

# CATHOLIC TIMES A journal of Catholic life in Ohio

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# HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION 2018

#### May 20, 2018

#### Editor's reflections by Doug Bean

# 2018 graduates are prepared to go forth as good and faithful servants

If the responses of applicants for diocesan awards and scholarships are any indication, the Class of 2018 will be armed with the academic and spiritual tools to succeed in the world.

In an era when surveys indicate young people shun God and church in increasing numbers, this year's Catholic school graduates have an opportunity to buck the trend. We pray that they do.

A handful of the graduates from the 11 Catholic high schools in the Diocese of Columbus are honored in this week's Catholic Times for their scholarship, service and talent. Countless others, whose names won't appear in the newspaper, also deserve praise and recognition just the same. It's an accomplishment to earn a high school diploma.

GPAs, ACTs and SATs are part of the alphabet soup that defines honorees this time of year, but a willingness to live out and share one's faith should be equally important. And it's encouraging to note that the grads seem to understand that.

Most of the recipients and their peers have spent countless hours praying, attending Mass, and devoting service hours in the community to help those in need. Many have been defenders of the unborn through participation in school groups and the annual March for Life. Others have volunteered at school and their parishes.

Take a few more moments to read a sampling of the student testimonies to Catholic education that follow. You'll surely be heartened by their faith.

One of the 2018 award winners, who lost his father to cancer when he was just nine years old, said, "I attribute my successes in overcoming my father's passing to my personal relationship with God and familiarity with my faith which came as a direct result from my priceless Catholic education."

He went on to say, "The largest impact my religious education has had on me is most definitely the opportunity to mature in my relationship with Christ while recognizing his presence in my life. Personally, it was the environment found in my Catholic school that allowed me to do just that. Although daily religion classes have aided me immensely in developing a sound understanding of morality, Church history and the Church teaching themselves, it has been service, our faith put into action, which has established this truly Catholic environment in my high school and in my life today. In my experience, service is not just a service trip here or a fund drive there. On the contrary, it was present every day throughout the school year in some way. This is one of the most unique aspects of my religious education."

Another student said she plans to become actively involved in the Catholic faith community at a public university next year based on her high school experience. "Most importantly, attending a Catholic school has given me the unique opportunities to celebrate the Mass with my classmates and to spend time with them on religious retreats each year. I recognize the presence of Christ in others more and more every day as we grow in holiness and grace together by receiving the sacraments, especially the Eucharist – the source and summit of Catholic life – as one body in Christ.

"My Catholic education has formed my faith beliefs, encouraged me to serve the less fortunate, and allowed me to develop meaningful relationships with other Catholics through the celebration of the sacraments and leadership opportunities – all of which have guided me, and will continue to guide me, in living a life of holiness."

As some students reach the end of their high school years, they realize the blessings of being immersed in a faith-based environment. One student in particular acknowledged that fact. "I know that without Catholic schooling I would not be the young woman I am today. I would not have the connection with my faith as strong as I do today. Between theology classes, school Masses, and retreat opportunities, I have encountered the Holy Spirit numerous times where in a public school I know I would not have had the same experiences. I am very convicted in my faith, and having the knowledge to back everything I believe in up to those who might question me is comforting."

Make no mistake, graduates, there will be challenges to your faith in college or in the workplace. Some will even mock you. The temptation will be there to sleep in on Sunday and skip Mass. You will need to draw upon the values instilled in you to stay devoted and in a state of grace.

You deserve to celebrate your achievements, but remain humble and keep everything in the proper perspective. As one of this year's music scholarship recipients said, "Even though I haven't received that many awards, I feel rewarded every time I get to sing at Mass or at a nursing home."

Congratulations, graduates. Go out and set the world on fire -- and remember to keep the faith.

### **Catholic Times is on summer schedule!**

Things slow down during the summer, and that includes the *Catholic Times*. In June, July and August, we will be publishing every other week. Look for the *Catholic Times* in your mailbox just prior to: **June 3 & 17; July 1, 15 & 29; August 12 & 26. We will return to weekly publication schedule in September.**  Correction - In the April 29 Catholic Times, one of Father William A. Metzger's parish assignments in the Jubilee of Anniversaries was incorrectly listed as Columbus St. Agatha Church. Father Metzger served as pastor at Columbus St. Agnes Church.



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From left) Max Sauer, Lillah Tolbert, Sulimaan Priest and Annie Robinson will be among the 149 graduates in Columbus Bishop Hartley High School's Class of 2018 on Saturday, June 2. Photo by Ken Snow

Front Page photo:



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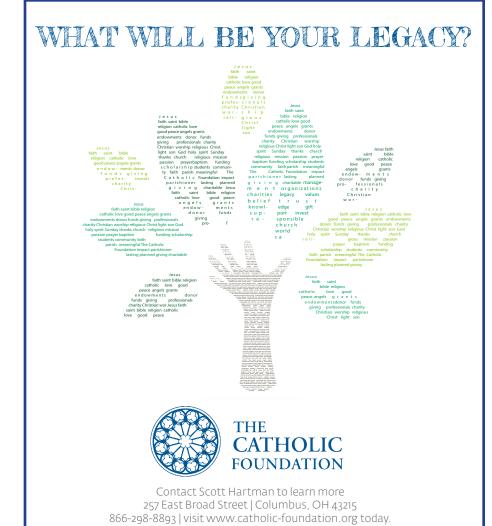
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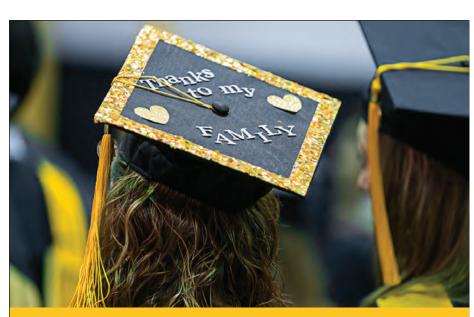
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### **Diocesan Altar Servers Honored**

The annual altar server awards, sponsored by the local chapters of Serra International, a lay organization that promotes vocations to religious life, were presented to 92 young people from across the Diocese of Columbus by Bishop Frederick Campbell after a prayer service on Sunday, May 13, at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.





# Congrats, Class of 2018!

As you celebrate your graduation from high school, we invite you to take the next step in your academic career and faith journey at Ohio Dominican.

There's still time to become an ODU Panther this fall!

Complete our free application. ohiodominican.edu/Apply



UNIVERSITY

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## CATHOLIC EDUCATORS AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS



The Central Ohio Association of Catholic Educators (COACE) presented scholarships to students at its annual Awards Night Prayer Service on Monday, May 7.

The association awarded 20 eighth-grade students a \$500 scholarship to the Catholic high school that they will attend, four high school students a \$1,000 scholarship to their current Catholic school, and three high school seniors a \$1,000 scholarship for their freshman year of college.

The awards night speaker was Sister Margaret Hoffman, OSF. The graduation scholarship for high school seniors was renamed in honor of Sister Margaret for her many years as both an educator and example of faith and service to the Catholic Diocese of Columbus.

Sister Margaret spoke about the virtues of Catholic education and gave practical advice to help the students be successful in the next phase of their education.

The eighth-grade winners were Carlos Mercado of Columbus All Saints Academy, Kidist Endale of Columbus Holy Spirit School, Rosie Kay of Columbus Immaculate Conception School, Elizabeth Pollner of Columbus Our Lady of Peace School, Angel Rivera of Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, Layla Bergman of Columbus St. Agatha School, Bella Matre of Columbus St. Andrew School, Victoria Asiedu of Columbus St. Anthony School, Emily Shoup of Hilliard St. Brendan School, Melanie Hoffman of Columbus St. Catharine School, Anthony Longenette of Columbus St. Cecilia School, Cameryn Williams of Columbus St. James the Less School, Lennon Aldeia of Columbus St. Mary School, Erik Rodriguez of Columbus St. Mary Magdalene School, Nicholas Blausey of Gahanna St. Matthew School, Joseph Behrendt of Columbus St. Matthias School, Gianna Mancini of Worthington St. Michael School, Iris D'Costa of Westerville St. Paul School, Andrew Huffman of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X School, and Marie Grassi of Columbus Trinity Catholic School.

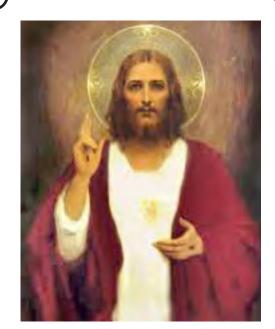
High school winners were Andrew Kraus, Vigo Bertolo, Anne Schnegg, and Anna Turek.

Sister Margaret Hoffman scholarship winners were Matthew Turek, Henry Valachovic, and Stephanie Lubanovic.

#### Photo: Eighth-grade and high school students pose for a photo after receiving scholarships from the Central Ohio Association of Catholic Educators.







First Friday Masses Jn Honor of The Sacred Heart of Jesus 9:00 am, 12:15 pm & 7:00 pm

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

### COMMENCEMENT SCHEDULE FOR DIOCESAN HIGH CHOOLS

**Portsmouth Notre Dame** – Sunday, May 20, 1 p.m., school gymnasium. Graduating seniors: 23. Valedictorian: Joseph Beckett. Salutatorian: Spencer Wilcox. Baccalaureate: Friday, May 18, 7 p.m., Portsmouth Holy Redeemer Church.

Lancaster Fisher Catholic – Sunday, May 20, 2 p.m., school gymnasium. Graduating seniors: 40. Valedictorian: Alex Blackston. Salutatorian: Kiersten Marion. Baccalaureate: Friday, May 18, 7 p.m., Lancaster St. Mark Church.

Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans – Saturday, May 26, 10 a.m., Secrest Auditorium. Graduating seniors: 31. Valedictorian: Gabrielle Labishak. Salutatorian: Allison Losco. Baccalaureate: Friday, May 25, 7 p.m. Zanesville St. Nicholas Church.

