities Office, which is in charge of maintaining churches, schools and other buildings throughout the Diocese of Columbus, is putting the message of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'* (On Care for Our Common Home) into practice in seen and unseen ways.

Efforts to save energy by switching schools and parish buildings to LED lighting systems have earned the facilities office the 2019 energy efficiency champion award from AEP Ohio, the power company that serves most of the diocese.

Besides performing the lighting upgrades, the office also has been installing underground water retention ponds and pipe systems that greatly reduce the amount of stormwater runoff from parking lots of its buildings.

"Unlike the new lights, this type of work is not readily visible, but both these efforts and others like them by the office provide everyday examples of following the pope's call for an 'ecological conversion' to shape the future of our planet," said the office's director, Bruce Boylan.

With the encouragement of the diocesan creation care team that was formed after the encyclical was issued four years ago, the facilities office has converted 37 schools and 27 parishes to LED lights since the summer of 2017. These upgrades will save more than \$700,000 annually on school and parish electric bills.

With support from the diocesan Finance Office and The Catholic Foundation, Boylan's team of Sheri Rogers, Rob Schorr and Bob Sisson were able to use the diocesan capital fund (traditionally reserved for building repairs) to cover the up-front costs of



The diocesan Facilities Office received AEP Ohio's 2019 energy efficiency champion award for its efforts in installing LED lights in schools, churches and other diocesan buildings. The office staff includes (from left): seated: Bruce Boylan, director, and Rob Schorr, associate director; standing: Bob Sisson, associate director, and Sheri Rogers, project manager.

Photo courtesy diocesan Facilities Office

the upgrades.

By applying for energy efficiency rebates from AEP and by investing the money saved by installing the more efficient LED lights, most of the upgrade projects paid for themselves within a year. Twenty-six schools used the diocesan program and 11 others financed the lighting conversions on their own.

The benefits are long-lasting. By switching to LED lighting, fewer bulbs are needed to effectively light a school or parish. The latest generation of LED bulbs provide a brighter and more direct light, so the same light

See FACILITIES, Page 7



Front Page photo:  
**RESPECT LIFE MONTH**  
Rob and Bernadette Rodgers, members of Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church, are pictured with their eight children. The couple is adopting a deaf teen from Ukraine.

(CT photo by Ken Snow)

## Catholic TIMES

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## Early diocesan bishop's social justice work recalled at local event

By Tim Puet  
Catholic Times Reporter

The efforts of the second bishop of Columbus for societal reform in the late 19th century were honored last week at the first park in the nation dedicated to the theme of social justice.

The program on Friday, Sept. 27 at the Washington Gladden Social Justice Park paid tribute to Bishop John A. Watterson, with re-enactors speaking the words of Bishop Watterson and the park's namesake, the Rev. Washington Gladden, who was pastor of First Congregational Church in Columbus from 1882 to his death in 1918 and was viewed as "the father of the Social Gospel." The park, which was opened last October, is adjacent to the church at East Broad Street and Cleveland Avenue downtown.

Besides the re-enactors, speakers included Deacon Chris Campbell, principal of Columbus Bishop Watterson High School, and students from the school and Cristo Rey Columbus High School, with music from the Watterson concert choir and the musical group Transit Arts.

"Bishop Watterson and Reverend Gladden had a great respect for each other that grew into a close friendship," Deacon Campbell said. "At the core of their belief was the dignity of the human person. It didn't matter if someone was a man or a woman, a laborer or a businessman, white or black, the dignity of the person was central.

"Both worked for justice and an understanding that the Gospel is not just a message of transformation for the individual, but one of transformation for society – a society that at that time, as well as this time, was in great need of transformation. ... They started an ecumenical dialogue long before it became a popular term.

"Bishop Watterson left a legacy not because a high school was named for him, but because he truly believed in the development of the human person, especially the morals, values and virtues a young man or woman needs to become a good citizen in this life and the next," Deacon Campbell said.

Angelo O'Dorisio, a junior at Watterson High, spoke the words of Bishop Watterson from a speech he gave in 1895 at the YMCA Auditorium in Columbus on the subject of Christian citizenship.

"We hold all men to be of one origin and one blood and to be equal by at least the physical laws of our nature and to have the common rights of humanity," the bishop said. "Those who are better conditioned by wealth, education or any other source of influence are not to regard themselves or be regarded as existing apart and for themselves alone, but for the good of the people.

"The stability of a government and the strength and glory of a nation, and ours particularly, depend on the character of the whole body of the people. As long as the better-conditioned of a nation are right-spirited and broad-minded and patriotic and de-

the highest regard and confidence.

"It is possible that no man in this city had more friends than had he, or in more variant walks of life," Gladden said in his talk. "Whether they were members of his congregation or faith or not, it made apparently no difference to him, for he was the same kindly, courteous, sympathetic gentleman towards all; ever ready with a helpful word or an unselfish deed, freely given to anyone who would ask."

Watterson High seniors Jacques-Charles Geoffrion and Cate Monnin spoke of how the bishop's legacy is carried out through service efforts at the school.



**Tom Brownfield of First Congregational Church of Columbus (left), playing the role of the Rev. Washington Gladden, the church's pastor from 1882-1918, introduced Columbus Bishop Watterson High School student Angelo O'Dorisio, playing Bishop John Watterson, in a program honoring both men on Friday, Sept. 27 at the Gladden Social Justice Park adjacent to First Congregational Church. Photo courtesy diocesan Office for Social Concerns**

serving of the name of freemen, that nation stands. But let these become corrupt in their principles and conduct and its degradation begins," he said.

Tom Brownfield of First Congregational Church, playing the role of Gladden, introduced O'Dorisio as Bishop Watterson and quoted from the sermon Gladden delivered at the church on April 23, 1899, six days after the bishop's death. Gladden spoke of how the bishop's courage in denouncing an anti-Catholic organization known as the American Protective Association led to that group's demise.

"The strong personality of Bishop Watterson was largely responsible for this highly to be desired change," he said. "Through all the strife, he never lost patience. He never ceased by his actions to show that he was worthy of

Geoffrion said that throughout their sophomore year, all Watterson students volunteer at a service site of their choice and reflect at the end of the year on what they have learned. In their senior year, they participate in the school's Urban Plunge program, taking social justice themes they learned in theology classes and putting them into practice at sites throughout Columbus.

During the week of the Watterson tribute, the program sent 50 seniors to locations such as the Bishop Griffin Center, the Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs and the St. Vincent de Paul Society clothing store in Columbus to learn about the agencies and help the adults volunteering there. Geoffrion, president of the school's Student Council, said members of last year's senior class performed more

than 18,000 hours of volunteer work beyond their minimum service requirements.

Monnin, Student Council vice president, spoke of the impact on her life of a summer service trip to Guatemala. "I met kids there with whom I could share a common love of learning and playing, but who were not oblivious to the situation they faced," she said. "They taught me the importance of confronting harsh realities in the hope that together, all of us can be part of the solution."

Also speaking were Cristo Rey students Paige Raison and Mamoudou Bah.

Raison said that taking part in the 2018 March for Our Lives in response to the killings of students at Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida led to her founding a social justice club at her school. The club has discussed subjects such as the #MeToo movement, sexual assault, gun control and mental health, and has performed projects such as providing assistance for assault survivors and making blankets for the Ronald McDonald House. It currently is raising funds for school uniforms for Cristo Rey students whose parents cannot afford the cost of a uniform.

Bah has founded an anti-violence group known as Guns Down Prayers Up, led by young people for young people, which recently conducted a youth motivational conference at the Columbus Metropolitan Library's main branch. Through the internet, he is working with young people throughout the world on video and film content in support of efforts pointing out the misdeeds of corrupt leaders.

He plans to be an engineer designing affordable, ecologically friendly cars, and said General Motors has invited him to talk about a proposal he has for a wind-propelled vehicle.

"For engineers, it's our duty as people of knowledge to use what we know to improve the world," he said. "To create socially just change, all of us have to speak up and have to work together. You don't have to have extraordinary skill to create social justice. If you can speak, you can be an agent for change."

The Watterson tribute was organized by representatives of Watterson High, the social justice park and the diocesan

## Ways you can respect life in October

October is Respect Life Month. Each year, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops promotes its annual Respect Life program. The aim of the program is to build a culture of life through four areas of activity: prayer, education, pastoral outreach and advocacy.

At the heart of the Church's respect life message is the call to recognize the inherent dignity of every human person from the beginning of life to its natural end. It's a celebration of God's gift of life, but also a reminder of the threats to human life, especially for the most vulnerable.

Direct threats to human life include abortion, human cloning, euthanasia, assisted suicide, death penalty, human trafficking and the racism. Other life-diminishing issues include poverty, mistreatment of persons with developmental disabilities, domestic violence, gun violence, pornography, cyberbullying, gossip, etc.

The list can go on and on because when we do not recognize the sacredness of the human person, do not respect the masterpiece of God's creation right in front of us, we fall short. We sin.

I'm always inspired by the many parish and Catholic school-based Respect Life ministries in our diocese, as well as Catholic and secular agencies and organizations who engage in the four activities of prayer, education, pastoral outreach and advocacy with passion to build a culture of life.

This year's theme for the Respect Life program is "Christ Our Hope in Every Season of Life." Isn't this a beautiful message?

Each season of life has its own challenges, but also has opportunities to grow in our relationship with God. The program offers ways parishes and schools can live out the call to respect life in various seasons of the year. For online resources, visit [www.respect-life.org](http://www.respect-life.org).

Here are additional ways you can respect life in October:

*The Building a Culture of Life conference* is Saturday, October 19 at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church. Topics include pro-life public policy, our response to racism, advanced

### FAITH IN ACTION

Jerry Freewalt

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



medical directives, and pro-life youth, with a message from Bishop Robert Brennan. The sponsors are the diocesan offices for Social Concerns and Marriage and Family Life and Greater Columbus Right to Life. For a list of speakers and to register, visit [www.bclclife.org](http://www.bclclife.org) or call (614) 241-2540.

*A Mass of Inclusion for People with Special Needs* will be celebrated by Bishop Brennan at 5 p.m. Sunday, October 6, at Columbus St. Catharine Church. Open to all in the diocese, the Mass will celebrate the unique gifts of those with physical and mental disabilities, as well as their caretakers. It is sponsored by SPICE (Special People in Catholic Education).

*40 Days for Life* runs until Sunday, Nov. 3. You can witness in peaceful prayer at an abortion facility in Columbus. Participants are asked to volunteer for one-hour shifts and sign a statement of peace. For details and to sign up, visit [www.gcrtl.org/40-days-for-life.html](http://www.gcrtl.org/40-days-for-life.html) or call (614) 445-8508.

*Mental Illness Awareness Week* is the first full week of October and the *National Day of Prayer for Mental Illness Recovery and Understanding* is Tuesday, Oct. 8. For resources on mental health and suicide prevention, visit our diocesan website at [www.columbuscatholic.org/mental-health](http://www.columbuscatholic.org/mental-health).

*The Journey of Hope from Violence to Healing* is Friday to Sunday, October 11 to 20. Family members of murder victims, who are working to end the death penalty, are offering presentations to parishes and schools throughout Ohio with a message of love and compassion. For details, visit [www.journeyofhope.org/ohio-journey](http://www.journeyofhope.org/ohio-journey).

*The Feast of St. Francis* program addresses the threats to human ecology and natural ecology – integral ecology. Visit [www.catholicclimate-covenant.org/program/feast-st-francis](http://www.catholicclimate-covenant.org/program/feast-st-francis).

I hope you can make the most of Respect Life Month this year. Together, let's build a culture of life.

