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THANKSGIVING

The Editor's Notebook*Saying Grace*

By David Garick, Editor



The great feast of Thanksgiving is almost upon us. So now we gather together with family around a table groaning under the weight of more food than any of us needs to eat, but eat it we will, because not eating it would be, well ... ungrateful. It is our duty. This is Thanksgiving, after all. Then we must loosen our pants and settle into a Barcalounger for no less than three consecutive football games. During this time, of course, one must refortify oneself with leftovers from the earlier feast. It's tradition. So don't blame me! I didn't make the rules. I am just doing what is required. And, by the way, if you are planning on heading out in the early hours of Black Friday morning in search of elusive holiday bargains, you'll have to do it without me. I have to sleep off a meal that would sustain your average black bear for the entire winter.

As the name of this holiday expresses, this is a time for giving thanks. I certainly have a lot to be thankful for this year. I'm sure that most of you also have a great many things in your life that you will give thanks for, as well. It is wonderful that Thanksgiving always arrives at about the same time as the Advent season in the Church. It is a nice reminder that in addition to the many blessings we have in our worldly lives, we also are blessed with the coming celebration of the Incarnation of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

But I hope you also will join me in taking a moment to thank God for a gift that is invisible, but that is so central to our salvation. I am speaking of the gift of Grace. We refer to it every Thanksgiving, and hopefully at meals throughout the year, when we speak of saying grace before eating. We think of it as thanking God for providing for us. But Grace is so much more than that. Grace is first and foremost the gift of the Spirit, who justifies and sanctifies us. It is the gift that connects us to God and allows us to be part of our own salvation and that of others and the growth of

the Body of Christ, the Church. Grace gives us the ability to relate to God beyond our human powers to see and hear and reason.

God's eternal power and love for us – not just mankind as a whole, but every one of us as individuals – is a concept that is above anything we can understand through rational thought. God's wish to come to us in human form and to suffer, die, and then conquer death for us goes beyond our comprehension. God's willingness to send his Holy Spirit to be our companion and guide through life is hardly a concept that can be logically explained. Left to our own devices, we would reject all these things as illogical superstition. Sadly, many in our highly secularized society do just that. But through the gift of God's Grace, we see them in truth, and through them we live in God's love. And we know that we will continue to do so through all eternity.

All of the worldly gifts we give thanks for this week are more meaningful when viewed in the context of the part they play in our larger role of living a life centered, not on ourselves but on Christ. In the darkest hours of our life, it is this Grace that sustains us and draws us closer to our God. His Grace does not spare us from all pain and suffering. But by giving us strength to offer that suffering up to God and to join that pain with the pain of Christ, we have the knowledge that in the end, we will find eternal joy with Christ. Grace gives us all this through faith that is not a product of our own making but, rather, a wonderful gift of God.

And so, my wish for you this Thanksgiving echoes the words of St. Paul to the Corinthians: The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

Couples need help forming, following their consciences, pope says

By Cindy Wooden, *Catholic News Service*

Marriage and family life are blessings for individuals and for society, but both are filled with difficult choices that Catholic couples must be helped to face prayerfully and in the light of their consciences, Pope Francis said.

Unfortunately, too many people today confuse a rightly formed conscience with personal preferences dominated by selfishness, the pope said in a video message to an Italian meeting on *Amoris Laetitia*, his exhortation on the family.

"The contemporary world risks confusing the primacy of conscience, which is always to be respected, with the exclusive autonomy of the individual" even when the individual's decisions impact his or her marriage and family life, the pope said.

Repeating a remark he had made to the Pontifical Academy for Life, Pope Francis said, "There are those who even speak of 'egolatri,' that is, the true worship of the ego on whose altar everything, including the dearest affections, are sacrificed."

Confusing conscience with selfishness "is not harmless," the pope said. "This is a 'pollution' that corrodes souls and confounds minds and hearts, producing false illusions."

The conference sponsored by the Italian bishops' conference was focused on "conscience and norm" in Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation.

Diagnosing problems in the church's outreach to married couples and families, Pope Francis had written, "We have long thought that simply by stressing doctrinal, bioethical and moral issues, without encouraging openness to grace, we were providing sufficient support to families, strengthening the marriage bond and giving meaning to marital life."

See **POPE**, Page 3

Correction - A story on the retirement of Father J. Lawrence Reichert in the Nov. 12 Catholic Times incorrectly gave his first name as James and listed him as being in residence at Columbus St. Agatha Church for a past assignment rather than saying he was associate pastor there.

*Front Page photo:*

A Thanksgiving Day table features foods from local farms, ranches, and purveyors in Arizona. Thanksgiving Day in the United States is on Nov. 23 this year.

CNS Photo/Nancy Wiechec

CATHOLIC TIMES

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DEDICATION OF STATUE AT COSHOCTON SACRED HEART

Father Victor Wesolowski, pastor at Coshocton Sacred Heart Church, blessed and dedicated a new statue of Our Lady of Lourdes at the church's Marian grotto on Sunday, Oct. 29. It replaces a statue damaged by vandalism this past spring. Following the 10:30 a.m. Mass on that day, Father Wesolowski (carrying the Blessed Sacrament in photo at right) led a procession to the grotto, where the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary were recited, followed by the blessing of the statue. Pictured with Father Wesolowski are Deacon Doug Mould (partly hidden in right photo) and servers Joe Weaver (carrying cross) and Matt Weaver. (Photos courtesy Sacred Heart Church)



POPE, continued from Page 2

“We also find it hard to make room for the consciences of the faithful, who very often respond as best they can to the Gospel amid their limitations, and are capable of carrying out their own discernment in complex situations,” he wrote in *Amoris Laetitia*. “We have been called to form consciences, not to replace them.”

In his message to the Nov. 11 meeting in Rome, Pope Francis said the Catholic Church must strengthen its programs “to respond to the desire for family that emerges in the soul of the young generations” and to help couples once they are married.

“Love between a man and a woman is obviously among the most generative human experiences; it is

the leaven of a culture of encounter, and introduces to the present world an injection of sociality,” he said.

Marriage and family life are “the most effective antidote against the individualism that currently runs rampant,” he said, but it does not do one any good to pretend that marriage and family life are free from situations requiring difficult choices.

“In the domestic reality, sometimes there are concrete knots to be addressed with prudent conscience on the part of each,” he said. “It is important that spouses, parents, not be left alone, but accompanied in their commitment to applying the Gospel to the concreteness of life.”

Conscience, he said, always has God’s desire for the human person as its ultimate reference point.

“In the very depths of each one of us, there is a place wherein the ‘Mystery’ reveals itself, and illuminates the person, making the person the protagonist of his story,” he said. “Conscience, as the Second Vatican Council recalls, is this ‘most secret core and sanctuary of a man. There he is alone with God, whose voice echoes in his depths.’”

Each Christian, the pope said, must be “vigilant so that in this kind of tabernacle there is no lack of divine grace, which illuminates and strengthens married love and the parental mission.”

Faith in Action

By Erin Cordle

Responding to Pope Francis' call for the first World Day of the Poor



When we hear the word “poverty,” we can think of many things: poverty of spirit, lack of love, isolation. Today, I want to focus on material poverty. An estimated 43 million people live in poverty in the United States. Individuals, families, and communities lack access to the basic things they need to live and thrive: nutritious food, adequate housing, safe neighborhoods, good education, health care, and decent jobs with fair pay, for example. Take a moment to think about one person or one family you know who has been affected by poverty or related issues such as unemployment, debt, or lack of quality health insurance.

Sunday, Nov. 19 is the first World Day of the Poor, a day established by Pope Francis on which he asks all of us to reflect on Jesus' great love for those who experience poverty, to encounter our brothers and sisters in need, and to work alongside them to put faith into action.

The Nov. 19 readings connect perfectly with Pope Francis' challenge for “concrete deeds” instead of “empty words.” Proverbs describes concrete deeds as essential. The Psalmist says those who “walk” in God's ways are “blessed.” Paul urges the Thessalonians to be attentive to how they are living. And Matthew recounts Jesus' parable in which servants are given talents to cultivate. Those who multiply what the master (representing God) has given them are rewarded, while the one who does nothing with the talents is punished.

Empty words vs. concrete deeds! Pope Francis warns about the contrast between mere words and the concrete deeds against which we are called to measure ourselves. He writes, “If we truly wish to encounter Christ, we have to touch his body in the suffering bodies of the poor, as a response to the sacramental communion bestowed in the Eucharist. The Body of Christ, broken in the sacred liturgy, can be seen, through charity and sharing, in the faces and persons of the most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters” (first World Day of the Poor Message, paragraph 3).

Pope Francis writes, “When the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray, he answered in the words with which the poor speak to our one Father, in whom all acknowledge themselves as brothers and sisters. The Our Father is a prayer said in the plural: the bread for which we ask is ‘ours,’ and that entails sharing, participation, and joint responsibility” (paragraph 8).

This echoes a reflection in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* on the Lord's Prayer: “The presence of those who hunger because they lack bread opens up another profound meaning of this petition. The drama of hunger in the world calls Christians who pray sincerely to exercise responsibility toward their brethren, both in their personal behavior and in their solidarity with the human family” (paragraph 2831).

Nov. 19 also is Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) collection Sunday. This annual collection is the primary source of funding for CCHD's anti-poverty grants and education programs. CCHD supports the work of groups that empower low-income people to participate in decisions that affect their lives, break the cycle of poverty, and uphold the dignity of life. Many of the projects supported by CCHD embody the corporal works of mercy and include protecting worker rights, expanding access to health care, and reforming the criminal justice system.

Together, we can take responsibility and support concrete deeds to respond to Jesus' love for our vulnerable brothers and sisters. I ask you to support the CCHD collection with generosity!

Erin Cordle is associate director of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns.

