

The Catholic **TIMES**

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Editor's reflections by Doug Bean

Devil of a prediction

In 1964, legendary broadcaster Paul Harvey presented a warning about the direction the country was head-

ed. His insights in "If I Were the Devil," which he updated in the ensuing years, were eerily prophetic.

Older readers might have heard the broadcast. Younger people might have seen it on social media.

It's worth mentioning in a top-sy-turvy world where states have passed, or are trying to pass, laws to allow abortion until birth; the sanctity of marriage is undermined; opioid use runs rampant; and our religious liberty continues to be threatened.

What follows is Harvey's updated version of "If I Were the Devil" from 1996. It serves as a reminder to pray for our society:

"If I were the prince of darkness, I would want to engulf the whole world in darkness. I'd have a third of its real estate and four-fifths of its population, but I would not be happy until I had seized the ripest apple on the tree — thee. So I would set about however necessary to take over the United States.

"I'd subvert the churches first, and I would begin with a campaign of whispers. With the wisdom of a serpent, I would whisper to you as I whispered to Eve: 'Do as you please.'

"To the young, I would whisper that the Bible is a myth. I would convince the children that man created God instead of the other way around. I'd confide that what's bad is good and what's good is square. And the old, I would teach to pray after me, 'Our Father, which art in Washington. ...'

"Then I'd get organized, I'd educate authors in how to make lurid literature

exciting so that anything else would appear dull and uninteresting. I'd peddle narcotics to whom I could. I'd sell alcohol to ladies and gentlemen of distinction. I'd tranquilize the rest with pills.

"If I were the devil, I'd soon have families at war with themselves, churches at war with themselves and nations at war with themselves until each, in its turn, was consumed. And with promises of higher ratings, I'd have mesmerizing media fanning the flames.

"If I were the devil, I would encourage schools to refine young intellects but neglect to discipline emotions. I'd tell teachers to let those students run wild. And before you knew it, you'd have drug-sniffing dogs and metal detectors at every schoolhouse door. Within a decade, I'd have prisons overflowing, and judges promoting pornography. Soon, I would evict God from the courthouse and the schoolhouse and then from the houses of Congress. In his own churches, I would substitute psychology for religion and deity science. I'd lure priests and pastors into misusing boys and girls and church money.

"If I were the devil, I'd take from those who have and give to those who wanted until I had killed the incentive of the ambitious. What'll you bet I couldn't get whole states to promote gambling as the way to get rich?

"I'd convince the young that marriage is old-fashioned, that swinging is more fun and that what you see on television is the way to be. And, thus, I could undress you in public and lure you into bed with diseases for which there are no cures.

"In other words, if I were the devil, I'd just keep right on doing what he's doing."

With Christ's help, we have the power to change the direction of our world one soul at a time.

Safe Environment Office adds specialist

The diocesan Safe Environment Office has hired Robert C. McGee, a longtime Franklin County Municipal Court employee, to assist in the office's work of protecting children.

McGee will have the title of safe environment specialist. He joins the office's director, Regina Quinn, in administering the VIRTUS Protecting God's Children (PGC) program and making sure that all diocesan employees who might come in contact with minors while working with any diocesan church, school or affiliated institution have received PGC training, been fingerprinted and have cleared background checks.

The office's duties have increased significantly in recent years. Quinn said that during the year which began on July 1, 2017, and ended on June 30, 2018, her office conducted safe environment training for 63,739 people. The

total includes children, clergy, candidates for ordination, educators, diocesan employees and volunteers who work with children at diocesan parishes, schools and institutions. Background reports were reviewed for 24,150 people. Minors are not subject to such reports.

The office also is in charge of annual audits required by the Diocese of Columbus and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops; assurance of parish, school and agency compliance with equal-employment guidelines and all other applicable local, federal and state laws; and many other activities related to child safety and government regulations.

"Most of my work involves handling day-to-day operations such as taking phone calls from schools, handling background reports, up-

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S U B S C R I B E

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Front Page photo:
CUM CHRISTO
From left, Barbara Altenburg, Karla Hall, Pearlene Delph and Julie Meyers pray at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in Dublin during a Cum Christo Columbus gathering.

CT photo by Ken Snow

CATHOLIC TIMES

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Happy Vietnamese New Year



The annual “Tet” Mass to commemorate the Vietnamese Lunar New Year (“Chúc Mừng Năm Mới”) was celebrated on Sunday, Feb. 10, at Columbus Ss. Augustine & Gabriel Church. Top photo: Father Joseph Bay, the parish’s pastor, was the celebrant. Assisting were Deacon Jason Nguyen (right) and altar servers (kneeling) in traditional Vietnamese garments. Top right: Linh Doan serves 7-year-old Teresa Easterday while her mother, Nhung Easterday, watches. Bottom right: an elder hands a small traditional gift to a young person after Mass. The community shares food and participates in activities after Mass as part of the celebration. CT photos by Ken Snow



SAFE ENVIRONMENT, *continued from Page 2*

dating and scheduling PGC classes and keeping our electronic files current,” McGee said. “Eventually, I will be facilitating PGC classes.”

Quinn said, “Having Bob as part of the team frees me to look at the big picture on issues such as how to address changes in the Safe Environment program. It also makes it easier for parishes to get to someone in the office if they need to schedule a program. Since Bob was hired in December, it’s been well-received by parishes and schools. Many people have told me how grateful they are that there’s a second person in the office, and no one is more grateful than me.”

McGee worked for Municipal Court from 1984 to 2015. He performed various roles in the probation office from 1984 to 1997, serving as supervisor of six units in the office during the last three years of that period. From 2000 to 2012, he was assignment commissioner, responsible for day-to-day management of the court’s assignment

office and supervising its other 13 employees. During his final three years with the court, he was an assistant probation supervisor, working with the alcohol and drug addiction court presided over by former Judge Scott VanDerKarr.

Following McGee’s retirement from the court, he worked for Columbus St. Andrew Church and then for Pickerington St. Elizabeth Parish as a custodian. He is a member of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church, where he is a teacher of sixth grade in the Parish School of Religion.

He also was a coach of high school and club soccer teams from 1980 until last year and is a member of the Ohio Scholastic Soccer Coaches Association’s Hall of Fame.

He served as head girls soccer coach



Robert C. McGee of the diocesan Safe Environment Office.

at various times from 1993 to 2018 at Columbus St. Francis DeSales, Upper Arlington, Lancaster Fisher Catholic, Pickerington Central and Gahanna Lincoln high schools. His combined record at the schools is 337-81-50. His DeSales teams won state championships in 1995 and 2011 and were state semifinalists in 1996 and state runners-up in 2012, and his Upper Arlington team made it to the state semifinals in 2008.

He coached Hamilton Township’s first boys soccer team to an 11-5-3 record in 1997 and, prior to that, was an assistant boys coach at DeSales, Westerville South and Upper Arlington, winning a state title at DeSales in 1986.

He grew up as a member of Columbus St. James the Less Church and is a graduate of its elementary school

and of DeSales, where he was captain of the soccer team for two years and became the school’s first athlete to play college soccer. He graduated from Adrian College in Michigan in 1984 with a bachelor of arts degree in sociology with an emphasis on criminology. At Adrian, he was soccer captain for three years.

He and his wife, Denise, have been married for 25 years and are the parents of four daughters.

“The combination of my work as a probation officer and of my dealing with young people as a soccer coach is very helpful for my new role in the Safe Environment Office,” McGee said. “I’d wanted for some time to work for the diocese or a school to give back for all the opportunities they’ve given me. When I saw a posting for the specialist’s job on the diocesan website, I felt it would be an ideal fit for me, and I’m looking forward to using my past experience to benefit the diocese.”

Faith in Action

By Mark Huddy

Corrective lenses



My sister had a long struggle with Parkinson's disease. While she remained functional until the end of her life, she had increasing difficulty seeing and walking as the disease progressed. She experienced problems with double vision and depth perception. Sometimes her foot would catch on the carpet or an obstacle because of insufficient lift in her gait. Steps, uneven surfaces and obstacles became a kind of stumbling block for her, because they were not seen or navigated properly. She had to rely on others who could see clearly and help her to physically navigate through them.

In November 2018, the bishops of the United States released a pastoral statement against racism titled *Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love*. It is an exhortation calling for a genuine conversion of heart that can produce a determined effort to bring about change. Some people have questioned the need for such a pastoral letter, in the same way that some question the need for the church to preach against abortion. For both of these groups, the church's efforts are seen as old news. But in both cases, previous preaching has not led to the desired cultural change. Human dignity still is being attacked in life-threatening or life-diminishing ways.

Perhaps we, who are living in a culture that is affected by the contagion of intrinsic evils, are ourselves experiencing the progressive effects of the disease. The clarity of our vision is impaired. We see double – what we believe the world to be, and what the world actually is. Our depth perception is impaired. We do not recognize how close we are to institutions and structures that perpetuate a hidden racism built up over time and consolidated as a result of individual sinful actions and omissions toward one's neighbor.

Sometimes our Christian walk has not had enough lift to overcome the stumbling blocks that systemic racism has created. We need the help of others, particularly those who have suffered the most racism in our country, to clearly see and navigate the way forward.

To move forward, we can begin by reading the pastoral letter (<http://uscbb.org/racism>). In our reading, we can perceive that God is calling us, through his church, to open our hearts to a conversion that acknowledges both personal and social sin. God also calls us to a conversion, which is accompanied by action to make up for those sins.

The pastoral letter offers a few suggestions:

- Enlarge our circle of encounter. If our vision is too blurry to see the roots, causes and effects of racism, it might be because our circle of relationships is not wide enough to get the help we need to move forward.
- Resolve to work for justice. Diverse listening sessions and parish dialogues can help us map out needed policy initiatives to overcome racism.
- Educate ourselves. We are often students of only a portion of our nation's history. This month is Black History Month. November is Black Catholic History Month. Contact the diocesan Catholic Ethnic Ministries Office to discover more opportunities to learn what we might not know.
- Change structures. When structural racism is identified, we must work to reform the institutions that perpetuate it.
- Follow the way of love. At the Last Supper, Jesus had one commandment for his disciples – love one another. We who bear the name Christian must work out our salvation by loving, with all that loving entails.

Mark Huddy is episcopal moderator for the Office of Social Concerns in the Diocese of Columbus.

Local news and events

Dr. Hunt to speak at Resurrection

Dr. Allen Hunt, a former Methodist pastor who has become a popular Catholic speaker, will present a seminar titled "Find Your Greatness" from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 16, at the New Albany Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road.

This event offers an opportunity to grow in a deeper relationship with God through a journey of inward transformation and conversion of heart. Participants will be able to create a personal plan to strengthen and enrich the four life-giving spiritual habits of a highly engaged Catholic: prayer, study, evangelization and generosity. Focused on growth and faith-filled reflection, it will include Hunt's presentation, inspirational music by George Lower, an event bag with a Dynamic Catholic book, journal and CD, and a snack.