## WWP Live!

WWP Live is coming to the Columbus area! The founder and Chief Purpose Officer of Walking with Purpose, Lisa Brenninkmeyer, will touch your heart with her all-new talk:

# Hallelujah Anyway

## Discovering Good Despite Anxiety

Recent research shows that almost 40% of Americans are more anxious now than they were at this time last year. Anxiety affects 1 in 8 children in the US, and 18% of adults. If you don't personally struggle with it, then someone close to you does. Is it possible to find good in this current state of reality without sticking your head in the sand? Join us as we delve into this important topic. You'll leave feeling better equipped to discuss it, face it, and move forward. When God promised His people a peace that passes understanding, He didn't say, "Unless you live in 21st century America." This is a profound issue and the questions surrounding it aren't easily answered. But together, we can move forward to a place of emotional rest and spiritual security.

November 5 at 7:00 PM

November 6 at 9:30 AM

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## Local news and events

## Fatima rosary rally to take place at Lancaster gazebo on Oct. 12

A rosary rally in honor of the 102nd anniversary of the apparitions at Fatima will take place at noon Saturday, Oct. 12 at the gazebo at Broad and Main streets in Lancaster.

It will be preceded by a 9 a.m. Latin Mass at Lancaster St. Bernadette Church, 1343 Wheeling Road, followed by light refreshments.

## Father Cromly to present workshop for couples

Father Nathan Cromly, CSJ, will lead a program for married and engaged couples titled "Discovering God's Plan for Your Life" from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11 in the event room of Roosters restaurant, 1500 Stonecreek Drive, Pickerington.

Couples are invited to relax, laugh and learn together as Father Cromly shares a message of hope and love that strengthens marriages and families. Father Cromly is founder and president of Eagle Eye Ministries and the St. John Institute in Denver.

Through his work leading couples retreats and taking part in backpacking excursions with young adults throughout the world, he has gained a unique perspective on the issues that touch marriage and family life.

He is familiar with Ohio through leading an annual retreat for women at the Maria Stein Spiritual Center for the past 11 years and similar retreats for men in the Cincinnati area. He will be a featured speaker the following day at the inaugural Columbus Catholic Young Adult Conference at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church.

The cost of the program is \$45. For more information, contact Stephanie Donley at (614) 306-6851 or [sdonley@insight.rr.com](mailto:sdonley@insight.rr.com). To register, go to <https://eagleeyeministries.brushfire.com/datewithfrnate/457916>.

## St. Michael Church presents catechetical series

Worthington St. Michael Church, 5750 N. High St., is offering a family catechetical series for all interested Catholic families in central Ohio. The series will feature the Disciple in Christ series presented by the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist who teach at St. Michael School, with the theme of "God's Plan of Loving Salvation."

Programs will be from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. beginning Monday, Oct. 7 and continuing Nov. 4, Dec. 2, Jan. 6, Feb. 3, April 6 and May 4, all Mondays. There will be four separate ses-

sions for kindergarten through second grade, third through fifth grade, sixth through eighth grade, and high school students and their parents. Child care will be provided.

## Msgr. Dunn to speak next month at Catholic Record Society

Msgr. William Dunn will speak at the Catholic Record Society's quarterly meeting on Sunday, Nov. 10 about the four bishops who served the Diocese of Columbus from the mid-1950s to the early 1980s. Msgr. Robert Noon, the diocese's senior priest, talked about the same subjects – Bish-

op Broad St., Columbus. Lunch will be available at noon at a cost of \$10.

Bishop (later Cardinal) Carberry ordained Msgr. Dunn on May 29, 1965. He was an associate pastor at Worthington St. Michael and Newark Blessed Sacrament churches and Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, then was pastor at Columbus Holy Rosary, Lancaster St. Mary, St. Michael and Logan St. John churches.

He also has been a teacher at his alma mater, Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, as well as Columbus Bishop Watterson and Newark Catholic high schools, the Mount Carmel College of

Those who intend to eat at the luncheon are asked to send a check, payable to the Diocese of Columbus, to Catholic Record Society, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215 by Friday, Nov. 1. For more information, contact Mike Finn at (614) 268-4166 or [FCoolavin@aol.com](mailto:FCoolavin@aol.com).

## Oktoberfest returns this month at Columbus St. Mary GV

Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church will host its third annual Oktoberfest from 5 to 11 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11 and Saturday, Oct. 12 in front of St. Mary School, 684 S. 3rd St. in German Village. The event is sponsored by the St. Mary School home and School Association and the Pope St. John XXIII Council 5429 of the Knights of Columbus.

It will feature German entertainment, German food and beer and wine from the Knights, and desserts and snacks prepared by students of the school. Proceeds will go to school classroom needs and the Knights' charities. For more information, call (614) 445-9668.

## Ohio Dominican president elected to Fulbright board

Dr. Robert Gervasi, president of Ohio Dominican University, has been elected to a three-year term on the Fulbright Association's national board of directors, beginning in January 2020. Gervasi lectured as a senior Fulbright scholar in classics at the University of Zimbabwe in 1995.

"While I have great affection for the association as a Fulbright alumnus, I am particularly energized to join the organization's leadership because of the common connection between the Fulbright Association's mission and the commitment of Ohio Dominican University to promote international education as a way to build cultural connections and serve as a grassroots force for peace in the world," Gervasi said.

The Fulbright Association is the private, nonprofit membership organization of Fulbright program alumni and friends. It is dedicated to promoting international education and cultural exchange, enriching the experiences of visiting Fulbright students, teachers and scholars in their host communities throughout the United States and fostering a global network of alumni. Members of its board do not receive a salary and pay their own expenses for travel to board meetings.

## St. Anthony has new fountain



**Columbus St. Anthony School seventh-grade student Majid Strickland is impressed by the impact of the school's new water fountain, donated by this spring's graduating eighth-grade class. It replaces a fountain that had been part of the building since it opened more than 50 years ago and had stopped working. The new fountain has a bottle filler built in, so students can bring in a water bottle they have purchased and refill it rather than throw it away. A counter on the fountain shows how many bottles have been saved in this way. In the first week since the new fountain was put in place, the count stood at 463. The fountain was installed by Nick Kish and Carmack Hopson, the husbands of teachers Amy Kish and Stephanie Hopson.**

*Photo courtesy St. Anthony School*

ops Clarence Issenmann, John Carberry, Clarence Elwell and Edward Herrmann – at the society's spring meeting, but Msgr. Dunn promises to present a different viewpoint.

The meeting will be at 1 p.m. in St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E.

Nursing, Ohio Dominican University and the Pontifical College Josephinum. He served as diocesan superintendent of schools and the chairman of the diocesan liturgical commission. St. Charles awarded him its 2015 Borromeo Medal for distinguished service.

## Update on status of Medjugorje; true cross of Christ

**Q**A friend has just informed me that she is going next month to Medjugorje in Bosnia. She says that the Blessed Mother has been appearing there to six visionaries since 1981 and that Our Lady gives them messages on the second and 25th days of each month.

Can you shed some light on this for me? Is this something that is sanctioned by the Catholic Church? How does one verify that it is not a hoax? (Virginia Beach, Virginia)

**A**In May 2019, the Vatican announced that parishes and dioceses around the world are now permitted to sponsor official pilgrimages to Medjugorje. At the same time, however, the Vatican clarified that it was making no statement on the authenticity of the alleged apparitions.

In 1981, six young people claimed that Mary had appeared to them at Medjugorje, which is located in the nation of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Some of the six claim that Our Lady continues to appear to them up to the present and gives them messages daily, while others of the group say that Mary now appears to them only once a year.

In 2010, Pope Benedict XVI formed a papal commission to study the alleged apparitions, but that commission has yet to issue an official report.

In 2017, speaking with journalists during a flight from Fatima, Portugal, Pope Francis offered an insight into the Vatican's official thinking. "About the

### QUESTION & ANSWER

Father Kenneth Doyle  
*Catholic News Service*

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at [askfatherdoyle@gmail.com](mailto:askfatherdoyle@gmail.com) and 30 Columbia Circle Drive, Albany NY 12203.



first apparitions when (the 'seers') were young," said the pontiff, "the report more or less says that the investigation needs to continue." However, he added, "concerning the alleged current apparitions, the report expresses doubts."

In its most recent move – permitting organized pilgrimages to the site – the Vatican acknowledges that Medjugorje continues to be for countless pilgrims a place of authentic prayer and spiritual deepening and that many visitors have experienced "abundant fruits of grace."

Pilgrims are offered the sacrament of penance in seven different languages, and confessional lines are sometimes several hours long.

**Q**Is there any verifiable evidence as to what happened to the cross on which Jesus was actually crucified? Did the followers of Jesus ask for it and get it, or did it remain in place for further use by Roman soldiers? (southern Indiana)

**A**It is difficult with historical precision to determine the exact journey of the cross of Christ from Calvary and the present-day locations of all of its fragments, but the most common belief of scholars is as follows:

During the second century, the emperor Hadrian built a pagan temple over the site of Christ's death and burial.

About the year 326, St. Helena – the mother of Emperor Constantine, who first allowed Christianity to be practiced in the Roman Empire – journeyed to Jerusalem in an effort to locate the true cross.

According to legend, she found three crosses buried on Calvary; to determine which was the cross of Jesus and which ones belonged to the two thieves, Helena arranged for a dying woman to touch the crosses and, when the woman touched the cross of Christ, she was healed of her illness.

A portion of the cross traveled with St. Helena back to Rome, and the rest of it was enshrined deep within the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem.

During subsequent centuries, remnants of the cross changed hands several times during battles with Persian and Muslim forces and, later, with those of the sultan Saladin.

Relics of the cross remain today in Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulcher, as well as in Rome's Basilica of the Holy Cross, and the largest remaining piece is thought to be in Greece on Mount Athos.

## One of the joys of motherhood is actually liking kids

Lately, I can't seem to get away from this idea that we don't like kids ("we" as a society and a culture).

We aren't having as many kids. We are building non-kid-and-family-friendly cities. We're increasingly finding ways to have our kids cared for by others.

Let's not even get started on how abortion is a big business, how the worst thing for a young woman is to have an unplanned pregnancy (when she's encouraged to be completely available for sex, because that's liberating and freedom at its finest), and how we are selecting against Down's syndrome children, whether we intend to or not.

What message are we sending this generation of kids?

In my small community, there have been a couple of kid suicides: an 11-year-old in the spring and an 18-year-old last week. (Our school system has less than 1,000 kids. Two in a few months is huge.)

My latest find, which somehow fits with all of this in my mind, is that there's a surge in the interest of home crafts, such as DIY projects, making slow, fully homecooked meals, and living in old homes.

There is not, however, a corresponding increase in the number of moms who are staying home all day in those beautifully decorated-by-hand homes.

### FINDING FAITH IN EVERYDAY LIFE

Sarah Reinhard

Sarah's online at [SnoringScholar.com](http://SnoringScholar.com). She's a wife, mom and author, in addition to being addicted to coffee and books.



Because, the article concluded, we don't value mothers.

And why would we?

I mean, really: We don't seem to like kids very much. It follows that moms would not be valued (except, of course, by their offspring).

Here's where this article goes from being a complaint about our culture and a confession: I didn't used to like kids.

Even though I was trained in college to be a high school teacher, I have never been what I would call a "kid person." And I have never, never, purported to be a baby person. (Babies still sort of terrify me, but I would say I do love them now. I mean, how can I not after having four of my own and savoring

their small feet and delicious heads?)

In the last 14 years, though, I've found myself warming to children in a way that only can be called miraculous. High school kids never have fazed me, but younger kids always have been a mystery of the "I don't like spiders – or snakes, either" variety.

Dare I suggest that motherhood has cured me? Do I imply that this vocation – which I swore in my non-Catholic days I never would undertake – has made me a different person? Am I making the broad assertion that how you feel about kids could change once you have a few?

Yes. On all fronts.

I now know that kids aren't just cute (and annoying). I now understand that children aren't just obnoxious (and sweet). I now appreciate that the way the world will continue is by the miracle of the next generation of people.

And the formation of that generation falls on us. Right now.

What's so bad that they want to leave? Hard stop. The end. All done.