Zanesville mission on Our Lady of Guadalupe

A parish mission on “Our Lady of Guadalupe: The Invisible Made Visible” will be presented from 7 to 9 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 11 and 12 at Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 144 N. 5th St. The presenter will be Father Thomas J. Loya of the Tabor Life Institute, pastor of Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Church in Homer Glen, Illinois.

Father Loya's presentations will look at icons and all holy images as not just artworks of devotion, but as things which make visible that which cannot be seen with the eye alone. This most especially is the case with the icon of Our Lady of Guadalupe, miraculously created from Our Lady's own hands. In this icon, the invisible virtues of love, unity, the value of life, and the dignity of the human person

are made visible.

Our Lady's icon, like all sacred art, provides for us the one and only correct vision of life. Our call is to see and live according to that vision. During this mission, participants will enter into the vision that is revealed through the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

In addition to the presentations, both evenings will be an occasion for prayer. The first evening will include a Scripture service, Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, as well as recitation of the rosary. The second evening, which coincides with the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, will include celebration of the Mass.

To learn more, contact parish faith formation director Amanda Zurface at (740) 453-3301 or amanda.zurface@aquinaszanesville.org.

ODU announces Christmas events

Ohio Dominican University will ring in the holiday season with a series of family friendly events as part of its annual Christmas celebration. All events are free and will take place on ODU's campus at 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

The event schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, Nov. 29 – ODU chorus Christmas concert, 7 p.m., Christ the King Chapel, Sansbury Hall.

Monday, Dec. 4 – Santa's Workshop visits, 5:30 to 7 p.m., Catherine of Siena Room, Erskine Hall; sleigh rides, 5:30 to 7 p.m., The Oval; Christmas tree lighting and creche blessing, 6 p.m., front of Erskine Hall.

Wednesday, Dec. 6 – Holiday Art Market, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wehrle Art Gallery (cash and checks accepted).

Thursday, Dec. 7 – Mass for Feast of the Immaculate Conception, 5 p.m., Christ the King Chapel, Sansbury Hall

Friday, Dec. 8 – Mass for Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Noon, Christ the King Chapel.

ODU's student theater group, the Panther Players, will perform *Dashing through the Snow: A Christmas Comedy* at 7 p.m. Thursday to Saturday, Dec. 7 to 9 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10. Admission is \$8 for adults and \$5 for those 17 and younger.

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Detroit Catholics at 'fever pitch' over beatification of Father Casey

By Mike Stechschulte
Catholic News Service

For decades during the Great Depression and afterward, Capuchin Franciscan Father Solanus Casey was the “go-to” guy for those who were sick, poor, afflicted or discouraged in their faith.

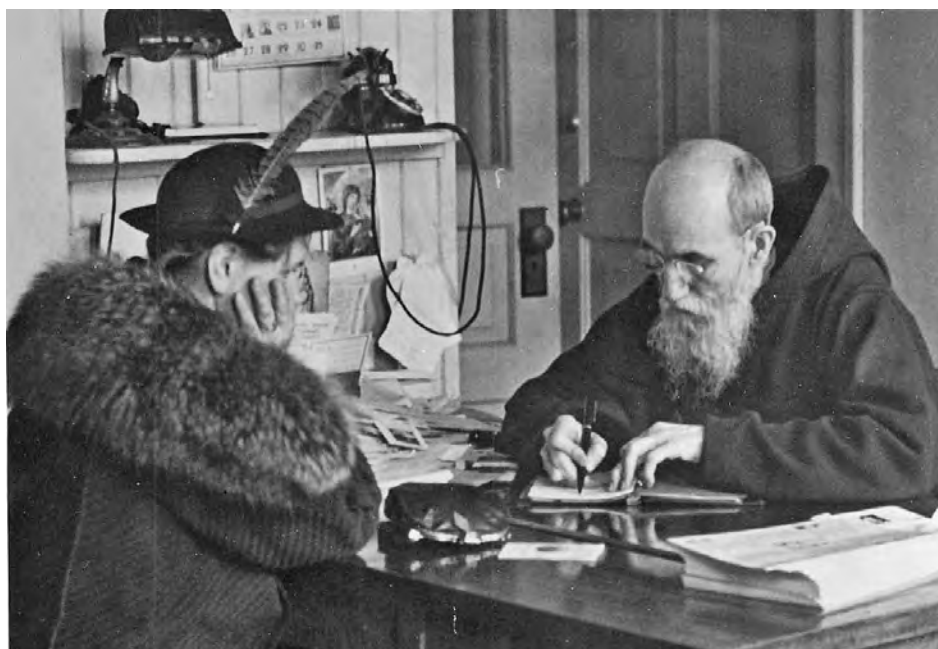
Standing at the doors of St. Bonaventure Monastery on Detroit's east side, the holy friar would welcome dozens -- if not hundreds -- of visitors per day: families with an ill child, destitute fathers desperate to make ends meet, loved ones distraught over a relative's drifting from the faith.

And no matter the situation -- whether a healing was imminent or not -- he would tell them the same thing: “Thank God ahead of time.”

Now that Father Solanus is set to be beatified on Saturday, Nov. 18 at Ford Field, home to the NFL's Detroit Lions, the entire city is heeding his advice.

“I think excitement is at a fever pitch. Everybody is so enthused about it. I get people asking me about the occasion all the time,” said Detroit Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron in an interview with *The Michigan Catholic*, the archdiocesan newspaper. “The quick way the tickets were all assigned is a strong sense of the enthusiasm of the whole community.”

Indeed, it took just hours for the 66,000-seat Ford Field to “sell out” for the historic Mass -- though the tickets were free -- with eager Detroiters snapping up the chance to be in attendance to thank God for the gift of the friar's extraordinary life and intercession.



“People feel a strong connection to Father. It's like having someone in your family beatified,” Archbishop Vigneron said. “Of course, in our region that's very understandable. But really, I think it's across the whole country and other parts of the world, too. I think Father's humility and his accessibility help people feel that they belong to him and he belongs to them.”

Born and raised in Wisconsin, Father Solanus joined the Capuchin order in 1897. Rejected by the diocesan seminary due to low grades, he nevertheless continued his studies toward the priesthood, and in 1904 was ordained a “simplex” priest in Milwaukee -- a designation that meant he couldn't hear confessions or preach doctrinal sermons.

While some priests might have been discouraged by a lack of faculties, which left him to do menial tasks such as answering the monastery door and recording Mass intentions, Father Solanus happily accepted God's will for him.

“Father was able to be such a powerful vehicle for God's marvelous healing and works because he was so transparent. There was so little of Father Solanus personally to get in the way,” Archbishop Vigneron said. “That's really the secret behind his humbly accepting never being able to preach, never being able to hear confessions. He simply accepted who he was and said, ‘I'm happy to do whatever God wants of me.’”

As the monastery doorkeeper -- first in churches and friaries around New York City and later in Detroit -- Father Solanus quickly gained a reputation as a compassionate listener and intercessor during the Great Depression, and soon, dozens would arrive daily at the doors seeking “just a moment with Father.”

“Father Solanus responded very generously in some tough economic times, times that were very difficult for ordinary working people,” Archbishop Vigneron said. “He brought to them a sense of God's presence besides the practical charity he extended.”

Soon, however, reports of miraculous favors attributed to the holy friar's prayers began to spread throughout the region. A critically ill child would recover. A desperately needed rent check would arrive. A son serving in the war

would miraculously escape danger.

To all who sought his help, Father Solanus' trademark assurance was as simple as it was constant: He'd ask them first to pray, have faith and enroll their names in the Capuchins' Mass intentions, and then, if he discerned God would favorably answer a prayer, would reply simply, “Don't worry, everything will be fine.”

The late Cardinal John Dearden of Detroit opened the official cause for canonization for Father Solanus in 1976, a movement that's been championed by each Detroit bishop since.

“I've always had confidence that Father would be beatified, and eventually that he'll be canonized,” said Archbishop Vigneron, who inherited the cause from his predecessor, Cardinal Adam J. Maida. “I have no doubt about that.”

However, the possibility “became very real” when the Capuchins told the archbishop about the miraculous healing of a Panamanian woman that took place in 2012. Suffering from a severe skin disease -- an affliction from which Father Solanus himself died -- she visited the friar's tomb and prayed for healing. Almost instantaneously, her disease vanished.

On May 4, Pope Francis announced the healing was authenticated as a miracle, paving the way for Father Solanus' beatification. Though the woman has wished to remain anonymous, she will be present for the beatification Mass, along with others who have received favors.

Archbishop Vigneron said he takes the fact that Father Solanus was able to heal so many as a sign that “God loves Detroit” and hasn't abandoned the city, despite its hard times.

“Not all holy people are wonder workers. That's a special gift that God gives as he judges it appropriate,” Archbishop Vigneron said. “What I interpret this to mean, this fact that God gave Father Solanus this gift, is that he was humble enough to use it without it becoming a source of pride.”

“Why does God do it? Whatever he does, whether he gives a miracle or not, it's always about love.”

Stechschulte is managing editor of The Michigan Catholic, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Detroit.

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17-01-100A JH (10/17)

Agoraphobia and Mass attendance; Is sign of peace required?



QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. Togetherness seems to have become such an integral part of Catholicism, and extroverts tend to look disdainfully at those who prefer to sit at the end of the pew, are shy about grasping hands, shudder at the thought of being hugged or have difficulty with extemporaneous small talk. For me, being squashed in the center of a pew is agonizing, and there is no way I can focus on the Mass in that situation.

About once every two or three months, I feel compelled to go into our parish's adoration chapel during Mass and follow the prayers and readings from there – or I find it necessary to stay at home and follow the Sunday Mass on television from my den. If that counts as missing Mass, there's just nothing that I can do about it.

Agoraphobia is no joke, and even those of us with milder forms suffer greatly. But I believe that we are also loved by God. (Nokesville, Virginia)

A. No, your behavior does not count as missing Mass. And yes, you are surely loved by God. Agoraphobia is a very real disease, affecting as many as 1.9 million U.S. adults at some level in a 12-month period. It is characterized by significant anxiety in places where crowds gather, especially in situations where one might feel trapped and un-

able to escape.

