

The Catholic **TIMES**

The Diocese of Columbus' News Source

September 15, 2019 • 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME • Volume 68:42

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ST. STEPHEN'S COMMUNITY HOUSE BEGINS ITS SECOND CENTURY

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Deacon candidate drawn from England to Columbus

Visits to Columbus led Eugene Joseph, who is to be ordained as a deacon this weekend, to decide to move to the city from England and to study for the Roman Catholic priesthood after growing up in the Catholic Church's Syro-Malabar rite.

Joseph will be ordained to the diaconate by Bishop Robert Brennan in Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on Saturday, Sept. 14, three days before his 27th birthday. Bishop Brennan is scheduled to ordain him, along with four other Pontifical College Josephinum seminarians who were ordained as deacons in May, as priests of the Diocese of Columbus on May 23, 2020.

Joseph was not ordained with his classmates because he was awaiting an indult of adaptation from the Vatican's Congregation for the Oriental Churches. This permits him to be ordained by a Latin/Roman-rite bishop and to become a priest of that bishop's diocese. Because he was born to a Syro-Malabar family in the state of Kerala in India, he will be able to celebrate Mass in both rites.

Joseph said he received the approval in June and Bishop Brennan allowed him to select the date for his diaconal ordination.

There is a Syro-Malabar community in Columbus that gathers regularly for Mass at Sacred Heart Church, and Joseph has been involved with some of its activities. There are about 3.8 million Syro-Malabar Catholics worldwide, most of them in India. The Syro-Malabar rite traces its origins to St. Thomas the Apostle, who came to Kerala about A.D. 52 and founded seven Christian communities. It has 33 parishes in the United States and Canada, with a diocese based in Chicago for those parishes. Some of the differences between the Latin and Syro-Malabar rights include the official language (Syriac) and the priest and congregation standing during the entire Mass.

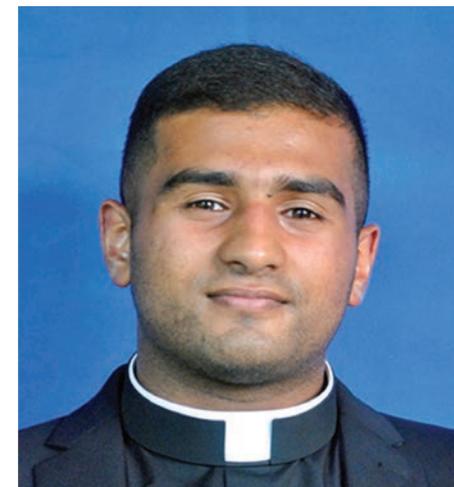
"I began coming to Columbus in 2013 to visit friends during summer break while I was studying theology in London," Joseph said. "One day, after attending Mass at Westerville St. Paul Church, I thought, 'Why not

here?' I had been discerning with the Archdiocese of Birmingham in England at that point.

"I got in touch with Father (Paul) Noble (Columbus diocesan vocations director) about the possibility of becoming a priest here and what it would take. I completed theology studies in England in 2015 and came to the Josephinum in the fall of that year to begin my formation in preparing for the priesthood and have been here ever since."

Joseph said he moved to England from Kerala at age 9 or 10. He graduated from Robert Sutton Catholic High School in Burton-on-Trent, England, in 2009, then spent two years at another school in the same community in what are known in England as A-level studies, which prepare students age 16 to 19 for college. He attended Kensington College in London from 2012-15, earning a bachelor of arts degree in theology, then came to the Josephinum.

His home parish is the New Albany Church of the Resurrection. While at the Josephinum, he has performed



Eugene Joseph will be ordained as a deacon on Saturday, Sept. 14. Photo/Eugene Joseph

assignments during summers and the school year at the cathedral, Bethesda Healing Ministry, Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, and St. Paul, Sunbury St. John Neumann and Columbus St. Cecilia churches. Last summer, he was at Columbus Immaculate Conception Church.

Father Connolly receives tribute at Ohio State-Cincinnati game



Father Leo Connolly, pastor of Columbus St. Cecilia Church, was honored during the first quarter of Ohio State's 42-0 victory over the University of Cincinnati on Sept. 7 in Ohio Stadium for his more than 36 years of service as a chaplain with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. Father Connolly, pictured with Brutus Buckeye, was escorted to the 20-yard line and received an ovation from the crowd. Ohio State recognizes First Responders from various agencies at its home football games as a tribute to the men and women who dedicate themselves to helping others in need. On the Franklin County Sheriff's Office Facebook page, it was noted that Father Connolly "has responded and assisted in countless traumatic incidents giving spiritual guidance, support and condolences when needed. He has been a member of the Mid-Ohio FOP Critical Incident Response Team for over 30 years. Within days of the tragic events of 9/11 that gripped our nation, Chaplain Connolly responded to New York and provided assistance to many First Responders over a five-week period. Chaplain Connolly, it is our honor to recognize you today for your many years of dedicated service to central Ohio and beyond. God bless you, sir." Photo courtesy Franklin County Sheriff's Office



DIocese of
COLUMBUS

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
Clergy Assignment

Confirming the nomination of the Prior Provincial of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, Father Andrew O'Reilly, CFPs, from service outside the diocese to Associate Pastor, St. James the Less Church, Columbus, effective Sept. 20.

Deacon Earl McCurry, from diaconal ministry, Holy Family Church, Columbus, to retirement, effective Aug. 1.

Deacon John Vellani, from diaconal ministry, St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg, to retirement, effective Aug. 1.

Catholic TIMES

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

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

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Front Page photo:
**ST. STEPHEN'S
TURNS 100**
St. Stephen's Community House, located at 1500 E. 17th Ave. in Columbus, is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year.

CT photo by Ken Snow

Sister Norma Pimentel describes 'holy chaos' of migrant ministry

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

Sister Norma Pimentel, MJ, says the opportunity to offer safety and the chance for a new life to migrants fleeing to the United States from dangerous conditions in Central America is far more important than any political issues raised by their presence.

“There’s something in us that wants to say to these people, ‘Yes, we stand by you. We want to offer you the dignity and respect that every human being deserves,’” she said. “It is what we are called to do – God’s mandate that we defend all of life in our country whenever we see people fleeing, for whatever reason.”

Sister Norma, a member of the Missionaries of Jesus religious order, is director of Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley and of the Humanitarian Respite Center in McAllen, Texas, just across the United States border from Mexico. A presentation on her work there highlighted the annual Breakfast With the Bishop sponsored by Catholic Social Services (CSS) on Friday, Sept. 6 at the Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel.

The center was founded in 2014 in response to what Sister Norma described as “a sudden surge of migrants arriving in great numbers, many of them children unaccompanied by their parents, dropped off by the (U.S.) Border Patrol at the (McAllen) bus station.” The detention facilities available could only hold 300 people for processing, but the Border Patrol had more than 1,000 and didn’t know what to do with the children.

“It was heartbreaking to see them at the bus station – dirty, muddy, hungry, crying,” she said. “They had no sense of what to do. So the Catholic Church took the lead, and the other churches followed. One day soon after opening, we had close to 200 people arriving. Now we have more than that on many days. In the five years since the center opened, we have served 160,000 people.”

Sister Norma said that when the surge of arrivals began, the biggest concern was finding space to deal with the situation. She hoped to use the facilities of Sacred Heart Church in McAllen, which is 1½ blocks from the bus station. “Father Tom (Luczak, OFM), the pastor, was in Chicago, so I called him and asked if we could borrow the parish hall for a couple of days. He said, ‘Sure, just borrow the keys.’ Can you imagine a pastor saying that



Sister Norma Pimentel, MJ, speaks at the annual Catholic Social Services Breakfast with the Bishop about her work with migrants in McAllen, Texas. CT photo by Ken Snow

and not having to go through a parish committee?” Sister Norma said.

“We took over the parish hall. It was instantly transformed into a respite center, and immediately donations began pouring in. We had a mountain of everything we needed almost instantly. There was definitely a sense of chaos, but it was holy chaos and remains that way today.”

Volunteers from throughout the nation have helped at the center in the past five years, including several from CSS. The center eventually moved from Sacred Heart to other buildings, and plans are underway for construction of a larger center, to be completed by the end of 2020.

Sister Norma said that not long after the center started operations, a city inspector visited to look for building code violations. “He asked me, ‘What are you doing here?’ My answer was: ‘Restoring human dignity,’” she said. That seemed to impress the inspec-

tor, and after looking over the building, he asked how the city could help. Sister Norma asked for showers, and the next day, a mobile unit with eight showers arrived. The city later provided tents and a clinic.

“It was an example that government and charity can work together,” she said. “We were able to bring together everyone who wanted to help. We were all one community, coming together to respond to the reality we saw and to restoring human dignity.”

Sister Norma has become widely known for her work with migrants, earning the nickname “the Mother Teresa of the Rio Grande Valley.” She was selected as one of *Fortune* magazine’s World’s 50 Greatest Leaders for 2019, received the Outstanding Leadership Award from the Leadership Conference of Women Religious in August, and was the 2018 recipient of the University of Notre Dame’s Laetare Medal.

She told her Columbus audience that her experiences have made her see immigration as something beyond the realm of politics. “Once you see what I have (seen), it changes you,” she said. “It’s no longer about politics. There is a political narrative that brings a sense of fear, but you can’t support a political agenda that’s trying to withhold a compassionate, humane response to immigration.”

She spoke of her opposition to policies separating migrant parents and children, describing a visit to a detention center where hundreds of children were being held. “It was the most difficult thing to walk into a room and see all these kids crying and looking up to me,” she said.

“They were saying, ‘Get me out of here. I can’t breathe.’ I could not understand how such a powerful nation could have children in those conditions. So we prayed. Through a window, I could see officers on the verge of tears themselves. Afterward, the officer in charge told me, ‘Thank you, Sister. You helped us realize they are human beings.’ Like those officers, many of us are so law-abiding and concerned about trying to follow the rules that we forget they are kids.

“I hear, over and over, stories of moms who want to save their children and have come here for protection and safety, yet we say, ‘Go back. It’s not my problem,’” Sister Norma said.

“Our center has dealt with close to 1,000 people who are waiting in Mexico because of our government’s new policy to make people seeking asylum wait there rather than in the United States. It’s raining there now, a tropical depression is passing through, and families are out in the open. It’s truly sad to see we cannot facilitate safe passage for families simply asking for protection.

“We must do better than that,” she said. “We must have leaders willing to stand up for the dignity of life and defend all people. We can take care of ourselves and many others because we are blessed with wonderful, extraordinary gifts. We should not be afraid to open the doors of our hearts.

“As Pope Francis says, ‘We must go home tired of doing good.’ We must not be content with what we are doing, because so many people need us. Let us unite to do more.”

Before talking about her work, Sister Norma told her vocation story, saying she became a sister because she wanted a pizza.

Local news and events

St. Catharine Church to host Mass of Inclusion in October

Bishop Robert Brennan will celebrate a diocesan Mass of Inclusion at 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 6 in Columbus St. Catharine Church, 500 S. Gould Road. Open to all in the diocese and sponsored by SPICE (Special People in Catholic Education), the Mass will celebrate the unique gifts of those with physical and mental disabilities, as well as their caretakers. A reception will follow.

To encourage an inclusive, welcoming environment, there will be sign language interpretation, wheelchair accessibility and low-gluten hosts. Additionally, it is hoped that lay ministry roles within the Mass can be filled by individuals with special needs. If such individuals are serving your parish as an altar server, lector, Eucharistic minister, or cantor, contact Mary Ginn Ryan at (614) 354-6945 or Cathryn O'Connell at St. Catharine at (614) 231-4509.

St. Catharine Church is fully accessible, with an elevator in the northeast corner of the church. There will be low-gluten hosts and a sign language interpreter. Ushers will be available to assist.

Sister Bozena returning to Serra Club vocations event

Sister Bozena Tyborowska of the Little Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Conception will speak at the annual girls vocation luncheon sponsored by the Serra Club of North Columbus on Tuesday, Oct. 1 at the Jessing Center of the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus.