It falls to us to love them and to equip them. And maybe the first step is in liking them for the people they are, for the people they will be, for the people they allow us to become.

## Palliative sedation while approaching death

Because suffering almost always imposes itself on us during life, and especially at the end of life, it can be helpful to reflect on the need to accept some personal suffering as we die, even as we recognize the importance of palliative steps and other comfort measures.

In the last week of life, more than 90 percent of patients require medical management of symptoms such as pain, nausea, delirium, spasmodic contractions of muscles, vomiting, hallucinations or generalized agitation.

Many of these symptoms can be addressed with medication, and serious pain often can be managed with powerful opioids like morphine or fentanyl. These remarkable drugs, however, call for discernment in their use because at higher dosages, they can limit mental clarity and induce an extended semi-dreamland state as death approaches.

The U.S. Catholic bishops offer an important observation about participating in our own dying process in their *Ethical and Religious Directives*. "Since a person has the right to prepare for his or her death while fully conscious," the document says, "he or she should not be deprived of consciousness without a compelling reason."

In some cases, the harsh symptoms associated with dying may prove refractory to treatments, prompting physicians to consider, during a patient's final stretch of days, the possibility of a globalized form of sedation known as "palliative sedation." This approach, which relies on the monitored use of sedatives, barbiturates, neuroleptics, benzodiazepines or other anesthetic medications, entirely deprives the patient of consciousness as he or she enters into a deep comatose state until death. One concern is that the reception of the sacraments, whether confession, the anointing of the sick or the Eucharist/Viaticum, becomes problematic for an unconscious person.

This purposeful and complete shutting down of

### MAKING SENSE OUT OF BIOETHICS Father Tad Pacholczyk

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



consciousness also raises broader ethical and spiritual concerns about categorically precluding participation in one's death, as well as the last days of life.

While for some dying patients, severe pain can almost entirely preclude their ability to think, once the intensity of their pain has been moderated, the possibility of reflection returns, as the mind no longer focuses on mere survival. Medications thus can be helpful to dying patients by keeping the harmful effects of pain within narrower limits. However, the decision definitively to shut down, through palliative sedation, that very faculty by which we exercise the conscious "parenting of our actions" surely requires the gravest of motives.

Pope St. John Paul II once remarked that the meaning of suffering has been revealed to man in the cross of Jesus Christ. The Church has indeed ascribed a certain primacy to the way he endured and sanctified the sorrowful and painful events surrounding his crucifixion, even before his preaching and teaching or his healing and forgiving. Through those final sufferings, Jesus brought about the redemption of humanity and the entirety of creation.

Paradoxically, his redemptive activity upon the

gibbet of the cross was pre-eminently an inward, internalized movement of his will. Since he could not so much as budge a limb, his chief action and motion upon the cross was the surrender of his innermost being, embracing and assenting fully to God the Father's designs. His example reminds us how the movement from external activity to the acceptance of God's will, from outward action in the world to inward activity of the soul, is one of the most important movements during our life's journey.

When Christians speak of "the value of redemptive suffering," they are hinting at how, even in the midst of great personal suffering, human activity can be reoriented from that corporal, outward-looking glance to an inward, spiritually directed transcendence.

The inward movement of our being in our final days and hours can involve a kind of transformation or conversion, sometimes quite dramatic, as in the case of the good thief. It can involve a contemplative internalization of the mysteries of human existence, a stripping away of everything, and a period of "rending naked" the soul.

That's why it is so important for us not to be entirely deprived of our consciousness except for the most extreme reasons. That's why it's so important for us to be prepared to learn how to endure some pain so that we can more fully cooperate with the redemptive meaning of suffering.

Our concluding time on earth thus may serve an important role in our own eschatological fulfillment. Our last days and hours can also powerfully affect the course of that fulfillment in others around us, as occurred in the lives of various bystanders on that historic day on Calvary. When we find ourselves nailed to our hospital bed, it can become an important personal moment for us to engage the possibility of a spiritual transformation opening before us as we pass through the pains of childbirth to the joy of new life (John 16:21).

### FACILITIES, continued from Page 2

output can be achieved with fewer (and less consumptive) light bulbs, which in turn use much less power.

By converting nearly 1.9 million square feet of building space to LED lights (that's equivalent to 32 football fields), the 37 schools will save almost \$640,000 annually on electric bills. The energy saved could power 316 average homes for a year.

By following the example of the schools and parishes, similar savings could be gained in households and businesses across the diocese by home and business owners willing to upgrade their lighting.

In addition, more efficient light bulbs save more than energy and money. By reducing the consumption of electricity in Ohio, toxic mercury emissions and carbon dioxide emissions from coal plants also are reduced. And while this clears the skies and improves ecological integrity, one of the most noticeable improvements is the brighter lighting in schools and parishes.

"Amazing!" seems to be the most common reaction after the new lights are installed, giving school rooms a fresh and updated look," Boylan said. "And for those who feared that the cost

of buying new bulbs would be prohibitive, the quick payback and rebate assistance makes the business case for this upgrade an obvious winner."

The message of *Laudato Si'* challenges us to create a community of care and to be good stewards of resources. The LED lighting program is a solution that has a big impact in more ways than one.

Installation of the retention ponds and pipe systems provides another example of following the pope's environmental message. Without these improvements, water runs into storm drains and carries pollution and sed-

iment into waterways, resulting in reduced water quality and increased erosion.

The ponds and pipes improve water quality, reduce pollution, improve aquatic ecosystems and save money on stormwater discharge fees. So whether seen or unseen, the award-winning work of the diocesan Facilities Office is saving money and improving the environment for our community, exemplifying the pope's call to care for our common home.

*Sheri Rogers is project manager for the Diocesan Facilities Office.*

## Bishop Brennan visits Worthington St. Michael School

Worthington St. Michael School welcomed Bishop Robert Brennan for a visit on Monday, Sept. 23.

In preparation for the visit, songs were practiced, presentations were created and students, families, faculty and staff prayed the rosary for 30 days for the bishop and his intentions.

Sixth- through eighth-grade stu-

dents guided the bishop, Sister John Paul, OP, the school's principal, and Father Anthony Dinovo, St. Michael Church pastor, on a tour of the school, sharing facts about the school and introducing the bishop to many classes.

Students in each first- through fifth-grade class presented Bishop Brennan with a virtue card illustrat-

ing what they had been learning and how to practice that virtue within their daily lives. Students in the upper three grades led presentations on their experience at the school and in the wider Church in response to Pope Francis' recent encyclical *Christus Vivit*.

Each of the religion classes in those grades worked together to compose a letter that summarized the class's response to *Christus Vivit*. Some of the questions they reflected on included "What can the Church do to support you in your life and/or your Catholic faith?" and "What challenges do you face as a young person in today's society as you seek to live as a faithful disciple of Christ?" The eighth-grade class

responded, "In writing this letter, we came to a realization. We want Jesus! We want opportunities to pray together. ...We want to witness to others so that they will come to faith in Jesus. To do this, we need time to encounter Jesus in the Eucharist both individually and as a group. Young people need to learn about the real truths of the faith so they understand not simply what we believe, but why we believe it."

Bishop Brennan said that he was very grateful for the feedback the students offered and that he would remember their input and share it with those who can help to address the various issues and suggestions the students mentioned.



Bishop Robert Brennan visits the kindergarten classroom at Worthington St. Michael School on Monday, Sept. 23.



Bishop Brennan speaks to students and faculty in the gymnasium during a visit to Worthington St. Michael School on Monday, Sept. 23. Photos courtesy St. Michael School

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## 'Each child ... an addition of more love'

Stories by MaryBeth Eberhard

We didn't expect for it to end up this way. Twenty-two years, eight children and a life lived so deeply that the everyday beauty and suffering of it is at times both blinding and brilliant.

My husband and I met as college sweethearts. I knew from the moment we met that this was the man God had saved for me to love and be loved by. We planned on two children, maybe three. We moved back home after the birth of our first son. Our second arrived two years later, and then our third was on the way about 18 months after that.

Everything about that third pregnancy felt different. We were sure the baby was a girl, and, not having any concerns previously, there was no need for extra scans. I went into labor four weeks early, and no one was concerned. The doctor said, "Come on in. It's a great day to have a baby!" We knew the baby was breech, so we were prepared for another C-section.

The moment the delivery room changed, I knew something was wrong. I could feel it. "Boy or girl?" I kept asking. My husband sunk to the floor, and a nurse put a wet towel across his forehead. I remember laughing, thinking two births and now this is going to make you squeamish?

"I'm sorry. I'm so very sorry" were the first words spoken to me by the doctor. We were told our baby was paralyzed. His legs twisted behind his neck and his spine folded where his ear was touching his hip. He had no movement. Teams of doctors and nurses rushed in. He needed to be transported. Before they left, I remember asking one more time, "Boy or girl?" We gave birth to a son.

Our son was born with a rare neuromuscular condition, arthrogryposis,



**Eberhard family members (from left) are Gabriel, Samuel, Paul, Ryan, Sarah, Joseph, Lily, MaryBeth, Elizabeth and Peter.**  
*Photo courtesy Eberhard family*

which causes contractures of the joints and atrophy of the muscles. Thirteen years later, and after 37 surgeries and procedures that have taken place in many places, we have just finished his last surgery. He now sits up straight in his power wheelchair, functioning as a typical 13-year-old young man who just needs help with some daily tasks.

When Gabriel was born, I remember worrying about my older boys, and a wise friend counseled me, "They will be better men for it." And indeed they are.

During those 13 years, the Lord blessed us with twin girls, one of whom is in heaven and one who sits by my side as I type this essay. Then came my Joseph, who was born right before we moved out of state for Gabriel's care.

I received a call from a friend just a couple of weeks after we had moved.

She said, "I know you have much going on right now, but a mutual friend is adopting a little boy from one of Mother Teresa's homes in Armenia, and there is an 8-year-old girl there who has arthrogryposis. Would you consider adopting her?"

In all humility, I just had a baby, moved, and was walking into another surgery. Adopting another child with special needs was not on my radar. I remember thinking, "What kind of friend are you?" But I promised I would take it to my husband and we would pray.

My husband immediately opened his heart and reminded me of our promise to the Lord that should another child like Gabriel come across our door, we would be open because we knew how to help. Two years later (and two more children later), Elizabeth joined our family.

Our last pregnancy was very high

risk, and we were able to move back to Columbus to give birth to our daughter. With my life, our baby's life and that of an adopted child who was due to come home in a couple of weeks on the line, to say we placed our life at the foot of the cross is no exaggeration.

My husband looked at me, and our eyes welled up with all the possibilities. Our doctor is a holy man whose eyes glistened with joy every time he lifted one of my babies into the air. We were in good hands.

My children do not treat one another any differently than they treat others. Occasionally I will even hear an incredulous "Just because Gabe and Liz have arthrogryposis doesn't mean they don't have to do the dishes."

We have raised our children with the notion that everyone has some type of disability; some you see, some you don't. We all have struggles. I pray that they all have eyes and hearts open to see life through this lens.

The "How do you do it" or "You must be a saint" comments no longer shake me. They make me smile. The reality is, having many children doesn't make me better than any other mother. Each child in our family always has been spoken of as an addition of more love. Love doesn't divide. Love multiplies exponentially.

I know that my marriage has been blessed by the love of these sons and daughters, but even more so, I know that their hearts have been formed closer to one another through this shared journey. Based on their everyday *fiats*, they are well on their way to becoming better humans.

*MaryBeth Eberhard is a grateful wife and mother. She attends Sunbury St. John Neumann Church and lives in the country, where she home-schools her eight children.*

## Acts of kindness help parents keep pro-life promise

It's early, and I am up again moving my son's sore, tired body. This surgery is hard to heal from. The body takes time to recognize a new shape. Time truly does heal.