Hunt entered the Catholic Church in 2008 after leaving the Mount Pisgah Methodist Church in suburban Atlanta, a congregation of more than 15,000 members, where he was senior pastor. Affected by the prayers of a group of Dominican sisters who had been praying for him since 1992, this transition represented the end of a 15-year journey.

He is the author of five books, including *Confessions of a Megachurch Pastor: How I Discovered the Hidden Treasures of the Catholic Church*.

The cost of the seminar is \$25. To register on line, go to DynamicCatholic.com/NewAlbany or to the Church of the Resurrection website, www.cotrna.org, and click on the "Find your Greatness" icon, or contact Gayle Kerkman at (614) 429-7308 or gkerkman@gmail.com.

Resurrection to host 33 hours of Adoration

New Albany Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, will host 33 hours of Eucharistic Adoration in front of the exposed Blessed Sacrament each Thursday during Lent to remember the 33 years Jesus lived on earth. The 33 hours will begin after the Thursday 9 a.m. Mass and continue throughout the day and night until Friday at 6:30 p.m., fol-

lowed by Stations of the Cross at 7.

Adoration will take place in the parish Reservation Chapel, located just behind the church's main altar and accessible from outside the building. There will be a minimum of two people in the chapel during each of the 33 hours. The weekly Adoration will begin Thursday and Friday, March 7 and 8, and continue each week until Thursday and Friday, April 11 and 12, the week before Good Friday.

The church also offers Adoration on the third Sunday of the month, following the 11 a.m. Mass and continuing until 4 p.m. There are two possible exceptions to the third Sunday date, and those involve Divine Mercy and Corpus Christi Sundays. For 2019, both those dates are on the fourth Sunday of the month, so Adoration will be moved to those dates – April 28 for Divine Mercy and June 23 for Corpus Christi.

Three Bags Full sale will take place at three sites

The 16th semiannual Three Bags Full consignment event will take place at three central Ohio locations in February, March and April.

Sale dates and sites are: Tuesday, Feb. 26 to Saturday, March 2, Grove Community Christian Church, 3420 Blacklick Eastern Road N.W., Baltimore; Tuesday, March 12 to Saturday, March 16, Franklin County Fairgrounds, 5035 Northwest Parkway, Hilliard; and Tuesday, April 9 to Saturday, April 14, Hartford Fairgrounds, 14028 Fairgrounds Road, Croton.

Sale times at each site are 6:30 to 9 p.m. Tuesday (7 to 9 in Baltimore), 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

Tuesday-night shopping is limited to those who have purchased \$12 passes online at the event's website, www.threebagsfull.info. The pass admits two adults, and the proceeds benefit local families in need. Selected items will be available for half-price Friday night and Saturday at all three locations.

Gift of fortitude helps us fight for the unborn



STEWARDSHIP, LIVING OUR FAITH Wendy Piper

Like hundreds of thousands of other pro-lifers, I made a pilgrimage to the March for Life in Washington several weeks ago.

I traveled with several friends and their teenage children who never had been to the march.

When we headed home, I offered one friend's son a word of caution. I told him that whenever you have a mountaintop experience, whether it is a pilgrimage, retreat or anything else where you strengthen your faith and find yourself on fire for God, the devil will do whatever he can to drag you back down into the valley.

When you find yourself frustrated, discouraged or annoyed – and, inevitably, you will – it is because Satan wants to rob you of your joy.

In the days and weeks that followed the March for Life, news stories of attacks on the pro-life movement were unavoidable. I might have thought that, after doling out advice to my young traveling companion, I would have prepared myself spiritually for what was to come.

I had expected that some media would ignore the march as they usually do, paying little attention to the wall of peaceful demonstrators making their way down Constitution Avenue.

Instead, the nation witnessed a viral media backlash against a group of students based on a fraction of the bigger picture. For once, being ignored by the mainstream media might have been preferred.

Next came news of New York state legislation reducing restrictions on abortions later in pregnancy, with Virginia attempting (unsuccessfully, thanks be to God) to do the same. Much to the dismay of pro-lifers across the nation, what we consider a moral issue, a modern-day civil-rights issue, is being twisted into a bipartisan political issue.

While we continue to fight the good fight for the pro-life movement, at times it can be difficult to speak up. I pray often for the protection of the unborn, but I rarely have the courage to bring it up in conversations with those who hold a contrary opinion. We do not have to agree on everything to be kind to one another, and it is often simpler to remain quiet.

Despite being energized and rejuvenated by the March for Life, it can be exhausting in our current culture to defend the unborn day after day. Sometimes it just seems too hard, that my voice is not loud enough, or that I am not articulate enough to persuade someone to change his or her moral view. This is where the virtue and gift of fortitude comes in.

As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* explains, “Fortitude is a moral virtue that ensures firmness in difficulties and constancy in the pursuit of the good. ... The virtue of fortitude enables one to conquer fear, even fear of death, and to face trials and persecutions.” (CCC, 1808).

Fortitude is also a gift of the Holy Spirit. Through the lens of stewardship, we recognize the gift of fortitude as something that God has entrusted to us, something that we have a responsibility to care for and cultivate. As Christian stewards, God calls us to use our gifts for good.

Indeed, the devil is hard at work against the pro-life movement. Often times, our fortitude is tested, and we must work hard – harder than we think we should have to – to stand up for the moral issues that we believe in.

Through the gift of fortitude, the Holy Spirit gives us what we need to press on, move forward and continue to March for Life.

Wendy Piper is associate director of the Office of Development and Planning of the Diocese of Columbus.

LOCAL NEWS, continued from Page 4

Again this year, there will be specific shopping hours for grandparents, foster parents, parents of special-needs children, new mothers, and heroes (teachers, first responders and military personnel). More information is available on the website.

The sale began in 2004 in Newark with 12 participating families. Today, more than 500 families sell quality children's items of all types, as well as teen items, adult men's and women's clothing, and maternity wear. Thousands of shoppers from a 100-mile radius come to the event, which takes place on spring and fall weekends, with a Christmas event in November. More than 10,000 items are donated for each sale. All items must be current, clean, neat and of good quality.

Sellers earn money on the items they make available. They name the selling price and earn 65 percent. If they volunteer to help with the sale, they can earn as much as 80 percent. They also receive a presale pass for sellers only. Unsold and unclaimed items are picked up by the sellers or are donated to Catholic and pro-life charities such as Joseph's Coat and the Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs (JOIN) in Columbus and the St. Vincent de Paul Society in Newark, as well as other nonprofit charities.

It's easy to become a seller. Complete details and registration information may be found at the website. An automated, online bar-coded tagging system is used.

Each seller, upon registering, receives a consignor number which identifies the family and is built into the bar code. Families price their own items, determining the selling price of each. Bar codes are scanned at check-out so families can log into their online account to see a listing of what sold each day.

For more information, go to the website or call Joyce Black at (614) 561-5300.

Hope Task Force sponsors day of self-care

Are you a caregiver, first responder, crisis counselor or other helper who has felt discouraged, isolated or ashamed? Is your passion to serve others at risk of being darkened by burnout, negativity or compassion fatigue?

Whether this description applies to

you or not, you are invited to a day of self-care and healing with the title “Lighten Your Load, Brighten Your Light,” sponsored by the diocesan Hope Task Force, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 9 at the Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus.

Presentations during the program will be dedicated to renewal, healing and community building.

There is no charge, lunch will be provided. Space is limited, so register at tinyurl.com/DHTF-register or contact Andrea Pannell at (614) 241-2550 or apannell@columbuscatholic.org.

Dittoe to speak to men's luncheon club

Mike Dittoe of Columbus St. Andrew Church will speak at the March meeting of the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club on the origins of Catholic life in central Ohio. The club will meet Friday, March 1 at Columbus St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave. Lunch will be served after the church's 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.

The meeting will be sponsored by the Egan-Ryan Funeral Service. Contact Jim Gernetske at jimgernetske@gmail.com if you are interested in sponsoring a club luncheon.

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

St. Mary German Village to change Mass times

Beginning on March 10, the First Sunday of Lent, the Sunday Mass currently celebrated at 11:30 a.m. for Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church will be at 11 a.m. The church's other Sunday Mass still will be at 9 a.m. The 4 p.m. Saturday Mass will be moved temporarily to Columbus St. Leo Church, 221 Hanford St.

Both Sunday Masses will continue to be celebrated in the gymnasium of the parish school, 700 S. 3rd St., while renovation is being completed at the church, which has been closed since being struck by lightning in 2016.

Father Kevin Lutz, pastor, says he anticipates that the church will reopen for Masses on Palm Sunday, April 14.

How excommunication works; 10-minute limit on homilies?

From what we are seeing on social media here in New York state, there seems to be some misunderstanding about what excommunication is and how it happens. Does the pope excommunicate someone, or can a bishop? Is there a process? What is the pastoral approach to something like this? What are the consequences for someone who is excommunicated? (Syracuse, New York)

Excommunication is the church's most severe penalty, imposed for particularly grave sins. Its purpose is not punitive but medicinal, with the hope of awakening an individual's conscience and bringing a person to repentance. It has its origins in the earliest days of the church; St. Paul (1 Corinthians 5:1-5) urged that a man who practiced incest be expelled from the Christian community "so that his spirit may be saved on the day of the Lord."

Excommunication can be imposed by competent authority (usually a bishop) or it may be incurred automatically for certain sins (e.g., a person who desecrates the Eucharist, someone who procures an abortion, a priest who violates the seal of confession). A person who is excommunicated is forbidden from participating in the church's sacraments, from exercising



QUESTION & ANSWER

Father Kenneth Doyle
Catholic News Service

any ministry in the church (lector, for example, or extraordinary minister of holy Communion) or from serving as a Catholic godparent or confirmation sponsor.

I am guessing that your question is prompted by Gov. Andrew Cuomo's support for the Reproductive Health Act recently passed by the New York state legislature. That act, among other things, permits abortions to be performed by nondoctors, allows abortion for virtually any reason throughout the entire course of a woman's pregnancy and removes any protection for an infant accidentally born alive during the course of an abortion.

Some (including Protestant evangelist Franklin Graham) have called for the Catholic Church to excommunicate Cuomo for his part in this. Many, including Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan, were particularly galled by the fact that Cuomo directed that the lights of New York City's Freedom

Tower should sparkle in pink to celebrate the act's passage.

A statement issued from Cardinal Dolan's office, though, has indicated that excommunication might not be the correct response canonically nor the most effective one. The statement suggested that, from a pastoral point of view, the issue should be addressed personally and directly with the offending individual and that, from a strategic perspective, "many politicians would welcome it (a public excommunication) as a sign of their refusal to be 'bullied by the church,' thinking it would therefore give them a political advantage."