High-school students attending the event will hear more of the story that Sister Bozena began at last year's luncheon. On that occasion, she was received with so much enthusiasm that she was invited back this year to talk to young women of the diocese on how to discern the vocation to which God is calling them.

Invitations to the luncheon are sent through the diocesan schools, and students can sign up at their school. Home-schooled students of high school age also are invited to attend. Faculty members and parents who escort the girls are guests of the Serra Club at the luncheon. A tour of the Josephinum will be offered after the talk. For reservations not made through a



The eighth-grade class at Columbus Trinity Elementary School took part in a team building exercise by going to an escape room. They got out with 15 seconds to spare. Class members are (from left): in front, Rece Hatem; first row, Zelma Hutton, Sarah Qemalli, Evie Borgerding, George Hewitt and Madilyn Dickson; second row, Christian Kouam, Anthony Wood, Esmeralda Qemalli, Lucy Rodriguez, Mason Murnane, Christian Stratton, Josh Ashmore and Jacob Blubaugh.

Photo courtesy Trinity Elementary School

school, call Tim at (614) 507-2037.

The annual Serra vocation luncheon for high-school boys will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 5.

David Haas coming to diocese for concert, workshop

David Haas, the composer of many familiar hymns, including *You Are Mine*, *We Are Called*, and *Blest Are They*, is coming to central Ohio for a one-night concert appearance with singers and musicians from the Diocese of Columbus.

NPM Columbus, the area chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians, is sponsoring the concert at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11 in the New Albany Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road. A free-will offering will be accepted to benefit Habitat for Humanity.

Haas also will conduct a workshop at the church from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12. He will explore Matthew's version of the Beatitudes, illuminated by the writings of

to disconnect from the noise of everyday life and connect with God.

Father Hayes, a member of the Dominican order, is an itinerant preacher assigned to St. Patrick Priory in Columbus. The Boston native practiced law for several years before joining the order in 1982. He was ordained a priest in 1988 and has served at various assignments in Ohio and Kentucky for the past 29 years. Besides serving as a pastor, he has experience in retreat work, parish missions, pilgrimage direction, and Catholic radio and print media, as well as being a spiritual director and counselor.

He asks that retreat participants bring a Bible. The cost for the retreat is \$140, including meals and two nights' lodging, with a nonrefundable \$50 deposit required by Friday, Sept. 20. Make the check payable to the Diocese of Columbus. Basic towels and bedding will be provided. If extra items of this type are needed, bring them with you.

The retreat center will gladly accept donations for its work, beyond the cost of the retreat. If enclosing a donation, please designate it to St. Therese's and note the amount in the memo line of the check.

If you have questions, contact Terry Norris at (614) 595-1972 or norris.m@sbcglobal.net.

St. Therese's Retreat Center offers Unplug days

St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., is offering programs of quiet reflection and prayer it describes as Unplug days from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 26; Thursday, Oct. 24; and Tuesday, Nov. 19. The days will include Mass at 11 a.m., followed by a light lunch.

The center is offering these days to provide a space to listen quietly to the voice of God in a world where people constantly are surrounded by noise and distraction. Unplug days are a chance for people to step into the center's peaceful chapel and be with Jesus, who is present there in the Eucharist, to walk through outdoor Stations of the Cross and green pathways, or to relax and read in the center's library, all with the purpose of allowing par-

Pope Francis and punctuated by Haas' music and experiences in everyday living. Tickets for the workshop are \$25, with the cost including lunch and materials, until Friday, Sept. 27, when the price increases to \$35. To register or for more details, visit npmcolumbus.org/haas.

Women's silent retreat set

Father Stephen Dominic Hayes, OP, will lead a silent retreat for women sponsored by the Catholic Laywomen's Retreat League from Friday to Sunday, Oct. 4 to 6 at St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus.

His topic will be "The Sacraments That Make Us Holy." He will deliver talks on the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and the holy Eucharist as signs and covenants of Christ's life shared with us.

The weekend will offer time for individual prayer and reflection, in addition to the talks and group prayer. The retreat league hopes this will be an opportunity for retreat participants

Gift of life offers much to celebrate every day

By Gloria Butler

Our lives are filled with celebrations – births, baptisms, first Communions, confirmations, graduations, marriages, anniversaries, religious holidays. They are all special and exciting, but this year, two were especially significant to me.

The first was the ordination of a favorite seminarian to the diaconate. We were honored to attend the diacanal ordination at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral of our friend Gordon Mott, who entered his last year of studies for the priesthood at the Pontifical College Josephinum in August.

Deacon Mott and five other Josephinum seminarians professed their love and commitment to the church as they were ordained in front of a standing-room-only congregation.

Gordon came into our lives during a summer break from college when he

spent a few weeks at our little parish, St. Joseph's in Plain City. He fit into our parish family as if he'd always been there, and he joined with his whole heart in every event our busy parishioners presented.

We still have a picture of him, taken on the day when he accompanied my husband and me to a food supply store on Columbus' east side. The picture shows him standing in the bed of a pickup truck, trying to safely stack food and paper products for a big church event. At that point, we suddenly realized we had "packed" Gordon, and he had to slowly climb down, trying not to disturb the cargo.

I told him he needed the practice in case he ever had to deal with loaves and fishes. I still smile and think of him every time we prepare for a major church event.

We learned so much about this guy and his life, which had challenges that might have been insurmountable for

some people. We fondly remember his constant smile and good-natured ability to deal with anything coming his way. His natural leadership skills and fun personality at Vacation Bible School became legend.

My second celebration came when my doctor congratulated me on my third anniversary of being cancer-free. In 2016, I developed not one, but two, unrelated cancers in an eight-week span, both requiring surgeries and follow-up treatments (one doctor nicknamed me "double trouble").

During my darkest days, I believed in the prayer and love of friends and family that surrounded me. I bargained with the Lord, telling Him that if He needed me, I was ready to go, but if He spared me, I would continue to serve Him by helping others. He did, and I am doing what I promised.

This month marks the three-year point on the second version of my cancer battles. Prayerfully, a clean

report will be cause for another celebration of life and more work ahead serving Our Lord. It is an incredibly humbling honor to be alive and able to do this. On some days my heart is so happy I feel as if it will burst!

Each new day is a reason to celebrate, to thank God for good health and for all He does for each of us in our daily lives. Focusing on today's celebration reminds us that with prayer, hope and trust, another day to celebrate might be ours tomorrow.

Gloria Butler is a longtime parishioner of Plain City St. Joseph Church. She is director of the parish's St. Martin de Porres Outreach Mission Center, serving poor and needy families in several counties. She and her husband, Jim, participate in many church and community activities. She was honored as diocesan Catholic Woman of the Year in 2010 and has been a freelance writer for more than 50 years.

Women's council has served diocese for 75 years

By Katie Boesch

Director, Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

It was 1920, and the United States was recovering from World War I. The nation's bishops had taken note of the important work done by Catholic women's organizations across the nation during the war.

The bishops were forward-thinking enough to bring members of these organizations together so they would speak as one voice, unified in purpose and service to our church, through an organization known as the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW).

A wonderful book, *The First 75 Years*, chronicles the history and challenges of the NCCW through 1995. Two items of note about the organization: It has both a voice and representation at the twice-yearly meetings of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, and our national organization was one of only two women's groups allowed to attend meetings of the Second Vatican Council.

In 1945, 25 years after the NCCW's founding, Bishop Michael Ready, who had been installed as bishop of Columbus in January of that year, founded the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women.

It became the NCCW's affiliate in

the Diocese of Columbus and was designated the official federation of all existing and potential diocesan laywomen's organizations.

A booklet titled *First Fifty – A History of the Columbus Diocesan Council of Catholic Women*, by Mary Sheeran, notes that by the end of October 1945, the first diocese-wide general meeting of laywomen, made up of representatives of the diocese's deaneries, took place in Columbus, and the council officially emerged.

From the council's beginning, Bishop Ready emphasized that it would be an affiliate of the national council, with the purpose of uniting all the various parish women's groups.

Every bishop of Columbus has reiterated the importance of this council and his support for it. It is an official organization of the Diocese of Columbus and, as such, answers to the bishop.

What is less known or understood is that every Catholic woman age 18 and older in the diocese automatically is a member of this organization, whose purpose is to empower, lead, serve and enrich the spirituality of all Catholic women locally and nationally.

We stay current with the problems plaguing our families and nation. We are the voice of the voiceless.

For the past 75 years in the diocese,



we have served the body of Christ through soup kitchens; collected reading material for prisons; conducted forums on domestic violence, human trafficking, pornography and addiction; supported projects of the Ronald McDonald House and St. Jude's Hospital; sewn pillow cases for women's and children's shelters; assisted the diocesan Marriage and Family Life Office with the Jubilee of Anniversaries; supported pro-life issues; sponsored Bible studies; welcomed and gifted newly ordained priests; hosted a dinner recognizing the achievements of women in our diocese; provided days of spiritual reflection and an annual silent retreat; worked with the diocesan

Catholic Women's Conference; and partnered with the diocesan Office for Social Concerns on the St. Peregrine cancer project.

These are a few of the many projects for which Our Lord is using us. Pope Francis, in his many audiences and travels, calls for everyone to become evangelizers. The easiest way to achieve this is through action and involvement.

Our board is small in number, and we sincerely invite you to discern your many talents and join with us in serving the Diocese of Columbus.

For more information, call the DCCW office at (614) 228-8601.

Receiving Communion in mortal sin; frightened in crowded church

Q Our pastor has told us that if a person receives Communion in the state of mortal sin, the host ceases to be the body of Christ and is just ordinary bread. But if that is the case, why would it be a sin? (east central Ohio)

A If that, in fact, is what your pastor told you, he was incorrect. Once consecrated by the priest, the host becomes the body of Christ and remains so, even when someone receives it unworthily. That is exactly why it is wrong to take the Eucharist when in a state of serious sin – because of the sacredness of the sacrament.

Speaking at a papal audience in March 2018, Pope Francis reminded Catholics of the need to obtain absolution for grave sins before receiving the Eucharist. “We know,” said the pope, “that one who has committed a serious sin should not approach holy Communion without having first obtained absolution in the sacrament of reconciliation.”

Related to your question, a somewhat frightening study released by the Pew Research Center in August 2019 reported that more than two-thirds of self-described Catholics think that the bread and wine at Communion are not actually the body and blood of Christ, but only symbols of the sacred.

I call this frightening because the doctrine of transubstantiation is central to the teaching of the church. Didn't we grow up learning that what distinguishes Catholics is that we really do believe that we receive Jesus himself when we take communion?

Remember in the sixth chapter of John's Gospel when Jesus said to his disciples, “Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you

QUESTION & ANSWER

Father Kenneth Doyle

Catholic News Service

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



do not have life within you?” Some of the disciples said, “This saying is hard; who can accept it?” and some of them walked away.

What did Jesus do? Did he say, “Wait a second. Don't get nervous. I'm only talking symbols here?” He did not; he let them walk away, because he meant it.

Q I am a lady who is almost 81 years old. All my life I have been a very strict Catholic. I raised seven children and took them to Mass every Sunday and holy day. I always thought that, as I got older, I would become even closer to the church -- but the opposite has happened because of the way the church has changed.

In my town, we used to have three Catholic churches and three priests, but now we have one church and one priest. This has caused Sundays and holy days to be so crowded and the parking situation so bad that it is very scary for an old woman to attend.

So I decided a couple of years ago to start going to church during the week instead. Now, every Tuesday, I get up at 5:30 a.m. and go to the 6:45

Mass. It's peaceful, easy to park and I feel holy when I'm there.

As much as I would like to, I don't go on Easter or Christmas anymore because it's a madhouse. Yesterday, I had a disagreement with a close friend about not going to Mass on Sundays and holy days. Am I committing a serious sin by not going? (North Hampton, New Hampshire)

A Sunday has always been set aside for Christians to gather and worship the Lord at Eucharist; the choice comes, of course, because that was the day on which Jesus rose from the dead – and this is the center of our faith.