In the meantime, my husband and I wander back and forth like strangers in the night, rotating his body and trying to keep him comfortable. I remember telling him that this surgery was necessary and that I would walk through it with him. Even in the exhaustion, I need to honor my words. God always provides.

I have been reflecting a great deal on

God's provision lately – the Respect Life cause specifically. I see many examples of holy families who dedicate their lives to this crucial cause. Families pray outside abortion clinics, or fund a bus filled with the latest ultrasound equipment so a young mother can hear her baby's heartbeat. These acts of mercy are ever so important and necessary. However, in the spirit of St. Therese, I am all about the little ways we can live out being pro-life.

When Gabriel was born and I sat in the NICU rocking him night after night, I remember a 2 a.m. tap on the

shoulder as I rocked him to sleep. A dear friend had driven his motorcycle to the hospital and came to take a shift singing and rocking so I could get some much-needed sleep. His act of mercy, still in my heart, stands as a testament to his character.

Through the years, friends and strangers have mailed checks, helped pay for flights, cleaned our home, watched our children, dropped off a meal, provided care packages for the kids, mowed our grass and even put together Christmas for us while we were traveling home from the hospital

close to Christmas Eve.

All these tasks were done out of the goodness within their hearts. They thought of my family and came and did a small good deed. That good deed sent ripples through the hearts of my children. They now seek to go and do the same: "Momma, can we just stop by? Momma, could we grab a gift card for them? Momma, I'm just going to go help; she looked tired after Mass."

The support for a family who faces

# Zanesville family with four deaf children opens its hearts and home to another life with the adoption of hearing-impaired teen from Ukraine

By Doug Bean  
Catholic Times Editor

Rob and Bernadette Rodgers already have a full house with eight children, but there's room in their hearts and their home for one more.

The Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church parishioners are in the final stages of adopting a teenage boy from Ukraine who is hearing-impaired. They made the 5,000-mile trip to Odessa, Ukraine, this week for a court visit that should clear the way for Dima to come back to Ohio with them when they return to Ukraine next month for the third and final time.

Dima's arrival in America will end a lengthy process that began in early 2018, when Rob first heard from a co-worker at the Genesis Health-Care System in Zanesville, where he works as director of patient support services, about an orphan needing to be adopted before he turned 16 years old. That's the age when orphans are released into society in Ukraine. Two weeks before Dima's 16th birthday, an adoption odyssey began that has lasted nearly two years.

Like many couples who adopt internationally, the Rodgerses have experienced their share of struggles. Mistakes, misunderstandings, endless paperwork and financial burdens are all part of the drawn-out process. But they have pressed on and soon will welcome home the new addition to the family.

Dima finally will be getting a permanent home after two other American couples backed out of adopting him because of concerns about communication issues. His hearing problem is actually how the Rodgerses became involved.

Four of their eight children (and one who passed away in 2008) are also deaf. The couple also used their experiences to assist special-needs kids, serving as foster parents for several years after their first son, Ambrose, died.

The Rodgerses already know sign American Sign Language (ASL) (though there are some differences in the Russian language), and the family communicates regularly with Dima through video chats and messaging.

So he will be no stranger to the children when he finally lands in Zanesville.

"I'm good at signing and Rob's good at picking up Russian," Bernadette said. "Sometimes, Dima will translate stuff for us. We've been communicating so long that we know some of the Russian signs and he knows some of the American signs."

That the Rodgerses ended up as parents of a large, growing family shows that God often has plans that can't be envisioned.

## In the beginning

Rob, who grew up in Canada in a family that wasn't very religious, was working at The Ritz in London when

ary preparation to be with his mother as she was dying of cancer. She hadn't wanted him to leave England to see her because she feared it would hurt his career. She also was against his becoming a priest one day.

"She willed me her wedding ring," Rob said.

Bernadette grew up in the McConnelville area on a farm after her family moved to Ohio from Michigan when she was 10. After completing her homeschooling, she left home to devote a year to NET Ministries and ended up on the same team as Rob in 2001. Her intention was to become a Carmelite nun.

"I knew that's what I wanted to do. I've always had a heart for religious

icism and formed a ministry to help pastors on the same journey.

Bernadette and Rob were married in May 2003.

## Starting a family

The Rodgerses welcomed their first child, Josephina ("JoJo"), now 15, who does not have hearing loss, in 2004. Two years later, their first son, Ambrose, was born, but there were serious complications.

Ambrose was born with two genetic disorders, one called CHARGE syndrome and the other Klinefelter syndrome, that kept him in the neonatal intensive care unit at Nationwide Children's Hospital for 63 days, plus an additional two weeks in stepdown before the Rodgerses were able to bring him home.

"He was amazing," Rob said. "Mentally, he was sound, but (there were) a lot of physical disabilities. The syndrome he had made it so he had no natural reflexes, like swallowing."

Ambrose, who was considered blind and deaf, would be in and out of Nationwide Children's for emergency visits during the following months. At age 2, the mortality rate drops for children in his medical situation because they have grown to a size that they can be taught reflexes.

All signs were positive for Ambrose.

"Shortly before he passed, they said (to) expect a beautiful future with him," Rob said.

Ambrose developed a random blood clot at 26 months and died unexpectedly in 2008 from a pulmonary embolism. In the meantime, Bernadette had given birth to another son, Augustine.

"All we asked for is that he would far exceed the doctors' expectations, and he did," Rob said of Ambrose. "We thought he was going to be around for a while. They repaired his heart, put in a gastric tube so he could feed properly."

"Neither one of us had experienced children with disabilities in any form," Bernadette said. "God wanted martyrdom. He had a plan. Ambrose opened our hearts. He grew our hearts so big to love someone. You didn't



**Ukrainian orphan Dima was visited by Bernadette and Rob Rodgers of Zanesville for the first time in August. The couple traveled to Ukraine again this week as part of the adoption process and hope to bring Dima to Ohio in November. Photo courtesy Rodgers family**

a co-worker first interested him in Catholicism. He quickly felt at home in the Church and became involved with the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, a New York-based order that came to England for the Jubilee Year 2000.

He decided to leave his job and come to the United States to pursue a religious vocation. The plan was for him to spend one year as a missionary traveling throughout the nation with St. Paul, Minnesota-based NET Ministries, and then enter the Franciscan community with the intention of becoming a priest.

God's providence allowed him to go home to Canada during his mission-

life," she said. "My deepest desire was to be married and have children, but I think God wanted me to see that I would surrender everything. I was set to be a sister when I really saw (Rob) for the first time. I was like 'This can't work. I was ready to be cloistered.'"

Rob and Bernadette were set to go their separate ways at the end of their year with NET, but Rob opted to come to Ohio with Bernadette to determine whether God was calling them to be together. He found employment as director of administration for the Coming Home Network, which was started by Marcus Grodi, a former Protestant minister who converted to Cathol-

**RODGERS, continued from Page 10**

know from minute to minute. But it was a beautiful two years.”

“He taught me to love without any conditions,” Rob said. “He touched our hearts in so many ways.”

**Foster parents**

Ambrose made such an impact on the Rodgerses that they felt called to provide respite care for children in the foster care system who needed a faith-filled home.

“We wanted to help the medically fragile ones – the ones that struggled,” Rob said. “We could use the knowledge we gained from Ambrose’s life almost to carry on who he was through us and give that gift to others.”

“Nothing intimidated us,” Bernadette said. “We had worked every (medical) machine. We knew what it was like to resuscitate a child.”

After four years of taking in foster children and a job change for Rob, the couple decided in 2012 that they needed to direct all of their attention toward their own family, which had added two more children, Sebastian and Emilia.

**Focus on the family**

Rob and Bernadette carry a recessive gene that’s part of Pendred syndrome, which results in progressive hearing loss.

Augustine, nicknamed Augie, went misdiagnosed at first. They thought he might be autistic, but Rob and Bernadette took him to Nationwide Children’s and doctors determined right away that he had partial hearing loss. He was fitted for hearing aids and became a candidate for a cochlear implant, which he has in one ear. Eventually, he will have 100 percent loss.

The implant circumvents where the nerve would be and turns sounds into a series of beeps that the brain learns to process into language. A device on the outside of the ear acts as a magnet, basically functioning as a mini-computer.

Sebastian, who turns 10 in October, is not deaf. Emilia, 8, was determined to be deaf not long after birth. Ignatius, 6, has no hearing loss; Maximus, 5, was born completely deaf; and Juniper, who will be 3 in November, is fine.

Tiberius, 18 months, has Pendred syndrome, which involves the cochlear strands inside the ear not con-

necting. Sounds become muffled and hearing grows progressively worse. A simple bump on the head could cause complete deafness.

“We’re a bilingual house,” Bernadette said. “Emilia told us at age 2 that she would not speak and would sign only. All her friends are hearing, and she’s learned to talk.”

No one would wish hearing loss on anyone, but Emilia has learned to use her hearing device to her advantage in one way that’s every kid’s dream.

“When she’s being disciplined, she’ll turn off her implant, and there’s nothing we can do. She can’t hear,” Bernadette said.

Emilia’s hearing loss hasn’t prevented her from excelling in West Muskingum Elementary School, a public school where she has an interpreter. Her older sister, JoJo, is homeschooled. Four of the boys attend



**Bernadette and Rob Rodgers discuss at their Zanesville home their family life and their decision to adopt a deaf teen from Ukraine. Four of the couple’s eight children are hearing-impaired.**  
*CT photo by Ken Snow*

Zanesville Bishop Fenwick School.

After Dima arrives, he will begin high school at West Muskingum. The school is gearing up to make the adjustment easier. In Ukraine, education focuses mostly on life and vocational skills.

**God’s providence**

Rob learned about Dima through one of the nurse managers at Genesis Hospital who had adopted four Down syndrome children and an autistic boy. Rob came home from work one day, and Bernadette handed him her phone with a picture of Dima and said, “What do you think of this?”

“I started crying when I saw his picture,” Rob said. “I just knew I couldn’t say no. She said, ‘Are you sure?’ I just knew that this was right.

“The deaf children have no life there, unfortunately, because there’s no opportunities for them. So basically they end up in a life of prostitution and drugs.”

The Rodgerses began wading through the mountains of adoption paperwork, staying up late into the night to fill out documents and submit them before deadlines.

In August, Rob and Bernadette traveled to Ukraine for the first time to spend four days with Dima. That visit gave them a chance to learn more about his life. He shared the tragic story of contracting tuberculosis from his mother, who died in their home when he was around age 7. He spent several months living there with her

in early November.

Dima does retain some hearing and uses hearing aids, but their quality is poor. He will be evaluated medically at Nationwide Children’s once he’s in central Ohio and probably will be fitted with better equipment. Dima also is learning ASL and will have assistance from various agencies at school.

Though America will present a different culture filled with strangers, he will be able to maintain a connection to his homeland through two girls from the same orphanage who each live four hours away with adopted families in Indiana and Michigan.

“He’s a perfect fit. He’s made for us,” Rob said. “They’re (family) all waiting for him. They’re excited. Dima is excited.”

He has told the family that he can’t wait to have brothers so they can all tease their dad.

“He said he’s been thinking about all the things he can do with his brothers to torment his dad, and he was laughing and laughing,” Rob said. “What about Mom? ‘No, no,’ he says, ‘boys love Mom.’”

The most important gifts the Rodgerses want to share with the teenager are faith, family and future.

“I asked him one day, ‘What do you dream of doing?’ And he said, ‘I don’t know,’” Rob shared. “It was sad to realize that he never really dreamed of a life going forward. As an orphan, it would almost be dangerous to dream, especially as he watched himself age up and all the other ones being adopted and him getting left behind.”

The boy’s exposure to religion has consisted of reading the Bible in school and being taken to Mass on Christmas and Easter.

“He has so much within him. He’s magnetic,” Rob said. “He is going to transform hearts. If we can get him culturally ingrained and, God willing, he opens his heart to Christ, it will be amazing. I can’t put a value on that. How can I not do something?”