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has called upon priests to limit their homilies at Mass to between eight and 10 minutes. I fully support this, because that seems to be the attention span for most of us. (Also, few priests are good orators, and some are

unprepared and speak extemporaneously.) Why don't more priests observe this call of the pope? (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)

Your information is correct. In February 2018, at a weekly general audience attended by some 8,000 people, Pope Francis spoke about homilies, saying that they should be short and well-prepared. Be brief, he said, "it must not go longer than 10 minutes, please." (Not incidentally, he also said, "Those listening have to do their part, too," by giving the homilist "the appropriate attention.")

Honestly, I'm not sure why more priests don't follow this advice; what you say about people's attention span seems right on the mark. My sense is that these comments by the pope were not reported very widely. (I say this because I heard little discussion of them among either priests or laity.) If your concern is with your own parish, you may want to target the rectory with a copy of this column. (Anonymously might be best!)

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

ODU to host preview day

Ohio Dominican University will host a preview day from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 23 in the Bishop Griffin Student Center, 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Interested high school students and their families can register for the free event by visiting ohiodominican.edu/PreviewDay.

Students can tour campus, explore majors, discuss financial aid, enjoy a complimentary meal, learn about clubs and honors programs, meet professors and talk with current students.

Students also can schedule an individual campus visit at ohiodominican.edu/Visit or call undergraduate admissions at (614) 251-4500.

ODU again recognized as military-friendly school

For the 10th straight year, Victory Media selected Ohio Dominican as a military-friendly institution and recognized it as a "Gold" school, placing it in the top 10 percent of its ranking of U.S. private colleges and universi-

ties that don't offer a doctorate.

The 2019 military-friendly schools list recognizes colleges, universities and trade schools that are doing the most to embrace America's military members, veterans and spouses as students and to ensure their success on campus. The complete list may be viewed at militaryfriendly.com.

To further demonstrate its commitment to providing military service members, veterans and eligible dependents with a chance to enhance their academic credentials, ODU offers a Salute to Service scholarship for up to \$3,000 in tuition per semester that is not already covered by military education benefits or other state and federal grants and scholarships.

The scholarship is designed to help military students complete a degree at little to no personal expense.

For more information, visit ohiodominican.edu/Military or contact (614) 251-7400 or military@ohiodominican.edu.



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Virtue and serenity



LIGHTING THE WAY J. P. Leo Thomas

Picture yourself in a time and place that felt familiar but incomplete. You believe, for all intents and purposes, that you are right with the world. But there is something that keeps pulling at your heartstrings. You can't put your finger on it, but the feeling lingers on. As you try to get closer to it, it slips away.

Even though we think we understand and acknowledge what life throws at us, there is this elusive vein that interrupts our path. Many people will tell us to just wade past the rising water, but you know from experience to not tempt fate. It is the same for what we believe as Christians. Do we accept blindly what we are taught, or do we question everything that comes before us? Sometimes a leap of faith is what is needed, but are we willing to make that sacrifice, even though the road may be a little rocky or the way a little questionable?

There are those for whom nothing exists without cause and there are those who believe in miracles. So you must ask "Am I one for whom there are no saving virtues or am I one who believes in the inevitable?" Father Edward O'Connor, CSC, wrote in the August 2013 issue of *Homiletic & Pastoral Review* magazine that "Faith is the fundamental act by which we recognize Jesus as the Christ or Messiah. Hope is our reliance on his saving power. The love of charity is at one and the same time our response to his love, which brought him to us, and our way of communicating his love to our brothers and sisters."

Sometimes, practicing simplistic ways is a way for us to deal with the more complicated aspects of learn-

ing. We all start out with the basics, whether it be in education or in everyday life. Practicing these virtues doesn't make us smaller. It brings us closer to the understanding of why we are here and what our role is to be. We are in a culture of instant gratification, where everything seems to be passing us as if we are on a high-speed motorway. We fear that if we slow down and give ourselves time to reflect, we inherently will become more aware of what we are doing. Don't be afraid. We all need to "come down to earth" every now and then.

Jesus preached during most of His ministry to people who wanted to become more connected to Him, but who feared that because they weren't as well-educated and acknowledged as others, they would be left out of the experience. He reminded us that no matter how far we come, no matter how much or how little we have, all of us are loved equally. Faith, hope and charity seem like elusive virtues, to say the least, but at least they are honest ones, full of love and the wish for a better world.

When you and I look back on the sacrifices we have made this year and on the promises we have tried to keep, let us remember that there is power and beauty and grace in simple words spoken by a not-so-simple Shepherd who is very much relevant and very much alive.

May God bless you and keep you during this Lenten season. May He let His face shine upon you. May the wind be forever at your backs and may His peace be with you always.

peace be with you, always.

Angry? Try understanding and not retaliation

By Leandro (Lany) M. Tapay
Director, Diocesan Missions Office

I have to watch my angry feelings. I am becoming an angry person. I feel angry when someone gets my parking place. Or when someone pulls in front of me on the freeway. Or when a server is slow, and I am in a hurry. Or when the toast burns.

These are like tiny drops of water. If I am not careful, I would have a bucketful of rage. If I am not careful, these seemingly innocent drops of anger would make me a walking rage, or a blind bitterness or an unharnessed hatred. I would not trust anyone. I would bear my teeth at anyone who gets close to me. I would become a walking time bomb. With the right tension and fear, I would explode.

But is this the best way to live? What good would anger bring me? Can anger bring hope? Can anger solve problems? It does not. But we applaud people who fight back. But after we fight back, we ask ourselves, "What good was done by it?" Can fighting back really reduce the crime rate? Would schools be safer if we let every teacher carry a gun? If everyone has a gun, would the streets be safer? No. Anger does not do that. Vigilantes are not the answer.

But what should we do when someone bullies us? I do not know the answer. But I know what Jesus did to the mob that killed him. Jesus said of those who bullied him, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34).

I always have wondered why Jesus did not retaliate. How did he keep his control? I found the answer, which is: "For they do not know what they are doing." Jesus did not consider those who were mean to him as murderers. Instead, he considered them as victims. Jesus saw in their faces not hatred, but confusion. Jesus considered them as sheep without a shepherd. They did not know what they were doing.

They really did not know what they

were doing. They were mad at something they could not see, so they took it out on, of all people, God. But they did not know what they were doing.

For the most part, neither do we. Though we hate to admit it, we, too, are like sheep without a shepherd. All we know is that we came out of eternity, and we are going back to it. We do not understand pain or death. We cannot solve the problems of aging. We cannot heal our own bodies. We cannot get along with our mates. We cannot keep ourselves out of war. We do not know how to stop hunger.

For this reason, Paul says, "I do not know what I am doing" (Romans 7:15). I know. What Paul says does not justify anything. It does not justify hit-and-run drivers; it does not justify porn peddlers or heroin dealers. But it explains why they do the miserable things they do.

Here is the point. Uncontrolled anger does not better the world. But sympathetic understanding does. Once we see the world as it is – fallen – we could help. Once we understand ourselves as fallen, we would begin to operate not in anger but with compassion and concern. We would look to the world not with bitter frowns but with extended hands. When we understand ourselves as fallen, we would realize that the lights are out and many people are stumbling in the darkness. So, we light candles.

I like what Michelangelo once said: "We criticize by creating." Instead of fighting back, we help. We help people in the ghettos. We teach children in schools. We build hospitals and orphanages. And we put our guns away.

"They do not know what they are doing." Once you understand the world as fallen, you want to help it. You want to save it. You even want to die for it.

Anger never did anyone good. Understanding does. The results of understanding might not be as quick as a vigilante's bullet. But understanding is much more constructive.

Youth, adults receive religious awards at Scout Day

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

About 125 Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and members of Camp Fire and American Heritage Girls units sponsored by parishes throughout the diocese were recognized at the annual Scout Day with the Bishop prayer service on Sunday, Feb. 10 at the New Albany Church of the Resurrection.

The program was conducted by

Girls Troop 33, a member of Columbus St. Patrick Church.

The committee's Bronze Pelican award was presented to three individuals who have performed exceptional service to scouting through their contributions to the spiritual development of Catholic youth.

This year's honorees were Jodi Hatherly of Columbus St. Peter Church, Nicholas LaRosa of Columbus St. Patrick Church and Ed Waldo of Mar-

Scout Pack 859 of Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator Church as the Bishop's Pack for the fifth consecutive year, and Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church as the Bishop's Parish for its Girl Scout programs.

The deacons presented "Scout Day" patches to participants in various Catholic scouting activities. These included the Light of Christ and Parvuli Dei programs for Cub Scouts; the Ad Altare Dei program for boys and girls; the God Is Love, Family of God, I Live My Faith and Mary, the First Disciple programs for Girl Scouts and Camp Fire members and American Heritage Girls; and the Pope Pius XII program for young men and women. All of these emblem programs are sanctioned by the national scouting organizations.

The committee also sponsors the annual Catholic Scout Camporee, which takes place in May. In addition, it conducts the locally based St. Tarcisus and International Awareness programs, which examine various aspects of the faith each year, and it offers uniform patches for completion of activities related to the rosary, Marian feasts, Catholic practices and traditions, women in Scripture, and men and women who



Young people receiving the diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting's Red Sash of Merit at the Scout Day with the Bishop program on Sunday, Feb. 10 at the New Albany Church of the Resurrection were Paul Fields of Columbus Our Lady of Peace Church and Elaine Smith of Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church, pictured with Deacon Sullivan. Recipient Genevieve Tautkus of Columbus St. Patrick Church is not pictured.

are saints or have been declared "blessed" or "venerable" by the church and have connections with the Americas. More than 140 patches were awarded this year in the diocese.

More information on Catholic scouting programs is available at the committee's website, www.cdceducation.org/oym/dccs.



Adults receiving awards at the annual diocesan Scout Day with the Bishop program were (from left): Melissa Riederer; Mike Hall, director of the diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry; Jodi Hatherly; and Karen Waldo and children Ben and Grace, representing Ed Waldo. Deacons Frank Sullivan (right) and Chris Reis presented the awards. Recipient Nicholas LaRosa was not present.

CT photos by Ken Snow

Deacon Chris Reis, diocesan scout chaplain, and Deacon Frank Sullivan because of the absence of Bishop Frederick Campbell, who was unable to attend because of inclement weather.

The event was sponsored by the diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting, which presented its Red Sash of Merit to three young people who earlier earned other Catholic scouting emblems and have demonstrated leadership, accepted responsibility and are active in their troop, community and parish.

The honorees were Paul Fields of Boy Scout Troop 169, sponsored by Columbus Our Lady of Peace Church, Elaine Smith of Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church and of Ohio Valley District Venture Crew 33 and Girl Scout Troop 2219, and Genevieve Tautkus of American Heritage

ion St. Mary Church.

Receiving the St. George Emblem, presented by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting for continuing support of its programs, was Mike Hall, director of the diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, which oversees Catholic scouting programs in the Diocese of Columbus.