**Columbus Bishop Watterson** – Saturday, May 26, 9:30 a.m., school gymnasium. Graduating seniors: 259. Valedictorian: Nathan Altier, Caroline Bechert, Kyle Bower, David Brown, Nina Buoni, Joshua Cho, Grace Demboski, Emily Kring, Abigail Luft, Patrick Mulligan, Colin Murphy, Lauren Nolf, Francesca Passen, James Ryan, Claire Schenk, Maslin Slade, Brenna Smith, John Stimpfl, Julia St. John, Madison Tortora, Zachary Uhazy, Noah Weaver. Baccalaureate: Thursday, May 24, 7 p.m., Powell St. Joan of Arc Church.

**Newark Catholic** – Sunday, May 27, 2 p.m., Midland Theatre, Newark. Graduating seniors: 78. Valedictorians: Elizabeth Ohl, Lauren Riggleman. Salutatorians: Jacob Lumbatis, Emily Nutter, Kal Reed, Preston Roesink. Baccalaureate: Tuesday, May 22, 6 p.m., Newark St. Francis de Sales Church.

**Columbus St. Charles** – Friday, June 1, after baccalaureate, Walter Student Commons. Graduating seniors: 136. Valedictorian: To be announced. Baccalaureate: Friday, June 1, 6:30 p.m., Walter Student Commons.

**Columbus St. Francis DeSales** – Saturday, June 2, 9 a.m., Alumni Stadium. Graduating seniors: 190. Valedictorian: Justin Braun, Diana Brown, Cecilia D'Amico, Abigail Dop, Katie Franzmann, Meredith Gehrlich, Dominic Julian, Jessica Julian, Jonathan Mager, Francesca Marino, Hailey Martin, Kyle Moon, Joseph Paugh, Brian Roach, Taylor Reeg, Daniel Walsh. Baccalaureate: Thursday, May 31, 6 p.m., Westerville St. Paul Church.

**Columbus Bishop Hartley** – Saturday, June 2, 9 a.m., First Church of God. Graduating seniors: 149. Valedictorians: To be announced. Baccalaureate: Friday, June 1, 7 p.m., First Church of God.

**Columbus Bishop Ready** – Saturday, June 2, 10 a.m., school gymnasium. Graduating seniors: 88. Valedictorians: Anthony Baum. Salutatorian: Clay Cutteridge. Baccalaureate: Friday, June 1, 7 p.m., Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic – Sunday, June 3, 1:30 p.m. school gymnasium. Graduating seniors: 30. Valedictorians: Riley Anderson, Patrick Gonano, Regina Gonano, Justin Peltz, Molly Triplett. Baccalaureate: Wednesday, May 16, 6:15 p.m., school chapel.

**Columbus Cristo Rey** – Sunday, June 10, 2:30 p.m., Columbus Athanaeum. Graduating seniors: 72. Valedictorian: Catherine Cottrill. Salutatorian: Katie Taylor. Baccalaureate: Thursday, June 7, 4 p.m., Columbus Holy Cross Church.

### **GRADUATION 2018**

The Class of 2018 at Diocese of Columbus high schools will include 1,096 seniors who are set to graduate in the next three weeks.

The number of graduates from the 11 high schools is up 20 from last year's total.

The first two graduations are to take place Sunday, May 20 at Portsmouth Notre Dame and Lancaster Fisher Catholic high schools. The latest will be Sunday, June 10, when Columbus Christo Rey graduates the second class in school history with 72 seniors. The number of graduates from diocesan high schools range from 23 at Portsmouth Notre Dame to 259 at Columbus Bishop Watterson.

All schools will graduate 100 percent of the enrolled seniors except Bishop Watterson and Christo Rey, where 99 percent and 98 percent will receive diplomas, respectively. The percentage of graduates from diocesan schools who will go on to four-year, twoyear, community colleges or technical colleges in the fall range from 100 percent at Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans and Christo Rey to 90 percent at Newark Catholic and Tuscarawas Central Catholic.

Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School led all diocesan schools in National Merit Scholars with four and in National Merit Commended Scholars with 20. Bishop Watterson followed with one finalist and five commended scholars, Columbus Bishop Hartley and Columbus St. Francis DeSales each with one finalist and three commended scholars, and Columbus Bishop Ready with one commended scholar.

## **TEACHER RECOGNITION**

Sixty-nine teachers and administrators from Columbus diocesan schools who reached service milestones have received service awards from the diocesan Office of Education.

Honored educators and their schools are:

**40 Years** - Catherine Gilbert, Columbus St. Cecilia; Susan O'Donnell, Reynoldsburg St. Pius X; Theresa Wiseman, Reynoldsburg St. Pius X.

**30 Years** - Daniel Bjelac, Columbus Bishop Watterson; Amy Fredrick, Columbus St. Agatha; Jean Garrick, Columbus St. Francis DeSales; David Klemm, Columbus Bishop Watterson; Melinda Martin, Chillicothe Bishop Flaget; Catherine Pintz, Newark St. Francis de Sales; Kathleen Servick, Columbus Bishop Hartley; Sharon Stranges, Columbus St. Catherine; Kathleen Wodarcyk, Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare.

20 Years - Stephanie Backlund, Newark Catholic; Diane Bowling, Columbus Trinity Catholic; Dominic V. Dinovo, Columbus Bishop Hartley; Stephanie Doyle; Columbus Our Lady of Peace and Columbus Trinity Catholic; Lisa Elwell, Newark St. Francis de Sales; Gina Greer, Columbus St. Anthony; Larrie Habel, Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare; Donna Kade, Columbus St. Francis DeSales; Joyce Kemmerly, Worthington St. Michael; William Kinnison, Columbus Bishop Hartley; Kimberly Kirkland, Gahanna St. Matthew; Jamie Kolp, Westerville St. Paul; Randy Kortokrax, Columbus Bishop Hartley; David Lawler, Columbus St. Charles Preparatory; Patricia Love, Dennison Immaculate Conception; Constance Morse, Columbus St. James the Less; Melissa Moses, Lancaster St. Bernadette; Rebecca Petrokubi, Gahanna St. Matthew: William Reed, Columbus

St. Joseph Montessori; John C. Roberts; Columbus Bishop Watterson; Robin Sanders, Lancaster St. Bernadette; Colleen Summanen, Columbus Bishop Watterson; Carolyn Thomas, Columbus St. Joseph Montessori; Debra Valentine, Westerville St. Paul; Theresa Valentine, Westerville St. Paul; Lori Walker, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help; Susan Walsh, Newark St. Francis de Sales; Laura White, Dennison Immaculate Conception; April Wilburn, Columbus Bishop Ready.

10 Years - Tamara Arndt, Worthington St. Michael; Andrea Belt, Columbus St. Francis DeSales; Michelle Benis, Newark Blessed Sacrament; Bradley Burchfield, Columbus Bishop Ready; Jennifer Calvo, Tuscarawas Central Catholic; Ann Hawk, Columbus Bishop Hartley; Andrea Hayson, Columbus St. James the Less; Elizabeth Homon, Columbus St. Charles Preparatory; Megan Isenbarger, Columbus St. Mary Magdalene; Betsy Karas, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help; Christina Kemmerer, Lancaster St. Mary; Christopher Kowalski, Columbus Bishop Hartley; Patricia Lubanovic, Columbus St. Andrew; Linda Marth, Gahanna St. Matthew; Jonathan Medaugh, Zanesville Bishop Fenwick; Teresa Milner, Delaware St. Mary; Gail Murrell, Zanesville Bishop Fenwick; Russell Nelson III, Newark Catholic; Kevin Petrella, Columbus Bishop Hartley; Mary Riesbeck, Gahanna St. Matthew; Michele Sapp, Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare; Sandra Shipley, Hilliard St. Brendan; Andrea Smith, Columbus Immaculate Conception; Rebekah Springer, Columbus Holy Spirit; Molly Whitmer, Hilliard St. Brendan; Sara Williamson, Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul.

## Mass attendance required?/ Questions on a mixed marriage



### QUESTION & ANSWER by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE Catholic News Service

. An elderly woman in our parish has terminal lung cancer. I have seen her condition deteriorate over the last two months. She is no longer driving, is very weak and is now on oxygen full time. I had been helping her to get to church, and the other day she told me that she "goes back and forth" over whether she is still required to attend Sunday Mass.

Out of sympathy, I responded that I thought it would be OK if she did not attend. But now I worry that I may have said the wrong thing. Did I? (City and state withheld)

A. Relax. You gave her the right advice. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says: "The faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants)" (No. 2181).

Note that the catechism does not define the gravity of the illness that would excuse, leaving room instead for the person to make the judgment. If the illness were contagious, or if -- as, it would seem, in this case -- the burdensome condition would preclude a prayerful experience, a person need not (indeed, should not) go to church and would be better off praying at home.

Your friend, though, might feel added comfort if she heard this same advice from a priest. Why not call your pastor and let him know about the woman's situation? He might want to call and assure her that she is not obliged to attend Mass. Even more important, he can visit her, bringing her holy Communion and, perhaps, the anointing of the sick.

. My son was born and raised Catholic, attended Catholic school and received all of his sacraments. Now he is about to marry a very nice Protestant woman. Her cousin is a Protestant minister, and he has been asked to perform the wedding ceremony. I remember that you had recommended that a member of the Catholic clergy also be involved in such a ceremony.

The uncle of their best man happens to be a priest, and my wife and I tried to encourage our son to have that priest participate in the wedding, but unfortunately they said no. What are the long-term ramifications of this? Will their marriage be recognized by the Catholic Church as valid? And if one day they should decide to raise their children Catholic and have them receive the sacraments. will they run into any trouble? (Virginia)

A Catholic priest need not be present at a mixed marriage ceremony in order to have it be recognized as valid by the Catholic Church.

However, your son and his fiancee -- some time prior to the wedding -would need to meet with a Catholic priest to obtain from the diocese the necessary permissions: a) for the marriage to take place in a setting other than a Catholic church; and b) for the officiant to be someone other than a Catholic priest or deacon.