This disease can justify one's absence from Mass as certainly as would a high fever or a contagious cold. If it is more comfortable for you to pray in a side chapel, by all means do that. (Perhaps you might want to mention your situation to your pastor to help him to understand, and you might benefit by his words of approval.)

Or, if sometimes you find it necessary simply to stay at home and pray, do that. I credit you for your desire to share in the Eucharist to the extent you are able.

Your letter serves, too, as a reminder to us all to forgo judging the behavior of others – those, for example, who insist on sitting at the end of a nearly vacant pew or those who choose to stand in the back of the church. They could well be suffering from the same sensibilities you have described.

Q. I have been attending one Catholic parish in my hometown for several years now. As far as I know, this is the only Catholic church where parishioners do not shake hands at the sign of peace. I can understand churchgoers declining to shake hands if they have a cold or other ailment – or at times of widespread sickness.

However, at this particular parish, the congregation will not even turn around and greet others –

let alone, shake hands. It is not really a big deal for me, but I do find it a little odd. Is there an explanation for this, or are parishes simply not required to follow the practice of shaking hands? (Portland, Oregon)

A. The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* in section No. 82 indicates that the rite of peace should be a regular part of the liturgy in which “the faithful express to each other their ecclesial communion and mutual charity” before receiving the Eucharist. As to the actual gesture to be used, the general instruction leaves that up to national bishops' conference, to be determined in accord with local culture and customs.

For the United States, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has noted that this would typically be done by shaking hands. So while this ritual can be eliminated in particular circumstances – a flu epidemic, for example – it should not be skipped regularly.

In 2014, the Vatican's Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments reminded Catholics that a certain restraint should mark the ritual so as not to distract from receiving Communion, that the gesture of peace should be extended by the faithful only to those nearest them and that such abuses as “the movement of the faithful from their places” should be avoided.

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

Danville, Zanesville churches to sponsor March for Life buses

Danville St. Luke and Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas churches will be sponsoring bus trips to the annual March for Life in Washington, which will take place Friday, Jan. 19.

This is the 19th consecutive year for the trip from Danville, which will be for three days and two nights, from Thursday to Saturday, Jan. 18 to 20. The cost again will be \$280 for a double room and \$240 each for three or more persons in a room.

This covers the bus ride, two nights at the Hampton Inn in Alexandria, Virginia, with a hot breakfast available each morning, and a tour of Washington, guided by former St. Luke parishioner John Durbin, a career courier with the federal government.

The bus will depart Danville at 6 a.m. Thursday. The group will attend a vigil Mass at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception that evening and have pizza at the hotel afterward. On Friday, there will be more touring in the morning, the march itself at noon, and dinner that evening, with departure Saturday morning and arrival in Danville on Saturday night.

A \$50 deposit is due by Friday, Dec. 1. Final payment is due by Wednesday, Jan. 10. Make checks payable to St. Luke Parish. For more information, contact the church office at (740) 599-6362 or Bobbie Thomas at (740) 398-9710 or (740) 427-4044. Checks may be sent to St.

Luke Church, Post Office Box P, Danville OH 43014.

The St. Thomas Aquinas Church pilgrimage also will be from Jan. 18 to 20. Prices for the bus trip and two nights at the Hampton Inn in Silver Spring, Maryland, are \$230 per person for a room for four people, with two queen-size beds; \$260 per person for a room for two people, with two queen beds; and \$340 per person or \$460 per couple for a room with one king-size bed.

The bus will leave the church at 6 a.m. Thursday. Highlights of the pilgrimage include the vigil Mass at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and time to visit the nearby St. John Paul II shrine on Thursday night, participation in the March for Life and free time to tour Washington on Friday, and a visit to Emmitsburg, Maryland on Saturday that will include Mass at the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, an opportunity for prayer at the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes, and lunch at the Carriage House Inn.

Applications for the pilgrimage may be found at <https://aquinaszanesville.org>. A photo is required as part of the application process. Make checks payable to St. Thomas Aquinas Church and send to the church, 144 N. 5th St., Zanesville OH 43701. To learn more, contact parish faith formation director Amanda Zurface at (740) 453-3301 or amanda.zurface@aquinaszanesville.org.

Men's luncheon club meets on Dec. 1

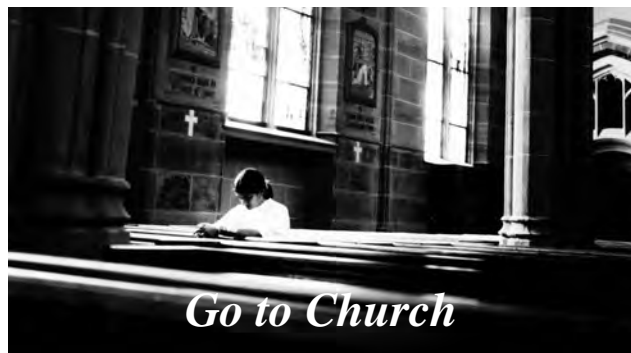
Father Daniel Olvera, parochial vicar of Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul and Danville St. Luke churches, will speak at the next Catholic Men's Luncheon Club meeting on Friday, Dec. 1. Father Olvera was ordained a priest this past May and will talk about his vocation story and his first months as a priest.

The program at Columbus St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant

Ave., will begin at 11:45 a.m. with Mass, followed by lunch and Father Olvera's talk until 1 p.m.

No reservations are necessary. A \$10 donation is requested to cover the lunch and meeting.

For information on the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club, visit www.catholicmensministry.com/cmlc or contact club president George Harvey at george.harvey@tvssohio.com.



Go to Church

Count your blessings and give thanks

By Maria-Pia Negro Chin

Poet John Milton is thought to have said, “Gratitude bestows reverence, allowing us to encounter everyday epiphanies, those transcendent moments of awe that change forever how we experience life and the world.”

There are so many things for which to be grateful to God. What’s amazing is that once you start finding blessings, they multiply.

A meditation I jotted down this year asked, “If I were to make a poem of thanks to God, for what would I be most grateful?” During a stressful week, I reread the question. I remembered all of God’s gifts in my life and in the lives of people I know. My frustration (and ungratefulness) lifted when I realized that my gratitude poem would be a very long one.

Benedictine monk David Steindl-Rast once gave a TED talk saying that “it is not happiness that makes us grateful. It’s gratefulness that makes us happy.”

While acknowledging that there are things in life we cannot be grateful for – such as tragedies, violence, or disasters – Brother Steindl-Rast said we can be grateful for the opportunity in each moment.

He explained that each moment is a gift and gave a simple formula to practice gratefulness: Stop (so you don’t miss opportunity), look (and discover the riches God gives us), and go (with it).

It’s scientifically proven that gratitude makes us healthier. Studies show that not only does being grateful feel good, it also is good for our hearts, our relationships, and our ability to reduce stress.

Life can be filled with unexpected challenges and worries, and sometimes it is easy to slip into un-

gratefulness, but being reminded of the everyday blessings God provides is an antidote to the woes of the world.

We can thank God for the miracles we sometimes take for granted – including life, health, sunshine, water, air. We also can be thankful for family, friends, and loved ones, whose unconditional love gives us sustenance and support and helps us grow.

As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, we can reflect on our reasons to be grateful. You can try to have a gratitude jar or a gratitude journal to list each day’s blessings or try to be intentional about thanking God each day.

When Thanksgiving Day comes, we can collectively thank God for all his blessings and mercies of the year.

As Catholics, we partake in thanksgiving every time we share in the Eucharist (which means thanksgiving in Greek).

Brother Steindl-Rast also said that “if you are grateful, you are not fearful,” for you can enjoy and respect the differences between people and “act out of a sense of enough and not of a sense of scarcity, and you are willing to share.” As we recognize what God has done for us, we can discern what we’re called to do and take action to share our blessings. In a way, it is fitting that we celebrate Thanksgiving soon before Advent.

We can take stock of all the gifts we have received and resolve to generously share what we have with those less fortunate, and we also can thank people for their kindness when we are the ones who are in need, and can thank God for the opportunities to give thanks.

Maria-Pia Negro Chin is associate editor of Maryknoll magazine.

USCCB unveils new website for National Bible Week

By Catholic News Service

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has acquired the domain name Catholic.Bible.

The site, <https://catholic.bible>, is already up and running. It contains a survey from the American Bible Society on Catholics’ use of the Bible.

With National Bible Week being observed Nov. 12-18, there are links to resources in both English and Spanish, as well as links to the *New American Bible* revised edition and to the Little Rock Scripture Study website.

The theme for the weeklong observance is “The Bible: A Book of Faith/La Biblia: Un Libro de la Fe” and recognizes the 25th anniversary of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

Catholic.Bible also contains a growing log

of daily Mass readings and the *Lectio Divina*, a prayerful way of reading Scripture, in English and Spanish. A list of licensed publishers of Catholic Bibles is coming soon.

The Catholic.Bible site also has links to the USCCB website’s Bible dropdown menu, which includes links to the entire Bible through each book and chapter, the daily readings in English and Spanish, audio recordings of Bible passages, tips for understanding the Bible, video reflections and more.

“The .Bible top-level domain is a trusted online source for all things Bible,” the USCCB said in a news release announcing the new domain. “The mission of .Bible is to encourage Bible engagement, translation, innovation and global partnerships so that all people may experience the life-changing message that the Bible gives us.”

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St. Andrew conducts kindness campaign

Seventh and eighth grade students at Columbus St. Andrew School are acting as ambassadors of kindness. They periodically visit students in younger grades to talk about the Beatitudes and how to spread kindness. Eighth-grade students Kaitlyn Kertz (left) and Bella Matre used a song to stress the need for mercy. They sang with kindergarten students and talked about what it means to be merciful and forgiving. The kindness program is designed to help all students become better leaders and learn to stand up for what they believe is right. Kindergarten students pictured are Chase Ryder (left) and Adriana Hector.