Dima will quickly discover a home that’s immersed in the Catholic faith. Rob is the director of parish faith formation at St. Thomas Aquinas, overseeing the spiritual needs of young people and adults in the parish. The family regularly participates in Eucharistic Adoration and other parish

## Pregnancy Decision Health Centers rescue lives in communities

When Chelsie saw that her home pregnancy test was positive, she fell to the floor, sobbing.

“I thought my life was over,” she said. “I started thinking about abortion, not wanting to go that route, but felt like it was my only option.”

Every day, women who feel like this reach out to Pregnancy Decision Health Centers (PDHC) for help. They call, text and chat with PDHC, looking for answers and hope. Last year, PDHC had 26,393 of these contacts with women, a 21 percent increase from the previous year.

However, some women don’t want to talk to anyone. Like Chelsie, they schedule appointments online. Chelsie found PDHC’s website ([www.PDHC.org](http://www.PDHC.org)) after a Google search, used online scheduling, and went to PDHC’s campus center.

Chelsie heard she could take a pill and her pregnancy would end. This abortion pill is RU-486 and is actually two pills: mifepristone and misoprostol. Mifepristone destabilizes a pregnancy by blocking progesterone receptors and reducing progesterone levels in the mother’s blood. To finish the abortion, misoprostol induces labor, forcing her body to expel the baby.

A woman usually takes the first pill at an abortion facility and takes the second pill at home, often cramping, bleeding and passing her child alone.

“This is not health care for women. Abortion activists are now advocating selling pills online without any medical oversight. It’s complete disregard for a baby’s life and the safe-



Chelsie and her baby

Photo courtesy PDHC

ty of women,” PDHC president Julie Moore said. “Most women don’t want to have an abortion. They succumb to the pressure of their situations or coercion. Some immediately regret taking the abortion pill and desperately want to save the lives of their babies.

“One woman called PDHC’s hot line during her abortion pill experience. She was alone, terrified and thought she was going to die. These situations are devastating. That’s why PDHC now offers abortion pill Reversal services to our community as part of Heartbeat International’s abortion pill reversal network.”

The network is a round-the-clock helpline and physician network standing by to help women. Time and location are the key to getting women prescriptions to reverse RU-486 within 72 hours of taking the first pill. PDHC

will be a critical connection for women in central Ohio.

“Now women who regret starting abortions will have a second chance to save the lives of their babies,” Moore said.

Through the APR Network operated by Heartbeat International – a global network of 2,600 pregnancy help organizations – more than 900 babies have been saved and there have been no health repercussions from the reversals.

Fortunately for Chelsie, women assisted by PDHC talk with experienced medical professionals who help them think through solutions that do not involve handing out abortion pills. Together, they look at the bigger picture, not just the positive pregnancy test in front of them.

“The nurse that I had, Kathy, was so reassuring and just compassionate. She

absolutely showed me the grace of God in just a few minutes of talking with her,” Chelsie said. “She took me into a room to have an ultrasound and that’s when everything changed. I got to see that there was actually a life, a heartbeat going, and I wouldn’t have had that opportunity if I didn’t come to PDHC.”

PDHC empowers women and families by providing individualized consultations that include education on healthy pregnancy and reproduction, as well as no-cost pregnancy testing, ultrasounds and maternity items. Last year, PDHC helped women during 4,956 appointments and 1,617 ultrasounds.

More than 90 percent of women who have ultrasounds at PDHC choose life. To support women after their babies are born, PDHC offers parenting classes, baby clothes, diapers and cribs and can connect them to other agencies for additional help. PDHC is dedicated to serving women during pregnancy and after their children are born.

People in the community interested in helping women, babies and families should visit PDHC’s “How to Help” page on [SupportLifePDHC.org](http://SupportLifePDHC.org). They can sign up to attend a volunteer interest meeting or give financial support.

“If I hadn’t gone to PDHC, I wouldn’t have had this child. I’m forever grateful.” Chelsie said.

PDHC is a nonprofit organization that since 1981 has provided resources to empower individuals to make healthy life choices. To reach PDHC, call its hotline at (614) 444-4411 or visit [www.pdhc.org](http://www.pdhc.org).

### RODGERS, continued from Page 11

events, and Augie is an altar server for Mass.

“Rob is very enthusiastic and filled with lots of good ideas on how to reach out to young people in our parish and engage them,” said Father Jan Sullivan, the parish’s pastor since 2017.

### Financing

As those who have adopted can attest, it’s an expensive proposition. Fees, flights, court costs and other expenses balloon into the thousands. The Rodgerses’ first trip to Ukraine cost around \$15,000.

Generous benefactors and fundraisers through their parish and oth-

er groups have raised a significant amount, but the Rodgerses are still about \$20,000 short. Rob used a home equity loan to help in the interim.

“Members of the parish have reached out to them prayerfully and financially,” Father Sullivan said.

“People of the parish have really stepped up and shown concern and assistance. We’re all anxious to meet Dima when he arrives.”

The Rodgerses have established a sponsorship page on the Reece’s Rainbow website. The nonprofit organization helps advocate and raise money for international adoptions of orphans with special needs.

To donate or obtain more infor-

mation, visit <https://reecesrainbow.org/128748/sponsorrodgers>.

“Nothing is impossible to God, and I have to realize that’s true,” Rob said. “When I did the equity loan, we could have used it for a car. We could have used it for a kitchen. But what’s a kitchen when there’s a life?”

“If no money comes, and we’re left with that, we’re left with Dima, and how can’t I not be happy with Dima because this boy is going to have a family.”

This act of generosity has served as an inspiration to others in the parish to reach out to those in need.

“Rob and Bernadette certainly have embraced the gift of life,” Father Sul-

livan said. “Their contribution has certainly been fulfilled, but here they see another opportunity, particularly to a teenager who is marginalized ... before the Rodgerses stepped up to the plate.

“They have shown a deep understanding of the gift and the dignity of human life, which doesn’t have any borders or political divisions. It really helps make us understand our belief that all human life is sacred from natural beginning to natural end.

“How can we support and begin to change hearts and begin to change our culture and let people know we are here to provide support? It’s all part of the conversion of our culture.”

## Hope and the dignity of each human life

By Beth Vanderkooi

The theme adopted by the U.S. bishops for this year's Respect Life Month is "Christ Our Hope in Every Season of Life." We are especially excited that Bishop Robert Brennan has chosen that topic for his keynote at the diocesan Building a Culture of Life conference on Saturday, Oct. 19 at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church.

Indeed, hope is a profound thing. It speaks not to our whims and shallow desires, but to our very identity as Christians who proclaim the Gospel of Life. Hope is the virtue by which "we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1817).

It is this hope that comforts the woman who is pregnant in difficult circumstances and gives her the courage to choose life for her baby when the culture tells her she should abort. It is this hope that consoles the sick and the dying and brings peace when the world tells them that ending their lives is better than suffering. It is this hope which invites us to prayer and steadfast action when we begin to despair at the countless ways in which the dignity of the human person seems to be under attack.

When I talk about the work that Greater Columbus Right to Life does on the sidewalks in front of local abortion clinics, whether it is during 40 Days for Life or our year-round sidewalk ministry, I often explain that it is our goal to be faithful witnesses to Christ's love: the last sign of hope for women (and men) walking into

the abortion clinic and the first sign of mercy to those leaving.

We are also there to pray for the precious unborn children at the hour of their death – children who (like us) were made in the image and likeness of God. We pray also for those who participate in, perform, facilitate and promote abortion. Finally, we pray for each other as we build up the body of Christ and seek to grow in our own faith. While attacks on the human person begin from the moment of concep-



The 40 Days for Life prayer vigil campaign is underway through Nov. 3 at the Founders abortion clinic, 1243 E. Broad St., Columbus, and around the world. Photo courtesy GCRTL

tion, we know they continue throughout life – seeking not only to prevent the very first breath a baby takes, but also dictating how and when a person takes his last breath.

Threats against the dignity of the human person at the end of life are taking shape in three ways: the direct threat of assisted suicide, euthanasia, and so-called medical aid in dying; the indirect threat of uncertainty re-

lated to medical ethics and medical decision making; and the combined threat of fear and loneliness among older and medically vulnerable populations and the perception that those who are sick or medically vulnerable are expendable or burdensome.

As I talk about end-of-life attacks, I realize that people in the pro-life movement have struggled to talk about being pro-life at the end of life. Often, what we have come up with has been a list of prudential or slip-

a surprising place: a focus on (maybe an obsession with) gaining secular approval for pro-life evangelism that has made us neglect the deeper truth: "Human life is sacred because from its beginning it involves the creative action of God. ... no one can under any circumstance claim for himself the right directly to destroy an innocent human being" (*Catechism*, 2258).

To be very clear: it is a good thing to meet people where they are, but it is in Christ that we must place our hope if we are to defend the dignity of the human person.

At Greater Columbus Right to Life, we equip individuals, families, churches and groups to defend the dignity of each human life from conception until natural death. From sidewalk training and pro-life apologetics to research and public awareness campaigns, we are working to end abortion in our community.

We also have launched our "Pro-Life at the End of Life" campaign to take back the meaning of compassion, help families with pro-life advance medical directives and stop efforts to expand assisted suicide to our community. With the diocesan offices for Social Concerns and Marriage and Family Life, we are sponsoring the Oct. 19 Building a Culture of Life conference, which will cover womb-to-tomb advocacy for adults and students (see [www.bclc.life](http://www.bclc.life) for details). We also can bring these programs to your church, school or organization throughout the year.

Beth Vanderkooi is executive director of Greater Columbus Right to Life. To learn more about GCRTL, to volunteer, or to schedule a program, visit [www.gcrtl.org](http://www.gcrtl.org), email [beth@gcrtl.org](mailto:beth@gcrtl.org), or call (614) 445-8508.

### KINDNESS, continued from Page 9

a difficult pregnancy or special-needs child – or any life issue – shouldn't stop with a meal when that baby is born, but rather the true need comes when that family is living its "Yes" to the Lord.

Our family has been privileged to be involved in many organizations that see the need to support the whole family through the life of raising children with special needs. A Kid Again is an example. They plan monthly adventures for the whole family. It is incredible how necessary but unthought-of a trip to Magic Mountain or a Clippers baseball game is to help a family constantly stay connected

and step outside of the medical need.

Living pro-life for me is having eyes to see that life does indeed start at conception, but the act of walking that new path with that new life needs continuous support.

Like a garden that gets watered throughout the hot weather, the one that gets a dose of extra plant food every now and then not only thrives, but also blossoms. Think of the bouquets we are building up in heaven by our efforts here on Earth.

Lord, please place before my heart those whom you know need a vision of your love on Earth, and help me to be a witness of your gentle love. Amen.

pery-slope arguments – focusing on the threats to vulnerable populations or mistrust of governmental agencies and medical organizations.

While these are valid concerns, they are incomplete and have left a void the culture of death fills with platitudes that mirror compassion (especially in the assisted-suicide debate) and prey on the fears of the sick and lonely.

I suspect our failure has come from

## Ohio pro-life forces accomplished much in 2019

By Allie Frazier  
*Ohio Right to Life*

We at Ohio Right to Life are reflecting on the many blessings that came to pass this year and how we will move forward. Ohio made many important strides for the pro-life movement in 2019.

In April, the Ohio House and Senate approved Ohio's Human Heartbeat Protection Act (the "Heartbeat Bill"). After joining many pro-life groups in support of the bill at the beginning of the year, Ohio Right to Life took part

in hearings and testimony as the bill made it swiftly through the Legislature in just a few months, concluding with Gov. Mike DeWine's signature.