Interestingly, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* reflects on some of the other ways by which we should make Sundays special:

“Sunday is traditionally consecrated by Christian piety to good works and humble service of the sick, the infirm and the elderly. Christians will also sanctify Sunday by devoting time and care to their families and relatives, often difficult to do on other days of the week. Sunday is a time for reflection, silence, cultivation of the mind and meditation which furthers the growth of the Christian interior life” (No. 2186).

In your own circumstance, though, I do not believe that you are sinning by choosing a different day for worship; your fear of crowds is as real as any illness and could well dispense you from the Sunday obligation.

If there is no quieter parish within reasonable reach, then the option you have chosen may well be worthy and wise. So that you will feel comfortable, though, why not discuss your situation with a local priest?

CUSTODIAN/LIGHT MAINTENANCE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

St. John XXIII Catholic Church, Canal Winchester, is looking for an individual to clean the church, sanctuary, offices, and classrooms weekly plus light event preparation of social hall for events.

Experience: A minimum of one year of prior experience is required.

Job Related Skills: This position requires frequent movement about the various buildings to complete the essential job responsibilities. Must be able to multi-task; be flexible; self-motivated; punctual; personable; and able to take direction well.

Working Environment: The ability to maintain all information highly confidential. This is a 20-hour per week part-time position. Hours may vary but generally will be Tuesday thru Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Some weekend and evening work is required for this position.

Job offer is contingent on the successful passing of the mandatory background screening and completion of the VIRTUS “Protecting God's Children” course. Salary is commensurate with skills through experience and training. Part-time benefits are according to diocesan policy.

Please send resume and references to St. John XXIII Parish at popejohn@sjxxiiiiparish.org.

FULL-TIME SECRETARY POSITION AVAILABLE

St. Andrew Parish is searching for a qualified individual to serve as the full-time Secretary for 37.5 hours per week. The individual applying for this position should have a high school education with some completed college work and a minimum of one year prior experience in an office setting.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: Greet visitors, answer multiple incoming phone lines in a timely manner, prepare weekly parish bulletin and petitions for Sunday Masses, enter weekly offertory contributions into parishioner's record, coordinates the scheduling of various liturgical ministries, maintain an up to date parish census, including updates to and from the Diocesan Census, maintain sacramental records, including preparation of permission forms and sacramental certificates, and other typical office responsibilities.

Qualifications for this position include the ability to prioritize and remain flexible with schedule and office demands, ability to multi-task with multiple phone lines and visitors, good organizational skills, ability to communicate effectively and project a positive image, and ability to exercise discretion with confidential matters. Applicant must also have a working knowledge of computer software required to do the job, including Microsoft Office programs. Knowledge of the Catholic Church and its faith and mission is required.

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

Send cover letter, resume, salary requirement and references by Friday, September 20, 2019 to Ann Whiteman, Parish Business Administrator at awhiteman@standrewparish.cc.

Great things can come in small packages

There are many ways that life can present itself to us. It can hit us squarely on the head or it can quietly and gently guide us. Many of our misconceptions are based on these ways of thinking. There can be a middle road. Taking risks is a fact of living. It requires good sense and judgment on the part of all concerned. It requires that people be able to give to others without regard to themselves. This is not reckless behavior, but involves learning from our past and our collective wisdom.

When I was small, I remember feeling vulnerable and dependent on those around me. I needed their help to grow and to become what God always had planned for me to be. As we get older, some of us will be grand in stature, some will be mild in approach, and some will like to operate from afar. I know people who are great, who have contributed much to society and have given their lives for a cause. But most of these awesome people never climbed onto a national stage. They lived lives of servitude. They were not afraid of being small, and changed our way of thinking. They are and were wonderful examples of what we can do with very little. Successful people take what they are given and turn it into something extraordinary. It is in

LIGHTING THE WAY

Joseph Thomas

Joseph Thomas, a member of Gahanna St. Matthew Church, is a Third Order Franciscan and freelance writer who is active in many diocesan and church activities.



their very nature to be great, because they have confidence in others to help them accomplish what they have set out to do.

“Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ” are not words to be bandied around and analyzed, but represent a lifetime of achievement celebrated and a willingness to subject ourselves to being humbled on a daily basis. Jesus never sought notoriety, but emphasized the simple things in life, such as truth. He carried his heart on his sleeve and freely gave of himself. Look at all the people in this world today who think they are above one another, based on socioeconomic means or being “larger than life.” My heroes are those who do the smallest deeds, but make the greatest impact on each life they touch. They are not rich or famous and live within their

means, but they do not lack in accomplishment. They are, in fact, much like you and me, living out their lives in service to others.

St. Padre Pio, St. Pedro de San Jose, St. Francis and Mother Teresa are a few of the many wonders of our modern world. We can look to them to guide us in our decisions, and I join them in my prayers. It is said that Mother Teresa would look for gifts and bargains wherever she could find them. She was not afraid of asking for things and had the courage to be up front about what she needed to carry on her ministry. It is rare in life to command an audience, but to do it with grace, style, meekness and a dose of intrepidity, as she did, is a trait we should all strive to have. She was quoted as saying, “Be faithful in small things, because it is in them that your strength lies. It’s not how much you do, but how much love you put into what you do that counts.”

Remember the people in your life who are important to you. Please remember those who have given their lives for the sake of others. Let us do what we can with what we are given because great things can come in small packages. May we use our talents in the light of day. May His spirit guide us on our way and may His peace be with you always.

The lesson of St. Peter Claver’s life: Deeds come first, then words

On Sept. 9, we observed the feast of St. Peter Claver. He was born in Spain in 1581 and entered the Jesuits there in 1601. In 1610, he went to the missions in South America, landing in Cartagena, a port city in what is now Colombia, which was a major stop for slave ships. He was ordained in 1616 and spent his life serving the 10,000 enslaved Africans who arrived there every year.

Claver considered himself a slave to the slaves and began ministering to them from the time the ships docked. He made his way into the hold, encountering people who had survived the most horrid conditions imaginable. (About one-third of them didn’t.)

The image I have of Peter Claver is one of a man moving among the people, providing food, water, medicine and care as he treated their physical wounds. “Deeds come first, then the words,” is a quote attributed to him. His life bears that out. It was attention to basic human needs that came first. Only later, using translators and sometimes pictures, would he try to communicate with the Africans some ideas of Christianity and God’s love for them.

Through his deeds and words, Claver treated people with respect, honoring the dignity due every human being. No exceptions. That’s the lesson of his life that stays with me today.

While 400 years have passed since the first slave ship arrived on our shores, the repercussions of slavery remain. Racism is a serious challenge in our nation and continues to deny basic rights to our Af-

GRACE IN THE MOMENT

Mary Van Balen

Visit Mary van Balen’s blog at <http://www.maryvanbalen.com/the-scallop>.



rican American sisters and brothers, challenging us to respond.

Dehumanizing people, marginalizing them, is all too easy. The list of “reasons” is long: People look “different,” speak another language, embrace a faith different from our own. Fear of difference, threats to one’s way of life, ignorance – these are on the list, too.

As I thought of Peter Claver’s instinctive action to first alleviate human suffering, the plight of refugees at our southern border came to mind. They come mostly from Central and South America, fleeing unspeakable violence and poverty, and fear for their lives. How are they met?

I spoke with Sister Barbara Kane, OP, a member of the Dominican Sisters of Peace in Columbus. She and others in her community have traveled to El Paso, Texas to serve as they could.

She spoke of refugees’ long waits in enclosed areas until they have their Credible Fear hearing (when the refugee states what has driven him or her to seek asylum.)

After the Credible Fear hearing, people are sent back to Mexican cities to wait again until their sponsors can be reached and background checks can be run. The cities are not equipped to house so many refugees, whose stays can last for weeks or months.

Once sponsors are contacted and cleared, the asylum seekers come back to the United States and are placed in hospitality houses. The Annunciation House is where Sister Barbara served.

“That’s where volunteers finally meet the refugees and offer help. We provide a hot shower, clean clothes, food, and a bed to sleep in,” Sister Barbara said. Eventually, volunteers drive the refugees to the airport or bus terminals as they begin the journey to their sponsors. With fewer people making it through to this point, volunteers may have time to listen to the refugees’ stories.

“I came away convinced that the vast majority of these parents just want their children to be safe and secure and to have a future,” Sister Barbara added.

If you, like me, are unable to go to the border to help in person, there are a variety of ways to support those who do. Sister Barbara offers these suggestions for donations:

- Donate directly to the Annunciation House at its website: annunciationhouse.org/contact, or send a check to 1003 E. San Antonio Ave., El Paso TX 79901-2620.
- The Diocese of El Paso ministry, Diocesan Migrants and Refugee Services, Inc. accepts online donations: dmrs-ep.org; or mail a check to DMRS, 2400 Yandell Dr., El Paso TX 79903.

New vicar for religious hopes to draw communities to diocese

By Doug Bean
Catholic Times Editor

Considering Father Stash Dailey's zeal for working with religious orders and Bishop Robert Brennan's interest in cultivating relationships with them, it seems like a natural fit that Father Dailey is the new vicar for religious in the Diocese of Columbus.

Bishop Brennan announced in July that Father Dailey would take on that role while remaining pastor of Columbus Holy Family Church. Deacon Thomas Berg Jr., the diocese's chancellor, has served as the bishop's liaison to the diocese's religious communities and the chancery will continue to provide support.

"Wanting to be present to them as bishop, Bishop Brennan wanted to have someone be a vicar, which is his personal representative, to the sisters and priests and brothers rather than a delegate to the religious," Father Dailey said.

His new position is in its infancy, but he's not a neophyte as far as working with religious sisters, brothers and priests. He has been responsible in the past decade for assisting with several orders establishing a presence in this diocese and other dioceses throughout the nation.

"Bishop Brennan called me in and understood that I have a deep and profound love for the religious life, and he understood that I'm already good friends with lots of communities locally and nationally and do a lot of retreats and assist with guidance for communities, both men and women," Father Dailey said. "I was very humbled and surprised, but also grateful and excited, with the opportunity to help in any way I can."

"It seems to be a two-pronged job now, which is not only seeking to respect and maintain the presence of the congregations that are here, but also with the heart and eyes of the church to appropriately discern the communities that could be here and bring their own charisms and apostolates to the local church here in the diocese."

Religious orders have maintained a strong presence in Ohio and in the Diocese of Columbus since its inception. Dominican priests celebrated the first Mass in Ohio more than 200 years ago in this diocese, which had yet to be



Religious sisters from the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist; Little Sister Servants of the Immaculate Conception; Order of the Most Holy Savior (Bridgettines); and Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. CT photo by Doug Bean

formed, and the Order of Priests (the Dominicans' official title) and congregations of Dominican nuns continue to serve here today.

One of the communities that Father Dailey helped bring to the diocese was the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist. The Ann Arbor, Michigan-based congregation has sisters assigned to Worthington St. Michael School as teachers and administrators.

"Religious life remains a very essential and important part of the local church," Father Dailey said. "It has such a beautiful patrimonial history."

"The faith was brought here through the religious, the Dominicans and the Jesuits, and not only the priests and brothers but the sisters, the many monasteries that were here at one time. So it's not only having that respect and treasure for the communities that built the church here, but also having an eagerness to welcome new communities that can help the faith grow and be strong."

Father Dailey, whose parish operates the Holy Family Soup Kitchen and is known for its traditional liturgy, also wants to help Bishop Brennan be attentive to individual sisters who have moved to the diocese because their communities are present here.

One way to recognize their presence will be an annual Mass and thank-you dinner at St. Joseph Cathedral on Feb. 2, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, which is also the World Day for

Consecrated Life. In 2020, the feast falls on a Sunday. Plans are for Bishop Brennan to celebrate the 5:15 p.m. Mass with consecrated priests, brothers and sisters in the diocese.

"And I would like to have a holy hour before the Mass to pray that the Lord would bless the diocese with many vocations," Father Dailey said. "The bishop has got a great heart. He was very open to it and very excited about it. He is so happy that we have so many communities here."

A variety of orders currently reside in the diocese to minister to needs that range from teaching to health care to assistance with immigrant families.

"I've mentioned to the bishop other charisms and apostolates that right now are represented or addressed, but the need is still there," Father Dailey said. "That's a particular challenge and opportunity that he's very much allowing me to pursue – the terminally ill at home, for one. Is there a possibility that those sisters (Servants of Mary, Ministers to the Sick) would have a presence here? We don't know."