Even if the couple does not choose to do this (the result being that their marriage is not recognized by the church), that does not preclude them from having a child baptized in the Catholic faith -- provided, of course, that they intend to raise the child Catholic. (In the words of Canon 868.1.2 of the church's Code of Canon Law, "there must be a founded hope that the infant will be brought up in the Catholic religion."

Pope Francis in 2009, while still a cardinal in Argentina, was reported to have told an Italian news magazine that "the child has absolutely no responsibility for the state of the parents' marriage. And often a baptism can be a new start for the parents as well."

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

### **KNIGHT OF THE YEAR**



Father Charles Griffin Council 15793 of the Knights of Columbus at Chillicothe St. Peter Church named Bill Clark as its Knight of the Year at the annual banquet on May 6. Other awards were given to Vinz Palisbo as Youth of the Year and Chris and Chantalle Noel as Family of the Year. Pictured (from left) are Council Chaplain Father Michael Hartge, Ellen Clark, Bill Clark, Grand Knight Pat Corcoran, and Deputy Grand Knight Bob Kight.

### Golf outing to raise funds for scholarship

A golf outing to benefit a new scholarship at Walsh University in memory of Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School graduates Michael and Brian Gilchrist is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Saturday, June 9 at Bent Tree Golf Club in Sunbury.

Michael and Brian Gilchrist were 1982 and 1983 graduates of St. Charles Prep who attended Walsh in North Canton and played basketball there. While at St. Charles, the Gilchrists participated in tennis, golf, track, football, and basketball.

The goal is to raise \$30,000 to fully endow the Michael and Bri-

### Monthly Healing Mass at St. Joseph Cathedral

"Mary, Health of the Sick" will be celebrated during the Marian month of May at the next Mass of Healing and healing service at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., on Monday, May 21 at 6:30 p.m.

After Mass, the healing service will begin with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and veneration of relics of the true cross. Each person then will then have an opportunity to speak individually with one of several priests to discuss a particular situation and receive a prayer of healing. The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will also be available.

The healing service will conclude with benediction. an Gilchrist Scholarship that will assist Walsh students for generations to come.

The fee for the four-person scramble is \$100 per golfer. The price includes green fee, cart, range balls, drinks, after-tournament dinner and awards.

There are also sponsorship opportunities that range from \$200 to \$5,000.

For more information, contact Jacqueline Gilchrist at 614-507-8104 or Nate Cooks at 330-353-1670. To register, go to online store at www.benttreegc.com and click on the golf events tab.

All persons who seek Christ's healing are invited, especially those who suffer with physical illness and infirmities, such as cancer and other debilitating diseases and conditions, in addition to those in seek emotional and spiritual healing. All caregivers, family members, and members of the medical community are invited as well.

Bi-monthly healing Masses take place at the Cathedral on the third Monday of the month. The remaining dates for 2018 are July 16, September 17, and November 19.

Secured parking and handicap elevator access to the Cathedral is available. For more information, call 614-224-1295.

### **"PENNIES FOR PATIENTS"**

Students at Columbus Trinity Catholic School participated in "Pennies for Patients" to support the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Theme days included "Pennies by the Pound," "Neon Nickel" Day, "Ten Cent Team Spirit Day," and "Crazy Quarter" Sock Day. The fundraiser concluded with "Stuck for a Buck" in which each dollar earned was turned into a piece of duct tape

used to stick middle school math and science teacher, Joe Wilson, to the wall. A total of \$1,409.66 was raised by the students, with the fifth-graders (pictured) leading the pack.

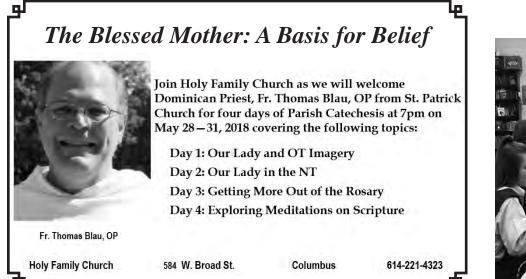






# Bishop Ready athletes to play at next level

Six Bishop Ready High School seniors committed to continue their athletic careers in college at a ceremony in late April. They are (seated, left to right) Charles Omameh (football, University of Findlay), Terron Crowder (football, Bethany College), Brady Thomas (basketball, Mount St. Joseph University), Brenna Forrest (volleyball, Heidelberg University), Jordan Kusan (volleyball, Union College) and Hannah M. Williams (volleyball, Ohio Wesleyan University). They were joined by (standing, left to right) football coach Brian Cross, boys basketball coach Dan DeCrane and volleyball coach Mike Kusan. The six students join three other Ready seniors who made commitments to play softball on the collegiate level in the fall of 2018.



### **Graduating seniors return to Trinity**



**Columbus Trinity Catholic School** held its annual Alumni Breakfast for graduating seniors on April 20. Students (pictured) returned to Trinity from Bishop Watterson, Bishop Ready, St. Charles, Grandview Heights, Metro, Westland, and Hilliard Davidson high schools. The faculty cooked breakfast for the students, and the student body and alumni sang the school song at the start of the day. The seniors visited classrooms speaking to the students about work ethic and the study skills needed to be successful in high school.

# WARD SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Joseph Beckett of Portsmouth Notre Dame High School and Isabella Hoersten of Columbus Bishop Ready High School are the 2018 recipients of the Wendy O. Ward Foundation Memorial Scholarship.

Beckett will receive a \$5,000 scholarship and Hoersten will be awarded \$2,500.



**Joseph Beckett** 

Ward's husband, Chris,

a graduate of Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, established the scholarship in 2015 in memory of his wife, a Hilliard resident, who died of breast cancer on May 18, 2012 after a 10-year career as a writer and public relations consultant.

The scholarship provides for first-year expenses for a graduate of a Columbus diocesan high school who has been involved in school, community, and parish activities and demonstrated academic achievement, particularly in the field of language arts. The recipient is eligible to apply for a renewal award for three subsequent years. The Ward foundation will pay the scholarship money directly to the institution the recipient plans to attend.

Beckett is vice president of his school's Nation-



Isabella Hoersten

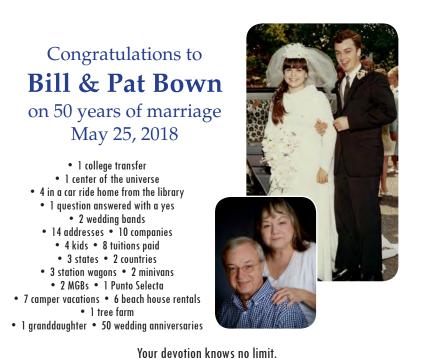
sentative, and received the "Golden Hammer" Outstanding Youth Volunteer Award in the annual Christ the King and St. Catherine Appalachian Project.

He plans to attend the University of Dayton in the fall to study mechanical engineering. He hopes to eventually pursue a master's degree in mechanical engineering with a concentration in aerospace engineering.

Hoersten is the president of the National Honor Society chapter at her school, a member of the board of directors for the St. Vincent de Paul Society, a student council class representative, and a

See SCHOLARSHIP, Page 16





Your example has no equal. Your commitment to each other (and to us whenever we might need it) has no end.

> We love you both with all that we are Andy, John & Cara, Erica, Maryann & Parker







# **The Present Moment**

There is nothing like the present moment. It's right here, right now, and it demands our full attention. I first discovered the spiritual importance of living in the present moment when my husband and I moved to New Hampshire as a young, newly-married couple.

We registered at the Catholic Church in Hampstead, New Hampshire and I'll never forget attending our first social event at St. Ann because we met a very wise priest. He asked us about our lives and we shared all of our plans and goals to start a family, expand our careers and much more.

I will never forget his reply to us. He said these two little words, "Just this." He told us to focus on the here and now, the present moment, whatever was happening right here before us in our lives and to let the future unfold with full trust in God's plans for us.

I admit that sometimes it's easy to do, and sometimes I look ahead or look back too much, so I am renewing my commitment to "Just this."

As you and I seek to become more holy and healthy, these two little words, "Just this" can guide us to move throughout our day, week, month, year and entire life, with the Holy Spirit taking the lead with our hearts, minds and bodies focused on the present moment.

When we replay past events in our minds, with worry or regret, we miss the joys and sorrows of the present moment. We can't change the past anyway, but in our humanness we go there, or perhaps we're

There is nothing like the present moment. It's right led there by the evil one, and what good does that ere, right now, and it demands our full attention. I do for our soul?

If we look ahead to the future, the present moment is sidelined, in fact maligned. Yes, some planning takes place in our lives, but when our future plans overwhelm the present moment, and fill us with unrest and worry, we are not truly lifting our hearts to God and living these words, "Jesus, I trust in you."

We see Jesus teaching us to embrace the present moment in Scripture often. From Matthew 6:34, "Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself. Sufficient for a day is its own evil."

I have discovered that one of the reasons people enjoy exercise is because it forces them to be in the present moment. The do-lists, family concerns, and work struggles are not on one's mind when they are lifting a weight overhead or swinging a kettle bell. That is part of the joy of exercise—being fully present to something that helps us feel better and become physically stronger for the mission God has set before us.

The saints advise us to live in the present moment with trust and a spirit of childlikeness. St. Faustina of Kowalska gave us this beautiful Prayer for the Present Moment which is at my bedside to pray daily:

Oh My God, When I look into the future, I am frightened, But why plunge into the future?

Only the present moment is precious to me. As the future may never enter my soul at all.



### HOLY AND HEALTHY Lori Crock

It is no longer in my power to change, correct or add to the past; For neither sages nor prophets could do that. And so what the past has embraced I must entrust to God.