Melissa Riederer of Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral was awarded the St. Anne Medal, the highest national recognition for adults who serve Catholic young people through scouting programs.

Boy Scout Troop 50 of Marion St. Mary Church was honored as the Bishop's Troop for combining active participation in religious activities with service to the community and to scouting. Also honored were Cub

Pope Pius XII program participants



Four young people participated last month in the annual Pope Pius XII religious emblem program sponsored by the diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting. They are (from left) Isak Giddens, Elaine Smith, Katie Smith and Ben Waldo, pictured with Father Donald Maroon. The program, a weekend event for young people ages 16 to 21 that includes a hike through parts of the Hocking Hills, focuses on vocations and helps participants expand their prayer lives during a critical time in their lives. Participants received a medal during a Mass at Logan St. John Church and were honored on Sunday, Feb. 10, at the New Albany Church of the Resurrection as part of the committee's Scout Day with the Bishop program.

Photo courtesy diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting

Urban Plunge: College students dive into work aiding poor

During the frigid weather in late January, seven University of Notre Dame students spent three days of their winter break in Columbus for the annual Notre Dame Urban Plunge, a one-credit experiential learning course in which students engage with poor U.S. communities. Before and during the event, students examine the root causes of poverty in urban areas.

Since the mid-1970s, the diocesan Office for Social Concerns has partnered with the Notre Dame Alumni Club of Columbus to host the Columbus plunge. This is the 23rd year that Jerry Freewalt, director of the office, has participated in the event.

“This is my chance to be a ‘professor’ of Notre Dame each year,” he said. “Mainly, it’s an opportunity for the students to see the face of Christ in the most need and in the people living out their faith in service to the community.”

The students started the plunge with a conversation about the Columbus diocese’s efforts to live out the Gospel in service to the poor and vulnerable. Then, they ventured out in near-zero-degree temperatures to inner-city camps to

deliver food and coats to the homeless.

After sleeping overnight on the floor of St. Stephen’s Community House, the group painted walls for a

Inner-City Needs and the St. Vincent de Paul Clothing Center, fed 177 people at the St. Vincent de Paul Society’s St. Lawrence Haven, sorted donated



University of Notre Dame students volunteer at St. Lawrence Haven in Columbus as part of the three-day Urban Plunge sponsored by the diocesan Office for Social Concerns and the local Notre Dame Alumni Club.

Photo courtesy Jerry Freewalt

new computer laboratory that serves families at the Joint Organization for

clothing and learned about the Youth Empowerment Program and homeless

young people at Ohio State University’s Star House youth drop-in center.

After a second night at St. Stephen’s, the students volunteered at St. Vincent Family Center and learned about the importance of pediatric behavioral health, delivered Meals on Wheels to senior citizens through LifeCare Alliance and engaged in a discussion at the Ohio Statehouse about the Catholic Conference of Ohio’s work to address poverty.

They also learned about the Latino immigrant community and toured Catholic Social Services’ Our Lady of Guadalupe Center, talked with formerly incarcerated people participating in the ARCH (Accompanying Returning Citizens With Hope) re-entry program and concluded with Mass at St. Joseph Cathedral and a reception with the Notre Dame Alumni Club.

“The students will finish their seminar studies at Notre Dame by attending summary classes and writing a reflection paper,” Freewalt said. “But the impression made through their encounter and accompaniment with the poor and vulnerable will remain for years to come.”

This Martha takes time to pray, reflect with her Mary

By Dr. Kathleen Lutter

As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister who sat at the Lord’s feet, listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She asked, “Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to do all the preparations by myself? Tell her to help me!”

“Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed, or indeed, only one. Mary has chosen the better part, and it will not be taken from her” (Luke 10:38-42).

I have to admit I’m a Martha. Completely and unabashedly so. I always have felt the sting of Jesus’ rebuke of Martha rather personally. I know that earlier in Luke, he describes a plentiful harvest and the great need for workers to assist in the harvest. So many of Jesus’ great teaching moments involve food and hospitality. Let’s be honest: That clean house and wonderful buffet didn’t just appear. Well, usually (LOL). There’s setup, prep and cleanup that someone has to do.

My love language/charism are definitely acts of service and hospitality. I always have struggled with prayer and silence. Plan a party for 300 on short notice, no problem! Sit in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for an hour, not so easy. It recently was brought to my attention by a kind friend that I have many strengths, but maybe prayer isn’t my forte and might benefit from some remedy. Being human, I, of course, pouted all week.

Fast forward. I received a call from my sisters that Mom might benefit from a visit this weekend, rather than the following week, which I had planned. She is 92, lives independently in her own home and takes care of herself with little assistance. She is a German Lutheran convert to Catholicism and raised 10 daughters and four sons. She has buried her husband and a devoted daughter and has remained committed to her faith. Her mind is sharp, but her body is broken. Her once-strong body is failing, and she no longer can do the things she needs to survive well.

I arrived Saturday and began my usual Martha activities – shopping, cleaning and assessing needs. With only 24

hours to accomplish so much, I was in my glory. My mom was so appreciative to have a clean house and aromas of good food wafting through her rooms again. We went to bed early and planned for Mass and the next day’s projects.

On Sunday morning, she simply wasn’t up to the task. My sisters quickly got me the number of her Eucharistic minister, Cathy, and I left her a message. We missed the return call because I was vacuuming. The irony of missing Jesus because of my noise was not wasted on me. Thankfully, Cathy called again, and we were able to receive the Eucharist.

This minister to the homebound did not rush. She truly loves my mom and spent time reading Scripture, praying and ministering to her. I was right there by her side and got to witness the beautiful faith of my mother, my strength.

After Cathy left, my mom was still concerned that I had not fulfilled my obligation for Mass. I found the live Mass from St. Patrick’s, and we watched it together on my phone. That hour and a half with Communion and Mass was one of the most special moments of my life with my mother, Mary. I have been blessed

with a mother Mary and a daughter Mary, who are so alike. I realize that although God didn’t make me a Mary, he surrounded me with two beautiful Marys in my life. And for this day, this Martha had the better part.

Dr. Kathleen Lutter is a parishioner at Columbus St. Timothy Church.



Mary, the mother of Dr. Kathleen Lutter, raised 14 children and remains strong in her faith at age 92. Photo/Dr. Kathleen Lutter

Cum Christo weekend can spark lifelong change

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

The Cum Christo movement starts with spending one weekend with Jesus. For many participants, its impact extends into the rest of their lives.

Cum Christo is an outgrowth of the Cursillo movement, which goes back to the 1940s and is the basis for many three-day activities in the Catholic Church and other Christian faith traditions. More than 7,000 Christians – most of them Catholic but also representing several Protestant denominations – have taken part in a Cursillo or Cum Christo weekend since they were introduced in the Diocese of Columbus in 1964.

lence through Friday morning. This provides participants time to meditate on their current lifestyle. From Friday morning through Sunday, the teachings of Christ are presented in an atmosphere of joy in a program mixing talks, Scripture references, individual meditation, small-group discussion, prayers, songs, meals and chapel visits.

The format is similar to that of a retreat, but as a brochure from the organization notes, “it’s not a retreat. While there is prayer and worship and quiet time with Jesus, it is more like an occasion for moving forward in your walk with Christ and bringing him more fully into your life.”

The weekends are not meant to be

families and attend the close of the weekend on Sunday evening. Cum Christo can provide assistance to anyone looking for a sponsor.

“My weekend was in the spring of 2016,” said Lori Crock of Plain City St. Joseph Church. She said she had been encouraged for some time to attend a weekend by parishioners including Deacon Tony Bonacci and his wife, Elaine, who have been involved in Cum Christo for 35 years. “People had been inviting me to go for 10 years, and now I don’t know why I didn’t attend sooner. I guess I wasn’t ready, but the call was persistent, and I ultimately responded.

“The weekend was very natural and joyful, with things going at their own

Catholics only.

Cum Christo participants learn that “the weekend lasts for three days, the Fourth Day is the rest of your life and the Fifth Day is when you get to heaven.”

Fourth Day activities include “group reunions” of three to six people gathering on a regular basis, such as every week or two. Frequently, these involve some table members who met during a weekend. All weekend participants are urged to form groups or find one that already exists, and it appears most do so.

John Hodges of the New Albany Church of the Resurrection made his Cum Christo weekend in 2003, and most of his table group members have



About 50 participants attended the February Ultreya of Cum Christo Columbus at St. Patrick’s Episcopal Church in Dublin. Ultreyas take place monthly at various Catholic and Protestant churches throughout the Columbus area. Cum Christo is an organization that is an outgrowth of the Catholic Cursillo movement and became ecumenical in the Columbus area in 1979 with the support of Bishop James Griffin. CT photos by Ken Snow

Cursillo weekends in the diocese were limited to participants of the Catholic faith until 1979 when, with the full support of Bishop James Griffin, the Cursillo movement in Columbus became ecumenical and was renamed Cum Christo Columbus.

Cum Christo sponsors two weekends per year for men and two for women in central Ohio. Each weekend has a maximum of 16 participants, ages 21 and older, with a presenting team of trained Catholic and Protestant laypersons and spiritual directors.

The weekends run from Thursday evening to Sunday morning. They begin with introductions and prayer, followed by a period of

introductions to Christianity but are designed for people who have been baptized, are attending a church and are hoping to grow as Christians. Candidates can be affiliated with the Catholic Church, the Orthodox Church or a Protestant church that accepts the Nicene Creed, the Bible as the inspired word of God and the fullness of the Holy Trinity.

Each person attending a weekend has a sponsor who has completed a weekend and serves as a mentor before and after the event. Sponsors do not attend the weekend with candidates but bring them to the site on Thursday evening, pray for the participants, provide support to their



The Bible is enthroned at the start of the Ultreya on Wednesday, Feb. 6. Ultreyas last for 75 to 90 minutes and include prayer, Scripture reading, 20 minutes of small-group sharing, testimony by a Cum Christo member and a closing chapel service. “Ultreya” is a Spanish word derived from the original Latin and meaning “Onward!” It is used by pilgrims to greet and encourage each other in their journey.

pace. I began to feel that this must have been something like the way it was in the church in St. Paul’s time, with like-minded people getting together in prayer in a joyful and open environment, recognizing the message of Jesus in the gospels and talking about what God has done for them.”

At the start of the program, participants are placed in table groups of three or four people who stay together throughout the weekend to discuss what they have heard and learned. All participants and team members attend Mass on Saturday evening and a Protestant service on Sunday morning. Sharing is universal in these services, except for the Eucharist, which is for

continued to meet together in the 16 years that have followed.

“The person who was the choir director at Resurrection at the time got me involved,” Hodges said. “The initial draw was that this was an ecumenical event, and I’m grateful to Bishop Griffin for making it that way.