Photo courtesy St. Andrew School

Catholic Man of the Year nominations open

The Catholic Men's Luncheon Club is accepting nominations for its 2018 Catholic Man of the Year award, which will be presented by Bishop Frederick Campbell at the club's meeting on Friday, Feb. 2.

The award recognizes a layman who, through his daily actions, words, and prayers, exemplifies the "good and faithful servant." The recipient will have the opportunity to share his personal testimony during the ceremony.

Nominations will be accepted through Friday, Dec. 29. For details, nomination instructions, and the required nomination form, go to <https://www.catholicmensministry.com/cmoy>. Email the completed nomination form and a maximum of five supporting testimonials to catholicmanoftheyear@gmail.com.

Pray the Rosary!

Pink Week at Bishop Flaget

The Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School volleyball team raised more than \$1,500 during a designated Pink Week, with the money going to the Southern Ohio Survivors organization for its outreach to families struggling with severe illness.

The team worked with physical education teacher Linda Kerr on events which included a T-shirt sale, a Pink Pancake Palooza breakfast, and a Dig for a Cure volleyball night, which featured a teacher-student volleyball game and a parent-player matchup.



Shown in the photo at right preparing pancakes for the breakfast are (from left) Carmen Corcoran, Judy Ward, Linda Kerr, and Elizabeth Henson.

The photo above shows players doing pushups after a "ball drop" during the game against the parents.

Southern Ohio Survivors is an organization dedicated to helping families and cancer survivors with physical, psychological, social, spiritual, and financial issues at diagnosis, during treatment, and for the rest of their lives.

Photos courtesy Bishop Flaget School



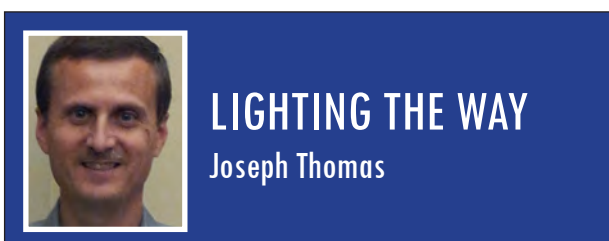


Time and distance

There have been many times when I looked on from afar, not knowing fully what I had just experienced or seen. Sometimes, I am so distracted by the pressures and worries of the day that I tend to be a bit short with myself and others. My expectations of the moment seem to pale in comparison to my immediate needs.

When we pray, for example, there are many of us, myself included, who tend to make our requests into commands, rather than ask for answers. What we get are usually more questions. We have to remember that His time is not linear and that our prayers will be answered, but perhaps not in the way we are asking for them to be. Patience is certainly a virtue.

With all the electronic means at our disposal, it is often much faster to find what we need than it used to be. We must keep in mind that this does not mean life gets any easier. In many ways, our culture wants everything to be familiar, kind, compassionate, and equally forgiving. When we are unsure of someone or something, it can be cast aside in favor of rich



experiences. We forget that learning from others and our mistakes helps shape us into who we are.

As I grow older, I tend to remember less about what has happened, rather than pay attention to what is original and healthy for my soul. Family, friends, and loved ones far away and close by seem to receive the brunt of my selfishness, and therefore can be moved to being very judgmental.

Much like God, they tell us what we need to hear rather than what we want to hear. This can be a great panacea, or it can be a monumental letdown. That tends to be a result of how receptive we are to the message.

You know the old adage “You caught me on a bad day.” This is the way in which people see us. It is also a reflection of how determined we are to take what we have been given and to use it to try and improve our situation. We can wallow in our footsteps or take that leap of faith.

If we were to take a day and capture it, what would that say about us? Would it be a clashing cymbal or a *fait accompli*? Remember, we take nothing but ourselves with us when we leave this world. The people we leave behind, the memories they share, and our sacrifices are measured not by what we did in life, but by how we lived out those promises.

Counting the days doesn't mean we have to do everything on a tightrope. We can have a richness of life with God at our side. He is closer than you think.



His Son resides on our hearts, occupying that space which is utterly needed and so willingly accepted.

Remember, especially in this month of souls and saints, what we have accomplished in life. Remember, too, those to whom our prayers are directed. Love one another, reach out to one another, talk to one another, and be awesomely and remarkably forgiving to one another.

St. Therese of Lisieux once said, “Our Lord does not look so much at the greatness of our actions, or even at their difficulty, as the love with which we do them.” For there is no true time and distance that separates us from Him or our families and, most assuredly, ourselves.

May God bless us and keep us. May He be forever at our side, and may His peace be with you always.

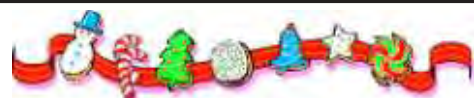
Joseph Thomas, a member of Gahanna St. Matthew Church, is a freelance writer and is active in many diocesan and church activities.

DeSales environmental club



The environmental club at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School received a check for \$500 from the Kroger Co. and the Columbus Zoo at the zoo's inaugural teen ecological summit. During the event, students spent time learning, networking, and exploring environmental issues and solutions at the zoo, and independently created and presented a proposal to replace two of the school's drinking fountains with water bottle filling stations. The plan includes a fundraising partnership with Elkay, which manufactures the stations. It was presented to a panel of five zoo staffers and Danni Washington, a television presenter, science communicator, and ocean activist. The proposal also will be presented to the school's administrators and academic council. Receiving the Kroger award gives the club an automatic invitation to next year's summit. Club members pictured are (from left): Leslie Soto, Tamzin Ordenez, Paula Clark, Johnaiya Talbert, Mileena Mookphachan, Taylor Wilson, club adviser Danielle Polemeni, Zach Clarke, and Madison Salyer.

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School



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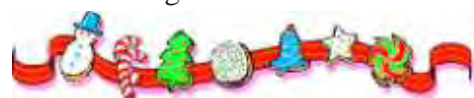
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A brief history of Thanksgiving

By Joseph Kelly/Catholic News Service

Contrary to popular opinion, the first Thanksgiving was not observed at Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1621.

The "Pilgrims"—a later title given to the settlers—were Puritans who no longer wished to live in England due to religious persecution and for economic reasons. They believed the Church of England was too closely aligned with Roman Catholicism, which they loathed.

In their day, the settlers were called separatists because they wished to separate themselves from this supposedly corrupt kingdom by going to North America. More Puritans left England after 1625, under the reign of King Charles I, who had a Roman Catholic wife, Henrietta Maria of France.

The initial 1620 colony at Plymouth got off to a horrid start; fully half the population and all but five women died the first year. The Pilgrims survived by getting some help from the local Native American tribes.

The colony grew quickly, and by 1623, the settlers felt strong enough and safe enough to celebrate a day of prayer and thanksgiving, although not on a specific date; the actual date is unknown.

As more English and European settlers arrived in North America, they pushed aside, drove out or destroyed the local tribes, believing that they were doing God's work by driving pagan savages out of the "New Holy Land" (like the Hebrews, they had passed through water to reach their promised land).

Supporting this, later generations of New Englanders would create the myths of the heroic Plymouth settlement and the first Thanksgiving.

The myth was spread by extensive western migration by New Englanders into what is now New York state and even farther west to Ohio. As the New Englanders spread, Thanksgiving went with them. The transplanted New Englanders discovered that their new neighbors, even the Catholics, liked this holiday.

The holiday's popularity was limited by its association with New England, which had become strongly abolitionist, and Southern governors and plantation owners would not accept an "abolitionist" holiday.

But holiday Thanksgiving had a strong ally: Sarah Josepha Buell Hale, a New England widow with five children who edited a major magazine for women, in which she advocated the celebration of Thanksgiving, even providing recipes and guides for setting the table.

By the mid-19th century, Thanksgiving had become a widespread Christian holiday, one of the few Protestant days that the immigrant Catholics adopted.

When the Civil War broke out, the states that observed or denied the holiday found themselves mostly on different sides. Mrs. Hale urged President Abraham Lincoln to declare a national Thanksgiving Day.

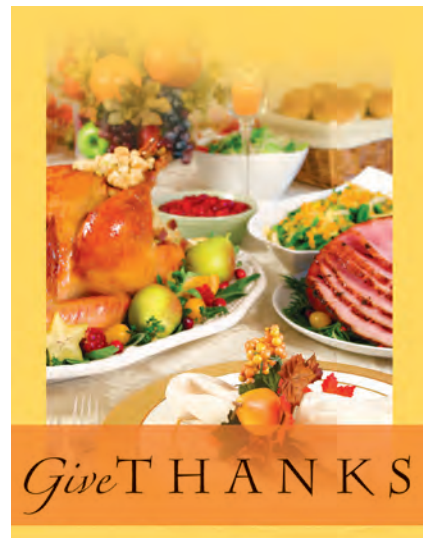
In October 1863, after the great Union victory that summer at Gettysburg, Lincoln declared the last Thursday in November as a day of Thanksgiving. (Recognizing that in some years, November has five Thursdays, Congress passed a resolution in 1941, which President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed, establishing the fourth Thursday in November as the federal holiday).

After the Civil War, Thanksgiving grew in popularity, and New Englanders relentlessly pursued the veneration of the Plymouth Pilgrims, who, after all, were English, not Confederates or Unionists, and had a unitive element. The Pilgrims were portrayed as pious, hard-working, reliable role models.

Believers love Thanksgiving because it is the only legal U.S. holiday that acknowledges that we citizens should give thanks. Most Americans love a day that recognizes God, his many gifts to our country and the importance of the family. No other federal holiday has Thanksgiving's warmth and quiet optimism.

(P.S.—It is also the only holiday that is difficult to corrupt with commercialism!)

Kelly is professor emeritus at John Carroll University in suburban Cleveland.



BY TIM PUET

Reporter, Catholic Times

Several parishes in the Diocese of Columbus will be sharing their blessings with others in various ways on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 23, and the days surrounding it.