"There's the Sisters of Life. Their charism and apostolate is so desperately needed, and when you consider the needs of our diocese, is there a possibility there? We haven't even tried. Bishop (Frederick) Campbell had invited them, but there wasn't somebody to keep knocking on the door."

Father Dailey mentioned more teaching sisters at universities and

high schools, "the ever-growing need to address sex trafficking, human trafficking, the opioid crisis and epidemic; the plight of the homeless; and the poor, especially the elderly who are just trying to make sure they keep their home, but also need expensive medication and food."

There's the added challenge of making known throughout the diocese the communities that already serve here and the valuable work they do in parishes, schools, hospitals, ministries and prayer. Communities such as the Missionary Servants of the Word at Columbus St. Stephen the Martyr Church serve the Lord and transplants from Latin America.

"We have people coming to Columbus from different countries, from Africa, from Central America and South America. Oftentimes, there are congregations of sisters who are able to carry the voice of the gospel to the people in their native tongue," Father Dailey said. "Is there an openness, a realistic possibility to have their presence here?"

Father Dailey noted that religious sisters, brothers and priests play an important role in helping young people discern vocations to the married state and in developing spiritual relationships with married couples.

"I've seen young married couples who have a deep-seated friendship with religious sisters, and there's so much peace," Father Dailey said. "The sisters love seeing the young couple get married and grow in their marriage vocation and the grace be lived out. And that young couple, there's such a treasure in their marriage that they're friends with a religious community of sisters."

The example of religious serving the church can have a profound influence on vocations to the clerical or consecrated state, Father Dailey emphasized.

In addition to the congregations serving here, several men and women from the diocese belong to orders and serve in other areas of the nation or the world. In the past few years, a number of local individuals have entered religious life, but their vocation stories often go unnoticed.

"These vocations should be cele-

Prayer for priests is the mission of Seven Sisters Apostolate

Women from Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church have formed the first chapter in the diocese of a nationwide organization dedicated to praying for priests and known as the Seven Sisters Apostolate. A second chapter recently was started at Gahanna St. Matthew Church.

Seven Sisters members commit to a weekly Holy Hour on a specific day of the week for one year, for the sole intention of a specific priest or bishop. Each Seven Sisters prayer group includes seven women, so that each designated clergy member has a group member praying for him each day.

The organization began with one woman in Minnesota and has spread to more than 1,200 units, with more than 8,000 members, in parishes, chanceries, seminaries, hospitals and other locations in 42 states as well as in Africa, India, Australia, the United Kingdom, Mexico and South America.

The Seven Sisters unit at St. Pius has grown to 45 members since it was founded last fall by parishioner Mary Girard. This has enabled it to form groups that pray for Father David J. Young, the parish's pastor; Father Milton Kiocha, associate pastor; Msgr. David Funk, the parish's retired pastor; and Msgr. Patrick Gaughan and Father Richard Metzger, retired priests who are weekend associates at St. Pius.

Prayers from a parish Seven Sisters unit are offered first for the intention of the pastor, with groups formed for other priests as the unit grows larger. There also are groups for bishops. These also start with seven women, but it is recommended that two additional groups of seven be added to them within six months so the bishops have someone praying for them morning, noon and night. Pope Francis has three groups praying for him.

Girard said her formation of the apostolate at St. Pius began when she heard about it in late summer last year during a call-in program on St. Gabriel Catholic Radio AM 820 in Columbus.

"I don't even remember what program it was," she said. "I was doing errands and was disturbed at the time by all the scandals among some of the clergy that were coming to light. It ate at my heart," she said. "A woman on this program was talking about how her parish was praying for priests through the Seven Sisters ministry, and I wondered why our parish didn't have it.

"I was about to go on vacation, and the whole time I was away, it stayed in my mind that there are hundreds of thousands of good priests around

the world, and we should be praying for them. When I got back, I received approval from Parish Council to form a Seven Sisters apostolate in the parish, effective Oct. 1.

"I posted notices in the parish bulletin and talked about it in a women's Bible study and the parish's weekday morning Mass. Almost immediately, I had 15 women sign up," Girard said. "That was enough to start a group for Father Young. Shortly after, we added Msgr. Gaughan and Father Metzger. We formed a group later for Msgr. Funk, then for Father Milton when he arrived in the parish late last year. A few women had joined over the course of the year, and several said they would pray additional hours for the other priests until we had enough members for a separate prayer group for each priest.

"The normal year of prayer commitment for a Seven Sisters group goes from June to June, the month of the Sacred Heart. We set up a table in the back of church to talk to women after Masses on a weekend this past June, and 19 new members signed up. All our other members continued their commitment, except for three who moved or had medical issues, so we now have 45.

"The success of this group at St. Pius is everything I had hoped for," Girard said. "I felt a strong inspiration from the Holy Spirit that the parish needed a ministry like this, and many other women told me they had been feeling the same thing. Being part of the ministry has brought all of us much joy, as well as the graces you feel from praying for a priest and the bond you feel with the priests and with the other women.

"Sometimes, a situation comes up where one of us needs a substitute on our designated day, and we've never had any problem finding subs. It's amazing how close those of us in Seven Sisters have become, considering that most of us didn't know each other and we don't have regular meetings."

The Gahanna St. Matthew unit began praying for Father Ted Sill, the parish's pastor, on Aug. 1, said its founder, Julia Hoenig. It has 13 members and hopes to add a few more so a group can be formed for Father Peter Asantebwana, parochial vicar. "Seven people are sufficient to form a group, but it's preferable to have about 10 so there are enough substitutes when



Chris Vollmer (left) and Mary Girard are part of the Seven Sisters prayer group at Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church. Photo courtesy Mary Girard

needed," she said.

Hoenig spends part of the year in Ohio and part in New Hampshire and said she learned about Seven sisters through a Bible study in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

"Joining Seven Sisters has opened my eyes in the way it has made me appreciate how much we need to pray for priests daily," said St. Pius X parishioner Chris Vollmer. "So many priests are being attacked by the devil constantly. The recent abuse revelations have made everyone understand how serious those attacks are and how much we need to pray for strength and courage among our clergy. I now realize it's everyone's responsibility to pray regularly for all our priests."

Girard and Vollmer were part of a group of about 40 Seven Sisters members from across the nation who went to northern France and Switzerland for a pilgrimage in July with the organization's founder, Janette Howe, and with Father Joseph Johnson, the Minnesota priest who inspired Howe to start the ministry. They stopped at sites related to St. John Vianney, St. Mary Magdalene, St. Therese of Lisieux, St. Denis, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque and other notable people in Catholic history.

"Seeing all these holy sites filled me with inspiration every day. Spending time with these women and with Father Johnson made me realize the power of having all these prayers united to support the efforts of our priests in this time of great difficulty for the church," Girard said.

She said that during the pilgrimage, Howe told her that although Seven Sisters groups were formed mainly for prayer, the closeness some groups

have developed has led to regular social meetings that have benefited their parishes by strengthening bonds among parishioners.

"Traveling to various places to speak about the apostolate, I witness great joy among the women I meet that are currently Seven Sisters," Howe said. "I am convinced that there is something deep within that is being fulfilled as each woman responds to this call of intentional, committed prayer for priests. The fruit is joy, and it is a catching force. Testimonies abound from both priests and Seven Sisters alike. Conversion of heart is generously happening in both – grace upon grace."

Girard has put together a book of prayers she has compiled and a book related to the rosary, both of which are regularly updated. These are given to new members of the St. Pius X Seven Sisters ministry, along with a prayer book from the national Seven Sisters organization.

She said that although it's preferred that Seven Sisters members pray their weekly Holy Hours in a church, the homebound or those in nursing care facilities can join a group and pray from where they are. "We don't want to turn anyone away if they feel in their heart that the Holy Spirit is calling them," she said.

She also said many members appreciate that their Seven Sisters commitment allows them to pray at any time during a specific day, rather than on a set hour, because of the way it allows for flexibility.

The commitment also is not limited to a particular site, meaning it can be done while traveling, no matter where a woman is.

The Seven Sisters Apostolate began with Howe's prayers for Father Johnson in 2010 and took its current form about a year later after Howe said she kept hearing the words "Seven Sisters" in her heart. The organization's website, sevensistersapostolate.org, says: "Men are wonderful and willing substitutes for Holy Hours, but the apostolate remains true to the original inspiration for seven women – Seven Sisters. There are many other groups that offer prayers for priests."

Girard is eager to have many other parishes form their own Seven Sisters Apostolate. For more information, contact her by email at marygirard44@gmail.com or by phone at (614) 327-4670, or visit the website. Hoenig can be reached at juliemay-hoenig@reagan.com or (614) 404-6366.

St. Stephen's Community House celebrates 100 years of brightening lives in central Ohio

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

One hundred years ago, a community center known then as the National Catholic Community House opened on Aug. 13 on Columbus' south side. A representative from the National Catholic War Council (now the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops) was on hand for the opening and noted in a story in the council's September 1919 *Bulletin* that the event was of significance to the entire community.

The story said the opening did not attract "the old-time settlement crowd of children only, but the real community type we are so anxious to interest. Scattered about through the audience was the mother with the babe in her arms, the serious-minded working man and the young man and the young woman, all seemingly interested in knowing just what the community house would mean to them."

It went on to say that the master of ceremonies, a Columbus lawyer named O'Connor (no first name was listed), talked about classes and recreational events planned at the site, and how "it would also serve as a bureau of information for the people in that vicinity." Another speaker, identified as Dr. Cooper, "said that he hoped everyone in the neighborhood would take advantage of the house and consider it theirs."

A century has gone by since that day. The center has changed its name to St. Stephen's Community House and moved in 1965 from the south side to the Linden neighborhood in northeast Columbus. Today, it continues to fulfill the mission the two speakers described in 1919. It serves more than 30,000 families a year, impacting everyone from infants to senior citizens through multiple programs and services that are dedicated, in the words of its motto, to "brightening lives" by strengthening families and empowering the community.

One of those services is St. Stephen's food and nutrition center, where a significant change made last month is helping Linden become less of a "food desert" – an area lacking in places where people can pur-

chase affordable, good-quality fresh food.

Since Aug. 5, fresh produce has been available at the center's food pantry daily. Its customers are limited to one visit per month for other food and personal care items, but they can stop by every day to pick up fresh food and bread.

"There hasn't been a huge change, more of an incremental one, but more people are coming here more often because they know they'll always find fresh food," said food center coordinator Ali Koenig.

"I'm seeing people starting to come once or twice a week, and I expect the number is going to increase as word spreads about what's available here. Linden doesn't have any supermarkets, and people want fresh food," said Koenig, who has been at St. Stephen's full time for the past two years after serving as an intern there while studying social work at Ohio State University.

The Mid-Ohio Foodbank supplies produce to the center twice a week. Bread is brought in by volunteers from parishes, including Powell St. Joan of Arc and the New Albany Church of the Resurrection, and comes from Panera, Kroger, Giant Eagle and other sources.

With the addition of fresh produce came a decision to eliminate most canned goods from the pantry's shelves, in line with the food bank's policy of encouraging more healthful meals. "It also helps stretch the money we have available, because purchasing canned goods put quite a strain on our budget," Koenig said. She said some canned goods might be made available on occasion as extra items, but they no longer would be a significant offering for the pantry.

Another change in the shopping procedure enables customers to use a "protein pass" during their monthly visit for non-produce items. The pass allows them to receive grain products such as pasta, rice and beans, peanut butter as available, canned pasta sauce, cheese, meat and various other staples.

The pantry is a choice pantry, meaning it's set up like a supermarket, al-



Leonida Mercedes shops for fresh vegetables at the food and nutrition center of St. Stephen's Community House in the Linden neighborhood of northeast Columbus. Since Aug. 5, fresh produce has been available every day at the center's food pantry and its customers, who are limited to one visit a month for other food, have been encouraged to return as often as they want for the fresh items and for bread.
CT photo by Ken Snow



Bishop Robert Brennan visited St. Stephen's soon after his installation as bishop earlier year and was given a tour of the center by Marilyn Mehaffie, its executive director. The college pennants displayed are designed to encourage students in its STEM and Achieve More and Prosper programs to continue their education past high school.