“The best part of the weekend is what happens after the weekend. Four of the five of us who were together for the weekend decided to keep on meeting on the Friday after the weekend, and we’ve been doing it for most every weekend since.

“These guys are some of my best

CUM CHRISTO, continued from Page 10



Music is an important part of each *Ultreya*. Songs are played to open the program, at the Bible enthronement, following the 20 minutes of small-group sharing, during preparations for the chapel service, and at the closing. *Cum Christo* Columbus has its own hymnal containing more than 200 contemporary Christian selections.

friends. We've gone on vacations and golfed together, but the best part about staying close is that we talk each week about *Cum Christo*'s three key elements of piety, study and action and how they've had an impact on our lives that week.

"The weekend is a great start, but unlike other retreats, *Cum Christo* provides a process by which you can maintain your bonds with other participants for the rest of your life, helping each other maintain accountability to its basic premises."

Each month, *Cum Christo* Columbus sponsors a gathering known as an *Ultreya*, which is a larger version of the small-group meeting. An *Ultreya* lasts for 75 to 90 minutes and includes prayer, Scripture reading, 20 minutes of small-group sharing, testimony by a *Cum Christo* member and a closing chapel service.

The February *Ultreya* took place at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in Dublin, one of several sites among which it rotates. Crock said its most frequent location is Columbus Holy Family Church. It also has taken place in the last year or two at Columbus St. Cecilia and Westerville St. Paul churches, as well as the parishes in New Albany and Plain City and other churches throughout the diocese.

One of the most significant parts of this month's *Ultreya* was a witness

talk by *Cum Christo* participant Phil Bowen of his efforts to help a friend deal with a family health crisis. The talk was followed by reflections on its message from some of the approximately 50 people in attendance and from Father Charles Cotton, *Cum Christo* Columbus spiritual director for the past 15 years.

Father Cotton retired as pastor of Columbus St. Elizabeth Church in 2016 after 15 years there but, as with many retired priests, his schedule of funerals and Masses is as busy now as it was when he was a pastor.

He has been involved with *Cum Christo* since 1983 and has been its spiritual director since the death of his predecessor in the post, Father Thomas Cadden, in 2004.

"When you go on a *Cum Christo* weekend, it's the start of a commitment that's meant to be a lifelong journey," Father Cotton said. "You are renewed on that weekend, and that renewal keeps coming as you continue on the journey. This ability to continue, to keep the personal relationships you've formed with Jesus and with other participants and to maintain community has always been significant to me and has kept me connected to *Cum Christo*."

Since April, the program has been guided by its lay director, Jim Keating, in union with a board of trustees,



Mike Chambers of Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church and the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center (left), Colleen Barta of Livingston United Methodist Church and Tom Nance of Columbus St. Agnes Church take part in a 20-minute "flying group" session that is part of each *Ultreya*. During the session, groups of three or four people share how their relationship with Jesus has affected their lives since the previous *Ultreya*.

an administrative body known as a secretariat, and a leadership school.

Keating and his wife have been part of *Cum Christo* since 2007, when the youth minister at the time at Westerville St. Paul Church invited them to take part in a weekend. Ten months ago, Keating was approached to fill the role of lay director and accepted it, with the full support of the trustees, secretariat and leadership school.

"Probably the biggest difference *Cum Christo* has made in my life has been that I'm not afraid to speak of Christ to other people," he said. "My prayer life has increased, and I'm studying Scripture more – something I'd never done before – and I'm involved with several ministries in my parish."

"Everybody who comes out of a weekend is affected differently," he said. "Some are immediately on fire and maintain that enthusiasm. It wasn't that way for me, but I kept following the three main points of piety, study and action. Everything started to follow naturally from there, and now here I am as director."

Deacon Bonacci said his 35-year involvement with *Cum Christo* "was a natural evolution from Marriage Encounter, which I began working with in the 1970s. Both have a similar three-day format, with people working in teams.

"What's kept me involved with *Cum Christo* all these years is just seeing the spiritual growth in individuals as team members. It's great to see them blossom. Usually this occurs with the women a lot faster than the men."

One of the key concepts for *Cum Christo*, Marriage Encounter, Cursillo and other three- or four-day retreat-style weekends is that of *palanca* – a gift with elements of prayer, sacrifice and service. *Palanca* can include activities such as making or serving meals or running errands to help ensure the smooth operation of a weekend. Probably the most common *palanca* is a personal note of encouragement telling the participant that he or she is being prayed for by the writer.

The Spanish folk song *DeColores* is a part of the Cursillo tradition that *Cum Christo* has retained. *DeColores* means "many colors" and refers to the multiple aspects of God's love. Its last verse includes references to a multi-colored rooster and other animals, and the rooster has become a symbol for the movement.

One of the common themes *Cum Christo* participants mention when asked how the weekend affected their lives is that of increased involvement

CUM CHRISTO, continued from Page 11

in church activities.

Crock already had been writing a monthly column for *The Catholic Times* and had been an active member of the Plain City parish before she made her Cum Christo weekend. Afterward, she first began writing for the newsletter of the parish Knights of Columbus council and has since become the parish Eucharistic Adoration coordinator and has begun distributing the Eucharist to a hospital in Dublin.

She also is a personal trainer, using her knowledge of movement to become a leader of the SoulCore program, which combines exercise with praying the rosary. In addition, she volunteers at St. Gabriel Radio and hosts its *Holy and Healthy Minute* feature.



Mary Tracy of Columbus St. Patrick Church speaks at the Cum Christo Columbus Ultreya on Wednesday, Feb. 6 at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in Dublin.

"I don't think I ever would have felt the courage to record something in front of a microphone before the weekend," she said. "I also don't think I would have done most of the other things I've become involved with since then if I hadn't been formed in Christ through Cum Christo."

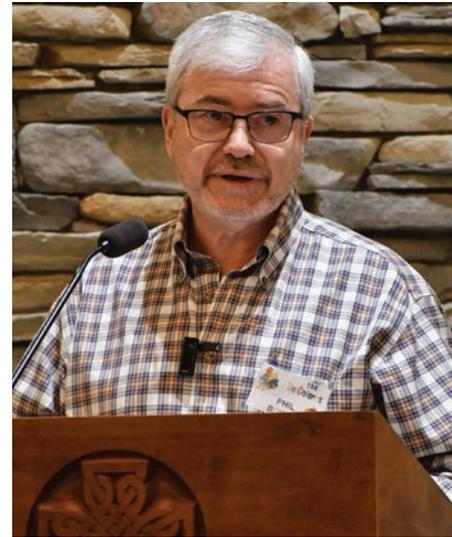
"Some people have the mistaken idea that Cum Christo takes people away from parishes," Hodges said. "That's not true. A big part of its purpose is to build leaders for parishes and to get them more involved with parish life."

In addition to the monthly *Ultreya*, Cum Christo also sponsors events including a Seder dinner during Lent, a day of reflection in February and a

family picnic in August.

Its next *Ultreyas* are on consecutive Wednesdays – March 27 at Columbus St. James the Less Church, the site of the next men's weekend, and April 3 in the former Columbus Holy Cross School. The latter is a special occasion because the Holy Cross building, which also houses the diocesan St. Vincent de Paul Society's St. Lawrence Haven food distribution program, was Cum Christo's headquarters for most of its history.

The next men's weekend will be the organization's 161st, and the coming women's weekend will be the 159th. (When speaking at *Ultreyas*, participants usually identify themselves by name and weekend number.) Dates



Phil Bowen of Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church gives the featured witness talk at the Ultreya, sharing how he helped a friend deal with a family health crisis.

are March 28-31 for the men and May 2-5 for the women, to be followed by weekends in September for men and October for women. All the weekends take place at Columbus St. James the Less School, 1628 Oakland Park Ave.

Applicants are asked to pay a fee when they submit their applications for a weekend. Various payment options, including limited grants, are offered. A sponsor can discuss these with an applicant.

Most parishes in Columbus and surrounding counties, plus Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Ada, have Cum Christo contacts. To obtain contacts' names, or for more information about Cum Christo, go to <https://cumchristo.org>.

Josephinum seminarians reach key moment



A Mass on Saturday, Jan. 26 marked a defining moment in the priestly formation of seminarians across the nation attending the Pontifical College Josephinum, as Bishop Frederick Campbell, in his capacity as the seminary's vice chancellor, admitted them to candidacy for Holy Orders. Pictured are (from left) Columbus diocesan seminarians Jacob Stinnett and Eugene Joseph; Msgr. Christopher Schreck, president-rector of the Josephinum; Bishop Campbell and Columbus seminarian Andrew Wisniewski. The Rite of Admission to Candidacy is celebrated when a seminarian, usually in his second year of graduate study, has reached a maturity in his formation and has demonstrated the necessary qualifications for ordination. In the bishop's presence, he publicly expresses his intention to complete preparation for Holy Orders and his resolve to fully invest himself to that end so that he will serve Christ and the church faithfully. Photo by seminarian Peter Stetson

Ross County March for Life



The Ross County Right to Life Committee conducted its second annual March for Life last month in Chillicothe, walking through downtown to the county courthouse steps for a speaking program. Speakers included Lisa Cutler of the Elizabeth's Hope pregnancy resource center; Angela Pridemore of Mercy Home Ohio; Dr. Alicia Thompson, an obstetrician-gynecologist; Marie Wilbanks of the Pickaway County Department of Developmental Disabilities; Julies Oates of the Ross County Child Protection Center; Chris and Noah Hiles, representing Special Olympics; and Judy Harness and Joe Herlihy of the Right to Life committee. Prayers were offered by the Rev. Obadiah Harris of Lifting Up Jesus Church in Chillicothe and Father William Hahn, pastor of Chillicothe St. Peter Church.

Photo courtesy St. Peter Church

Black History Month

Series of migrations changed America

By Pam Harris
Director
Office of Catholic Ethnic Ministries

February is Black History Month, placing a special emphasis on the contributions of people of African descent in the United States.

It was established in 1926 as Negro History Week by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, the second African American to earn a doctorate at Harvard University. He announced a theme each year to focus on specific accomplishments in the black experience.

The Association for the Study of African American Life and History continues his work of celebrating and recognizing the achievements of people of African descent in religion, politics, science, medicine, education and other fields. Recognition of these amazing men and women for an entire month nationwide speaks volumes to the authenticity of African American history.

This year's Black History Month theme is "Black Migrations From the 20th Century Through Today." The African American community was transformed between the two world wars because of migration from the rural South to the urban North.

During this period, African Americans became more determined to be an active part of society and contribute in their own way to the common good. Their desires would not fully bear fruit until the civil rights movement began to challenge segregation and the Jim Crow laws. Through the

turmoil of slavery and the struggle for dignity and respect, the perseverance of black people remains.

"The African-American Migration Experience," a multimedia exhibition by the New York Public Library's Schom-

1867 – More than 12 million Africans were brought to the Americas during this time. About 500,000 of them were taken to the United States. Most went to South America and the Caribbean.