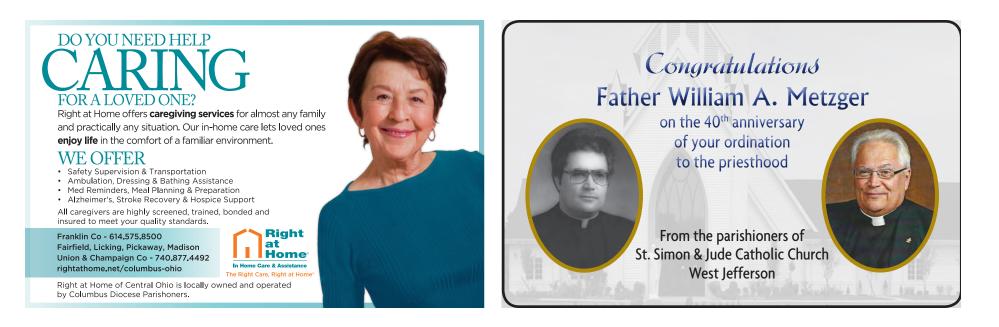
O present moment, you belong to me, whole and entire. I desire to use you as best I can. And although I am weak and small, You grant me the grace of Your omnipotence.

And so, trusting in Your mercy, I walk through life like a little child, Offering You each day this heart Burning with love for Your greater Glory.

~St. Faustina's Diary: Divine Mercy in My Soul, Notebook 1 (1)

I pray that we all discover the treasure of the present moment and that it brings us true joy and peace.

Lori Crock is a parishioner at St. Joseph-Plain City. Lori leads SoulCore Rosary prayer and exercise at parishes, teaches physical strength classes and writes about faith and fitness at holyandhealthycatholic.com.



# BISHOP HERRMANN SERVICE AWARD WINNERS

# **BISHOP HERRMANN SERVICE AWARD**

The 11 winners of the diocese's annual Bishop Herrmann Service Awards for high school students will receive the honor at their respective recognition or graduation ceremonies.

Recipients of the \$100 cash awards are chosen by school administrators and faculty members on the basis of demonstrated commitment to serving others.

The award highlights the importance of the service dimension as an integrated facet of the student's experience. It serves as a reminder of the late Bishop Edward Herrmann's call for service on the part of the community. It also provides an opportunity to recognize students who have benefited from the effort to teach students of Catholic schools the need to serve, as described through the Gospels.

When he retired in 1982, Bishop Herrmann agreed to a testimonial dinner if its proceeds would be given to serve the community. A total of \$22,500 was raised, with \$10,400 going to Operation Feed and the rest set aside as a perpetual fund for the service awards.

Criteria for the selection are based on the theme outlined in Bishop Herrmann's 1982 commencement address at Ohio Dominican College, when he said:

"We have an obligation to be concerned with one another. ... The concern is not just abstract consideration, but something put into action. ... As we look all about us, we see problems with unemployment, war, hunger, injustice, social prejudice, racial discrimination, and others all too well known. We must ask ourselves how we can work together for the advancement of our community, and, for that matter, of the whole world."



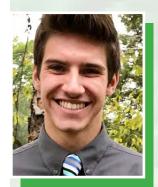
### AUBREY BOLAND

School: Portsmouth Notre Dame Parish: Portsmouth St. Mary National Honor Society; Volunteer for Relay for Life, Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast, SOMC Kidz Camp, Hike for Hospice, TOSRV, St. Mary's International Festival, Ride for Halie, St. Francis Catholic Outreach Center, Pumped on Insulin Day Camp, Southern Ohio Autism Project, Red Cross, Day of the Child, STEM Academy, Hillview Retirement Center, and school events.



### **ADRIENNE FERGUSON**

School: Columbus Bishop Watterson Parish: Columbus Our Lady of Peace Spirit of Service Award; Mission trips to Guatamala; Confirmation Retreat at St.Brigid; Volunteer for Grace Clinic, Northside Fellowship as a Babysitter and for Fiesta Day; Run the Race; Hogar Marina Guirala Orphanage.



### JOSHUA CONTURO

School: Bishop Ready High School Parish: Columbus St. Mary Magdalene Youth to Youth International; Youth staff facilitator at International Summer Conferences, Southern States Conference, Middle School Camps; Ohio Youth-Led Prevention Network Youth Summit; Gold and Silver Service Volunteer Awards; Leadership Training in Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Ann Arbor.



### SAMUEL FRAZIER

School: Lancaster Fisher Catholic Parish: Lancaster St. Bernadette Irish 4 Life Club Secretary; Altar Server; Altar Server of the Year; High Honor Roll; Academic All-League; Shane Roush Award; Soccer Team Captain; School Greenhouse Renovation; Community Service Day.



### CATHERINE COTTRILL

School: Columbus Christo Rey High School Parish: Columbus Holy Spirit

High Honor Roll; Spirituality Award; Art Appreciation Award; Grant Art Show Best in Show; Fifth and Sixth Grade Parish Religious Teacher; Confirmation Class Teacher; Campus Ministry Student Leader; Volunteer at St. Dominic's Family Night Soup Kitchen, Gospel Road, Holy Spirit Vacation Bible School and Choir Child Care.



### **REGINA GONANO**

School: Tuscarawas Central Catholic Parish: Dover St. Joseph National Honor Society; Academic All-Ohio; Class President; Student Council; Mock Trial Outstanding Witness District & Regional; Volunteer for Humane Society, Amberwood Nursing Home, PSR, Share-a-Christmas, Homemade Greeting Cards; School Mass and Parish Teen Choir.



### **KATHERINE KEBE**

*School: Columbus Bishop Hartley Parish: Columbus St. Catherine* Honor Roll; St. Paul's Outreach; Kairos Missions Trips to Agua Prieta; Camp Counselor at People of God Summer Camp; National Federation of Music Clubs Piano Award Winner; Ohio Right to Life.

### **KYLE MOOM**

School: Columbus St. Francis DeSales Parish: Westerville St. Paul President's Volunteer Service Award Gold; National Catholic Educational Association Virtues, Vision, Valor Award; Student Council president; National Honor Society secretary; Co-founder of Corral for the Kids; Chair for Haitian Christmas; Crohn's and Colitis Foundation; Adopt-a-Family Coordinator; Peer Tutor.

### **EMILY NUTTER**

School: Newark Catholic Parish: Newark St. Francis de Sales Christ Witness Award; National Honor Society; Kairos; National Catholic Youth Conference; Altar Server; School Sacristan; Parish Youth Group; School Retreat Student Leader; Assistant to Athletic Director; Volleyball Camp Coach; Summer Gym Student Leader; Volunteer at School Festival, Maennerchor; Art Club; Latin Club; March for Life; Liturgical Choir.



### ELIZABETH WAGNER

School: Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans Parish: Dresden St. Ann Class President; Key Club; Choir; Pep Club; National Honor Society; Top Religion Student Award; House Council Historian; Muskingum County Youth Foundation; Drama Club President; Campus Ministry Retreat Leader; Camp Counselor; Church Cantor; Volunteer for Auction, Church Christmas Decorating, Parish Turkey Dinner.



### CHRISTOPHER WALKER

School: Columbus St. Charles Preparatory Parish: Columbus St. Dominic National Honor Society; My Brother's Keeper president, vice president, tutor; Syntero's Catalyst for Postive Change Award; School Chief Organist; Theatre Piano Accompaniment; Parish Teen Spirit Treasurer; Junior Grand Knight for Peter Claver St. Cyprian Council #298; Parish Lector, Altar Server; Youth Ministry Pianist.

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL AWARD WINNERS!**

# ALL - DIOCESAN ACADEMIC HONOR TEAM MEMBERS



#### **JOSEPH BECKETT**/Portsmouth Notre Dame

Parish: Otway Our Lady of Lourdes

National Honor Society Vice President; Wendy's High School Heisman Representative; Key Club Class Representative; Swimming, Track, Cross Country Co-Captain; SEARCH Leader; Quiz Bowl and Mock Trial Co-Captain; Science Bowl Captain; Eagle Scout; Boy Scouts

of America National Youth Leadership Training and Assistant Patrol Leader. Attending the University of Dayton.



### ALEX BLACKSTON/Lancaster Fisher Catholic

Parish: Lancaster St. Mary of the Assumption Valedictorian; High Honor Roll; National Honor Society; Irish 4 Life Club; Quiz Team State and National Qualifier and State Runner-up; Interact Club; STEM Club President; Baseball; Basketball; Altar Server; 4H Club Vice President; St. Vincent DePaul, Challenger Baseball League Volunteer.

Attending Marietta College.



#### **CLAY CUTTERIDGE**/Columbus Bishop Ready

*Church: London St. Patrick* Salutatorian; National Honor Society Vice President; National Beta Club; St. Vincent de Paul Society Board of Directors; Future Business Leaders of America; Bishop Ready Ambassador; Environmental Club; Senior Retreat Leader; Soccer Team Captain, Second-Team All-

CCL, Coach's and Sportsmanship awards; Track & Field; Run the Race Outreach Center.

Attending Walsh University.



### **CATHERINE COTTRILL**/Columbus Christo Rey

Parish: Columbus Holy Spirit High Honor Roll; Spirituality Award; Art Appreciation Award; Grant Art Show Best in Show; Campus Ministry Student Leader; Parish School of Religion Teacher; Vacation Bible School Leader.

Attending Creighton University.



#### ABIGAIL DOP/Columbus St. Francis DeSales

Parish: Westerville St. Paul National Honor Society; Spanish National Honors Society; AP Scholar; National Merit Scholar; Poetry Out Loud School Champion; Wendy's High School Heisman Representative; Student Council; Student Ambassador; Math Club; Future Medical Professionals; Lacrosse Team

Captain, Second-Team All-Ohio; Soccer; Eucharistic Minister; Peer Minister. Attending The Ohio State University.



#### GABRIELLE LABISHAK/Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans

Parish: Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas National Honor Society; 4.0 Honor Roll; English, Math, Science Outstanding Student Awards; Soccer; Class Officer; Mentor Group Leader; House Captain Understudy; Drama Club Vice President; Pep Club Vice

President; Peer Ministry; Community Youth Foundation; Spanish Club; Mass Choir; School and Community Theatre; Rock Band.

Attending University of Central Florida.



#### **PATRICK MULLIGAN/Columbus Bishop Watterson** Parish: Powell St. Joan of Arc

National Honor Society; National Merit Commended Scholar; Senior Leader; Mock Trial Attorney; Student Council Homeroom Representative; St. Joseph of Arimathea Pallbearer's Society; Baseball; Basketball; Cross Country; Ultimate Frisbee; Kairos Retreat Leader; CCD Teacher.