Photos courtesy St. Stephen's Community House

lowing people to select from whatever is on hand, according to household size and following federal nutrition guidelines, rather than being limited to receiving boxes of randomly selected food.

Koenig said the pantry serves about 900 families a month and was particularly busy in July and August, with schools not being in session. In 2018, it served more than 4,200 families, totaling nearly 14,000 individuals. They come from eight ZIP codes that in-

clude northeast Columbus, Gahanna, Westerville and part of Worthington. Pantry hours are noon to 3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday and 3 to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

The youngest people served by the center are those ages 6 weeks to 5 years who come to its early learning center every weekday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. for two meals, a snack and a variety of programs.

ST. STEPHEN'S, *continued from Page 10*

The center is designed for the children of parents who are working, receiving job training or attending an educational program, and was one of the first early-childhood programs to earn accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children. It has consistently maintained high standards and has the maximum rating of five stars in the state of Ohio's Step Up to Quality program.

It had been known as a child care center, but changed its description to an early learning center to better explain the focus of its programs. About 30 children are enrolled there.

"The new name more accurately reflects what the center's focus has become," said Marilyn Mehaffie, who has been director of St. Stephen's Community House for 18 months and an employee of the agency for 31 years. "Its main goal now is to make kids kindergarten-ready.

"Children come here not just to receive care while their parents are working or going to school, but to learn how to strengthen their social and developmental skills. They learn their numbers and letters, how to spell their name, how to let teachers know who to call if they are injured, how to use scissors and drawing tools – all the things that are essential to be prepared for kindergarten, done in a safe living and learning environment."

The center, directed by Kristin Giger for the past five years, has been supported financially by the Christ Child

Society of Columbus since its opening in 1991. Society member Barbara Rowland has been associated with the center for more than 20 years. "The society's role with the center has been sort of like that of a PTA," she said.

"Some of our members who were involved with child care realized nearly 30 years ago that there was a definite need for early childhood education in the Linden area and started the center.

"We're not involved with its day-to-day operations, but offer a music program once a month, story time once a week, and enrichment days featuring art, science and math with related stories. We also supply snacks for monthly teachers meetings. In conjunction with parents, we sponsor a harvest party, a holiday party and a graduation party. We also help with Valentine's Day and Easter parties that are independent of the parents."

The society's financial assistance includes support for Project Starfish, a scholarship program that provides aid for parents who don't qualify for federal assistance, but still need help with child care costs. Participating parents receive as much as 80 percent of covered costs in return for completing volunteer hours at St. Stephen's.

Much of the Christ Child Society's funding to support the learning center comes from its annual Red Wagon Fare luncheon, which will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 16 at the Exchange at Bridge Park, 6520 Riverside Drive, Dublin.

"We all love to see the growth of children," Rowland said. "Many of our members are retired teachers, and they have a great heart for seeing children grow and for being able to continue teaching on a volunteer basis at St. Stephen's."

The center's youth services department, for those ages 5 to 18 and their families, provides after-school and summer programming to students at the center and at the Hamilton, South Mifflin and Windsor STEM academies.

During the school year, it addresses food insecurity and keeps students from kindergarten to sixth grade safely supervised while parents are at work by providing a hot meal, homework assistance and academic and developmental activities.

Its free summer STEM camp for



Ground is broken in 1982 for the current location of St. Stephen's Community House at 1500 E. 17th Ave. in the Linden neighborhood of northeast Columbus. The center was founded in 1919 and its first location was on Barthman Avenue on the city's south side, where it remained until 1965. It was moved to the Linden area because it was felt that the need for its services was greater there.



The first location for St. Stephen's Community House in the Linden neighborhood was in this building on Cleveland Avenue. It outgrew the space and moved to a new building on a larger site, which opened in 1983. John Maloney became the center's executive director at the time of the move to Linden and held that position until his death in 1988. His successor, Judith Stattmiller, served at the center for 52 years until her retirement in 2006.

students entering first to eighth grades lasts eight weeks, split into two-week units on science, technology, engineering and math. The program is open to all Franklin County income-eligible families.

"STEM camp is designed to prevent students from going through the 'summer slide,' keeping their minds fresh so they'll be ready to go when they enter the next grade," Mehaffie said. "This was a very successful program in the summer just ended, with 175 students taking part. We anticipate about 120 for the after-school programs, which are just getting started."

For older students, ages 14 to 18, the center, in cooperation with the Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services, offers Achieve More and Prosper, a former summer employment program that has expanded to become year-round. It provides employment and training services to eligible young people based on needs and skills assessments and includes school monitoring and visits.

"Its goal is to reduce barriers in school and keep young people on the path to graduation and being self-suf-



Trina Loomis leads toddlers in play at the Christ Child Society early learning center of St. Stephen's Community House in Columbus. The center is open on weekdays from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. CT photo/Ken Snow

ST. STEPHEN'S, *continued from Page 11*

ficient,” Mehaffie said. “It provides career readiness through college and trade school visits and through summer jobs which are designed to provide a good first experience and a foundation of the type of skills students will need to be part of the 21st-century work force.”

The center and Franklin County Children Services are partners in the Family-to-Family and Kinship Care initiatives. Family-to-Family helps strengthen and support families that have open cases with the children services agency. It focuses on keeping at-risk children in their homes when possible, while providing services to help the family achieve self-sufficiency and resolve outstanding issues. The program is offered at St. Stephen's and at the Reeb Avenue Center across from St. Ladislav Church on the city's south side. It assists more than 600 families annually.

“Family-to-Family's goal is to strengthen families and communities,” Mehaffie said. “It works differently for every family, depending on what the needs are. A lot of times, the kids we serve don't have a chance to go on family visits to places like the zoo or somewhere where they can play games – simple things that strengthen family bonds. We want to help make things like that possible.”

“Last November, we started providing free community dinners every month, and there has been a steady in-

crease in the number of participants. Now we have about 250. The dinners are very staff-driven. We provide the food, so people don't have to be concerned about bringing anything. All they have to do is show up. And we try to engage them with other families so they can get to know and learn from each other.

“We've had the Kinship Care program less than a year and have 50 to 60 families taking part,” Mehaffie said. “It's a partnership with the Clintonville-Beechwood Community Resources Center and Franklin County Children Services and is offered to the increasing number of families in which a grandparent or other relative, or someone outside the family, has taken caregiver responsibilities for a child when the child can't live with his or her parents.

“The partnering agencies make sure those kinship groups which have become new families are stabilized, strong and supportive, with the emphasis on getting young people the services they need and providing possible compensation and other material assistance for the caregivers.”

The center provides a lunch for people 60 and older from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Thursday in its dining area, in cooperation with LifeCare Alliance. It also provides transportation to the lunches and to doctor's appointments or to food store or pantry trips, with sufficient notice, to seniors who need it. In addition, it provides a case

manager to assist seniors in completing applications and finding resources so they can remain independent.

Mehaffie said the focus of what had been known as Project AquaStar, an effort to cultivate crops and raise fish in a greenhouse, two hoop houses and a tepee on the center's property, has been changed. It will become an urban farm. She said AquaStar wasn't self-sustaining and funding for it ran out.

“The center staff is looking at examples of successful urban farms, like the ones run by the Mid-Ohio Foodbank in Franklinton and by New Salem Baptist Church and the Franklin Park Conservatory, to see how they do it,” she said. “AquaStar got too big too fast, and we had no real plan to sustain it.

“We are good at educating young people and families and anticipate that in another year, it will be a living classroom, with students from local schools doing hands-on work, growing plants and, in the process, learning lessons in the STEM subjects, food science, technology and sustainability.”

St. Stephen's is open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and at various times on weekends, depending on whether programs are taking place. It has 50 employees, fewer than in the past. “Like so many nonprofits, we're doing more with less staff,” Mehaffie said.

It has a budget of about \$5 million. Individual contributions, Franklin County Job and Family Services and Franklin County Children Services

each provide about one-fourth of that total, with the rest coming from various sources. Its principal fundraiser, Bravo! for the Children, is a dinner that has taken place for 28 years and is presented in July at the Robert C. Walter Student Commons of Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School.

More than 1,200 volunteers assist St. Stephen's annually, with the largest number taking part in the annual Christmas Cares/Unions Share program, which has been sponsored by the Central Ohio Labor Council since the early 1950s. It collects food and monetary donations for needy families, beginning in September, with the food distributed just before Christmas at the center.

“For years, we used to go door-to-door surveying residents of the neighborhood to find out how the center can best serve them,” Mehaffie said. “We've changed our method and now rely mostly on surveys from participants in our programs. We received more than 1,000 this year, and the changes have enabled us to become more attuned to how we can engage with the people who rely on us.

“We can see where our strengths and weaknesses are, and through their feedback, we're constantly adjusting what we do. I would like to see the community prosper to the point where our services are no longer needed, but as long as the community needs us and goes through evolution and transition, St. Stephen's will follow.”



Marilyn Mehaffie has been executive director of St. Stephen's Community House for 18 months and has been a staff member there for 31 years.

CT photos by Ken Snow



St. Stephen's Community House hosted a celebration of its 100th anniversary on Wednesday, Aug. 14. The center, located in the Linden neighborhood of northeast Columbus, serves more than 30,000 families a year, impacting everyone from infants age 6 weeks and older to senior citizens through multiple programs and services.

Photo courtesy St. Stephen's Community House



Paula Chatman watches a child enthusiastically go down a slide at the Christ Child Society early learning center of St. Stephen's Community House in northeast Columbus.

NEW VICAR, continued from Page 8

brated and honored just as much as our seminarians,” he said. “Vocations aren’t grown in flower pots. They’re grown in family life. How can a family best nourish a vocation to the religious life if they don’t know anything about the religious life?”

At the same time, diocesan priests have a profound impact on fostering vocations, and religious orders reciprocate by providing immeasurable assistance in diocesan parishes.

“When you see religious, they always become a mirror image of Our Lady,” Father Dailey said. “When you see them living, loving and serving so beautifully, we’re always reminded of Our Lady. Face facts: Our life, our work, our church needs another pow-

erful reminder of the powerful intercession of Our Lady to the Lord.

“As a diocesan priest, you see the needs of the church. You are forced by grace to see what Jesus sees. You are humbled because the Lord is allowing you to see this, not because I will take care of everything that needs to be done, but so that I may know best how I can invite the rest of the church to assist in taking care of what needs to be done.

“I’m just approaching the job of vicar for religious to see what the Lord sees and to invite the rest of the church to love as he wants us to love.

“They love the Lord, the religious do, and their sincere, total love for the Lord oftentimes enables them to love people as the Lord loves them. So

while the priest can be the protagonist behind the drama, the religious are really the ones who carry that drama to that conclusion, because they remind us that heaven exists. They remind us ... that we were made for more.”

Father Dailey will first assess the needs of the congregations in residence here and help Bishop Brennan know how best to serve them.

“One of the things that has been thought-provoking on my side is, Bishop Brennan wants the church to be strong and to be filled with love and to be filled with life,” Father Dailey said. “And religious are a part of that. I’m very excited about the prospects of how religious can be more present here.”



Father Stash Dailey is the new vicar for religious in the diocese. CT photo/Ken Snow

SISTER PIMENTEL, continued from Page 3

“My gift from God was art,” she said. “I had gotten my bachelor’s degree, was living with my father in Brownsville, Texas, and had applied for a master’s degree program at the University of Texas architectural school. One day, a friend who was in a prayer group said they were going to Pizza Hut afterward. I said I’d join them for pizza, but she said, ‘You have to go to prayer group first.’ So I went, and it changed my life.”

Members of the Missionaries of Jesus were part of the group, and Sister Norma said the spirituality she found there led her to join the order in 1978. She has been working with migrants on the Mexico-Texas border ever since.