We were proud to stand beside the governor as he signed this historic bill into law. While there is a long way to go as the bill is challenged in the court system, we pray that the Heartbeat Bill is heard before the U.S. Supreme Court and that it ultimately will serve as the vehicle to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, the devastating Supreme Court deci-

## 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time

## Give testimony to the Lord

**Habakkuk 1:2-3;  
2:2-4**  
**Psalm 95:1-2,6-9**  
**2 Timothy 1:6-8,  
13-14**  
**Luke 17:5-10**

## Father Timothy Hayes

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



The prophet Habakkuk is told by God: "Write down the vision clearly upon the tablets, so that one can read it readily. For the vision still has its time, presses on to fulfillment, and will not disappoint; if it delays, wait for it, it will surely come, it will not be late."

St. Paul invites Timothy to fan into flame the gift of faith: "Beloved: I remind you, to stir into flame the gift of God that you have through the imposition of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control. So do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord."

We must learn to attend to God's vision for the Church and to allow the world to see what it truly means for each of us to be a faithful follower of Christ and His Church. If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will be part of the transformation of the world. This is our destiny. The readings call us to try to write a vision on our hearts – the tablet of our lives.

God has a plan for every member of the Church. This is the "Age of the Laity." This means that whether the Church succeeds or fails in her mission in the world today depends not on the pope or the bishop or the priests or the religious, but rather on all members of the Church who live in the world belonging to Christ.

How can you give testimony to the Lord?

Let it be known that you are a Catholic. Check out your environment and discover whether you have any visible signs of your connection to the Church. When someone walks into your home, is it evident that it is a Catholic home? Does your space at work show signs that you belong to Christ? How about your car?

"Follow the money." That is, pay attention to how you spend what you receive. Does your pattern of giving and spending show that you are living in accord with your values? Every-

one who is a member of the Church should be "enrolled" and contribute something to the parish through the collection, just as every family member in your home is contributing to the household. This is a call of justice. If you are a member of a family and you are not giving something, then you are failing in your responsibility to God, to yourself and to your family. Jesus suggests that when we do our part, we should then say to ourselves, "We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do."

Each member of the Church is invited to discover a way of outreach. Look around you and see what "big issue" in society needs the touch of faith. Then do something about it. Articulate your own vision, inspired by your reading of the Gospel, and do what you can to bring it about. Get involved with it personally; invite someone else to do something. Take it on as your burden in prayer.

Here is where the Church's witness of charity begins. Second collections, time spent volunteering, prayer for others are all possibilities. Choosing one world issue and concentrating on that issue at the personal level, in the local area and at a distance is a pragmatic approach.

God has a plan, a vision for the human race, for the whole world. He invites human beings to hear His word and to come to understand His vision. He asks us to believe in Him, to trust Him and to follow Him as time goes on, knowing that He will accomplish what He has set out to do.

Our role is that of servants. When we begin with that premise, we discover that God opens us not just to a new way of being, but to His own way of being. We are given a capacity to serve as mediators of grace.

May we fan into flame the gift of God that is offered to us through the Spirit. May we hold fast to God's vision for us and for His world.

## THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

**MONDAY**  
Jonah 1:1-2:2,11  
Jonah 2:2-5,8 (Ps)  
Luke 10:25-37

**TUESDAY**  
Jonah 3:1-10  
Psalm 130:1b,4ab,7-8  
Luke 10:38-42

**WEDNESDAY**  
Jonah 4:1-11  
Psalm 86:3-6,9-10  
Luke 11:1-4

**THURSDAY**  
Malachi 3:13-20b  
Psalm 1:1-4,6  
Luke 11:5-13

**FRIDAY**  
Joel 1:13-15:2:1-2  
Psalm 9:2-3,6,8-9,16  
Luke 11:15-26

**SATURDAY**  
Joel 4:12-21  
Psalm 97:1-2,5-6,11-12  
Luke 11:27-28

## DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE: WEEK OF OCT. 6, 2019

**SUNDAY MASS**  
10:30 a.m. Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at [www.stgabrielradio.com](http://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. Mass from St. Francis de Sales Seminary, Milwaukee, at 10 a.m. on WWHO-TV. Check local cable system for cable channel listing.

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery,

Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Spectrum Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or WOW Channel 378). (Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).

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

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

**DAILY MASS**  
8 a.m., Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Birmingham, Ala. (Encores at noon, 7 p.m. and midnight). See EWTN above; and on I-Lifetv (Channel 113 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](http://www.stgabrielradio.com).

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

## WATTERSON, continued from Page 3

san Office for Social Concerns. It was the second in a series of programs at the park to honor Columbus' social justice pioneers. Images representing Bishop Watterson, Gladden and five other people and three organizations whose impact on social-justice issues in the community has been significant are displayed in 10 panels that will be at the park until the end of this year.

Bishop Watterson was president of Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland, when he was appointed in 1880 to succeed Bishop Sylvester Rosecrans, who had died in 1878, as bishop of Columbus. He was the diocese's spiritual shepherd until his death on April 17, 1899. In addition to the activities already mentioned, Bishop Watterson's panel notes that he helped found Mount Carmel Hospital and St. Anthony's Hospital (now part of the Ohio State University health system) and the Pontifical College Josephinum, and

was active in the temperance movement of his time.

When he came to Columbus from Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1882, Gladden already was well-known for his social activism as both a minister and an editor, first of a nationally circulated newspaper in New York City and later of a national magazine in Springfield. His reputation grew in Columbus. He served as moderator of the National Council of Congregational Churches in the early 1900s, once turning down a \$100,000 gift from John D. Rockefeller because he considered it tainted money.

Former President Rutherford B. Hayes proposed him as president of Ohio State University in 1893, but the OSU trustees turned down the proposal, saying he was "too pro-Catholic." Two years later, the University of Notre Dame made him the first non-Catholic to receive an honorary degree from the institution.

## The model New Evangelization bishop

Out on the Kansas plains, he was just turning 21 when the Second Vatican Council promulgated its dogmatic constitution on the Church (*Lumen Gentium*) and its decree on the pastoral office of the bishops in the Church (*Christus Dominus*). So it's unlikely that the fathers of Vatican II had Charles Joseph Chaput in mind when they described the ideal diocesan bishop in the third millennium of Christian history – an evangelist, sanctifier and governor who would accept those weighty responsibilities so that the Gospel might be proposed for the salvation of the world.

But in God's providence and through his own cooperation with grace, Archbishop Charles Chaput has lived the episcopal vocation the council fathers limned in an exemplary way.

There is much talk of "collegiality" and "synodality" in some Catholic circles today; Archbishop Chaput has been a far more collaborative leader in Rapid City, Denver and Philadelphia than many of those who talk that talk but walk a walk of episcopal autocracy. Then there is the now-familiar trope about bishops having "the smell of the sheep." Archbishop Chaput, a true gentleman, is far more accessible and far more amenable to input, suggestions, and even correction from those under his authority than some appointed to high office under that ovine pastoral rubric, who barely know a sheep or two, much less smell like them.

Young Charles Chaput joined the Capuchin Franciscans because he admired their commitment to poverty, simplicity of life, service and education. And during his 31 years as a bishop, he has remained faithful to his Capuchin vocation. He lives simply, teaches thoughtfully, hears confessions regularly, celebrates the sac-

### THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

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



raments reverently and is, by the testimony of many who have worked with him in three quite different dioceses, a spectacularly good boss – the best they've ever had. That's one reason why serious young Catholic professionals have cued up to work with and for him wherever he has been assigned.

And he has courage, the cardinal virtue that makes living the other cardinal virtues possible. Where other bishops have been hesitant to be labeled "culture warriors," Chaput has preached the truth about the dignity of human life and what makes for genuine beatitude here and hereafter, in and out of season, ignoring the epithets hurled at him by bears of little brain (and less integrity). His penetrating analyses of what is demanded of serious Catholics in a hostile cultural environment have been spot-on, even as he has personally embodied the compassion and empathy that Christians must offer those wounded by that culture and its false promises of happiness.

Archbishop Charles Chaput is also a thoroughgoing churchman, a quality that reflects his deep life of prayer. He has consistently done what the Church has asked of him: first, by leaving religious life to

accept the responsibilities of a bishop in rural South Dakota; then, by leaving Rapid City for Denver, where he built on the work of his predecessor, Cardinal James Francis Stafford, to create the North Atlantic world's model New Evangelization archdiocese; and, ultimately, by leaving Denver to rescue a crumbling Archdiocese of Philadelphia and prepare a suitable welcome for Pope Francis at the World Meeting of Families in 2015, both of which he did at no small personal cost.

It is more than ironic – it is deeply disturbing – that as Archbishop Chaput marked his 75th birthday on Sept. 26 and formally submitted his resignation as archbishop of Philadelphia, voices in Rome were heard saying, in so many words, that the Chaput project is over.

What on earth could these voices mean? Archbishop Chaput's work in Rapid City, Denver and Philadelphia has been a glowing embodiment of the "Church permanently in mission" proclaimed by Pope Francis in what once seemed to be the programmatic document of his pontificate, *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel). If the Chaput project is over, then *Evangelii Gaudium* and the *Aparecida* document of the Latin American bishops that inspired it are dead letters.

An ugly and absurd cartoon of Catholicism in the United States – that we are a Church of rigid moralists and wealthy right-wing nuts – has infected Rome for several years. Archbishop Chaput has been a target of that viciousness. Those responsible for perpetrating the cartoon might remember that it was first peddled by Mr. Theodore McCarrick, who was never reluctant to trash Charles Chaput to anyone foolish enough to listen.

### LOCAL NEWS, continued from Page 5

This past spring, the Fulbright Association approved Ohio Dominican as the host institution for its Central Ohio chapter, the newest of its more than 50 chapters. ODU provides Fulbright alumni and visiting Fulbrighters with diverse opportunities for networking, professional development, mentoring, cultural enrichment and community service.

#### Lupus walk is Oct. 12 in Wolfe Park

The 2019 Walk to End Lupus Now will take place on Saturday, Oct. 12 at Wolfe Park in Columbus. This is the area's largest fundraiser for the Lupus Foundation of America. All proceeds go to research and support programs for the more than 60,000 Ohioans living with lupus. Registration starts at 10 a.m. and walkers will depart at noon.

This non-competitive walk gives everyone the opportunity to be a part of the solution to the challenge of ending the devastating effects of lupus, a systemic autoimmune disease that affects 1.5 million Americans and occurs when the body's immune system attacks its own tissues and organs.

The Lupus Foundation of America

is the only national force devoted to solving the mystery of lupus, while giving caring support to those who are influenced by it. To register to walk, visit [www.lupusgreaterohio.org](http://www.lupusgreaterohio.org) or call (888) 665-8787.

#### Christ Child Society Day of Service

The Columbus chapter of the Christ Child Society will take part in the organization's National Day of Service with several activities in October in the Christ Child Early Learning Center at St. Stephen's Community House, 1500 E. 17th Ave.

The activities will be focused on the event's theme "Read to Me, Inspire Me to Learn" and on the society's ongoing literacy efforts on behalf of children nationwide. Highlighted will be the books of Eric Carle, author of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and other children's classics.

Children and their parents will be invited to "Fall Into Books" and choose a book and bookmark to take home while they attend the center's family harvest party on Friday, Oct. 18. On Tuesday, Oct. 22, the children will participate in a music program after story time at the

center's library, and on Thursday, Oct. 24, they will create an art project in the style of Eric Carle illustrations.

These programs are in addition to the volunteer efforts throughout the year of Christ Child Society members, who strive to nurture the seeds of success with the children by reading aloud to them weekly in the library and providing a monthly music program, a monthly enrichment program, and scholarships to cover the cost of attending the early learning center for families who need financial assistance. To find out more about the Christ Child Society, go to [www.christchildssociety.org](http://www.christchildssociety.org).

#### Father Shikina to speak at vocations event

Father Ed Shikina, parochial vicar at Hilliard St. Brendan Church, will speak at the annual vocations luncheon for high school boys presented by the Serra Club of North Columbus at noon Tuesday, Nov. 5 in the Jessing Center of the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. A tour of the Josephinum will follow the luncheon and talk.