Attending The Ohio State University.



#### **ELIZABETH OHL**/Newark Catholic

Parish: Granville St. Edward the Confessor

Valedictorian; National Honor Society; A Honor Roll; Christian Witness Award; Scholar-Athlete of the Week; Liturgical Choir; Key Club; Latin Club; Environmental Club; Cabaret; Student Council Vice President and Treasurer; Volleyball Captain; Kairos; March for Life;

Altar Server; Distinguished Young Women of Ohio Award.

#### Attending The Ohio State University.



## **ANTHONY RICAURTE**/Columbus St. Charles Preparatory

Parish: Columbus St. Andrew

National Honor Society; National Merit Commended Scholar; National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholar; National Latin Examination Summa Cum Laude; Golf Captain and Most Valuable Player; Student

Council Representative; Eucharistic Minister; Altar Server; Varsity Engineering Team.

#### Attending University of Notre Dame.



#### ANNIE ROBINSON/Columbus Bishop Hartley

Parish: Reynoldsburg St. Pius X National Honor Society; Honor Roll; Rosary Senior House Captain Leadership Award; Honda-Ohio State STEM Award; Liturgical Minister; Tennis: Diving; Swimming; Cross Country; Girls in Faith Together; Parish Youth Group; Academic Achievement Awards.

Attending Georgia Tech University.



### MOLLY TRIPLETT/Tuscarawas Central Catholic

Parish: New Philadelphia Sacred Heart National Honor Society; Student Council; Buckeye Girls State Delegate; Altar Server; Church Choir; Mock Trial; Prom Committee; Softball All-Eastern District Second Team; Bowling; Volleyball Captain; Student Council; 4-H. Attending The Ohio State University.

Congratulations Students!



# Gertrude Xuehefuhs Music Acholarship

Four students in diocesan schools have been awarded the annual Gertrude C. Kuehefuhs music scholarships.

Outstanding instrumental and choral music students receive the \$250 awards to help them pay Catholic high school tuition or college tuition. Two scholarships are awarded to high school seniors, and the other two go to eighth-graders.

Kuehefuhs was a longtime member of the Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral choir and a teacher of music at The Ohio State University. The awards are made possible from a gift received from her estate.

The winners are:

### High Bchool Snstrumental Music



#### Dominic Polemeni-McGovern

Dominic Polemeni-McGovern, a senior at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, plays trumpet in the marching band, concert band and jazz band and in the pit orchestra for spring musicals. He also plays piano in school bands, with the Columbus Youth Jazz Workshop, and at his parish, Columbus St. Thomas the Apostle Church, while continuing to study piano with a private instructor. As a vocalist, he performs with the school concert choir and the Horizons Liturgical Choir.

Awards include a superior rating in the Ohio Musical Education Association competition, St. Francis DeSales Leadership in Music Scholarship Award, and The Ohio State University Jazz Festival Certificate of Recognition. In addition, he is a member of the National Honor Society, an altar server at St. Thomas the Apostle, an Eagle Scout, and volunteers with the Redbird Books for Prisoners program.

He plans to attend The Ohio State University, where he has been selected for the Advocates for Communities and Education Scholars program, and hopes to become a music educator.

### High School Choral Music



#### Lauren Riggleman

Lauren Riggleman, a senior at Newark Catholic High School, is a soprano who has performed the lead role in school musicals the past three years and has been involved in numerous musical activities in and out of school, including the lead soprano for the school liturgical choir. He has sung the national anthem at many school sporting events and has been been a soloist with the Otterbein University Honors Choir, a contest finalist in Voice 4 Columbus' Harmony Project and in

Voice of the City. She also has studied voice and piano with private instructors, working on classical and musical theatre literature. Outside of music, he is a member of the National Honors Society, Student Council, Key Club, and Drama Club, participates in the Kairos Retreat and Camp O'Bannon, has earned letters in three sports, and is a youth group leader at Newark St. Francis de Sales Church.

She plans to attend Case Western Reserve University or Bowling Green State University to study communications sciences and disorders and possibly pursue a double major or minor in vocal music.

# Elementary Snstrumental Music



Anna Benkis, an eighth-grader at Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, plays trumpet in the school band and also is a member of the Drama Club, Legacy Leaders, Student Ambassadors, and the school choir, which performs at community events. She was chosen to play Taps at an all-school assembly for Veteran's Day and has provided trumpet accompaniment at Christmas and Easter Masses. She is currently taking

piano lessons and hopes to learn to play other instruments. Outside of music, she is an altar server at her parish and involved with the LifeTeen Youth Group and Alpha Youth. She volunteers in the parish as a babysitter and with Vacation Bible School, and at the Grove City Public Library with the Summer Reading Program.

She plans to attend Columbus Bishop Ready High School this fall.

# Elementary Choral Music

#### Cassie Benkis

Cassie Benkis, an eighth-grader at Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, is a soprano in the middle school choir who has performed several solos at Mass and at community events. She also has been involved in musical theater for four years. She takes voice and guitar lessons, and plays three instruments. In addition to her musical activities, she is president of the Student Council and a member of Student Ambassadors, Legacy Leaders, and Bible Study. One of three

triplets, she is an altar server and participates in LifeTeen Youth Group, Alpha Youth, Alpha Daycare, and Vacation Bible School.

This fall, he plans to attend Columbus Bishop Ready High School.



### **Congratulations to all students**

## Pentecost Sunday - Cycle B **Overcoming fear with faith**

#### Acts 2:1-11

### Psalm 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25 Gospel: Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

#### **By Jem Sullivan**, *Catholic News Service*

Fear is a powerful human emotion that shapes our actions and words. A young man named Karol Wojtyla experienced firsthand the deep fear of his community as Poland endured the inhumanity of the Nazis during World War II. He belonged to a local theater group whose members were forced to go underground as the Nazis occupied their city.

One clandestine theater performance was particularly memorable as the young actors gathered, in secret, in a dark room lit only by a single candle, with no stage props and curtains drawn tight to muffle the sound of their voices. In the street below, they could hear Nazi soldier patrols blasting propaganda over crackling loudspeakers to instill fear in the hearts and minds of the people.

The young actors continued with their recitation of Polish poetry in the conviction that their secret performance was a form of cultural resistance that was keeping alive the religious and cultural history of Poland. The young man, Karol, went on to answer the Lord's call to the priesthood and would, in time, be called to serve as bishop of Krakow.

Decades later, Karol was elected to the papacy, taking the name John Paul II. In his inaugural homily as pope, spoken on a world stage, he said, "Do not be afraid! Open wide the doors for Christ."

In today's Gospel, the disciples remained in deep fear after Jesus' death on the cross. They stayed behind locked doors for fear of religious authorities, expecting the same fate as their master. It was at this moment of utter fear and isolation that Jesus appears to the disciples, saying to them, "Peace be with you." Then Jesus shows them his hands and his side, the unmistakable signs of his self-giving love in his death on the cross.

The disciples' fear turns to rejoicing at the presence of the Lord. And when Jesus breathes on them, bestowing on them the gift of the Holy Spirit, they leave behind the chains of fear and become bold witnesses to faith.

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Blessed Trinity, the love of the Father and the Son whose presence sanctifies and vivifies the church in every age. At Pentecost the entire church receives the Holy Spirit that Jesus first promised to his disciples.

Today, that same Holy Spirit is offered as gift to every disciple of Jesus so we might face and overcome the fears, anxieties and worries of life. In the power of the Holy Spirit we are strengthened to replace fear with faith and exchange the anxieties and worries of daily life with trust in God.

The Holy Spirit invites us today and every day to leave behind our fears and live in the freedom of friendship with Jesus, as we say in faith, "speak to me, Lord."

#### **Reflection Ouestion:**

What do Jesus' words, "Peace be with you," mean to you today?

Sullivan is secretary for Catholic education of the Archdiocese of Washington.

### Women's Day of Reflection at St. Therese Retreat Center

The Catholic Laywomen's Retreat League's Day of Recollection for Women is scheduled for Friday, June 1 at St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., in Columbus.

The retreat is one day only from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This is not a silent retreat, but participants will have time for quiet reflection and personal prayer that is intended to deepen their spiritual life.

Mark Butler, the education resource coordinator for the Dominican Sisters of Peace, will present reflections on "Truth, Justice, and the Pursuit of Happiness" using the beatitudes as a guide while exploring how the pursuit of truth and justice in the world today can lead to happy and peace-filled lives.

Butler has spent 20 years in religion education and youth ministry on the local and diocesan levels. He holds a bachelor's degree in religion and a master's in theological studies. A parent of two

young adults with disabilities, Butler advocates for the rights of parents and youth with disabilities in Ohio. He and his wife, Susan, are members of Columbus Holy Spirit Parish.

Registration is from 9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on the day of the retreat. Coffee/tea and light snacks will be available. Welcome remarks will precede the first conference, which will begin at 9:30 a.m., followed by silent individual reflection. Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m.