Bishop Robert Brennan, attending his first Breakfast With the Bishop program, spoke after Sister Norma’s talk, saying, “I noticed that when

walking with Sister Norma, I was walking in a circle of great respect because of the respect and dignity with which she treats everyone she meets. Your gift, Sister, is art. You’ve given us a tremendous portrait that has brought to life so many of the stories we hear about. Thank you for bringing out the best in all of us.

“In the center Sister Norma runs, many people who have been through so much hardship finally find a welcome, somebody with human compassion. I challenge all of us to dig deep into that compassion and see the humanity in everybody,” the bishop said.

Rachel Lustig, CSS president and chief executive officer, reviewed the agency’s work for 2018, noting that its 14 programs for seniors and families served 34,000 people during the year. Lustig has known Sister Norma for 15 years because Lustig worked with Catholic Charities USA in Washington while Sister Norma was on the agency’s board.

The program concluded with a four-person group from Columbus Christ the King Church singing *Amigo*, a song of friendship and enduring hard times together.

After the breakfast, Lustig, Sister Norma and other CSS staff members went to the CSS Our Lady of Guadalupe Center on Columbus’ west side to visit members of that area’s Latino community served by the center.

More than 600 people attended the breakfast. During the event, they were invited to make a donation that would be split between the Guadalupe center and the McAllen respite center. Bishop Brennan pledged \$5,000 as a lead gift, and donations totaled nearly \$26,000.



Bishop Robert Brennan speaks at Breakfast with the Bishop. CT photo/Ken Snow

Father Hilary Ike defends thesis



Father Hilary Ike will be receiving a doctoral degree in education later this year at Ashland University after successfully defending his doctoral thesis on organizational improvement of Nigerian Catholic chaplains in the United States. Father Ike (third from left) is pictured with members of the committee that examined his thesis. They are (from left): James Olive, committee chair; Rosaire Ifedi, and Judy Alston, director of Ashland’s executive leadership doctoral program. Father Ike, who is in residence at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral and a member of the diocesan Tribunal, spent four years in study, research and writing to earn his degree. He is a native of Nigeria, has been a priest for 15 years and came to Columbus in 2012 after completing studies in Rome at the Pontifical Urban University for a licentiate in canon law degree. Photo courtesy Father Hilary Ike

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24th Sunday of Ordinary Time

All glory, praise and honor to God

Exodus 32:7-11,13-14

Psalm 51:3-4,
12-13,17,19

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-32

Father Timothy Hayes



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

Paul's first letter to Timothy has a doxology, an expression of praise of God that gives insight into the call of the gospel: "To the King of Ages, the invisible, the immortal, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen."

We live to give honor to God. Our lives are designed to be happy, fulfilling, productive in service to the King of Ages, in Hebrew, the *Melech HaOlam*, the *Master of the Universe*, the *Lord and God who made it all*.

God is king: He rules! God is *King of the Ages* and he is *immortal*: He lives forever and we have hope of eternal life with him. God is *the invisible one*: He is hidden in everything we experience.

God is *the only God*: He is the one, the only supreme being; he IS the fullness of being. Our lives are meant to give God *honor and glory forever and ever*. Amen.

There are implications to this: We are created by God for God. He has entrusted us to one another. We are charged to care for other human beings, especially those who are most vulnerable. Since he has revealed the truth to us, we are charged to bring it into our world so that others may come to know it and to acknowledge God for who he IS.

Moses, who has found his association with God's people very difficult, has learned this lesson. He even argues with God on behalf of the people. God is finally ready to start over with Moses, and Moses pleads for mercy. Moses has been "hoodwinked" by God to taking on the people, the burden he was seeking to have lifted from him. The call of the gospel is to change our attitude about who we are and how we relate to those around us.

St. Paul sees what God has done in him. He points to his own experience as a reminder of God's power to take whatever we give him and make something of it.

Jesus' parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son invite us to reconsider our own way of thinking. The sheep is a symbol of attention to

one's daily work. The coin is a symbol of preparation for the future. The two sons are the symbol of a heritage. The loving father of the two self-seeking sons who is ready to welcome both of them back into the fold and to be a family with them in spite of their narrow vision reveals the nature of God's family.

In light of these scriptures, we are invited to pay attention to what is going on around us. *Seeking out the lost* must become our passion if we are to be true disciples of Jesus, the good shepherd. The shepherd, the woman and the father represent Jesus, who chooses to act and to invite us to see the world through his eyes.

The wondrous reality that God has made us for himself – that he gives us the ability to discover our own restless hearts and to know that we want to arise and go to our Father – opens our eyes to the gift of divine life, our capacity to know him, love him and serve him in this life and be happy with him forever in the next.

All that happens in this world can serve to open our hearts to God and to teach us to put our trust in his providence and in his mercy. God reveals his mercy to give us room to respond, to receive his love even after we have rejected it. His arms are open to us and he is watching for us, waiting for us, seeking us out when we are lost.

He invites us not only to receive his mercy, but also to share in it and to pass it on. May we give honor and glory to Jesus, the King of the Ages, forever and ever. Amen.

Bishop to offer Mission Sunday Mass

Bishop Robert Brennan will celebrate a special World Mission Sunday Mass at 12:30 p.m. Oct. 20 in Columbus St. James the Less Church, 1652 Oakland Park Ave.

After Mass, there will be a fundraiser to benefit the parish that features international foods. For information, contact Vielka Cassidy at (614) 262-1179 or email sjamesless@yahoo.com.

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

MONDAY
1 Timothy 2:1-8
Psalm 28:2,7-9
Luke 7:1-10

TUESDAY
1 Timothy 3:1-13
Psalm 101:1b-3b,5-6
Luke 7:11-17

WEDNESDAY
1 Timothy 3:14-16
Psalm 111:1-6
Luke 7:31-35

THURSDAY
1 Timothy 4:12-16
Psalm 111:7-10
Luke 7:36-50

FRIDAY
1 Timothy 6:2c-12
Psalm 49:6-10,17-20
Luke 8:1-3

SATURDAY
Ephesians 4:1-7,11-13
Psalm 19:2-5
Matthew 9:9-13

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE: WEEK OF SEPT. 15, 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.

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 Universe Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirecTV Channel 305).

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

DAILY MASS

8 a.m., Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Birmingham, Ala. (Encores at noon, 7 p.m. and midnight). See EWTN above; and on I-Lifetv (Channel 113 in Ada, Logan, Millersburg, Murray City and Washington C.H.; Channel 125 in Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown and New Philadelphia; and Channel 207 in Zanesville);

8 p.m., St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

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

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Australian justice in the dock in the case of Cardinal Pell

Consider this sequence of events, familiar to some but evidently not to others:

March 2013: Before any credible reports of misbehavior are made against Cardinal George Pell, police in Australia's state of Victoria launch "Operation Tethering," a sting aimed at the former archbishop of Melbourne (who by this time is prefect of the Vatican secretariat for the economy). "Tethering" includes newspaper ads seeking information on previously unreported, untoward goings-on at the Melbourne cathedral in the past.

Early 2017: The Office of Public Prosecutions in Melbourne twice returns a brief to those who mounted "Operation Tethering," criticizing the Victoria police brief as inadequate for a prosecution.

June 2017: Charges of "historic sexual abuse" from 20 years earlier are announced by the director of public prosecutions and Pell is ordered home. The cardinal vehemently denies any misconduct and, despite his Vatican diplomatic immunity, immediately returns to Australia to defend his honor and that of the Church.

May 2018: At the "committal hearing," a magistrate dismisses several charges against Pell but sends others to trial, saying that, whatever their arguable plausibility, they should be aired publicly in a criminal court. Meanwhile, a vicious lynchmob atmosphere continues to surround Cardinal Pell, in public and in much of the Australian media.

September 2018: At the trial, the prosecution presents no corroborating evidence that the alleged crimes ever took place; the prosecution's case is the tale told by the complainant, who only appears on videotape. Many witnesses for the defense testify that the alleged acts of abuse could not have happened in a secured area of a busy cathedral immediately after Sunday Mass, with then-Archbishop Pell fully vested and surrounded by liturgical ministers,

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

Geroge Weigel

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



in the time-frame alleged. After several days of deliberation, the trial judge tells the jury that he will accept an 11-1 verdict, if one juror is blocking unanimity. The jury then returns a hung verdict – 10-2 for acquittal – with the jury foreman weeping when announcing the jury's inability to reach a legal conclusion; other jurors are also reported in tears.

December 2018: At Cardinal Pell's retrial, his defense team further demolishes the prosecution case, for which, again, no corroborating evidence is presented. The jury then returns a 12-0 verdict of guilty, shocking virtually everyone in attendance at the trial (and, according to some present, the trial judge).

March 2019: While sentencing the cardinal to six years in prison, the trial judge never indicates that he agrees with the second jury's verdict, stating only that he is doing what the law requires under the circumstances.

June 2019: At an appeal hearing before a three-member panel of the Victoria Supreme Court, the judges sharply criticize the flimsiness of the prosecution's case.

August 21, 2019: The appellate panel rejects Cardinal Pell's appeal by a 2-1 vote. The dissenting judge, Mark Weinberg, is Australia's most promi-

nent criminal-law jurist; the two judges rejecting the appeal have little or no criminal-law experience. Judge Weinberg's 202-page dissent eviscerates his colleagues' position, which raises the gravest questions as to whether "guilty beyond a reasonable doubt" remains the standard necessary for conviction in Victoria – not least on a completely uncorroborated charge.

In the wake of last month's incomprehensible and (as measured by Judge Weinberg's dissent) dangerous rejection of Cardinal Pell's appeal, Catholic voices were heard expressing (or demanding) respect for the justice system in Australia. Perhaps the Vatican press spokesman must say such things for diplomatic purposes, although the reason why diplomatic concerns trump truth and justice in the Holy See's press office is unclear. But as this chronology indicates, there is no reason to respect a process that reeks of system failure at every point, from the dubious and perhaps corrupt police investigation through the committal hearing, the two trials, and the appeal. There are guilty parties here. But Cardinal George Pell is not one of them.

As this scandalous process approaches the High Court of Australia, friends of Australia, both Down Under and throughout the world, must send a simple message, repeatedly: *George Pell is an innocent man who was falsely accused and has been unjustly convicted of crimes he did not commit. It is not George Pell who is in the dock now, but the administration of justice in Australia. And the only way to restore justice is for Cardinal Pell to be vindicated by the highest court in the land.*

Those who cannot bring themselves to say that, in Australia or elsewhere, necessarily share in the ignominy that Australian criminal justice has, thus far, brought upon itself.

Bishop Brennan to speak to men's luncheon club in October

Traditionally, the bishop of Columbus speaks to the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club in October. Bishop Brennan is continuing that custom and will be the speaker for the club's meeting on Friday, Oct. 4 at Columbus St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave.

Lunch will be served after 11:45 a.m. Mass and the meeting will end by 1 p.m. No reservations are necessary. A \$10 donation is requested to cover the cost of the lunch and meeting.

The luncheon will be sponsored by the Serra clubs of Columbus, which

promote and support vocations.

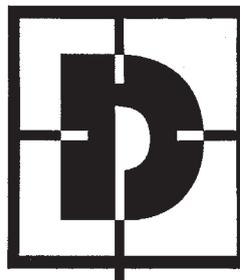
For more information on the club, visit www.catholicmensministry.com/cmlc or contact club president Craig Heppner at craigkofc@gmail.com.

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BOWEN, Sharon (Ussery), 60, Sept. 1
Resurrection Cemetery Chapel, Lewis Center

BRICKLEY, John P., 87, Sept. 2
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

BROWN, Larry J., 73, Aug. 31
St. Mary Church, Marion

BURKE, Donald T., 93, Sept. 1
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

DAVIS, Rebecca J. (Williams), 66, Sept. 7
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, Columbus

DESTADIO, Nikki, 28, Sept. 1
St. Joan of Arc Church, Dublin

HALL, Patricia (Fowler), 87, formerly of Columbus, Aug. 25
St. Anne Church, Bristol, Va.