One of the diocese's longest-running Thanksgiving traditions is the holiday meal at Columbus St. Aloysius Church, 2165 W. Broad St., which has been served for more than 40 years. It annually involves more than 50 volunteers from the three parishes in Columbus' west-side Hilltop area — St. Aloysius, St. Agnes, and St. Mary Magdalene.

This year's dinner will be from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the parish's family center. Dinner coordinator Sandy Bonneville said she expects to serve more than 500 meals, with most of those attending also receiving to-go dinners and turkey sandwiches for another meal or two.

In addition, Catholic Social Services delivers dinners to the homebound. Bonneville says those dinners go to about 200 people, and indications are that there may be as many as 100 more this year.

Items available to take home will include bags of food provided through a drive conducted by Columbus Bishop Ready High School students and additional donations from individuals and businesses, plus coats from St. Mary Magdalene Church, winter clothing, blankets, toiletries, and community information.

Some of the dinner expenses are covered through proceeds from a dress-down day at St. Mary Magdalene School.

The dinner will include entertainment by the Columbus Folk Music Society and children's activities. Those attending will be invited to write requests for prayers to be said by the St. Mary Magdalene St. Vincent de Paul Conference.

"I worry every year whether we will have enough food for everybody who shows up, especially because we don't take reservations, but somehow, God always provides," said Bonneville, who has been volunteering for the dinner for the last 17 years. "Helping serve the dinners has become a tradition for several families, and these people become an extension of your own family."

"I've had many instances of unchurched persons who have said this is their only experience of church each year, and who say they are going to pray for the people whose kindness was responsible for the dinner. Those prayers mean a lot to me. I hope the dinner may have led some of those people back to a closer relationship with God."

Bonneville said people's prayers for her have special meaning this year because of the death in July of her husband of 32 years, Russell Bonneville. "It's been tough, but I know I'm going to be the dinner," she said. "I know it keeps people from feeling alone. I can understand that more now because this year, I'm having that feeling myself and know what the dinner is doing for me."

The Bonneville's son, Rusty, helped his father organize the take-out dinners and has assisted his parents with the preliminary efforts needed to make the event a success. He is continuing his involvement while working as a biomedical sciences researcher at The Ohio State University.

"Evangelism is what this is all about," Bonneville said. "To show we care and do it with dignity. That's really what we're serving—dignity."

On the other side of town from the Hilltop, volunteers will serve hundreds of meals and take-home pack-

ages in the Community Kitchen at the St. John Center, 640 S. Ohio Ave., next to Holy Rosary-St. John Church, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day. M.J. Muldrow of the center staff said a jazz band will be on hand to entertain dinners.

The Community Kitchen will serve holiday meals and have take-outs available at the same times on Wednesday, Nov. 22 at its other location, St. Dominic Church, 453 N. 20th St. Muldrow said 802 people were served Thanksgiving dinners last year at the two locations — 468 at St. Dominic and 334 at Holy Rosary-St. John.

Many of the turkeys for the dinners come from Westerville St. Paul Church's "Bring a Turkey to Church" weekend, which took place on Nov. 11 and 12. The program began in 1998, when it collected 32 turkeys and a \$20 gift certificate. Last year, 420 turkeys and \$1,425 in cash were donated.

The St. Francis Center at 404 W. South St. in McArthur doesn't host a Thanksgiving Day dinner because it lacks the room, but it gives about 500 families in Vinton County a chance to have a holiday dinner at home through its annual Turkey Toss program.

This year, eligible families will be able to come to the center, receive \$40 vouchers for holiday food, and use them at a supermarket in the county for the first time in four years. Campbell's Market of Zanesville has opened a store in McArthur, giving the county a full-service market once again. That means many county residents won't have to travel 10 to 20 miles for fresh food, as they've been doing since a store that had been the county's only supermarket closed in 2013.

Food and other items also will be distributed on Monday, Nov. 20 at sites in Ratcliffburg, New Plymouth, Wilkesville, and Zaleski to Vinton County families who have received vouchers from the center and are unable to or do not wish to travel there. The distribution is done by volunteers led by Jim and Liz Noe of the New Albany Church of the Resurrection, who have been in charge of this operation since it started in 2008.



A scene from the 2016 St. Aloysius Church Thanksgiving dinner. Photo/Sandy Bonneville

Vinton County is the smallest of Ohio's 88 counties in population and among the poorest in terms of personal income. The number of food donors and the amount collected for families in the county has grown nearly every year since the program began.

Ashley Riegel, St. Francis Center operations manager, said the goal for this year was to collect enough money to provide \$10 vouchers for each family, but thanks to a partnership with the CARE United Methodist Outreach and the generosity of the center's supporters, that amount was increased to \$20. As donations continued to come in, it rose once more, to \$40.

Circleville St. Joseph Church, 134 W. Mound St., will serve dinner from noon to 1:30 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day and will deliver dinners to the homebound. Knights of Columbus Council 5297 collected nonperishable food items for Thanksgiving baskets which will be distributed this Sunday, Nov. 19.

Parishioners of Columbus St. Matthias Church, 1582 Ferris Road, will place nonperishable food around the altar for the week of Thanksgiving and joined students of neighboring Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School in donating to St. Stephen's Community House and the Mid-Ohio Foodbank.

St. Matthias also refers four families to the Westerville-based MoMM (Miracle of Mom's Memory) Foundation for its annual Holiday Blessings program, which pro-

vides support for families not just at Thanksgiving and Christmas, but on other holidays throughout the year and at back-to-school time.

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry in Newark will be providing turkey and other Thanksgiving fixings to the people that depend on it for their food needs. Each family also will be given a \$10 food coupon to be used at the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store before the end of the year. This is a joint effort by the six Licking County parishes — Newark Blessed Sacrament and St. Francis de Sales, Granville St. Edward, Heath St. Leonard, Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel, and the Johnstown Church of the Ascension.

The IGNITE youth group from Granville St. Edward Church, 785 Newark-Granville Road, will join its counterparts from other Granville churches in baking pies for the St. Vincent de Paul Haven men's shelter in Newark on the evening of the Granville ecumenical Thanksgiving service, which will take place at 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19 at Centenary United Methodist Church, 102 E. Broadway.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society at Logan St. John Church, 351 N. Market St., distributes Thanksgiving baskets including turkey and other food to the needy on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. The parish's Knights of Columbus, Columbian Squires, and youth group help by obtaining food donations from parishioners and others.

Sunbury St. John Neumann

Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, is part of a Christmas box drive sponsored by Big Walnut Friends Who Share, an outreach organization of churches from throughout the Sunbury and Galena areas. It is accepting donations of stuffing mix (six ounces or more). Other churches are collecting other items, which will be put together in about 150 boxes for people in need.

The parish also will participate in the Big Walnut Ministerial Association's Thanksgiving service and collection for the poor on Monday, Nov. 20 at Sunbury United Methodist Church, 100 W. Cherry St. Anyone attending the Thanksgiving Vigil Mass at St. John Neumann is asked to bring canned goods to be donated to the food pantry of Friends Who Share.

West Jefferson Ss. Simon and Jude Church, 9350 High Free Pike, put together 200 containers including instant mashed potatoes, gravy, and stuffing for the community's Good Samaritan Food Pantry.

The Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs, a diocesan agency at 578 E. Main St. in Columbus which serves the city and Franklin County, distributed 400 boxes containing food from the Byron Saunders Foundation, a central Ohio organization which provides Thanksgiving meals annually to more than 3,000 families in need.

New Boston St. Peter in Chains and Wheelersburg St. Monica churches are supplying volunteers for the Wheelersburg ecumenical Thanksgiving meal on Saturday, Nov. 18 from noon to 2 p.m. at Wheelers-

burg High School.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society of Columbus Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, will distribute Thanksgiving dinners to needy families on Nov. 22.

The St. Vincent de Paul pantry at Columbus St. Philip Church, 1573 Elaine Road, has been giving holiday turkeys to clients throughout November. In December, client families will be receiving winter blankets.

Washington Court House St. Colman of Clove Church, 219 S. North St., will have its Giving Tree weekend this Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 18 and 19. The parish women's group will be collecting gifts for residents of four of its community's assisted care facilities.

The Mount Carmel College of Nursing, 127 S. Davis Ave., Columbus, had its Thanksgiving service on Monday, Nov. 13. During the service, it received gifts of warm clothing, tents, batteries, and gently used shoes and boots for the people who live in homeless camps, on the streets, and under the bridges of the city. The offerings were distributed to the homeless by faculty member Hannah O'Handley and the staff of the Mount Carmel Outreach street medicine program.

Leading prayers at the service were Father Stuart Wilson-Smith, OP, of the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center, along with Pastor Juan Leon, Imam Horsed Noah, Rabbi Jessica Shimberg, and students in the school's campus ministry program representing various faith traditions.



The interfaith Thanksgiving service at the Mount Carmel College of Nursing included participants from many faith traditions. Photo courtesy Mount Carmel College of Nursing



Veterans honored at Lancaster St. Bernadette

Lancaster St. Bernadette School honored those who have served and are serving in the military in two ways. Students collected more than 600 packages of food, snacks, toiletries, and entertainment items for Christmas Care packages for local men and women serving abroad. Students wrote letters and colored pictures to include in the boxes. The school also hosted an assembly featuring patriotic songs and poems which was attended by 48 veterans and more than 50 other guests. A Knights of Columbus honor guard opened and closed the assembly with a formal flag procession and gave a demonstration of flag folding. St. Bernadette graduate Jake Moses, a fire support specialist with the Army's 134th Battalion, was guest speaker. He talked about the Army's seven core values and encouraged students to practice those values in their behavior, their schoolwork, and their service to others. Fifth-grade students are shown standing in front of a Wall of Honor which was set up for the event to display pictures of veterans and current military personnel. Photo courtesy St. Bernadette School

Serra Club of North Columbus Hosts Girls Vocation Luncheon



The Serra Club of North Columbus hosted its annual vocations lunch for girls in grades eight through 12 at Columbus St. Andrew Church. Sister John Paul, OP, principal of Worthington St. Michael School, a Dominican Sister of Mary. Mother of the Eucharist, was the speaker, telling the girls that God is intensely focused on each of them and wants them to have total and complete happiness. She related her own story of discerning what God was calling her to do, encouraged the girls to quietly listen to God, and ensured them that through establishing a prayerful relationship with God, he would show his design for them when they are ready to receive it. She also said girls have special gifts from God, including intuition to know when someone is in need of help or of being lifted up emotionally or spiritually. She said these gifts can fulfill

God's plan in the girls' lives in whatever vocation he has designed for them.