Students, faculty chaperones and parent teachers will be the club's guests at this event. Diocesan school students may make reservations through their schools. Home-schooled or public-school students can reserve by calling Tim Perrine at (614) 507-2037.

Father Shikina, a Columbus native, attended Groveport-Madison High School and the Pontifical College Josephinum. He received his master of divinity degree at Pope St. John XXIII Seminary in suburban Boston.

The Serra Club of North Columbus has been presenting speakers who help young men discern their vocations since 2000. Similar luncheons for young women began in 2002.

The club prays for, promotes and supports vocations to the priesthood, religious life and all vocations of ministry in the Catholic Church. Members are encouraged through education and fellowship to fulfill their Christian vocation to service.

Meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month at the Jessing Center. For more information, call Ardith Mers at (614) 890-6996.

# PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

ANDERSON, Calvin E., 88, Sept. 21  
St. Paul Church, Westerville

BURKHART, Rowe C., 4 months, Sept. 19  
St. Mary Church, Mattingly Settlement

FISCHER, David, 66, Sept. 23  
St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

GENTILLINI, David J., 77, Sept. 28  
Christ the King Church, Columbus

IZZI, Mary L. (Spadafore), 95, Sept. 24  
St. Mary Church, Marion

KERN, Francis E., 92, Sept. 25  
St. Matthias Church, Columbus

KIBBEY, William L., 72, Sept. 17  
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

MITCHELL, Perry S., 71, Sept. 7  
St. Ann Church, Dresden

PAULUS, Theodore L., 65, Sept. 11  
St. Ann Church, Dresden

PUSATERI, Steven L., 65, Sept. 27  
St. Paul Church, Westerville

RISNER, Hildegard A., 80, Sept. 21  
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

SHAL, Alberta F. (Liston), 95, Sept. 27  
St. Philip Church, Columbus

VARGO, Mary A. (Casey), 80, Sept. 22  
St. Mary Church, Columbus

VENTURA, Mary P. (Laca), 94, Sept. 24  
St. Francis deSales Church, Newark

## OHIO PRO-LIFE, continued from Page 13

sion that made abortion broadly legal across the nation in 1973.

Also in April, Ohio Right to Life was extremely fortunate to witness the bipartisan passage of a resolution in the Ohio Senate calling on Congress to pass the Born Alive Infant Protection Act. Congress has yet to take action on this important bill, which would require that necessary care be provided to an infant who is born alive after a failed abortion.

Ohio abortion clinics continue to close. Capital Care Network, an abortion facility in Toledo, succumbed to its many legal struggles with the Ohio Department of Health, announcing in late September that it no longer would perform surgical abortions. While this does not constitute a complete closure, it will save many lives.

The Women's Med Center in Day-

ton continues to operate, even after the Ohio Department of Health revoked its license following an Ohio Supreme Court ruling that the court did not have jurisdiction in a case brought before it by the center. The facility and its abortionist, Dr. Martin Haskell, are waiting for action from federal courts as a last resort, but we are cautiously optimistic that this facility, which is notorious for health violations and late-term abortions, will be closed.

As we look back on the significant progress that Ohio has made in 2019 to further protect the most vulnerable members of our society, we also look toward a future in which the right to life of all Ohioans, born and unborn, is protected. We remain unequivocally committed to the realization of this end.

## Richard B. Dooley

A funeral service for Richard B. Dooley, 72, who died Monday, Sept. 23, was conducted at the Hillis, Combs & Nestor Funeral Home in Zanesville. Burial was at Mt. Olive Cemetery, Zanesville.

He was born on Dec. 17, 1946 to John and Frances (Hooper) Dooley, served in the Navy and was a retired employee of the Brockway Glass Co. in Zanesville, where he worked for 28 years.

He was a member of Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church and was sexton of Mt. Olive Cemetery, which is Zanesville St. Nicholas Church's cemetery, for more than 32 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, Paul, Larry and Tim; and one sister, Margaret "Peg" Dalzell. Survivors include his wife, Sue (Ball); daughters, Leslie (Chad) Shuler and Amy (Matt) Starnier; brothers, Gary and Bill; and four grandchildren.

## St. John the Baptist presents 40th Columbus Italian Festival

Columbus St. John the Baptist Church invites everyone to celebrate its unique gift to central Ohio – the Columbus Italian Festival, which this year marks its 40th anniversary.

The event will take place on Friday to Sunday, Oct. 11 to 13 on the grounds surrounding the church at 720 Hamlet St. in the city's Italian Village. St. John the Baptist was founded in 1896 as a national church for the city's Italian community and today is the only such nationality church remaining in the Diocese of Columbus.

Father Casto Marrapese, the parish's pastor from 1974 to 1991, decided in the late 1970s that the parish should host an event inviting the city to celebrate that heritage.

The first Columbus Italian Festival took place on Sept. 20 and 21, 1980 at the state fairgrounds. Its goals were to bring about greater public awareness of the Italian culture, to sponsor college scholarships for area high-school students of Italian heritage and to raise funds for an Italian cultural center. The scholarships have been awarded each year. The cultural center, adjacent to the church, was dedicated in 1989.

Volunteers in the festival's early years made an extraordinary effort in sharing their individual talents. They built signature mini-landmarks of Italy, including Christopher Columbus' flagship, the Santa Maria; Pinocchio; traditional handmade flower carts; and painted murals, all of which brightened the fairgrounds while Ital-

ian vendors presented food and crafts.

A move critical to the festival's success was the decision made 20 years ago by Father William A. Metzger, who was the parish's pastor at the time, and by the festival board and executive director Adam Montemarano to bring the celebration "home."

"In 1999, the floundering fairgrounds festival was moved to the streets surrounding St. John's," Father Metzger said. "A rain-soaked first year resulted in much groundbreaking understanding as to how to make the future festivals successful."

"It took many parish tradesmen and volunteers over the years to pull off this event, which some felt was just not possible during that first year when we were rained on. I guess you could say we were baptized," Montemarano said.

Twenty years later, the wisdom of that decision has become evident. Each year, more than 35,000 people crowd into the parish parking lot and the streets and sidewalks surrounding the church to enjoy the best in Italian cuisine, music, sports and other activities.

Students from Columbus St. Francis DeSales and Bishop Watterson high schools offer Italian cooking and cultural events. The San Giovanni Dancers teach folk dancing on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Rick Brunetto will lead his big-band style orchestra and has written musical arrangements to accompany vocal artists, who this year include Austin Giorgio from television's *The Voice* and Elio Scaccio's Sicilian Tenors, a festival favorite. Other entertainers returning to the program are "beach music" group Dr. Zoot and female pop trio Tre Bella.

"The saying 'It takes a village' is especially appropriate this year, as we celebrate the festival's 40 years and 20 years of doing it in Italian Village," said Montemarano, who is in his 20th year as executive director.

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# HAPPENINGS

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**ST. MARY CHURCH/GROVEPORT**  
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**SUNDAY, OCT. 20, 12:30-6:30 PM**  
**CRAFT TENT, CABBAGE ROLLS**  
**HOMEMADE NOODLES, 50/50 RAFFLE-**  
**ADULTS \$10 - CHILDREN \$5**

**HARVEST BOUQUET CRAFT SHOW**  
**St. Joan of Arc Church - Powell**  
**Saturday, Oct. 12 -- 9 am - 3 pm**  
**Over 100 crafters, raffle baskets,**  
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## OCTOBER

**4, 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.  
**Eucharistic Adoration at Columbus St. Peter**  
 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky  
 Row Road, Columbus. First Friday Eucharistic  
 Adoration in day chapel.  
**First Friday Masses at Holy Family**  
 9 a.m., 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**  
**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.  
**Catholic Men's Luncheon Club**  
 12:15 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant  
 Ave., Columbus. Catholic Men's Luncheon Club  
 meeting, with Bishop Robert Brennan speaking to  
 the club for the first time.  
**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.

**4-6, FRIDAY-SUNDAY**  
**Women's Silent Retreat at St. Therese's**  
 St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St.,  
 Columbus. Silent retreat for women, sponsored  
 by Catholic Laywomen's Retreat League, with  
 Father Stephen Dominic Hayes, OP. Theme:  
 "The Sacraments That Make Us Holy: Baptism,  
 Confession and Holy Eucharist." Cost \$140. **614-**  
**595-1972**

**5, 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**  
**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.

**Ohio Dominican Preview Day**  
 9 a.m. to noon, Bishop Griffin Center, Ohio  
 Dominican University, 1215 Sunbury Road,  
 Columbus. Preview day for prospective students,  
 featuring campus tours and discussion on courses,  
 activities and financial aid. **614-251-4500**  
**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**  
**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.  
**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, extension 329**  
**Centering Prayer Group Meeting**  
 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.

**6, SUNDAY**  
**Talk on the Modern Papacy at St. Agatha**  
 9:30 a.m., St. Agatha Church, 1860 Northam  
 Road, Columbus. First of four talks by Father  
 Edmund Hussey on the modern papacy. Topic:  
 "Who Was the First Pope?" **614-488-6149**  
**St. Christopher Adult Religious Education**  
 10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School,  
 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. "What Does  
 It Mean to Respect Life?" with Jerry Freewalt,  
 director of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns.  
**Seasons of Hope Bereavement Ministry**  
 2 to 4 p.m., St. Michael Church, 5750 N. High St.,  
 Worthington. Fourth meeting of six-week Seasons  
 of Hope bereavement ministry support group for  
 those who have lost a loved one, sponsored by  
 North High Deanery. **614-565-0795**  
**Prayer for the Nation at St. Matthew**  
 3 p.m., St. Matthew Church, 807 Havens Corners  
 Road, Gahanna. Monthly Holy Hour of prayer for  
 the nation, including the Divine Mercy Chaplet and  
 the rosary. **614-471-0212**  
**Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King**  
 5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E.  
 Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass  
 entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets  
 for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching.  
**614-886-8266**

**Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter**  
 5 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road,  
 Columbus. Mass in Spanish, with confessions in  
 Spanish from 4 to 4:50. **614-294-7702**  
**Diocesan Mass of Inclusion at St. Catharine**  
 5 p.m., St. Catharine Church, 500 S. Gould Road,  
 Columbus. Bishop Robert Brennan celebrates  
 diocesan Mass of Inclusion for those with physical  
 and mental disabilities and their caregivers,  
 sponsored by SPICE (Special People in Catholic  
 Education). Includes American Sign Language  
 interpretation, wheelchair accessibility, low-gluten  
 hosts. Followed by reception. **614-231-4509**  
**Catechesis at the Cathedral**  
 6:45 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St.,  
 Columbus. Fifth of weekly series of sessions with  
 Father Adam Streitenberger through December on  
 the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. **614-224-**  
**1295**

**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**

**7, 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.  
**Aquinas Alumni Luncheon**  
 11 a.m., TAT Ristorante di Famiglia, 1210 S.  
 James Road, Columbus. Monthly Columbus  
 Aquinas High School alumni luncheon.  
**Family Catechetical Series at St. Michael**  
 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., St. Michael Church, 5750 N.  
 High St., Worthington. First session of mothly  
 family catechetical series on "God's Plan of Loving  
 Salvation," with four age-appropriate sessions  
 for everyone from kindergarten students through  
 parents. Includes family Adoration and prayer time.  
 Child care provided. **614-885-7814**  
**Rosary at St. Pius X**  
 6:30 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner  
 Road, Reynoldsburg. Recital of Rosary for the sick  
 of the parish and all who are ill. **614-866-2859**  
**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**