Domestic slave trade, 1760-1865

il War, when free blacks left northern states to homestead in the West. After emancipation, former slaves fleeing white terrorism in the South homesteaded in Kansas, Oklahoma and often as far as Utah. After World War II, blacks seeking work moved to California, Oregon and Washington.

Northern migration, 1840-1890 – Before and after the Civil War, free blacks left the South for a less oppressive life in the North. The earliest destinations were cities closer to the South, such as Cincinnati, but large numbers also moved to Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago and Buffalo.

The Great Migration, 1916-1930 – About 1.5 million people left the South for the North, lured by the prospect of industrial jobs. The movement was a first step in the urbanization of the African American population.

The Second Great Migration, 1940-1970 – An estimated five million people left the South for the North and West. By the end of the 1970s, the African-American population had almost completely shifted from rural to urban. More than 80 percent of blacks lived in cities, compared with 70 percent of whites.

Caribbean immigration,

1900-present – More than 1.5 million Afro-Caribbeans represent about 5 percent of the nation's black population.

Return South migration, 1970-present – Starting in the 1970s, more African-Americans moved to the South than left it. Blacks especially left Midwestern cities such as Detroit, Pittsburgh and Chicago for southern metro areas such as Atlanta, Charlotte and Raleigh-Durham.

Haitian immigration, 1970-present – At least 750,000 Haitian immigrants live in the United States, mostly in New York and Florida.

African immigration, 1970-present – More than 1.7 million people claim sub-Saharan ancestry, representing about five percent of the African-American population. African immigrants are among the most-educated groups in America. About half are college graduates.

– About 1.2 million people were displaced. Early on, slaves were moved south from northern colonies such as Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts. In later years, slaves were exported from the upper South to the deep South.

Colonization and emigration, 1783-1910 – Blacks seeking freedom from oppression migrated from the United States to Canada, Haiti, Mexico and, most often, Africa. Immigration to Africa peaked between 1848 and 1854.

Haitian immigration, 1791-1809 – Thousands of refugees settled in the United States, mostly in formerly French Louisiana, during the Haitian revolution. The population included Creole whites and free blacks, although the latter's attempts to migrate were met with resistance.

Western migration, 1840-1970 – This migration started before the Civ-



Mother Henriette DeLille, pictured on a float at Mardi Gras in New Orleans last year, is a candidate for sainthood. A free woman of color born in 1813, she founded the Sisters of the Holy Family in 1842 to teach and catechize slaves at a time when doing so was prohibited by law.

CNS photo/Peter Finney Jr., (New Orleans) Clarion Herald

burg Center for Research in Black Culture, lists 13 mass movements of people that shaped the black experience in the United States. Here are a few facts from the exhibition, as noted in *USA Today's* special Black History Month 2019 edition, "How Black Migrations Changed Our Nation."

Trans-Atlantic slave trade, 1450-



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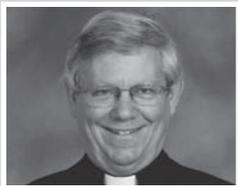
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Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

Blessed are they who hope in the Lord



Father
Timothy
Hayes

Jeremiah 17:5-8
Psalms 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6
1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20
Luke 6:17, 20-26

Blessings and woes express the reactions of human beings to life. We consider blessed those who possess many of this world's goods. We are grateful when our needs are met and when we experience earthly joys. We appreciate being thought well of by others. When we do not have these things, we consider it a curse. "Woe" is a cry of the heart to the emptiness that is felt when the world does not satisfy.

Jesus, who shared the full range of human experience, peers deeply into the human heart and brings to light a truth that is utterly surprising to all who begin to understand. The great-



A tree in the desert of Israel on the road to the Jordan River offers a hint of Jeremiah's image.

Photo courtesy Father Timothy Hayes

est blessing is not to have our needs, wants and desires met along the earthly journey, but rather to see the truth that nothing earthly can ever satisfy.

Somebody's grandmother always said "What doesn't kill you makes you stronger." This aphorism points the way to a grasp of the blessings and woes that the Gospel of Luke provides. The poor are blessed, because they are open to the "more" that is offered by eternity. Unmet needs on earth open us to the realization that this world is not all there is. Tears now point to a laughter that will come when the journey is completed. Not fitting in with

this world allows us the freedom to leave it behind for something greater. When we rejoice to know our need for God, we leave room for God to enter and to share His life with us.

The woes are still more surprising. They offer a glimpse of hope even for those who do not yet see the truth of their empty lot in this world. Jesus does not cry out "woe" in condemnation, but rather as an invitation to see ourselves as God sees us. A real encounter with God sheds light on the darkness that we have settled for in this world.

Jeremiah, a priest who becomes a prophet, is also able to peer deeply into the heart of things. He who spent time imprisoned in the bottom of a dry well is able to see the difference that makes or breaks the possibility of life in the desert. The barren bush in a lava and salt waste enjoys no possibility of life or change or growth. However, time unfolds with new promise when a tree can find the source of water. So it is with the world of human beings.

Trusting in God and keeping Him at the center is wisdom. Trust in human beings leads only to emptiness and disappointment. Jeremiah interprets the world around him and within in his own soul. He invites the people of God to renew awareness of the invitation to relationship with the God who is the source of life. Our spiritual roots can find nourishment through being planted by flowing waters; that is, by opening to grace as it is offered in the midst of life.

To trust in human beings on their own to find the way to solve the problems of the world is foolhardy. To cooperate with God's grace, given to human persons who are open to that grace, will enable us to reach our true homeland. The Resurrection of Jesus is the way that God has opened for us the path to life. To be led to despair by the empty promises of this world is to lose our sense of who we are.

All that life presents to us is a grace if we have the eyes to see it. Jesus shows us how to see. We must see through the eyes of the One who wants to fill us with life. We are, as the people of God and as persons in relationship to God through Christ, meant to become a dwelling place for God. Becoming aware of our own nothingness, we are free to accept God's gift of Himself. "Blessed are they who hope in the Lord."

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

THE WEEKDAY
BIBLE READINGS

MONDAY

Genesis 4:1-15,25
Psalm 50:1,8,16bc-17,20-21
Mark 8:11-13

TUESDAY

Genesis 6:5-8:7:1-5,10
Psalm 29:1a,2,3-4,9c-10
Mark 8:14-21

WEDNESDAY

Genesis 8:6-13,20-22
Psalm 116:12-15,18-19
Mark 8:22-26

THURSDAY

Genesis 9:1-13
Psalm 102:16-18,19-23,29
Mark 8:27-33

FRIDAY

1 Peter 5:1-4
Psalm 23:1-3a,4-6
Matthew 16:13-19

SATURDAY

Hebrews 11:1-7
Psalm 145:2-5,10-11
Mark 9:2-13

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO
AND TELEVISION MASS
SCHEDULE: FEB. 17, 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. Check local cable system for cable channel listing.

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Spectrum Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or WOW Channel 378). (Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).

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

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

DAILY MASS

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

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

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

Living 'I Do' - Weekly Marriage Tips

There are many ways to say "I love you." One way you can do this is to put "I love you" in as many places in your spouse's way as possible. Maybe it's a note in a purse, on a bathroom mirror, on a napkin, or in a book or magazine. This works especially well if your spouse's love language is receiving words or gifts. How does your spouse need to hear "I love you"? *Diocese of Columbus Marriage and Family Life Office*

En el caso matrimonial con el nombre MARIA GUADALUPE MEDINA - VICTOR FELIPE LEOS, 2018-0221, el Tribunal de la Diócesis de Columbus, Ohio, en este momento no es consciente de la dirección actual de VICTOR FELIPE LEOS. El Tribunal adjunto avisa a ella/él de este caso y invita a ella/él a contactar REVEREND MR. JOHN CRERAND, JCL, el Juez Presidente y único, no más tarde que 4 MARCZ 2019 - teléfono 241-2500 Extensión 3. Cualquiera que sepa el paradero actual de VICTOR FELIPE LEOS, adjunto pide que hacen saber a ella/él de esta citación o avisa al Tribunal de la dirección actual de ella/él.

Dado este 5 FEBRERO 2019.
Fecha

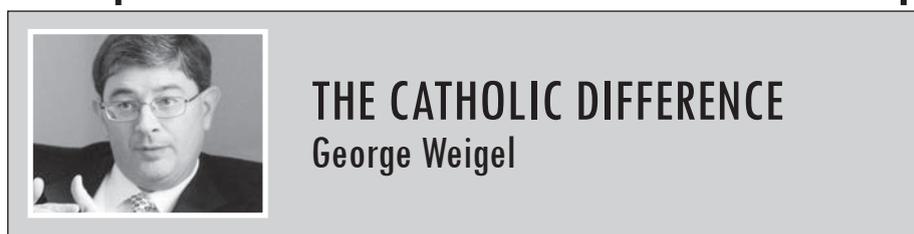
EL REVERENDO MR. JOHN CRERAND, JCL
El Juez Presidente

Sue Ulmer
La Notaria

The ever-present totalitarian temptation

First circulated underground in communist Czechoslovakia in October 1978, Vaclav Havel's brilliant dissection of totalitarianism, *The Power of the Powerless*, retains its salience four decades later. It should be required reading for politicians given to describing the Knights of Columbus as an "extremist" organization because of the Knights' pro-life convictions and activism.

Havel began his essay with a homely but devastating vignette. A Czechoslovak greengrocer is arranging vegetables in his shop window. There, amid the carrots and onions, he puts a small sign, "Workers of the World, Unite!" Why? Havel asks. What does that dreary Marxist slogan have to do with vegetables? Does the sign manifest the greengrocer's fervent political convictions? Does the greengrocer feel an irrepressible desire to share the commu-



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

nist gospel with all who pass by?

No, Havel answered, the greengrocer's sign is something else: it's a white flag. It's a signal to the authorities, including the secret police and the government wholesaler who provides the store with supplies, that this shopkeeper is reliable. He won't make trouble. He won't dissent from the official "truth" of things. The sign may read "Workers of the World, Unite!" but what it really says is "Please leave me alone."

The totalitarian impulse did not (and does not) express itself only through constant surveillance, the sharp knock

on the door in the dead of night, the sudden disappearance, the slave labor camp. As the word implies and Havel's greengrocer analogy illustrates, totalitarianism demands something more than external obedience to the system. It demands that others concede that they are wrong and that the totalitarians are right. To be socially acceptable, one must not just toe the line visibly; one must be converted.

When United States senators describe the Knights of Columbus as "extremist" – and by implication apply that epithet to all of us who think like the Knights on the life issues and the nature of marriage – those legislators are declaring us socially unacceptable: people whose commitments to democracy are suspect; people who should be shunned as morally unclean; people who are leprosy.