HOFFMAN, Dean M., 71, Aug. 31
St. Mary Church, Marion

JOHNSON, Richard J., 90, Aug. 30
St. Matthias Church, Columbus

JONES, Earl, 88, Aug. 31
St. Bernadette Church, Lancaster

KERSCHER, Donald J., 74, Sept. 5
St. Francis of Assisi Church, Columbus

MATUSIK, Michelle, 43, July 31
St. Vincent de Paul Church, Mount Vernon

McMILLEN, Ellen M. (Sharron), 95, Sept. 3
Holy Cross Church, Columbus

O'CONNOR, Pat (Maloney), 80, Sept. 6
St. Patrick Church, Columbus

POLISENO, Robert L.T., 85, Sept. 3
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

POORMAN, Charles R., 81, Sept. 5
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newcomerstown

RAIMONDO, Helen (Poulos), 93, Sept. 1
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

SCHAFER, Victoria (Keup), 44, Sept. 2
St. Mary Church, Chillicothe

SPIER, David R. "Ben," 89, Aug. 25
St. Bernard Church, Coming

WASHBURN, Dolores, 91, Aug. 29
St. Peter Church, Columbus

WATERFIELD, Theodore, 84, Aug. 30
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

James F. Streitenberger

Funeral Mass for James F. Streitenberger, 82, who died Friday, Sept. 6 at the Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, was celebrated on Wednesday, Sept. 11 at Waverly St. Mary Church.

He was born on Sept. 21, 1936 in Logan, West Virginia to the late Jim and Stella (Bigler) Streitenberger.

He graduated from Chillicothe Catholic Central High School in 1954 and went to work after graduation in his father's auto repair shop in Waverly. He became owner of the shop in 1990 and operated it until his retirement in 2013.

In his parish, he served as a lector, extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, Parish Council representative, Parish School of Religion teacher, altar server trainer and in other positions.

He was a member of Waverly City Council from 1972 to 1994. He also was a volunteer for the Pike County

Outreach Council food pantry and was a member of the Knights of Columbus and the American Legion and a former member of the Lions Club.

He served from 1959 to 1962 in the Army, spending a year in South Korea, and was a member of the Ohio National Guard from 1962 to 1969.

Survivors include his wife, Janice (Mason); sons, Father Adam Streitenberger, coordinator of evangelization for the Diocese of Columbus, administrator of Columbus Sacred Heart Church and parochial vicar of Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral; James Jr. (Sherri) and Paul; daughters, Anne Miller, Janice (Dale) Darnell, Susan (Jerry) Wollebeck and Rachel (Nathan) Gentile; sisters, Liz (Joe) Kutschnach, Margaret, Mary (Jim) Fadden, Chris (Bob) Fadden and Jean (Barry) Smith; 12 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Ohio Dominican welcomes new class

Ohio Dominican University's incoming class of 358 students is its largest since 2012. The group includes 288 first-time freshmen and 70 transfer students and represents 46 Ohio counties, 11 states and nine nations.

The newcomers had an average high-school grade point average of 3.4 and an average ACT score of 22. Approximately 38 percent were ranked in the top quarter of their high school class. Thirty students have joined the honors program, 36 are participating in ODU's Panther Promise program and 11 are part of the Columbus Catholic Promise program.

The new students are pursuing 37 different majors, and five students

have been accepted into the ODU-to-OU (Ohio University) med school early assurance program or ODU's physician assistant studies early assurance program.

"This is an exciting time to be at Ohio Dominican," said Dr. Robert Gervasi, ODU president. "The size and quality of this fall's incoming class demonstrates that there is an appetite for rigorous, market-sensitive academic programs in a Catholic values-based environment in which students are able to connect their passion with their purpose. I look forward to watching these students flourish in, and contribute to our vibrant campus community in the years to come."

Joseph L. Guerin

Funeral Mass for Joseph L. Guerin, 82, who died Thursday, Aug. 29, was celebrated on Wednesday, Sept. 4 at Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Newark.

He was born on May 16, 1937 in Detroit to Clifford and Laura (Downey) Guerin. He was a carpenter and painter, and before coming to Ohio, he had jobs working and teaching home maintenance and repair and mechanics and driving school buses in Florida and North Dakota, including at the Holy Rosary Mission on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in North Dakota. In Ohio, he worked with group home par-

ents of Cuban refugees.

He was an active volunteer at his parish and at the Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center in Newark, where he built the outdoor Stations of the Cross and cared for its many shrines. He spent time daily at Mass and in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Laura. Survivors include his wife, Sherry; sons, Eric, Luke, Matthew, Joseph, Daniel, Mark and John; daughters, Catherine, Mary and Valerie; brothers, Richard, Michael and Mark; 16 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.



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SEPTEMBER

13, FRIDAY

Labyrinth Walk at Shepherd's Corner
7 to 8:30 p.m., Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Labyrinth walk with theme "Second Harvest." Suggested donation \$5. 614-866-4302

13-14, FRIDAY-SATURDAY

Healing Mass, Conference at Cols. St. Peter
St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Healing Mass and mini-conference sponsored by Columbus Catholic Renewal, featuring Father Richard McAlear, OMI. Begins at 6:30 p.m. Friday with praise and worship, followed by Mass; continues from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday with talks, praise and worship, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and lunch. Reconciliation and prayer teams will be available. 614-500-8178

13-15, FRIDAY-SUNDAY

Portsmouth St. Mary 150th Anniversary
5:30 to 10 p.m. Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, St. Mary Church, 524 6th St., Portsmouth. Parish celebrates 150th anniversary as part of its annual International Festival.

14, SATURDAY

Deacon Ordination at Cathedral
9 a.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bishop Robert Brennan ordains Pontifical College Josephinum seminarian Eugene Joseph as a deacon. 614-224-1295
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
Frassati Society at Escape Room
6:45 p.m., Escape It Grandview, 1666 W. 1st Ave., Grandview Heights. Columbus St. Patrick Church

Frassati Society for young adults visits escape room. Cost \$18. 614-224-9522
Cristo Rey Garden Party
7 to 10 p.m., Cristo Rey Columbus High School, 400 E. Town St., Columbus. School's sixth annual Garden Party fundraiser. Tickets \$175. 614-223-9261

15, SUNDAY

Blessing of St. Gerard Majella at Holy Family
After 11 a.m. Mass, Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Blessing of St. Gerard Majella, patron of expectant mothers, for all women who are pregnant or wish to become pregnant. 614-221-1890
Angelic Warfare Confraternity at St. Patrick
Following noon Mass, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Monthly meeting of Angelic Warfare Confraternity, with talk on chastity-related issues followed by Holy Hour. 614-224-9522
Kateri Prayer Circle at St. Mark
1 p.m., Aranda Center, St. Mark Church, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Kateri Prayer Circle meeting to honor St. Kateri Tekakwitha and promote Native Catholic spirituality.
St. Padre Pio Secular Franciscans
1 to 5 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 720 Hamlet St., Columbus. Fellowship and ongoing formation followed by adoration and prayer, Liturgy of the Hours, and initial formation with visitors. 614-282-4676
Seasons of Hope Bereavement Ministry
2 to 4 p.m., St. Michael Church, 5750 N. High St., Worthington. First 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
Polish Mass at Holy Family
2 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Monthly Mass in Polish. 614-221-4323
Taize Evening Prayer at Corpus Christi
4 to 5 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Evening Prayer in the style and spirit of the Taize monastic community, with song, silence and reflection. 614-512-3731
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
Catechesis at the Cathedral
6:45 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Second of weekly series of sessions with Father Adam Streitenberger through December on the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. 614-224-1295

16, MONDAY

'Ponder and Pick' at Shepherd's Corner
6:30 to 8 p.m., Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. "Ponder and Pick" program asking participants to reflect on symbiotic relationships in their lives. Suggested donation \$10 (includes bag from harvest). 614-866-4302
Mass of Healing at Cathedral
6:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Mass of Healing, followed by healing service including Exposition and Benediction and veneration of relic of the True Cross. 614-224-1295
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

17, TUESDAY

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. Frassati Society Trivia Night
7 p.m., Bareburger, 4560 N. High St., Columbus. Columbus St. Patrick Church Frassati Society for young adults trivia night. 614-224-9522

18, WEDNESDAY

Abortion Recovery Network Group
9:30 a.m., Westerville Area Resource Ministry, 150 Heatherdown Drive, Westerville. Abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program, and wants to stay connected. 614-721-2100
Homeschool Opening Mass with Bishop
11 a.m., St. Mark Church, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Bishop Robert Brennan celebrates Mass to open St. Mark Homeschool Enrichment Program, followed by lunch. All Catholic homeschooling families welcome. 740-277-1965
Cradling Christianity Dinner at St. Charles
5:30 p.m., St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. 14th annual Cradling Christianity dinner to raise funds to aid struggling Christians in the Holy Land. Speaker: Father Peter Vasko, OSF, president, Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land. Begins with Mass. Contact Barb or Ron Rowland at rrowlan@columbus.rr.com.
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
Pontifical College Josephinum Lecture
7 p.m., Jessing Center, Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. Lecture by Mother Agnes Mary Donovan, SV, superior general of the Sisters of Life, on "The Mission Field of the Christian Disciple: The Human Person." 614-885-5585
DivorceCare Support Group at St. Matthew
7 to 9 p.m., St. Michael Room, St. Matthew Church, 807 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna. First meeting of 13-week DivorceCare support group for anyone affected by divorce. Cost \$30, including workbook. 614-517-8408

19, THURSDAY

Cenacle at Holy Name
6 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayers in the Cenacle format of the Marian Movement of Priests.
Eucharistic Holy Hour at St. John the Baptist
7 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 720 Hamlet St., Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour with the intention of deepened holiness and an increase in the virtue of fortitude for the Holy Father, bishops and priests, concluding with Benediction, social period and refreshments. 614-294-7702
Lancaster Theology on Tap
7 p.m., Bob's Backyard BBQ, 157 W. Main St., Lancaster. Monthly meeting of Theology on Tap discussion group for anyone ages 18 to 39. Contact Cindy Goss at cynthia.goss@outlook.com.
Pregnancy Decision Health Centers Banquet
7 p.m., The Mill Event Center, 431 S. Columbus St., Lancaster. Annual Celebration of Life banquet sponsored by Pregnancy Decision Health Centers. No charge; freewill offering will be taken. 614-444-4411
Holy Hour at Holy Family
7 to 8 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Holy Hour of Adoration of the

Blessed Sacrament, followed by meeting of parish Holy Name and Junior Holy Name societies, with refreshments. 614-221-4323

19-22, 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 men interested in setting aside daily activities to focus on their relationship with Christ. Details at <https://cumchristo.org>.

20, FRIDAY

Catholic Singles On Fire for Christ
6 p.m., Chapel, Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany. Monthly meeting of Catholic Singles On Fire for Christ, for anyone older than 35 who is single in the eyes of the Catholic Church and seeks to grow in faith, bring hope to others and share the love of Christ. Begins with prayer and Adoration, followed by dinner at a restaurant. 614-855-1400

20-22, FRIDAY-SUNDAY

St. Pius X Women's Retreat at St. Therese's
St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Annual women's retreat sponsored by Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church. Theme: "Don't Worry, Be Happy: Finding Joy in Surrender." Cost \$115 with lodging; \$50 for commuters. Includes meals. Registration deadline Sept. 16. 614-866-2859

21, SATURDAY

Josephinum 4-Mile Run/Walk
9 a.m., Glacier Ridge Metro Park, 9801 Hyland-Croy Road, Dublin. Annual Friends of the Josephinum 4-mile run/walk, benefiting Pontifical College Josephinum seminarians. Bishop Robert Brennan will be starter. All participants receive bread and either a bottle of wine or a jar of Trappist jam. Entry fee \$45 per person; \$40 for groups of three or more. Register at M3SSports.com.
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.
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
Birthing of Columbus Luncheon
Noon, Mozart's Cafe, 4784 N. High St., Columbus. 47th annual luncheon of Birthing of Columbus, providing compassionate care for women and their babies. Includes Dress Barn style show, silent auction and raffles. Tickets \$35. Reservation deadline Sept. 15. 614-404-8106 or 614-235-7465
Shepherd's Corner Open House
Noon to 3 p.m., Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Annual open house at farm and gardens operated by Dominican Sisters of Peace. Participants may walk the grounds, including meditation trail and labyrinth walk. Program includes hayrides, art demonstrations, a fire truck and a food truck. Donation \$5 per car. 614-866-4302

22, SUNDAY

Frassati Society Sunday Mass, Brunch
10:30 a.m., St. Andrew Church, 1899 McCoy Road, Columbus. Columbus St. Patrick Church Frassati Society for young adults attends Mass, followed by brunch at City Egg, 1478 Bethel Road. 614-224-9522

St. Martha Giving Circle pools resources to help needy groups

The St. Martha Giving Circle, better known as the Marthas, is an initiative of The Catholic Foundation dedicated to bringing Catholic women together to raise awareness and money for organizations in the Diocese of Columbus. The Marthas leverage a pooled fund to have a greater philanthropic impact on selected organizations.