The Serra Club sponsors girls and boys vocations lunches each year. Members pray for vocations to the priesthood and the religious life daily, and invite other laypersons to join them in their efforts to promote and support religious vocations. Call Rose Mary Finneran at (614) 738-4233 if you are interested in attending a meeting and finding out more about Serra and its mission.

Among those at the luncheon were (from left): first row, Anna Pallone, Sister John Paul, OP, Becca Pallone, and Erin Dunn; second row, Natalie Allton, Stephanie Arthur, Father James Black, pastor of Powell St. Joan of Arc Church, a sponsor of the event; and Olivia Lehman.

Photo courtesy North Columbus Serra Club



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Two diocesan residents invested into Order of Malta

Two people from the Diocese of Columbus – Dr. Richard Mena and Father Thomas Blau, OP – were invested on Saturday, Oct. 21 at St. Matthew’s Cathedral in Washington into the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta, commonly known as the Order of Malta. (Pictured are, from left, Dr. Mena; Charles Mifsud, Columbus regional hospitaller for the order; Father Blau; and Doanld Hempson III of Columbus, a member of the order.)



Cardinal Donald Wuerl, archbishop of Washington, told the nearly 500 people in attendance that members of the order are evangelizing disciples with unique characteristics to inspire others – boldness, connectedness to the Church, a sense of urgency, and joy. He spoke of four significant questions whose answers become those foundation blocks of our faith: “The anthro-

pological: What does it mean to be human, created in the image

and likeness of God? The Christological: What does it mean to

be a Christian? The ecclesiological: What does it mean to be a member of the Church? And the soterological: What do we mean by the Kingdom of God?”

“When we receive the cross (of the order) and wear the cross, we remind ourselves who we are and what it means to be a Knight and Dame of Malta, someone who stands firmly on the foundation of our understanding of who we are, what it means to be a Christian and a member of the Church, and how we participate in the glorious work of manifesting God’s kingdom,” Cardinal Wuerl said.

The solemn Mass, during which 57 new members were welcomed into the order, anchored a weekend that brought together members from 29 regions for an annual meeting with the order’s national leadership, the presentation of awards, and a Defense of the Faith program, concluding with a dinner and dance.



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On November 18/19, please give to the

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

For more information, or to get involved in the work of CCHD, contact diocesan director, Erin Cordle, at 614.241.2540, or ecordle@colsdio.org, Visit the CCHD website: www.usccb.org/cchd



Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)

We have to do something with what we are given



Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31;

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6; Matthew 25:14-30

The book of Wisdom dates to the last half of the first century BC. It was written by a Jew who knew Greek.

It is impossible to know the thinking of those who match up liturgical readings during the three-year cycle. Generally, the principle is to match first readings with Gospel passages. Second readings usually stand by themselves as another theme for preachers of the Word. The only possible link I can make for Sunday's readings is the Proverbs reading and Paul's words to the Thessalonians, mentioning "labor pains upon a pregnant woman." That's a stretch, but it is the only link I see. The Psalm response (Psalm 128) sings of how blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who has a fruitful wife, with "children like olive plants" around his table. That was security for the man in his older years and is connected with the Proverbs reading.

The Proverbs reading is told from the man's point of view, praising the worthy wife for all she does for her husband. He has in her "an unfailing prize. She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life." She shops, she sews, she weaves, she cares for the poor and the needy. "The woman who fears the Lord is to be praised." It adds, "Give her a reward for her labors, and let her works praise her at the city gates." Today's equivalent might be something like "May she be featured on the front page of the paper!"

Although contemporary readers may well protest such sentiments as demeaning to women, such high praise of women in a patriarchal society was rare and therefore noteworthy. Today's society is so unlike the biblical

world that it is more than difficult to compare. It is impossible. In any case, Sunday's reading has snippets of this poem of praise which runs from Proverbs 31:10-31.

The Gospel is about the distribution of *talents* of various amounts and their results. A *talent* was the standard large weight in the ancient Near East. In the New Testament period, it equaled 6,000 *drachmas*. A Greek *drachma* equaled the Roman *denarius*. The *denarius* was a day's wage for a laborer. Thus, the man who received five talents received about the same as 30,000 *denarii*, which was quite plainly a huge amount. The one who received two talents still received a good deal, and even the one with one talent had a sizeable amount. The two who received the most were clever enough to double their money. The one who received only one talent buried his money.

On the day of reckoning, "the good and faithful servants" doubled the original investments, and because of their faithfulness in "small matters," they were welcomed into their master's good graces and promised greater responsibilities in due course. The one who buried his was a different story. He even admitted, "I knew you were a demanding person ... so out of fear, I went off and buried your talent in the ground. Here it is."

When he presented the one talent, the master was furious: "You wicked, lazy servant. ... you knew that I harvest where I did not plant. ... Should you not then have put my money in the bank so that I could have got it back with interest on my return?" It was taken from that servant and given to the servant with the ten: "For to everyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And throw this useless servant into the darkness outside. where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth." What we are given, we are expected to do something with, not bury it in the ground. Like last week, this ends in a warning about the end (either the bridegroom's return or the reckoning). Be ready!

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

Ohio School Boards Association honors Wellston Sts. Peter and Paul graduate

Grant Plummer, a graduate of Wellston Sts. Peter and Paul School, was honored at the annual fall conference of the Ohio School Boards Association's southeast region as the region's outstanding male student.

Plummer, a sophomore at Wellston High School, was honored for the civic leadership he has shown, said Karen Boch, superintendent of Wellston City Schools. His research was instrumental in helping the city of Wellston obtain a \$500,000 neighborhood revitalization grant from the state of Ohio.

He singlehandedly checked every Wellston address on the Jackson County

auditor's website and created a spreadsheet with the names and addresses of all property owners in the city. The purpose of his work was to determine the percentage of rental properties in the city. Mayor Connie Pelletier said his effort impressed many state officials.

He was chosen for the OSBA award from nominations received by the association through the region's 18 counties and 84 school districts. The student recognition program was established in 1993 to help school districts showcase outstanding achievement and educational excellence.

"He's an extraordinary student who is described as organized, very hands-on, ma-

ture, and extremely community-minded," the school superintendent said.

He has been involved with the Wellston Historical Association since age nine and is responsible for creating its slogan "Where would you be without Harvey?" referring to town founder Harvey Wells. He also has been involved with the restoration of Wells' former home.

In addition, he is part of the Wellston Main Street and Make Wellston Beautiful civic groups. At school, he is active in Youth in Government, Student Council, the drama club, choir, and band. He is an altar server at Sts. Peter and Paul Church and is learning to play the organ for Masses there.

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
1 Maccabees 1:10-15,41-43,54-57,62-63
Psalm 119:53,61,134,150,155,158
Luke 18:35-43

TUESDAY
2 Maccabees 6:18-31
Psalm 3:2-8
Luke 19:1-10

WEDNESDAY
2 Maccabees 7:1,20-31
Psalm 17:1,5-6,8-15
Luke 19:11-28

THURSDAY
1 Maccabees 2:15-29
Psalm 50:1-2,5-6,14-15
Luke 19:41-44

FRIDAY
1 Maccabees 4:36-37,52-59
1 Chronicles 29:10-12 (Ps)
Luke 19:45-48

SATURDAY
1 Maccabees 6:1-13
Psalm 9:2-4,6,16,19
Luke 20:27-40

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 19, 2017

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 I, Seasonal Proper of the Liturgy of the Hours

As the Bard might say...

Four centuries after his death, Shakespeare remains a peerless playwright because of his remarkable insight into the human condition. Love, ambition, fear, guilt, nobility, pomposity, patriotism, absurdity, sheer wickedness – you name it, Will grasped something of its essence. His work continues to help us understand ourselves better because, whatever the changing of times and seasons, human nature changes very little.

Take, for example, the human propensity to dodge disagreeable arguments by way of evasion.

In *As You Like It*, the Bard neatly dissected the anatomy of evasion through the words of a clown, Touchstone, who outlines “the degrees of the lie”:

“The first, the Retort Courteous; the second, the Quip Modest; the third, the Reply Churlish; the fourth, the Reproof Valiant; the fifth, the Countercheck Quarrelsome; the sixth, the Lie with Circumstance; the seventh, the Lie Direct.”

Some 20 years ago, Father David Beauregard, a literarily inclined Oblate of the Virgin Mary, used Touchstone’s taxonomy to challenge critics of John Paul II’s 1993 encyclical on the reform of Catholic moral theology, *Veritatis Splendor*. Reading Father Beauregard’s Shakespearean take on theological controversy recently, I was struck by how closely Touchstone’s catalogue of evasion tracks the dodgeball played by those who criticize the critics of Pope Francis’ apostolic exhortation on marriage, *Amoris Laetitia*, but who never engage the substance of the critics’ criticisms.

The Retort Courteous has come a little late to the game, but we now hear it from some of the shrewder and less edgy protagonists of *Amoris Laetitia*: The critics of the exhortation are well-meaning people, but



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

a tad behind the curve theologically and pastorally.