After lunch, time will be allotted to enjoy the grounds at St. Therese's. A second conference will begin at 1:15 p.m. That will be followed by group discussion (or silent personal reflection). The day closes at 2:45 p.m. with the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

A \$25 offering is requested. For questions and registration information, contact Terry Norris as soon as possible at 614-595-1972 or via email at norris.m@sbcglobal.net

### The Weekday Bible Readings

5/21-5/26 MONDAY Genesis 3:9-15, 20 Psalm 87:1-2. 3. 5. 6-7 Pslam 111:1-2, 5-6, 9, 10c John 19:25-34 TUESDAY James 4:1-10 Psalm 55:7-8, 9-10a, Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 10b-11a, 23 Mark 9:30-37 WEDNESDAY James 4:13-17 Psalm 49:2-3, 6-7, 8-10, 11 Mark 9:38-40 THURSDAY James 5:1-6 Psalm 49:14-15ab, 15cd-16, 17-18, 19-20 Mark 9:41-50

FRIDAY

James 5:9-12

Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8-9,

11-12

Mark 10:1-12

SATURDAY

James 5:13-20

Psalm 141:1-2, 3, 8

Mark 10:13-16

Psalm 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 Mark 10:32-45 THURSDAY Zephaniah 3:14-18a or Romans 12:9-16 Isaiah 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 Luke 1:39-56

5/28-6/2

MONDAY

1 Peter 1:3-9

Mark 10:17-27

TUESDAY

1 Peter 1:10-16

Mark 10:28-31

WEDNESDAY

1 Peter 1:18-25

FRIDAY 1 Peter 4:7-13 Psalm 96:10, 11-12, 13 Mark 11:11-26

SATURDAY Jude 17, 20b-25 Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6 Mark 11:27-33

#### DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND **TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE** WEEKS OF MAY 20 & 27. 2018

SUNDAY MASS 10:30 a.m. Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com. Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 7:30 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus. and 10:30 a.m. on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18, Zanesville. Check local cable system for cable channel listing. Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Spectrum Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or WOW Channel 378). (Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight). Mass from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 6:30 a.m. on ION TV (AT&T U-verse Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirecTV Channel 305). Mass from Massillon St. Mary Church at 10:30 a.m. on WILB radio (AM 1060, FM 94.5 and 89.5), Canton, heard in Tuscarawas, Holmes, and Coshocton counties.

#### DAILY MASS

8 a.m., Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Birmingham, Ala. (Encores at noon, 7 p.m. and midnight). See EWTN above; and on I-Lifetv (Channel 113 in Ada, Logan, Millersburg, Murray City and Washington C.H.; Channel 125 in Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown and New Philadelphia; and Channel 207 in Zanesville); 8 p.m., St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

> We pray Week III and IV, Seasonal Proper of the Liturgy of the Hours

# The Holy See, China and evangelization

In a recent interview, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Secretary of State of the Holy See, suggested that certain critics of a deal between the Vatican and the People's Republic of China were misconstruing the Holy See's motivations: "There are those who've accused us of only wanting diplomatic relations as a sign of some sort of success. But the Holy See, as the pope has said many times, is not interested in It's just possible that, among other things, His Eminence had in mind an online article I published at Foreign Policy.com this past February. There, I argued that the decades-long passion of some Vatican diplomats for securing diplomatic relations with the PRC reflected an outmoded view of the Holy See's role in world affairs, in which the Vatican is imagined to be a third-tier power trying to punch above its weight (as the cardinal secretary of state of Pius VII, Ercole Consalvi, did at the Congress of Vienna in 1815). That is no longer the case, I suggested, for the only real power the Holy See can deploy in 21st-century world politics is the power of moral witness and argument. That moral authority is compromised, and the life of the Church under totalitarian or authoritarian regimes is weakened, when deals are made by the Vatican that concede far too much authority in Church affairs to communist regimes. Which is what happened under the so-called Ostpolitik of Pope Paul VI and Archbishop Agostino Casaroli: a policy of accommodation that led to grave problems for the Church in Hungary and Czechoslovakia and caused unnecessary headaches for the Church in Poland in the 1960s and 1970s, before the Ostpolitik was effectively jettisoned by the most geopolitically consequential pope in cenSo



the issue here is not an untoward eagerness for diplomatic success; the issue is one of confusing diplomatic accomplishment with evangelical achievement. And that gets me to the oft-repeated nub of my critique of the putative deal between the Vatican and the People's Republic of China: any arrangement by which the Chinese communist authorities are conceded a significant role in the appointment of Catholic bishops will weaken the Church's evangelical possibilities — today, and especially in the China of the future. Kowtowing to communists is bad for achieving a full reconciliation among the currently divided factions in the Catholic Church in China. But first and foremost, it is bad for mission and evangelization, now and in the future.

I am skeptical of the claim, often heard in Vatican circles, that China will inevitably become the lead power in the world. Yes, China has made enormous strides economically since Deng Xiaoping abandoned Maoist economic madness and unleashed the creativity of the Chinese people. Yes, the Chinese model of efficient authoritarianism is now a serious competitor to democracy. And yes, the communist regime's claim to have restored the Middle Kingdom's dignity after a century of quasi-colonial degradation has significant appeal among Han Chinese (if not among Tibetans and the Uighurs of Xinjiang). But the one-child policy that China brutally enforced for decades has created serious demographic and social problems; there's little in the way of a social safety net for an increasingly elderly Chinese population; and it seems unlikely that today's restraints on free expression in China will be tolerated indefinitely by a rapidly growing middle class.

The communist regime in China is inherently unstable, despite what appears on the surface to be a successful, alternative model of development. Chinese communism will not rule China forever. And when a post-communist China finally opens itself fully to the world, China will become the greatest field of Christian mission since the Europeans came to the western hemisphere in the 16th century.

A Catholicism that has become identified with a discarded communist regime, because the Vatican once conceded the communists a significant role in the Church's internal life, will be at a grave evangelical disadvantage in the post-communist China of the future, where evangelical Protestants and Mormons will be very, very active. And that evangelical concern, I would respectfully remind Cardinal Parolin, has long been the core of my argument against granting the Chinese communist regime a significant role in the choice of bishops.

Or to quote Pope Francis, any such deal would be an impediment to living out the Holy Father's vision of "a Church permanently in mission."

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

# 'Do this in memory of me'

#### By Father Curtiss Dwyer/Catholic News Service

Our Memorial Day was originally known as "Decoration Day," an opportunity to decorate many graves of the over 600,000 men who died in the Civil War. It was, by far, our nation's costliest war in terms of human life, about 2 percent of the entire population. Today, that would translate into 6.5 million people. Memorial Day honors all who have died in military service to our country since its inception.

But why should we, as a nation and as Catholics, remember something so ... grim?

It was September 2006. The rooftop was sweltering. Three U.S. Navy SEALs were in an "overwatch" position on a Ramadi home with two Iraqi soldiers. It had been an eventful morning, but it was quiet at the moment. From below, without warning, someone lobbed a grenade. It bounced off Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael A. Monsoor's chest, then clattered on the deck. Penned together, all five were easy prey for the grenade's deadly spray of shrapnel. At point-blank range, it couldn't miss.

Monsoor yelled, "Grenade!" and made a snap de-

cision that would mark him for all time. He flung himself onto the device, smothering it with his torso, just in time to absorb the blast. The result was predictable; he lived only 25 minutes before dying of his injuries. His companions escaped with only scratches and minor wounds.

Because of the configuration of the rooftop, only one of the five men had a pathway of escape, had he chosen to use it: Yes, Michael Monsoor. For his stunningly self-sacrificial action, he received the Medal of Honor, our nation's highest military honor, posthumously. As is written in his official Navy Summary of Action, "Monsoor's actions that day could not have been more selfless or clearly intentional."

I tell recently commissioned Catholic Marine officers the story of this heroic Navy SEAL. And I ask them who, further back in history, perfectly embodied a sacrifice that "could not have been more selfless or clearly intentional." The answer of course: Jesus Christ. What Our Lord did to save us could not have been more selfless or clearly intentional.

"Do this in memory of me" (1 Cor 11:24).



Parishioners pray the rosary near the grave of a Civil War soldier at St. James at Sag Bridge Parish in Lemont, Illinois, after a Mass in celebration of Memorial Day. CNS photo/Karen Callaway, Catholic New World

We know from his official biography that Michael Monsoor "devotionally" attended Catholic Mass prior to his missions. Apparently, he was a man who intentionally sought to integrate his faith with his daily life of military service. How many times did he hear the words following the consecration, "Do this in memory of me"?

# Pray for our dead

BANKS, Ida Ellen (Cronin), 85, May 6 St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

CLARK, Willard "Rex," 91, May 7 St. Ladislas Church, Columbus

DURY, Agmes (Strapp), 97, May 9 Our Lady of Peace, Columbus

HORD, Kathleen "Katie," 85, May 7 St. Matthias Church, Columbus

LYNCH, Rita B., 95, May 9 St. Elizabeth Church, Columbus

MILLER, Tom, 83, May 10 St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

NADALIN Sr., Richard R., 93 St. Cecilia Church, Columbus

PETTENSKI Jr., Louis, 90, May 9 Our Lady of Lourdes, Marysville

MEMORIAL DAY, continued from Page 15 -

How deeply was this Scripture etched in his mind and memory as he went about his dangerous duties? What did it mean to him? Jesus uttered these words at the Last Supper before his own stunningly self-sacrificial action on the cross. Did Monsoor make this profound connection?

It is inconceivable that those who survived the rooftop blast would forget Monsoor's sacrifice. Their very lives are a testament to what he did to save them. Likewise, the church's entire devotional life is about remembering -- calling to mind some aspect of the paschal mystery, meditating upon it, being present to it, making it present to us.

Each time we devoutly pray the rosary or walk the Stations of the Cross, for example, we are stirring into fresh awareness what Jesus did to save us. Even more so, at Mass, his sacrifice is actually made present to us. Our faith is fed by remembering, calling to mind, what Jesus specifically did.

The freedom and salvation we know as Catholic Christians are clearly traceable to a specific choice made by a man in sacrificing himself (Jn 10:18), just as the SEALs who escaped the otherwise-deadly blast that day on the rooftop are alive today because of a specific choice of a man to sacrifice himself.

Memorial Day is an opportunity, as

PETTY, Thomas, 97, May 12 St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus

QUIGLEY, Kyle, 37, May 4 St. Christopher Church, Columbus

SAMMONS, Richard, 73, May 12 St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus

SAUER, Joseph W., 77, May 9 St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus

STOKES, Karen, 66, May 5 Our Lady of Peace Church, Columbus

TIBERI, JoAnn, 88, May 8 St. Anthony Church, Columbus

VICKERSTAFF-CHERRY, 55, May 6 Resurrection Cemetery, Lewis Center

a nation, to remember and appreci-

ate those who have died so that we

might live ... freely. The civil bless-

ings of stability, prosperity and free-

dom we enjoy are a testament to the

price they paid. As Catholics, we re-

member those who have gone before

and pray for their souls. I, like many

priests on Memorial Day, will offer

Mass for the repose of those who

have died in service to our great na-

tion. Honoring the fallen is import-

ant for us sinners who tend to take

But maybe most important of all,

Memorial Day can nspire us to the

greatest thing of which we are capa-

ble, by God's grace: sacrificial love.