One of the senators who indulged the totalitarian temptation in respect of the Knights of Columbus, California's Kamala Harris, is now running for the presidency. Sen. Harris is the daughter of an Indian mother and an African American father. When the scribal guardians of political correctness began hassling her with questions about her "identity," the senator sensibly brushed off such impertinent and irrelevant inquiries by saying, simply, that she's "an American." That was exactly the right answer.

But isn't that answer in considerable tension with the attack on the "extremist" Knights of Columbus in which she had joined during a Senate hearing on a federal judicial nominee

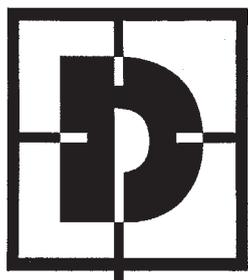
who happened to be a Knight? If Senator Harris is free to reject PC shibboleths about race and identity and thereby call the nation to look at "the other" as a fellow citizen rather than a racial category, why shouldn't the Knights of Columbus and all pro-lifers be free to register our vigorous dissent from the notion that an unborn child should have less moral and legal status in America than a protected species of bird in a national forest – and thereby call the nation to relearn the truth about the inalienable right to life on which it once staked its claim to independence?

In several states, efforts are underway to drive pro-life Americans to the margins of public life and to coerce the consciences of pro-life physicians and nurses. Those initiatives illustrate a hard truth: the totalitarian impulse can rear its ugly head in well-established democracies like the United States. Yes, there are totalitarians on the alt-right. The far more consequential of today's totalitarians are the proponents of lifestyle libertinism, who are quite prepared to deplore as un-American anyone who disagrees that abortion up to the moment of birth is a basic human right; or anyone who believes that "marriage" is the permanent union of a man and a woman; or anyone who thinks it child abuse to "transgender" a pre-adolescent or adolescent.

This is the new McCarthyism of the left. And while it won't create a new Un-American Activities Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives, its message will be similar: those who disagree with us are, well, un-American. That calumny must be stoutly resisted.

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

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PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

BAKER, Marjorie (Cole), 97, Feb. 5
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

BRANDEL, Yolanda M., 43, Feb. 9
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

CARNEY, Gene, 99, Jan. 26
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

COLLEY, Cheryl (Pinkerman), 54, Feb. 6
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

ESCHMAN, Mary M. "Mickey," 76, Feb. 9
St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

GILES, James A., 88, Feb. 6
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

HENSEL, Martha J. (Grandstaff), 75, Feb. 9
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

IGEL, Robert A. "Skip," 82, Feb. 1
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

KRANNITZ, Dolores A. (Kilbarger), 86, Feb. 4
St. John Church, Logan

MANNING, Barbara "Bobbi," 79, Feb. 8
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church,
Grove City

McGEOWN, Mervyn J., 74, Feb. 9
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

MEACHAM, Mary A. (Lauer), 86, Feb. 5
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

RIGGS, John J., 91, Feb. 10
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

ROBINSON, Melvin R., 67, Feb. 6
St. Leonard Church, Heath

SALVATO, Sharon A. (Zettler), 80, Feb. 6
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

SCARPITTI, Albert A., 96, Feb. 4
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

SCHILLING, Marilyn A. (Lynch), 82, Feb. 6
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

SERIO, Betty L., 92, Feb. 4
St. James the Less Church, Columbus

TURNER, Lloyd R., 78, Feb. 5
St. Dominic Church, Columbus

VONDERAHE, Catherine (Daniel), 59, Feb. 7
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

WOLFF, Carolyn S., 56, Feb. 10
Holy Name Church, Columbus

Mary Lou Wagner

A funeral service for Mary Lou Wagner, 83, who died Saturday, Feb. 9, was conducted Thursday, Feb. 14 at the Bryan & Hardwick Funeral Home in Zanesville. Burial was at Mount Olive Cemetery, Zanesville.

She was born on Oct. 14, 1935 in Zanesville to Clarence and Mary (Murphy) Basehart.

She was a member of Zanesville St.

Nicholas Church and was employed in its cafeteria for eight years. She previously worked at Citizens National Bank for 17 years.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Dorothy Lyon. Survivors include her husband, David; sons, Steve and Patrick (Julie); brothers, Robert and Bill; and three grandchildren.

PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN (Never known to fail)

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

Catholic convert Rep. Walter Jones dies

Catholic News Agency

WASHINGTON — Rep. Walter Jones (R-N.C.), who represented North Carolina for 12 terms in the House of Representatives, died on Sunday, Feb. 10 — his 76th birthday.

“Congressman Jones will long be remembered for his honesty, faith and integrity,” said a statement from his office announcing his death.

“He was never afraid to take a principled stand. He was known for his independence, and widely admired across the political spectrum. Some may not have agreed with him, but all recognized that he did what he thought was right.”

Jones, who was raised Southern Baptist but converted to Catholicism in his early 30s, was first elected to Congress in 1994.

After winning election for the 12th time in November 2018, he requested a leave due to illness in December. He was sworn in to the 116th Congress from his North Carolina house.

In late January, his wife announced that Jones was in hospice care after suffering a broken hip.

Initially a strong supporter of the Iraq War, he changed his views after attending a funeral for a service member who was killed by a grenade.

Jones is survived by his wife, Jo Anne, and his daughter, Ashley.

To have an obituary printed in the
Catholic Times, send it to
tpuet@columbuscatholic.org



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FEBRUARY

15, 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

15-17, FRIDAY-SUNDAY

Bishop Ready Presents 'Rumors'

7 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Bishop Ready High School, 707 Salisbury Road, Columbus. School's drama department presents Neil Simon's *Rumors*. Tickets \$10 adults, \$9 students, \$8 seniors. 614-276-5263

Bishop Hartley Presents '12 Angry Jurors'

7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Columbus Performing Arts Center, 549 Franklin Ave., Columbus. Bishop Hartley High School presents the drama *12 Angry Jurors*. Tickets \$8. 614-237-5421

16, SATURDAY

Columbus Catholic Women's Conference

8 a.m., Kasich Building, State Fairgrounds, 717 E. 17th Ave., Columbus. 12th annual Columbus Catholic Women's Conference, with talks by Father Christopher Hartley, Magnus Macfarlane-Barrow, Colleen Mitchell and Sister Faustina Maria Pia, SV, Mass with Bishop Frederick Campbell, Adoration, and Benediction.

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.

'February Fanfare' for Musicians

9 a.m., St. Mark Episcopal Church, 2151 Dorset Road, Columbus. February Fanfare, a day of workshops sponsored by the Columbus chapter of the American Guild of Organists and focusing on organ, voice and conducting skills for church musicians, with faculty members of the Sacred Music Institute of America as presenters. Begins with sung Morning Prayer featuring organ, brass and choir. \$20 for guild members, \$45 for nonmembers, including lunch. Register at agocolumbus.org or contact Mari Kay Dono at dono.marikey@gmail.com.

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

17, SUNDAY

Talk on the Future of the Church at St. Agatha

9:30 a.m., St. Agatha Church, 1860 Northam Road, Columbus. Third of four talks by Father Edmund Hussey on the future of the Catholic Church. Topic: "Immigrants and Strangers in the Future Church." 614-488-6149

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education

10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. "That Than Which Nothing Greater Can Be Thought: The Ineffable Mystery of God," Part 3 of Bishop Robert Barron's "Catholicism" series.

Frassati Society Mass and Brunch

10:30 a.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Parish Frassati Society for young adults gathers for Mass, followed by brunch at Red Velvet Cafe, 246 S. 4th St. 614-224-9522

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

Polish Mass at Holy Family

2 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Monthly Mass in Polish. 614-221-4323

Seasons of Hope Bereavement Ministry

2 to 4 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus. Third meeting of six-week support group sponsored by Seasons of Hope bereavement ministry for those who have lost a loved one, sponsored by North High Deanery. Contact rose.daiga@gmail.com.

Multicultural Choir at de Porres Center

3 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus. Concert by the Columbus St. Anthony Church multicultural choir, featuring traditional African and spiritual music. 614-416-1910

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

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

18, MONDAY

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

19, TUESDAY

Open House at St. Vincent de Paul School

6 p.m., St. Vincent de Paul School, 206 E. Chestnut St., Mount Vernon. Open house for prospective students and their parents. 740-393-3611

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.

20, 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

Divine Mercy Chaplet at St. Pius X

6:30 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Recital of Chaplet of Divine Mercy. 614-866-2859

Young Catholic Professionals Speaker Series

7 to 9 p.m., Jessing Center, Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. Young Catholic Professionals monthly executive speaker series, featuring talk by Leah Darrow, international Catholic speaker, writer, host of the *Do Something Beautiful* podcast and former top fashion model. Information at www.yccp.columbus.org.

'Worship and Wings' at St. Michael

7 p.m., St. Michael Church, 5750 N. High St., Worthington. "Worship and Wings" program for young adults, beginning with praise and worship in front of the Blessed Sacrament at church, followed by a meal featuring chicken wings at a local restaurant. 614-885-7814

21, 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 Sacred Heart

7 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour with the intention of deepened holiness and an increase in the virtue of fortitude for the Holy Father, bishops, and priests, concluding with Benediction, social period and refreshments. 614-294-7702

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

21-24, THURSDAY-SUNDAY

St. Charles Presents 'The Hundred Dresses'

8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. School's drama department presents the musical *The Hundred Dresses*. Tickets \$10 adults, \$5 students. 614-276-5263

22, FRIDAY

Holy Hour at St. Matthew

7 p.m., St. Matthew Church, 807 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna. Monthly Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and prayers for reparation, purification and sanctification of the universal Church. 614-471-0212

23, SATURDAY

Columbus Catholic Men's Conference

8 a.m., Kasich Building, State Fairgrounds, 717 E. 17th Ave., Columbus. 22nd annual Columbus Catholic Men's Conference, with talks by Jesse Romero, Bishop Donald Hying of Gary, Indiana, and Dr. Timothy Gray and Mass with Bishop Frederick Campbell.

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.

Labyrinth Walk at Shepherd's Corner

2 to 3:30 p.m., Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Labyrinth walk with Sister Marguerite Chandler, OP. Theme: "Winter Has Reason to Hope." Suggested donation \$5. Registration deadline Feb. 20. 614-866-4302

Program at Resurrection on Human Trafficking

6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Social hall, Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany. Program on "The Nuts and Bolts of Human Trafficking" with Jim Keyes of She Has a Name. 614-855-1400

24, SUNDAY

Talk on the Future of the Church at St. Agatha

9:30 a.m., St. Agatha Church, 1860 Northam Road, Columbus. Last of four talks by Father Edmund Hussey on the future of the Catholic Church. Topic: "Welcome in the Future Church." 614-488-6149

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education

10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. "The Indispensable Men: Peter, Paul and the Missionary Adventure," Part 5 of Bishop Robert Barron's "Catholicism" series.