Throughout the year, the Marthas gather to learn about organizations and their needs and decide which projects to financially support. Members also share ideas, serve with one another, grow deeper in the Catholic faith, socialize and learn about diocesan needs.

When the Marthas formed in 2014, Dr. Carol Gillespie was one of the first to join. She said women needed a place where they could donate money to causes near to their hearts.

“We all have our charities and causes that are personally important to us,” Gillespie said, “but actually knowing that the money I have given is right in my own backyard was a huge pull for me.” Many of the organizations and ministries the Marthas support are led and driven by women, and by supporting women in these organizations, Marthas lift them up and create a circle of reinforcement and positivity.

In 2018, the Marthas issued grants to 10 organizations, including the Back in His Arms Again ministry, which provides educational resources, care, guidance and financial services to needy families experiencing the loss of a child.

Kambra Malone, the organization’s executive director, and her husband, Shawn, started Back in His Arms Again about 12 years ago after their own loss. At that time, they needed a simple, dignified burial for their child but found the resources to help them essentially nonexistent.

Franciscans to celebrate Transitus of St. Francis

The Secular Franciscan Fraternity of St. Catherine of Bologna will celebrate the Transitus of St. Francis at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 3 at Columbus St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave. Light refreshments will be served in the parish hall following the program.

The Transitus traditionally is celebrated by Franciscans all over the world on Oct. 3. This is the vigil of



Carol Gillespie

Photos courtesy The Catholic Foundation

“Policies and procedures were not in place to provide a dignified and proper burial,” Kambra Malone said. “There was a serious lack of sensitivity, education and resources. So we saw a clear need and decided something had to be done so that no one else had to experience the same thing we went through.”

Malone first heard of the Marthas when she received a grant from The Catholic Foundation’s responsive grant cycle. She praised the idea of bringing women together to help the community and organizations needing assistance.

In its first years, Back in His Arms Again was helping five to 14 families annually. Now, because of word of mouth, referrals, relationships with local hospitals, parishes and cemeteries, and website searches, the organization serves more than 100 families a year, straining its resources.

Malone was grateful when she learned her organization would receive \$5,000 from the Marthas. “With

the Feast of St. Francis and is a night to commemorate his death.

Transitus is a Latin word that means passage or crossing over.

In every account written on the death of St. Francis, it is remembered that he embraced death with great joy. This solemn ritual inspires participants to richly live the Gospel until the end of their days.



Shawn and Kambra Malone

that grant alone we were able to help about 14 or 15 families. When you consider the overall number of people we serve – an average of five to 10 a month – that is huge.”

The Back in His Arms Again ministry hits close to home for many women. “It’s heartbreaking, but incredible to be surrounded by like-minded women who want to do more,” Malone said.

Back in His Arms Again has a donor advised fund managed by The

Catholic Foundation. To donate, visit www.catholic-foundation.org/backin-hisarms. Financially supporting such organizations and ministries through yearly grants is only one part of the Marthas’ circle. The Marthas also educate women on the needs in the community and how they can help financially and with their time. They provide social events for women to network and meet other Catholic women and they provide speaker and service events.

Gillespie said, “The last service project we did was with the Christ Child Society. Not only was it nice getting to tangibly help one of the organizations, but it was a great bonding experience for the women.”

According to research by the Women’s Philanthropy Institute at Indiana University’s Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, women are more likely than men to give. Additionally, as women’s incomes rise, they will control a projected \$33.5 trillion by 2030, with estimated charitable giving of \$569.5 billion annually.

The Marthas’ motto is “The More We Give, the More We Grow.” To learn how to support the Marthas and become a member, visit, www.catholic-foundation.org/themarthas.



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To learn how to include your favorite parish, school, or ministry in your will or estate plan, contact us at (614) 443-8893 or admin@catholic-foundation.org

LOCAL NEWS, continued from Page 4

ticipants to experience the power and peace of quiet.

The suggested donation for the day is \$20. For more information, go to <https://columbuscatholic.org/unplug>.

The center also is celebrating the feast day of its patron, St. Therese of Lisieux, on Tuesday, Oct. 1 with a Mass at 6 p.m., followed by light refreshments, brief reflections on St. Therese's autobiography and a screening of a film about her. Those interested in participating are asked to RSVP by Tuesday, Sept. 24. The suggested donation also is \$20.

To contact the center, send an email message to sttherese@columbuscatholic.org or call (614) 866-1611.

Diocese offers safety training

The Diocese of Columbus is offering free training sessions at three sites in October for parish staff members on how to build a culture of safety within their environments.

The programs will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 15 at Danville St. Luke Church, 307 S. Market St.; Wednesday, Oct. 16 at Chillicothe St. Peter Church, 285 W. Water St.; and Thursday, Oct. 17 at the New Albany Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road. Lunch will be provided.

The program will include discussions on the necessity and advantages of developing disaster emergency operations plans; government guidelines relating to security at houses of worship; best practices, implementation strategies and overcoming resistance; and creation of a parish security assessment document, with time for parish teams to create an action plan.

There also will be a review of actual emergency scenarios and methods to better manage and de-escalate crucial situations.

More information is available on the diocesan website, www.columbuscatholic.org.

Building a Culture of Life conference planned

The diocesan offices of Social Concerns and Marriage and Family Life are combining with Greater Columbus Right to Life to present a Building a Culture of Life conference from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19 at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, 9633 East State Route 37.

The day will feature talks and analysis on moral, medical and legal issues related to current pro-life activities.

Bishop Robert Brennan will speak at 2 p.m. on "Christ Is Our Hope in Every Season of Life."

Other speakers will be Jerry Free-walt of the social concerns office, Catherine Glenn Foster of Americans United for Life, Pamela Harris of the diocesan catholic Ethnic Ministries office, and Peggy Wolock and Beth Vanderkooi of Greater Columbus Right to Life.

Just before the bishop's talk, there will be breakout sessions for Respect Life coordinators, young people, and anyone interested in pro-life activities. Lunch will be provided.

The cost is \$25 for adults and \$10 for students. Scholarships are available for those who wish to attend but cannot afford the cost. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/building-a-culture-of-life-2019-registration-67220964715>.

To make scholarship arrangements or pay by check, call Angelita Canias at (614) 241-2540.

WWHO-TV adds Sunday Mass

WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53 in Columbus, is presenting Mass twice on Sundays for those who are homebound, ill or otherwise unable to attend Mass.

The station has added a 10 a.m. Mass from St. Francis de Sales Seminary, presented by the nonprofit Heart of the Nation ministry, to the telecast of the 7:30 a.m. Mass of the Passionist Fathers from New York City, which it has presented for several years.

That Mass also is shown at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18 in Zanesville. Check your local cable system for the cable channel listings of these stations.

Those who wish to thank WWHO-TV for adding the Heart of the Nation Mass may write the station at 1261 Dublin Road, Columbus, OH 43215.

A schedule listing these and other Masses available throughout the diocese on radio and television may be found every week in *The Catholic Times* on the same page as Father Timothy Hayes' Scripture column.

Ohio Dominican University announces lecture series

Ohio Dominican University's fall

lecture series explores and examines various topics related to the university's 2019-20 academic theme: Truth. The series, "Building Bridges of Understanding," will feature five lectures – four by faculty and one by Dr. Robert Gervasi, university president.

The presentations will take place on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. in the Colonial Room of Sansbury Hall on ODU's campus at 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

The first program will be a panel discussion on Sept. 12 on "Truth in the Disciplines: A Variety of Perspectives," with Michael Dougherty, ODU philosophy department chair, as moderator, and panelists Marliissa Stauffer, associate professor of education; Nicole Powell, assistant clinical professor of physician assistant studies; Brian Besong, assistant professor of philosophy; and Brad Nelson, associate professor of exercise science.

Other lecture dates and speakers are: Sept. 26, "The Truth About Labeling: Advocating for Inclusion," with Kristall Day, associate professor of education; Oct. 10, "The Truth About Generation Z: Developing a Broader Appreciation of Today's Student," with Natalie Kompa, assistant professor of public relations and marketing communications; Oct. 24, "Truth

in the Marketplace: From Socrates to Social Media," with Gervasi; and Nov. 7, "St. John Henry Newman's Search for Truth," with Leo Madden, associate professor of theology

"The lectures presented during this fall series will allow us to identify, address and closely examine various issues present in today's society, as well as how those issues are influenced by one's perspective of truth," said ODU's vice president for mission and identity, Sister Diane Traffas, OP.

"St. Thomas Aquinas once said, 'We must love them both, those whose opinions we share and those whose opinions we do not share. They have both labored for truth and both have helped us in finding it.' These lectures will celebrate the process of engaging in dialogue and shared reasoning to help determine that truth."

"In exploring this year's theme of truth, we will discuss in-depth the mystery of the truth of yourself, of other people, of the world around us, and ultimately of the mystery of the absolute truth, said Manuel Martinez, acting vice president for academic affairs.

The series will be sponsored by ODU's Center for Dominican Studies and office of academic affairs.



Friends of the Poor Walk and 5K Run/Walk

Saturday, September 28
9:00 am-12:00 Noon

St. Francis DeSales High School
4212 Karl Rd., Columbus

Register at www.svdpcolumbus.org or call 614-221-3554
On-site registration begins at 7:30 am

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Tebow addresses donors, students at St. Charles



Former Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback Tim Tebow spoke to the Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School student body on Wednesday, Sept. 4, at the Robert C. Walter Student Commons after “An Evening with Tim Tebow” the night before. About 750 people were on hand for the evening program, which benefited St. Charles. Tebow’s next-day message to the students was simple, clear and born from Ephesians 2. “God wrote a poem, made a masterpiece of your life before you were born,” Tebow said. He went on to say that God’s plan for each person is what gives us significance, purpose and meaning. He also entertained questions from the students. Tebow said he used his success and, more importantly, the adversity he encountered on and off the playing field as the source of revelation of God’s plan for him. After winning a national championship at the University of Florida under coach Urban Meyer, Tebow went on to play in the NFL, then switched to baseball, spending the 2019 season with Class Triple-A Syracuse in the New York Mets’ organization before suffering a season-ending injury. He is also a college football analyst for the SEC Network and a popular speaker. *Photo courtesy Office of Catholic Schools*

Diocesan in-service day for educators



More than 1,100 educators from 53 diocesan schools who serve more than 15,000 students gathered on Tuesday, Sept. 3, in Kasich Hall at the Ohio Expo Center for a day of learning. Guided by the theme “Our Catholic Schools: Lead, Learn, Love!” administrators and teachers listened to messages of hope, support and future plans from Bishop Robert Brennan and diocesan school Superintendent Adam Dufault. Nationally renowned educator Donyall Dickey delivered a message promoting a culture of instruction through robust, standards-based learning and integrated literacy. Each school’s faculty sat together during Dickey’s presentation and had the chance to collaborate about their own plans. The day also included worship, encounters with educational vendors, and a chance for schools to further their instructional plans for the year ahead. *Photo courtesy Office of Catholic Schools*

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SEPTEMBER 21, 2019	START TIME 8:00AM	PACKET PICKUP 6:30AM

FAMILY RATE
 SAVE \$5/PERSON when registering at least 3 participants at one time.

SWAG
 All participants receive bread and a bottle of wine, or bread and a jar of Trappist Monastery jam.

Presented by
The Friends — of the — Josephinum

FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL ON AM 820

Date	Game of the Week Schedule
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	Steubenville @ 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