In remembering what Our Lord did, what all his saints have done in mem-

ory of him, and what others such as

Michael Monsoor have done, we are

reoriented to what life is really all

about. We are more likely, in our turn,

to love someone at our expense. At

its best, Memorial Day is a civil and military echo of a profound theologi-

cal truth: that God, "who is love" (1

Jn 4:8), sacrificed himself so that we

And Our Lord says to each of us:

Father Curtiss Dwyer, a priest of

the Archdiocese of Denver, is a U.S.

Navy chaplain assigned to the Ma-

might live (1 Pt 2:24).

"Do this in memory of me."

rines in Quantico, Virginia.

our blessings for granted.

WOODRUFF, Cathleen, 62, May 7 Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

### **Timothy Harildstad**

Funeral Mass for Timothy Harildstad, 64, who died Sunday, May 6, was held Friday, May 11 at Gahanna St. Matthew Church. Burial was at Holy Cross Cemetery.

He was born on December 31, 1953 in Carrington, North Dakota to Victor and Geneva Harildstad. He was a priest in the Diocese of Columbus and then became a prosecutor in Franklin County Municipal Court. He also

#### SCHOLARSHIP, continued from Page 8

volleyball team captain. She also serves as a Student Ambassador, a student leader for class retreats, a mission trip speaker for her Catholic youth group, a food bank and soup kitchen volunteer, and a lector at Mass. She is a National Merit Commended Scholar and has received academic awards at Bishop Ready and a Community Excellence Award as well as National Beta Club and Buckeye Girls State recognition.

She will attend Miami University in Oxford, Ohio in the fall to major in Biology and pursue a minor in professional writing. She has been selected as a Writing Scholar in Mipracticed criminal law and worked as a magistrate in Franklin County Common Pleas Court.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother. Survivors include his wife, Betsy Briggs Harildstad, son, Kyle Harildstad, daughter, Rachel (Erick Gampp) Harildstad, and sisters, Victoria (Bill) McCurley, Helen (Sam) Breuer, and Peggy (Randy) Dahlen.

ami's University Scholars Program. Her career goals are to become a genetic counselor.

Ward, a graduate of Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and the University of Dayton, was grateful for her Catholic education and always said she counted herself lucky to have the opportunity in her career to do something not all English majors can – to use her skills and write every day for her company, Constructive Communications, Inc., where she was vice president. Her husband and children, Caroline and Jack, hope the scholarship will help provide others with the same opportunity.



614-372-5249

### HAPPENINGS

# CLASSIFIED

#### AL ROEHRENBECK Lawn Cutting, Plants & Bushes Ornamentals ZIP CODES: 43209, 27, 32 CALL (614) 783-9649

#### Annual Food Truck Festival Friday, May 25, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. ALL SAINTS ACADEMY SCHOOL 2855 E. LIVINGSTON AVE. A variety of popular Food Trucks along with music, entertainment, face-painting, beer and other fun activities. Popcorn and tasty dessert treats available.

**Great family fun for everyone!** 

# MAY

#### 17, THURSDAY

### Faith and Culture Lecture Series at Jubilee Museum 7 p.m., The Jubilee Museum, 57 S. Grubb St., Columbus.

Father Thomas Blau, OP, will present "Jewels in Her Crown: Is Devotion to Mary Biblical?"

#### 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.

All fund-raising events (festivals, bazaars, spaghetti dinners, fish fries, bake sales, pizza/sub sales, candy sales, etc.) will be placed as a Classified Ad. An entry is \$18.50 for the first six lines and \$2.65 for each additional line. For more information, call Doug Bean at 614-224-6530.

#### 'Happenings' submissions

Notices for items of Catholic interest must be received at least 12 days before expected publication date. We will print as space permits. Items not received before the deadline may not be published. Listings cannot be taken by phone. Mail to: The Catholic Times Happenings, 197 East Gay St., Columbus, OH 43215 Fax to: 614-241-2518 E-mail as text to tpuet@columbuscatholic.org

#### Holy Hour at Holy Family

6 to 7 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

#### Abortion Recovery Network Group

7 to 8 p.m., Gateway Center, 2670 N. Columbus St., Lancaster. 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

#### Eucharistic Holy Hour at Sacred Heart

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

614-372-5249

#### 17, FRIDAY Annual Corcoran Awards luncheon

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., COSI, 333 W. Broad St., Columbus. St. Vincent Family Center's annual awards luncheon honors community difference-makers and highlights the center's work with children and families.

614-252-0731 ext. 1132

614-512-3731

#### 19, SATURDAY Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City

9 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave., Plain City. Saturday Life and Mercy Mass, followed by rosary and confession.

#### Free Legal Immigration Consultations

10 a.m., Our Lady of Guadalupe Center, 409 Industry Drive, Columbus. Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. in partnership with Catholic Social Services will offer free legal help and answer questions related to immigration status.

#### Centering Prayer Group Meeting at Corpus Christi

10:30 a.m. to noon, Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Centering prayer group meeting, beginning with silent prayer, followed by Contemplative Outreach DVD and discussion.

Pentecost Vigil Mass

7 p.m., St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd. Columbus. Rosary, contemporary praise and worship before Mass at 8:15 p.m. and fellowship afterward. Sponsored by the Columbus Catholic Renewal. 614-500-8178

#### 20, SUNDAY

#### Blessing of St. Gerard Majella at Holy Family

After 11 a.m. Mass, Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Blessing of St. Gerard Majella, patron of expectant mothers, for all women who are pregnant or wish to become pregnant. 614-221-1890

Angelic Warfare Confraternity at Columbus St. PatrickFollowing noon Mass, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. GrantAve., Columbus. Monthly meeting of Angelic WarfareConfraternity, with talk on chastity-related issues fol-lowed 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

1:30 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

#### 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 general meeting, ongoing formation and fellowship. 614-895-7792

#### Polish Mass at Holy Family

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

#### Taize Evening Prayer at Corpus Christi

4 to 5 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Evening Prayer in the style and spirit of the Taize monastic community, with song, silence, and reflection. 614-512-3731

#### Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King

5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching. 614-237-0401

#### Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter

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

#### 21, MONDAY

#### Mass of Healing at St. Joseph Cathedral

6:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Mass of healing and healing service will be followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and veneration of reliics from the true cross. All are invited. 614-224-1295

#### Columbus Frasatti Society Mass and a Meal

7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Mass celebrated by Father Charles Shonk, OP, followed by pizza.

#### 22-23, TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY Trauma-Informed Care Summitt

Residence Inn by Marriott, 3100 Olentangy River Rd., Columbus. Presenters at the conference sponsored by Ohio Mental Health & Addiction Services include Father Jeff Putthoff, SJ, founder and former executive director of Hopeworks.

#### 24, THURSDAY

#### Columbus Frasatti Christ in the City

7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Eucharistic adoration, confessions, Taize chant and Dominican compline followed by fellowship at Claddagh Irish Pub.

#### Foster parents informational meeting

6:30 p.m., St. Vincent Family Center, 1490 E. Main St., Columbus. Informational meeting on becoming a foster parent. 614-252-0731

#### Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King

5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching. 614-237-0401

#### 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.

#### 26, SATURDAY Rite of Ordination

#### of Ordination

10 a.m., St. Paul the Apostle Church, 313 N. State St., Westerville. Brett Garland, Thomas Herge, Todd Lehigh, Edward Shikina and Christopher Tuttle will be ordained to the sacred priesthood for the Diocese of Columbus by Bishop Frederick Campbell. Light reception to follow in the parish activity center.

#### 27, SUNDAY

#### Reception for Msgr. Patrick Gaughan

After 10:15 a.m. Mass, St. Pius X Church, 1051 Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Reception to celebrate Msgr. Patrick Gaughan's 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.

#### 28, MONDAY

#### Bethesda Post-Abortion Healing Ministry

6:30 p.m., support group meeting, 2744 Dover Road, Columbus (Christ the King convent, first building west of the church).

614-718-0277, 614-309-2651, 614-309-0157 Our Lady of Peace Men's Bible Study

7 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus. Bible study of Sunday Scripture readings.

#### 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

# JUNE

#### 1, FRIDAY

#### Catholic Laywomen's Retreat League

9 a.m. to 3 p.m., St. Therese Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Mark Butler, education resource coordinator for the Dominican Sisters of Peace, will present "Truth, Justice, and the Pursuit of Happiness." Prayer, reflection, group discussion. 614-595-1972 Catholic Men's Club Luncheon

St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Mass at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch and talk by Deacon Chris Campbell, principal at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School, on Catholic education.

#### St. Cecilia Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

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

#### Monthly Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

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

#### First Friday Masses at Holy Family

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

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



#### **BY AARON LEVENTHAL**

Recently my wife Beth and I toured Spain's Basque Country, nestled in the Pyrenees Mountains with 100 miles of Atlantic coastline. This northeastern corner of the Iberian Peninsula has a population of roughly 2 million in an area about half the size of Connecticut.

During our week-long stay we encountered a gracious, industrious and friendly people who had been isolated from the rest of Europe for more than 10,000 years and today proudly

maintain their original language (Euskara) and traditional culture as they successfully navigate the com-

plex realities of the 21st century. It is a region of incredible natural beauty with a lush, green landscape that surrounds ancient villages and vibrant cities. By the end of our visit, we had become captivated by the gastronomic and artistic passion we observed from





Catholic Travel

the smallest hamlets to the most popular visitor destinations.

For more than 1,000 years the Basques have exhibited immense love and passion for their food and drink. It serves as the foundation for their ancient culture and personal lives.