Praise Mass at Church of Our Lady

11 a.m., Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Praise Mass with upbeat contemporary music. 614-861-1242

Frassati Society Ice Skating Party

1:15 p.m., Chiller Dublin, 7001 Dublin Park Drive, Dublin. Ice skating party sponsored by Columbus St. Patrick Church Frassati Society for young adults, followed by coffee and dessert at Sweetwaters, 4587 Bridge Park Ave., Dublin. Cost: \$8 admission, \$3 skates. 614-224-9522

Seasons of Hope Bereavement Ministry

2 to 4 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus. Fourth meeting of six-week support group sponsored by Seasons of Hope bereavement ministry for those who have lost a loved one, sponsored by North High Deanery. Contact rose.daiga@gmail.com.

St. Catherine of Bologna Secular Franciscans

2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave., Columbus. Prayer followed by ongoing formation, general meeting and fellowship. Visitors welcome. 614-895-7792

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

7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish, with confessions from 6 to 7. 706-761-4054 or 614-294-7702

25, MONDAY

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

Catholic Schools Week at St. Anthony



Columbus St. Anthony School celebrated Catholic Schools Week with a week of themed events. Students also purchased tickets for a chance to have doughnuts for their classroom, be principal for a day, wear jeans, be lunch line leader for a week, or have a pizza lunch with a priest and the principal. Proceeds benefited the seventh- and eighth-grade trip to Washington. Pictured on Sports Day, when students and teachers could wear gear from their favorite team, are (from left) Dylan Hernandez, Landon Jacobus, Kameron Scott and Ralphe Gebregziabher. Wearing outfits from Decade Day, which had a theme of “wear clothes from your favorite decade,” are teachers Claire Hatem (left) and Amy Moonis.

Photo courtesy St. Anthony School

St. Andrew students celebrate 100 days



Columbus St. Andrew School first-grade students celebrated their 100th day of school for the 2018-2019 school year by practicing their math skills, completing a booklet titled “My parents have told me 100 times to ...” and performing 100 acts of kindness. Pictured are (from left) Ella Erdman, Henry Gesue, Felix Alonso and Vivian Templeman.

Photo courtesy St. Andrew School

Challenge grant presented to Trinity



The Catholic Federal Credit Union presented a \$500 challenge grant to Columbus Trinity Elementary School, which the school is attempting to match. The money will be given to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network in honor of Sean McCreary, the father of two Trinity students who died in November.

Photo courtesy Trinity Elementary School

Immaculate Conception students play ‘Catholic In the Know’



Columbus Immaculate Conception School students celebrated Catholic Schools Week by playing “In the Know, Catholic Edition.” Two representatives from each classroom teamed up to try to answer questions testing their knowledge of the Catholic faith. Pictured are (from left) Peter Racz, Lillian Nagy, Luke Braam, Marie Ciccone, Issac Nguyen, Jack Monaghan, Samuel Snapp, Charlotte Cottrell, Charlie Phillips and Allison Edwards.

Photo courtesy Immaculate Conception School

School news and events

St. Charles presents 'The Hundred Dresses'

The drama department of Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., will present its winter production, the central Ohio premiere of *The Hundred Dresses*, at 8 p.m. Thursday to Saturday, Feb. 21 to 23 and 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 24.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Reservations may be placed by calling the St. Charles main office at (614) 252-6714 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The Hundred Dresses is a musical by Ralph Covert and G. Riley Mills, based on the Newbery honor book by Eleanor Estes. This timeless tale is filled with colorful characters, but deals with topics such as bullying, friendship and forgiveness.

Cast members include Claire Ferguson, Samantha Fox, Anna Turek, Jack Margiotta, Alexa Kreuzer, Donald Search, Mariel Trinidad and Noah Kuhr.

Run the Race Club to present 'The Wizard of Oz'

The Run the Race Club, which provides after-school and summer programs for young people in Columbus inner city, will be presenting its first theatrical production, *The Wizard of Oz*, featuring young people from the city's Hilltop area and directed by 15-year-old Charles Easley, next month.

Dates for the show are Friday to Sunday, March 22 and 24 and March 29 to 31 in the Run the Race center at 880 S. Wayne Ave. Times are 7 p.m. Friday, 6 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday.

Tickets will be \$5. There will be a concession stand and raffle tickets will be sold. Dinner will be served for an additional \$5 after the hourlong play on Sundays.

Easley, who will be making his debut as a director, is a lifelong resident

of the Hilltop. He attended Columbus public schools through eighth grade and is a freshman at Columbus Bishop Ready High School.

Since 2005, the Run the Race Club has provided activities that promote personal and educational achievement for young people.

Its founder, Rachel Muha, began the organization as a positive response to the slaying of her son Brian, one of two Franciscan University of Steubenville students murdered by people who assaulted them in their off-campus home on May 31, 1999, took them to a nearby area of Pennsylvania and killed them.

Muha forgave the assailants and set up the club and a foundation named for Brian to help children growing up in circumstances similar to Brian's killers. It began at Columbus Holy Family Church and outgrew that location and one another site before

moving to its current location. It also offers seasonal activities at a farm in Galloway. More than 400 children attend its programs year-round.

St. Michael pre-K accepting registration

The pre-kindergarten program for Worthington St. Michael School is accepting registration for full- and part-time classes for the 2019-2020 school year.

The program uses the Disciple of Christ, Education in Virtue model and also offers the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, which is a Montessori-based, hands-on Catholic education program.

For more information, go to <https://www.stmichaelworthington.org/admissions/preschool> or contact Laura Wells at (614) 885-3149 or lwells@cducation.org.

Former Tuscarawas Central coach honored



Students, staff and community groups celebrated the career of former New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic High School boys basketball coach Joe Pangrazio during and after a game against Zanesville West Muskingum. Pangrazio, who died on May 11, 2018, was head coach at TCC from 1976 to 1982, leading the Saints to a 72-53 record. His best season was 1978-79, when TCC went 18-4, won its first sectional title and was ranked as high as third in the state in Class A. Pangrazio was selected as Eastern District Class A Coach of the Year for that season. He was a 1963 graduate of Dennison St. Mary High School and played college basketball at Tennessee and Xavier, receiving bachelor's and master's degrees from the latter school. He also coached at Lakewood St. Edward and East Canton high schools.

Photo courtesy Tuscarawas Central Catholic High School

Two Watterson athletes sign



Columbus Bishop Watterson High School students who announced on Wednesday, Feb. 6 that they have signed to play NCAA Division I college sports are Drew Davis, who will play football at Columbia, and Audrey Shea, who will be on the soccer team at Bowling Green.

Photo courtesy Bishop Watterson High School

For family, giving to others becomes a tradition

By The Catholic Foundation

“I come from a history and family of giving.” These were the first words that Laura Fisher said when she explained why she and her husband, Jack, give to The Catholic Foundation.

Her grandfather Edward Willig grew up in Cincinnati during the Great Depression. Life was tough, and the family struggled to make ends meet. His story was not unlike those of many who survived the Depression. Edward worked hard but had difficulty finding employment while he and his wife raised three sons.

In 1936, his problems significantly worsened when his father died and his wife was diagnosed with terminal cancer. No one was available to care for his aging mother, so Edward sought help from the Little Sisters of the Poor. The sisters, whose mission is to care for the aged, took Mrs. Willig into their nursing home. From that moment, Edward committed to do everything he could to help them. This debt of gratitude was taught to his sons and passed on through the generations.

In 1946, Edward and his sons, Donald and Edgar, started an injection molding business now known as Park-

way Products. One of the first checks the company wrote was a donation to the Little Sisters of the Poor. Edward assigned his oldest son, Edgar, the

weekly responsibility of driving the Little Sisters throughout Cincinnati to pick up donations. Edgar eagerly welcomed any opportunity to spend time

with the sisters, and this developed into a lifelong friendship.



Alice and Edgar Willig are pictured with their son, Father Jim Willig, who died of cancer in 2001.

Photo courtesy The Catholic Foundation

weekly responsibility of driving the Little Sisters throughout Cincinnati to pick up donations. Edgar eagerly welcomed any opportunity to spend time

Alice, to meet the sisters to get their impression. They loved her and assured him she would be a wonderful wife. Edgar and Alice were married in 1947 and raised 11 children. Alice would be the rudder and ballast of the family. She was the stabilizing force in her husband's life. Their love was special, and their desire to give back and to help those around them touched everyone they met.

When the business was sold, Edgar and Alice set up a donor-advised fund at The Catholic Foundation in Columbus. Through the fund, they gave generously to many organizations, including the Little Sisters of the Poor, pro-life pregnancy centers, seminaries and Catholic high schools.

Laura's parents are one part of a much larger reason for the Fishers' giving. Laura's brother Father Jim Willig was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati on June 11, 1977. Because of Father Jim's inspirational speaking skills, he was given the assignment of conducting parish missions locally, throughout the nation and internationally.

In 1999, he was diagnosed with stage-four cancer and spent two years battling the aggressive disease with

many treatments and surgeries. Finally, in the last six months of his life, he surrendered himself to God and found an intimate relationship with Christ and a deep peace.

He was just 50 years old when he died of renal cell cancer on June 24, 2001. During his illness, he wrote a book, *Lessons From the School of Suffering*. In it, he details his struggles, reflections, feelings and prayers during his challenging physical, emotional and spiritual journey. Before his death, Father Jim directed all proceeds from his book to go to the Little Sisters of the Poor.

It is impossible to not feel the raw emotion and humility when hearing Laura talk about her family. Our families often shape the people we become, and it is no surprise that her parents and her brother, along with the rest of her nine siblings, have inspired Laura and Jack to give generously.

In 2009, Jack and Laura opened a donor-advised fund at The Catholic Foundation. They give to many organizations, including, but not limited to, Hope Hollow, Star House and the Little Sisters of the Poor. Laura and Jack especially believe in the mission of Hope Hollow because of Laura's own experience with cancer. In 1998, Laura was diagnosed with breast cancer and underwent surgery, chemotherapy and radiation. Like most survivors, Laura wanted to give back and thought that Hope Hollow, which provides lodging and respite in Columbus for cancer patients and their loved ones, filled a need in our community.

Author Matthew Kelly says, “The good you do will never die. It will live on in other places and times and people. The good you do lasts forever.” For Laura, this sums up her and Jack's life. “Love is eternal. Our love and good works have a lasting positive impact on others and in our world. I can visibly see my parents and brother's faith, joy and love continuing today in the hearts and souls of many people,” she said. “Truly, it is in giving we receive. God will reward us for our generosity here on earth and many times over in heaven. It is an honor, privilege and blessing for Jack and I to give.”

If you would like to open a fund of your own, like the Fishers, visit The Catholic Foundation website at www.catholic-foundation.org.

we're hiring!

The Catholic Foundation is looking for a
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Qualified candidates should submit a resume and cover letter to kshuey@catholic-foundation.org.



To learn more, visit
www.catholic-foundation.org or call 614-443-8893.