As for the Quip Modest, well, that’s been in play for months: The critics, or so the line goes, misrepresent what the Holy Father was actually saying and what we, his defenders, have been saying the Holy Father’s been saying; there’s nobody here but us doctrinally solid, pastorally sensitive folk.

The Reply Churlish has not been lacking, as evidenced by several recent academic seminars: Why should we proponents of *Amoris Laetitia* engage its critics? We’re the future; the wind is in our sails; get used to it.

As for the Reproof Valiant, it comes in the familiar form of academic snark: *Amoris Laetitia*, its protagonists insist, is the Catholic tradition, and anyone who even suggests that elements of the exhortation may be in conflict with seemingly settled matters in the tradition, or in conflict with revelation itself, is a dolt who doesn’t understand how to interpret Scripture or tradition.

The Countercheck Quarrelsome is rare in Rome, where *bella figura* remains prized. But one senior Vatican official, in an unguarded moment, has let it be known that there are those who agree with and understand Pope Francis, and there are those who are

stupid. Quarrelsome, indeed.

Then there are protagonists of the exhortation, including bishops, who claim that *Amoris Laetitia* leads the Catholic Church into a bright future because it jettisons the notion of intrinsically evil acts: actions that are always wrong, irrespective of the circumstances. How would Touchstone categorize them? Here we are through the looking glass, for the claim itself might seem a defense, however porous, against the suggestion of an indulgence here in the Lie Circumstantial or the Lie Direct. Perhaps Shakespeare fails us at this point. I certainly hope so.

No doubt some criticisms of *Amoris Laetitia* have been crude and ill-tempered, assuming a malign intention on the pope’s part that no serious Catholic should assume. But to hint, suggest, or assert that virtually all criticisms of the exhortation are stupid, or malicious, or pastorally insensitive is a very strange position for the Party of Dialogue in the Church to take. In the debate over *Amoris Laetitia*, we are dealing with matters of considerable doctrinal and pastoral importance. And what is at stake are not just arguments and academic egos, but the happiness and beatitude that are the goal of the moral life. Surely, sorting that out requires a spirit of tolerance.

Tolerance comes from the Latin verb *tolerare*, which means “to bear with.” So genuine tolerance does not avoid or evade or dismiss differences; it engages differences with charity and civility. Perhaps revisiting *As You Like It* will encourage those protagonists of *Amoris Laetitia* who’ve been avoiding a real debate to reconsider.

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

Pope bans cigarette sales at the Vatican

By Junno Arocho Esteves

Catholic News Service

Concerned by the damage caused by smoking, Pope Francis has banned the sale of cigarettes in Vatican City State.

Starting in 2018, the Vatican “will cease to sell cigarettes to employees,” Greg Burke, Vatican spokesman, said in a Nov. 9 statement.

“The reason is very simple: The Holy See cannot contribute to an activity that clearly damages the health of people,” he said. “According to the World Health Organization, every year smoking is the cause of more than seven million deaths throughout the world.”

The Vatican used to be known as a safe haven for cigarette smokers. That changed dramatically in 2002, when Vatican City prohibited smoking in offices and public places.



However, cigarettes continued to be sold to current and retired personnel at the Vatican. Even after the cigarette ban goes into effect, the Vatican will continue discount sales of gasoline, groceries and other goods to employees and retirees.

Nevertheless, while cigarette sales “are a source of revenue for the Holy See, no

profit can be legitimate if it puts lives at risk,” Burke said.

On a moral level, the church has never defined smoking as a sin. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says the gift of physical health requires “reasonable care” of the body, and more specifically says: “The virtue of temperance disposes us to avoid every kind of excess: the abuse of food, alcohol, tobacco or medicine.”



St. Anthony students train to be servers

Columbus St. Anthony School fifth-graders are training to be altar servers with Father Thomas Petry, pastor of St. Anthony Church. Server trainees include (from left): Majid Strickland, Jamie Rodriguez, Allan Olivar, Paa-uwah Forjoe, Rebecca Burt, and August Sabo.

Photo courtesy St. Anthony Church

Pray for our dead

AUKER, Joseph L., 87, Nov. 6
St. Agnes Church, Columbus

BEVILACQUA, Wedo A., 93, Nov. 11
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

BURLEIGH, John R. "Bob," 90, Nov. 3
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

CARROLL, Mary D. (Nowlin), 88, Nov. 5
St. Therese's Retreat Center, Columbus

CASTORANO, Rob J., 54, Nov. 5
St. Cecilia Church, Columbus

CASTROP, Kenneth J., 71, Nov. 8
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

GILLILAND, William, 84, Nov. 6
St. John XXIII Church, Canal Winchester

GREEN, Carl "Steve," 62, Nov. 3
St. Joseph Church, Sugar Grove

JURKOVAC, Elizabeth (Wilson), 92, Nov. 8
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

LANGFORD, Thomas, 70, Nov. 9
St. Joseph Church, Dover

LAUBER, Eugene, 89, Nov. 11
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

McCLOSKEY, Paul F., 61, Nov. 4
Our Lady of Peace Church, Columbus

McREYNOLDS, William F., 87, formerly of Columbus, Nov. 9
Divine Word Church, Kirtland

MILLER, Carroll B., formerly of Columbus, Nov. 11
St. Cyprian Church, Perry

MROCZKA, Georgianne (Mager), 73, formerly of Columbus, Nov. 3
St. Leo Church, Cleveland

MYERS, Marla F. (Zito), 67, Nov. 2
Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus

PAOLINI, Robert A., 68, Nov. 4
St. John the Baptist Church, Columbus

RANDOLPH, Patricia P. (Pace), 85, formerly of Columbus, Nov. 2
St. Margaret Church, Narberth, Pa.

RECKER, Brice O., 68, Nov. 3
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

RENTLER, Joseph J., 91, Nov. 7
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

RYAN, Elizabeth "Betty" (Simpson), 88, Nov. 5
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

SAELENS, Ronald L., 79, Nov. 5
St. Joseph Church, Sugar Grove

SHAWGER, Kathleen M. (Brady), 68, Nov. 5
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

SIANIS, Aloisia "Louise" (Miklitsch), 87, Nov. 9
St. Elizabeth Church, Columbus

SMIGELSKI, Earl A., 73, Oct. 30
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

SNOBLE, Mary A. (Miller), 66, Nov. 8
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

STAPLETON, Ralph E., 86, Nov. 8
St. Christopher Church, Columbus

VOLLMER, Jane H. (Hoglund), 90, Nov. 9
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

WAHL, Robert L., 73, Nov. 2
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

YOUNG, Susan E., 71, Oct. 15
St. Cecilia Church, Columbus

Architect to speak to Record Society

Architect William Heyer will be the featured speaker at the quarterly meeting of the Catholic Record Society at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10 at the Columbus Historical Society, 719 W. Town St.

His talk will be about "Church Architecture and Beauty: The Struggles and Rewards of Designing With Traditional Architecture." It will concern sacred spaces, people, and challenges and rewards in his recent work for the Diocese of Columbus and the Pontifical College Josephinum.

Heyer has owned an architecture studio in Bexley since 2002. He recently

completed restoration of the Josephinum's St. Turibius Chapel and was architect for the new Cardington Sacred Hearts Church. He is working on a new monastery church in Missouri and a new university chapel in Indiana, and on new sacred and civic buildings in Illinois, Missouri, Oklahoma, Vermont, and Wisconsin. He also is an adjunct professor in the fine arts at the Josephinum.

For more information on the meeting, contact society chairman Mike Finn at fcoolavin@aol.com or (614) 268-4166.

St. Andrew students collect 'Boxes of Joy'



Columbus St. Andrew School, preschool, and PSR students collected nearly 300 boxes for the Box of Joy campaign this year. Box of Joy is a project sponsored by Cross Catholic Outreach which helps spread Christmas joy and the message of Jesus Christ to people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine. Pictured are (from left) fourth-grade students Marcus Hemphill, Matthew Chizek, and Olivia Lane; their teacher, Cassie Thompson; and students Chioma Ibe and Morgan Grawe. Thompson organized the program and helped prepare the boxes for mailing.

Photo courtesy St. Andrew School

AM 820
CATHOLIC RADIO

Lend an ear!

H A P P E N I N G S

CLASSIFIED

HOLIDAY CRAFT BAZAAR & BAKE SALE

Saturday, November 18, 9-3pm

Our Lady of Lourdes
Catholic Community Center
1033 W. 5th St., Marysville

67 Tables of Holiday Crafts
Free Admission

NOVEMBER

16, 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.

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**

Open House at Bishop Hartley

7 to 9 p.m., Bishop Hartley High School, 1285 Zettler Road, Columbus. Open house for prospective students and their parents. Hear from principal, meet teachers and coaches, experience technology program, take campus

tours.

Open House at St. Agatha School

7:30 to 8:30 p.m., St. Agatha School, 1880 Northam Road, Columbus. Open house for prospective students and their parents. **614-488-9000**

16-19, THURSDAY-SUNDAY

St. Charles Presents 'Shakespeare (Abridged)'

8 p.m. Thursday-Sunday, 3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. School's theater department presents "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)." Tickets \$5 to \$10. **614-252-6714**

17, FRIDAY

Fior Angelico Concert at Cathedral

8 p.m. (pre-concert talk at 7:30), St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Concert by Fior Angelico chamber chorus, performing Spanish songs for lamentation and rejoicing. Part of Early Music in Columbus series. Tickets \$30; \$25 for seniors and \$12 for students. **614-973-1961**

18, 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.

Bishop Hartley Admissions Testing

9 a.m., Bishop Hartley High School, 1285 Zettler Road, Columbus. Admissions testing for prospective members of school's Class of 2022. Students who wish to be considered for a scholarship must take test on either this date or Dec. 9. Preregistration is required. **614-237-5421**

Centering Prayer Group Meeting at Corpus Christi

10:30 a.m. to noon, Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Centering prayer group meeting, beginning with silent prayer, followed by Contemplative Outreach DVD and discussion. **614-512-3731**

DCCW Day of Reflection at Our Lady of Perpetual Help

11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3730 Broadway, Grove City. Day of reflection sponsored by Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. Speaker: Diana Marie Winkler. Topic: "Preparing the Woman Within for Advent." Cost \$25; lunch included. **614-228-8601**

19, SUNDAY

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education

10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Part 2 of seven-part video series on "Wisdom: God's Vision for Life" by Jeff Cavins and Thomas Smith.