#### Photos/clockwise:

The 18th century Basilica Santa Maria de Coro is in the heart of San Sebastian's "Parte Vieja" (Old Town) surrounded by small shops and cafes

An intimate passageway connects the 14th century Cathedral Santiago to its serene cloister gardens

The Guggenheim Museum Bilbao, designed by American architect Frank Gehry, and Jeff Koons' floral Puppy sculpture have become iconic symbols of the city's cultural metamorphosis

They are committed to purchasing and cooking only the freshest and finest local ingredients from the land and sea. In fact, Basque Country has one of the highest concentrations of Michelin starred chefs in the world, and in 2017 it was recognized as the "world's best culinary destination."

Both the locals and acclaimed chefs begin their preparation by shopping in the colorful municipal markets, where dozens of vendors are selling fresh produce, meats, fish, seafood and wines.

See BASQUE, Page 19







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Photos/from left: Travel writer Aaron Leventhal and guide Unai Manzanos enjoy pintxos (tapas) at the historic Victor Montes bar and restaurant in Old Town; Public markets throughout Basque Country offer fresh local produce, meats, fish and seafood

BASQUE, continued from Page 18 -

At La Ribera in Bilbao and Mercado de la Bretxa and San Martin in San Sebastian, traditional ingredients for Basque dishes include cod, sea bass, tuna, sardines, hake, mackerel, anchovies, virgin olive oil, Iberra peppers, truffles, leeks, mushrooms, potatoes and hazelnuts, as well as Rioja wines and apples for traditional cider. A visit to a public market is a delight for the senses.

Pintxos (tapas) are at the heart of Basque cooking and the soul of Basque social, cultural and personal lives. Consisting of a slice of bread with a miniature portion of food, these morsels come in hundreds of tasty variations. Our guides Unai Manzanos (www.linkedin.com/in/unai-manzanos-73779b4/) in Bilbao and Lourdes Gorrino (lourdes.g@gmex. es) in San Sebastian introduced us to the custom of txikitco, or bar hopping, and it turned out to be a highlight of our trip.

In hundreds of cozy neighborhood bars throughout the region, both at lunchtime (noon-4 pm.) or dinner (8-11 p.m.), small groups of friends or family members of every imaginable background engage in an exclusively Basque tradition. They converse, laugh and sometimes sing as they down two or three pintxos selected from a large platter on the bar's counter and wash the food down with white wine or zurita (small beers) before moving on to the next bar. This will continue for three to five stops. Favorites include the Gilda, with spicy chili peppers, olives and anchovies; goat's milk cheese with ham; and flaky pastry stuffed with cod.

Founded as a city state on the banks of the Nevion River in 1300, **Bilbao**, has a metropolitan population of 1 million, nearly half the total population of the Basque Country. Since the 15th century it had been a major trading harbor, emerging in the 19th century as a Spanish powerhouse with steel mills, shipbuilding yards and chemical plants dominating the skyline. The Spanish Civil War in the 1930s ultimately led to four decades of economic collapse.

In the 1990s, a group of city government leaders dedicated to urban redevelopment solicited the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation and generated \$100 million to build the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao. Designed by noted American architect Frank Gehry and opened in 1997, the avant garde masterpiece now draws more than a million visitors annually and has elevated Bilbao as an international arts destination. We went to Bilbao largely to see the Guggenheim, but quickly came to appreciate that the city has much more to offer.

In addition to the Guggenheim, there are more than a dozen intriguing museums, including the Museo des Bellas Artes, with a large collection of Basque artists' works from the 13th century to the present; the Diocesan Museum of Sacred Art, with the largest collection of religious art in Spain; and the Ria de Bilbao Maritime Museum, which traces the culture and maritime traditions of the region.

Most Bilbaoans live secular lives, but their churches continue to be venerated

for their history and majesty, which will intrigue and inspire the Catholic traveler. The Gothic Cathedral Santiago, built in 1370 honoring the city's patron saint James the Greater, has intimate passageways to its serene cloister gardens; the octagonal 14th century Church of San Nicolas de Bari was renovated in the 18th century with a wooden altar and sculptures by Juan de Mena; the 17th century Church of San Anton has a Renaissance porch and 18th century Baroque bell tower; and the Basilica of Santa Mariafeatures a mixofGothic and Renaissance styles.

Our guide Unai Manzanos told us there are more than 300 bars, restaurants and cider houses in the Old Town, and this is the best place for both locals and visitors to go for dining and entertainment. His favorite places for pintxos include Cafe Bar Bilbao, famous for its cod in pil-pil sauce; Victor Montes, one of the oldest and most famous pintxos bars; and Gure Toki for hot pintxos, including risotto and grilled scallops. Favorite restaurants serving traditional fare include Amboto, Mandoya, Sidreria Arriaga (cider house), Porrue and Serantes.

We enjoyed our stay at the Miro Hotel, across from the Guggenheim. (www. mirohotelbilbao.com). The stylish boutique hotel is moderately priced with breakfast included and you can't beat the location, steps away from the tram line and a block from Le Cafe at the Gran Hotel Domine, with a relaxed atmosphere and classic Basque dishes.



20 Catholic Times



The seaside resort community of San Sebastian features beautiful beaches, historic architecture, world famous gastronomy and a warm and hospitable Basque community



Aaron and Beth Leventhal (above) enjoy sightseeing in the Basque seaside villages



The historic fishing village and port of Pasaia is filled with outstanding traditional restaurants, including Casa Camara, family-owned and operated since 1884

#### BASQUE, continued from Page 19

A short drive southeast of Bilbao took us to Vitoria, the capital of the Basque Country with a well-preserved Medieval Quarter. Of note is the 14th century Cathedral de Santa Maria at the summit of the Old Town; Artium, a repository of distinguished contemporary art; and the Bibat, a 16th century palace now serving as an archaeological museum with a fascinating playing card collection.

**San Sebastian** (Donostia), an internationally acclaimed seaside resort of 200,000 residents, once was a small fishing village along the Bay of Biscay with an outlet to the Atlantic Ocean. In 1180 the King of Navarra gave it self-governing status and the ancient Basque people for the next 700 years industriously built their town into a major whaling, cod fishing and ship building port and bustling trading center.

By the mid-19th century it achieved a new allure when Queen Isabella II discovered the healing powers of the Atlantic waters for her chronic skin ailments and established her royal summer headquarters here. Soon Spain's wealthy class began to arrive in droves, turning the port city into a fashionable seaside resort.

Little wonder. Its La Concha Beach, with its elegant promenade stretching

the length of the bay, the surrounding lush green hillsides, sophisticated arts and culture, gastronomic acclaim and the thriving Parte Viega (Old Town) places San Sebastian among today's top international tourism meccas.

We began our three-day stay with a full-day tour with guide Lourdes Gorrino. She pointed out on a city map that San Sebastian's historic city center is compact, and she said we could see and visit most of its attractions and urban neighborhoods in a day. Our tour began at La Concha Beach and nearby Zurriola Beach, considered one of the world's best for surfing. She noted that no high rise skyscrapers are permitted in San Sebastian in order to maintain a human dimension. "Our businesses are essentially small, local enterprises. No malls are permitted to be built within five miles of the city center to protect our merchants. Everything is closed on Sunday, except restaurants where families spend time together."

Major attractions include the Aquarium, with 5,000 fish and underwater tunnel; Museo de San Telmo, in a 16th century monastery filled primarily with Basque historic and contemporary art; and the Neo Gothic 19th century Cathedral Buen Pastor, with its lovely stained glass windows and 246-foot bell tower that affords a spec-



tacular view of the land and sea below.

We concluded our tour in Old Town, located between the Bay and Urumea River, which has been redeveloped due to a devastating fire 200 years ago. Its four-square-block area is the heart and soul of this city, with its winding streets, hundreds of specialty shops, boutiques, a myriad of architectural styles, Michelin star restaurants, popular pintxos bars, and the beloved 18th century Basilica Santa Maria de Coro.

We also enjoyed a one-hour City Tour aboard a double-decker bus, which provided an excellent introduction to the city's major attractions (www.sansebastiancitytour.com).

Popular local and international summer festivals draw large crowds to San Sebastian. Jazzaldia, an international jazz festival in July, brings celebrated artists to concerts on the beach and in the squares and theaters. In August, it's Semana Grande honoring the Feast of our Lady of Assumption with concerts, cultural events and the International Fireworks Competition. In September, the International Film Festival attracts some of the world's most famous actors and directors. Also in September, the Basque Festival features sports and traditional dances.

A 20-minute drive will take you to Casa Camara in the port of Pasaia. This famous family-operated restaurant, established in 1884, has always been owned and managed by women. This was our favorite restaurant for its ambiance, service, classic Basque dishes and harbor view. Nearby is Hondoribbia, another quaint village with a view of the French Basque region just across the Txingudi Bay. Nuestra Señor Church is remarkable for its massive buttresses and Baroque tower.

We stayed at the NH Collection Aranzazu, a stylish modern hotel in the quiet, residential Ondarreta district, just a 10-minute drive to the Old Town and beach promenade (www. nh-hotels.com). Basque chef Martin Aristondo, who has primed his culinary skills at restaurants throughout the world, has grown the popularity and reputation of the hotel's restaurant Kukuarri.

If You Go: Learn a few dozen dozen Spanish phrases. Almost everyone speaks English, but the locals appreciate the effort. It's best to go between October and April when the crowds and prices are down. For a real adventure, rent a car. We rented a small BMW SUV through Hertz Europe (www.hertz.com). The Spanish are courteous drivers, the steering wheel is on the left, road signs are excellent and having your own vehicle will provide wonderful serendipitous moments. Exchange a few hundred dollars for Euros before you depart from home. It's a real hassle to do it there. Finally, it's worth the expense to employ the services of professional guides for city tours and museum visits. They definitely will enrich your trip.

For more information, go to www.sansebastianturismo.com www.bilbaoturismo.net www.tourism.euskadi.eus/en/

Columbus-based travel writer Aaron Leventhal is a frequent contributor to The Catholic Times. He often leads small group trips for seniors. Check it out at leventhaltravel.com.

Photos by Beth Ervin Leventhal