**8, TUESDAY**  
**Eucharistic Adoration at Bethesda**  
 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Bethesda Healing Ministry,  
 2744 Dover Road, Columbus. Monthly Eucharistic  
 Adoration in chapel.  
**Calix Society Meeting**  
 6 p.m., Panera restaurant, 4519 N. High St.,  
 Columbus. Monthly meeting of the Calix Society,  
 an association of Catholic alcoholics. Preceded  
 by 5:30 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Peace Church,  
 across street from meeting site.  
**Holy Hour at Columbus St. Francis of Assisi**  
 St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttes Ave.,  
 Columbus. Monthly Holy Hour following 6 p.m.  
 Mass. **614-299-5781**  
**Rosary for Life at St. Joan of Arc**  
 Following 6:15 p.m. Mass, St. Joan of Arc Church,  
 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Recital of Rosary for  
 Life, sponsored by church's respect life committee.  
**EnCourage Ministry Monthly Meeting**  
 6:30 p.m., EnCourage, an approved diocesan  
 ministry for families and friends of persons who  
 experience same-sex attraction. Confidentiality is  
 maintained. Call for site. **614-296-7404**  
**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**

**9, WEDNESDAY**  
**Center for Dominican Studies Series**  
 Noon to 12:30 p.m., St. Catharine of Siena Room,  
 Erskine Hall, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus.  
 Lecture by Sister Mary Otho Ballard, OP, on  
 "Prayer and Contemplation: In a New Light."  
 Second talk in Center for Dominican Studies  
 monthly series on "Truth." Lunch provided; call  
 for seating. **614-251-4722**  
**Turning Leaves and Tea Leaves**  
 2 to 3:30 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330  
 Airport Drive, Columbus. Turning Leaves and  
 Tea Leaves book club with Dominican Sisters  
 Marialein Anzenberger and Colleen Gallagher.  
**614-416-1910**

**Divine Mercy Chaplet at St. Pius X**  
 6 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner  
 Road, Reynoldsburg. Recital of Chaplet of Divine  
 Mercy. **614-866-2859**

**10, THURSDAY**  
**Ohio Dominican Lecture Series**  
 3:30 p.m., Colonial Room, Sansbury Hall,  
 Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury  
 Road, Columbus. Lecture on "The Truth About  
 Generation Z: Developing a Broader Appreciation  
 of Today's Student" with Dr. Natalie Kompa,  
 ODU assistant professor of public relations and  
 marketing communications. Part of university's fall  
 "Building Bridges of Understanding" lecture series.  
**614-251-4453**  
**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.

**10-13, THURSDAY-SUNDAY**  
**Cum Christo Weekend at St. James the Less**  
 Beginning 7:30 p.m. Thursday, St. James the Less  
 Church, 1652 Oakland Park Ave., Columbus. Cum  
 Christo weekend for women interested in setting  
 aside daily activities to focus on their relationship  
 with Christ. Details at <https://cumchristo.org>.

**11, FRIDAY**  
**Couples Program with Father Nathan Cromly**  
 6:30 to 10 p.m., event room, Roosters restaurant,  
 1500 Stonecreek Drive, Pickerington. "Discovering  
 God's Plan for Your Love," a workshop for married  
 and engaged couples with Father Nathan Cromly,  
 CSJ, founder of Eagle Eye Ministries. Cost \$45 per  
 couple, including dinner. **614-306-6851**  
**David Haas Concert at Resurrection**  
 7 p.m., Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E.  
 Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany. Concert  
 with sacred music artist David Haas, sponsored  
 by Columbus chapter of National Association of  
 Pastoral Musicians, with singers and musicians  
 from the Diocese of Columbus. Free-will offering to  
 benefit Habitat for Humanity. **614-565-0374**

**11-12, FRIDAY-SATURDAY**  
**German Village St. Mary Oktoberfest**  
 5 to 11 p.m., St. Mary School lawn, 684 S. 3rd St.,  
 Columbus. Third annual Oktoberfest benefiting  
 charities of Knights of Columbus Pope St. John  
 II Council 5429 and St. Mary Home and School  
 Association, featuring German food, drinks and  
 entertainment. **614-445-9668**

**11-13, FRIDAY-SUNDAY**  
**Italian Festival at St. John the Baptist**  
 5 to 11 p.m. Friday, noon to 11 p.m. Saturday  
 and noon to 7 p.m. Sunday, St. John the Baptist  
 Church, 720 Hamlet St., Columbus. 40th annual  
 Columbus Italian Festival, featuring Italian food,  
 music, games, cooking demonstrations, children's  
 events, and sports, including a bocce tournament.  
 Includes parade and high school band competition  
 at 1 p.m. Sunday.

**12, SATURDAY**  
**Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City**  
 9 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave.,  
 Plain City. Saturday Life and Mercy Mass, followed  
 by rosary and confession.  
**David Haas Workshop at Resurrection**  
 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Church of the Resurrection,  
 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany.  
 Workshop exploring Matthew's version of the Beatitudes,  
 with sacred music artist David Haas, sponsored by  
 Columbus chapter of National Association of Pastoral  
 Musicians. Registration \$35, including lunch and  
 materials. Register at [npmcolumbus.org/haas](http://npmcolumbus.org/haas).

# Five diocesan high school football teams roll through first half of regular season undefeated or with one loss

By Doug Bean  
Catholic Times Editor

The high school football regular season reached its halfway point this past weekend with one diocesan team undefeated and four with one loss each.

Lancaster Fisher Catholic (5-0), ranked fourth in the state in Division VII, outscored its first five opponents by a 232-34 margin and had posted two consecutive shutouts. The Irish, eyeing a second consecutive Ohio High School Athletic Association playoff berth, tried to keep their record unblemished Saturday, Oct. 5 when they played host to Worthington Christian.

Columbus Bishop Hartley (4-1) suffered its first loss last week, falling for the second straight year to Clinton-Massie, 24-14. The Hawks came into that game as the state's top-ranked team in Division III but fell to sixth in the latest Associated Press poll. They attempted to rebound on Friday, Oct. 4 against Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School in one of two key matchups between diocesan programs this weekend.

Through five weeks, St. Charles was one of the surprise teams in central Ohio. The Cardinals ran their

record to 4-1 last week with a 45-14 victory at Dayton Carroll. The lone blemish on their record was a 16-0 loss at home to Middletown Bishop Fenwick.

St. Charles running back Luke Eversole was among the leading rushers in central Ohio after five games. He ran for three touchdowns in the win over Dayton Carroll.

The Cardinals were set to face run-oriented Hartley and its deep backfield that includes standouts Miles Fleming, Jalan January, Richard Kenny and Mason Sawyer. St. Charles has just three victories in the series, but win or lose against the Hawks, the Cardinals hope to continue a push toward their first playoff berth since 2013.

The other big game this weekend pitted Central Catholic League Silver Division rivals Columbus Bishop Watterson (4-1) against host Columbus St. Francis DeSales (4-1). The Eagles had lost six consecutive games to the Stallions but lead the series 35-26-1.

Watterson's first setback this year came last weekend in a 28-7 loss on the road at Dayton Chaminade-Julienne. Meanwhile, DeSales rolled to a 42-22 win at Fenwick last Friday.

DeSales has overcome some early season injuries and counts among its wins a 35-31 victory over highly ranked Kettering Alter in week four.

Two-way performers Jaylen Ball and Quintell Quinn have provided a 1-2 running punch for the DeSales offense and quarterback Reno Godfrey threw three touchdown passes last week.

"Both of them are playing well," DeSales coach Ryan Wiggins said. "Jaylen is getting better week by week and doing more and more. I think he gives us something in the run game. We've been able to rest Quintell quite a bit defensively."

DeSales' defense has shown an ability to force turnovers, including four by Fenwick last Friday.

"We've got to tighten up and play a little better," Wiggins said. "In my estimation, we've been kind of opportunistic. We have been able to get some takeaways and that's a good thing."

Against Watterson, Wiggins said DeSales would be up against one of the best quarterbacks, junior Jake Hoying, the Stallions had faced so far

this season. Two of Hoying's targets, Davis Boone and Andrew Bettendorf, were among the leading receivers in central Ohio.

"On offense, (Watterson is) really, really efficient and they do a good job of executing it," Wiggins said. "This is a 4-1 football team and not only a great rivalry with CCL implications, there's computer points heading into second half of the season."

Elsewhere around the diocese, Newark Catholic was 3-2 heading into its game on Friday at Utica and Columbus Bishop Ready took the same 3-2 record into a Thursday night game against Columbus Academy.

Tuscarawas Central Catholic (2-3) attempted to end a two-game losing streak on Friday night at Sandy Valley and Portsmouth Notre Dame (0-5) looked for its first win of the season on Saturday against McDermott Northwest.

Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans (2-1), which is playing eight-man football this season, traveled to Holgate on Friday evening.



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## FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL ON AM 820



	Date	Game of the Week Schedule
6PM	August 30	St. Charles @ Dublin Scioto
	September 6	West Jefferson vs. Bishop Ready @ Obetz
	September 13	Gahanna @ Bishop Hartley
	September 20	Newark Catholic @ Watkins Memorial
	September 27	Clinton Massie @ Bishop Hartley
	October 4	Bishop Watterson @ St. Francis DeSales
	October 11	Harvest Prep vs. Bishop Ready @ Obetz
	October 18	Bishop Hartley @ Bishop Watterson
	October 25	Stuebenville @ St. Francis DeSales
	November 1	Bishop Watterson @ St. Charles

6PM	Catholic High School PREVIEW SHOW
7PM	Catholic High School GAME-OF-THE-WEEK
9:30 PM	CITY-WIDE SCOREBOARD SHOW presented by ThisWeekSports.com

## Service spotlighted at DeSales



Representatives of 15 local charitable organizations joined several of Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School's service-oriented clubs for the school's second annual service fair. Students visited displays set up in the school gymnasium during their lunch break. Allisann Sarff (left) and Hope Hinger are pictured at the display of the Anti-trafficking Ministry of Mercy, which is managed by Sister Nadine Buchanan, OP, and provides for the physical and spiritual needs of victims of sex trafficking in Columbus.

*Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School*

## St. Andrew School science outdoors



Taking advantage of sunny skies in mid-September, Columbus St. Andrew School took its science lessons outside the classroom. Fifth-grade science teacher Marianne Murphy led her students in a quest to study ecosystems thriving right under their noses. The students identified various plants and insects, took notes on the specimens they observed and organized them on the food chain.

*Photo courtesy St. Andrew Church*

## Girl Scouts install peace pinwheels



The 2019 International Day of Peace was celebrated Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 21 and 22, by Girl Scout troops 6378, 5970 and 5932 of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church, who placed more than 550 pinwheels on the lawn of St. Pius X School for the weekend. The effort was in conjunction with

the Pinwheels for Peace project, said troop leaders Hilary Staten and Heather Wilson. The International Day of Peace was established in 1981 by the United Nations and is observed every Sept. 21 to renew the world's commitment to seeking peace. This year's theme for the day was "Climate Action for Peace." *Photo courtesy St. Pius X Girl Scouts*

## Earthquake-resistant design



Eighth-graders at Columbus Immaculate Conception School worked on a STEM project in which they learned about designing strong buildings. Their challenge was to design a 30-centimeter structure out of wooden Popsicle sticks and modeling clay in such a manner that it could withstand an earthquake. Small groups of students researched, brainstormed possible solutions, created a design, built the structure, then made improvements and modifications until group members were satisfied with the final product. Each group then tested its structure on a shake table that simulated an earthquake's effects. The groups collected data during the testing, analyzed it and made conclusions about how effective their designs were and how they could be improved. Pictured are (from left) Alex Fabro, Reese Tucker and Ryan Arnold.

*Photo courtesy Immaculate Conception School*

## St. Anthony School science with cookies



Columbus St. Anthony School kindergarten and eighth-grade students read the story "The Gingerbread Boy" by Paul Galdone, then discussed what would happen if the gingerbread boy swam across the river himself. Using the scientific method, the students placed a cookie into water and recorded their observations. Eighth-grader Theaddus Kyeremeh (left) and kindergarten student Julius Berko are pictured celebrating the results of the hypothesis based on those observations.

*Photo courtesy St. Anthony School*



# COLUMBUS ITALIAN FESTIVAL



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