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. 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**

Open House at Bishop Watterson

1 to 3:30 p.m., Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road, Columbus. Open house for prospective students and their parents. Tour facilities, meet faculty, staff, and coaches. School principal Deacon Chris Campbell will speak at 2 p.m. **614-268-8671**

Open House at Bishop Ready

1 to 3:30 p.m., Bishop Ready High School, 707 Salisbury Road, Columbus. Open house for prospective students and their parents. General session begins at 1, followed by tours and department presentations. **614-276-5263**

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 to 4:30 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave., Columbus. Meet in church for prayer, followed by general meeting, ongoing formation, and fellowship. Visitors welcome. **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**

Thanksgiving Concert at Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes

3 p.m., Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 1033 W. 5th St., Marysville. Thanksgiving concert featuring parish music director Paul Melcher; his wife, Chelsea; and trumpeter Joshua Zoppa, with hymns, operatic arias, Broadway tunes, and piano and trumpet selections. **937-644-6020**

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**

Worship Concert at London St. Patrick School

7 p.m., St. Patrick School, 226 Elm St., London. Worship concert featuring Tim O'Mark and school's FROG Squad children's choir. **740-852-0161**

20, MONDAY

Catholic Singles Fellowship Mass, Dinner, Adoration

5:30 to 8 p.m., St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware. Parish's Catholic singles fellowship group attends Mass, followed by dinner at a site to be determined, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 7 to 8. All diocesan Catholic singles welcome. **740-362-2246**

Mass of Healing and Healing Service at Cathedral

6:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Mass of Healing, followed by healing service including Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and veneration of relic of the True Cross. Priests will be on hand for discussion and prayer and the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be available.

21, TUESDAY

Rosary for Life at St. Joan of Arc

Following 6:15 p.m. Mass, St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Recital of Rosary for Life, sponsored by church's respect life committee.

23, 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.

25, 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.

26, SUNDAY

Praise Mass at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

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

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**

27, MONDAY

Catholic Singles Fellowship Mass, Dinner, Adoration

5:30 to 8 p.m., St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware. Parish's Catholic singles fellowship group attends Mass, followed by dinner at a site to be determined, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 7 to 8. All diocesan Catholic singles welcome. **740-362-2246**

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.

28, TUESDAY

Padre Pio Prayer Group at St. John the Baptist

12:30 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 168 E. Lincoln Ave., Columbus. Padre Pio Prayer Group meeting, including rosary, devotions, and 1 p.m. Mass. **614-294-5319**

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.

29, WEDNESDAY

ODU Adult and Continuing Education Info Session

6 to 7 p.m., Room 274, Bishop Griffin Center, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Information session for university's adult and continuing education programs. **614-251-7400**

Ohio Dominican Chorus Christmas Concert

7 p.m., Christ the King Chapel, Sansbury Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus. University chorus Christmas concert. **614-251-4453**

30, 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.

Frassati Society Meeting at Columbus St. Patrick

7 p.m., Aquinas Hall, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Meeting of parish's Frassati Society for young adults. "Christ in the City" program with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, confessions, Taize chant, and night prayer, followed by refreshments at Claddagh Irish Pub. **614-224-9522**

All fund-raising events (festivals, bazaars, spaghetti dinners, fish fries, bake sales, pizza/sub sales, candy sales, etc.) will be placed in the "Fund-Raising Guide."

An entry into the Guide will be \$18.50 for the first six lines, and \$2.65 for each additional line.

For more information, call David Garick at 614-224-5195.

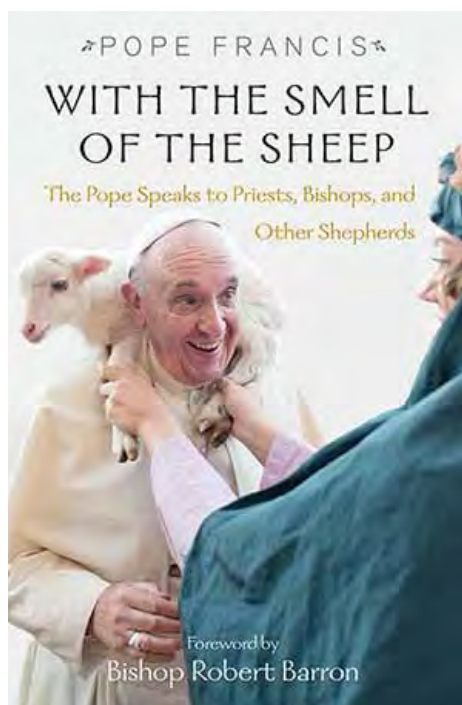
'Happenings' submissions

Notices for items of Catholic interest must be received at least 12 days before expected publication date. We will print them as space permits.

Items not received before this deadline may not be published.

Listings cannot be taken by phone. Mail to Catholic Times Happenings, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215 Fax to 614-241-2518

E-mail as text to tpuet@columbuscatholic.org



BOOK REVIEW

With the smell of the sheep

doesn't use those specific words – that if one is truly a shepherd in the church, then one must be among the sheep. For him, the smell accompanies the shepherd's vocation.

“Smelling like sheep” is the foundation upon which the pope builds, addressing clergy and seminarians on a variety of topics, e.g., mercy, forgiveness, love, relationships and gossip, which he speaks about in several of the talks.

“And allow me to use this expression: the terrorism of gossip, because one who gossips is a terrorist dropping a bomb, destroying from the outside – not even like a kamikaze, but destroying others instead,” he told the priests of Naples in 2015. “Gossip destroys and is a sign that there is no fraternity.”

While the pope's talks were given to specific groups in different countries, readers will quickly note his words apply to shepherds throughout the universal church.

For example, in speaking to the Ital-

ian bishops' conference in 2014, he said, “Holy priests are forgiven sinners and instruments of forgiveness. They are not spiritual tourists, eternally undecided and dissatisfied, because they know they are in the hands of one who never fails in his promises and whose providence is such that nothing can separate them from that longing.”

There are dozens of compilations of papal talks. Most of those talks are written in an academic style – a style that can make them difficult for those lacking the scholarly background to read, let alone understand them.

Pope Francis noted that tediousness as he opened his Naples talk by stating, “I prepared a speech, but speeches are

boring.” Instead, he handed his official, prepared remarks to a cardinal and proceeded “to respond to a few things” specific to his audience.

The pope engages readers because his style is conversational and he uses imagery they understand, e.g., “spiritual Alzheimer's” in instructing priests of Ecuador to remember from where they were called.

Shepherds and future shepherds who seek to have the sheep know their voices would do well to read Pope Francis' words often as they minister among – and strive to smell like – those sheep.

Olszewski is the editor of The Catholic Virginian, newspaper of the Diocese of Richmond, Virginia.



Book highlights papal advice on ministry

Reviewed by Brian T. Olszewski, Catholic News Service

“*With the Smell of the Sheep: The Pope Speaks to Priests, Bishops and Other Shepherds*” by Pope Francis. Orbis Books (Maryknoll, New York, 2017).

During his first chrisem Mass as pope on March 28, 2013, Pope Francis used the phrase “with the smell of the sheep” for the first time in his pontificate.

As evidenced by this compilation, the pope has made it a hallmark of his ministry, emphasizing – even when he



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DeSales students honor veterans

Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School honored military veterans and active service personnel on Friday, Nov. 10. Students and staff, as well as alumni and parents who have served or are serving in the military, gathered on the school's front lawn around the flagpole to begin the day with prayer and the National Anthem. They then planted flags in a field of heroes. Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School



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DeSales athletes sign letters of intent

Six Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School students have signed letters of Intent to continue their athletic careers in college. They are (from left): Connor O'Brien, lacrosse, Wheeling Jesuit; Jack DeSantis, lacrosse, Maryland; Diana Brown, volleyball, Illinois; Tiara Teague, volleyball, Slippery Rock; Greg Gilbert, baseball; Butler; and Nick Renken, baseball, Ohio Dominican.

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School



Watterson athletes make college choices

Five Columbus Bishop Watterson High School seniors have announced their intent to play college sports. Pictured are (from left): first row, Karlyn Hannewald, volleyball, Missouri-St. Louis; Cecilia Moore, swimming, Ball State; Erin Korn, golf, Bowling Green; second row, Nate Meyer, baseball, Cincinnati, and Cole Andrews, baseball, Miami of Ohio.

Photo courtesy Bishop Watterson High School

Happy Thanksgiving!



Dear Friends,

Thanksgiving . . . A time to thank God for all that he has done for us and all he has allowed us to do. It is also a time to thank those friends who have helped us throughout the year. We at your Catholic Cemeteries wish to give special recognition and thanks to those who participated in our Memorial Day and Cemetery Sunday Services.

Sincerely,
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Resurrection
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Cemetery

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Fr. Nicholas Droll
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Msgr. David Funk
Fr. Vince Nguyen
Deacon Jerry Butts
Deacon Jeffrey Fortkamp
Fr. James Klima
Lisa Leonard
Ron Barrett
Melanie Day
St. Pius X Choir
John Pottkotter
St. Michael Knights of Columbus
Southway American Legion Post 144
Worthington VFW Post 2398
American Legion Post 430
Reynoldsburg VFW Post 9473

Poinsettias for Christmas



Potted Poinsettias are being purchased to decorate Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel at St. Joseph Cemetery, the Chapel Mausoleum at Resurrection Cemetery and the Chapel Mausoleum at Holy Cross Cemetery. These brilliant scarlet plants are available in the 6 1/2" pot which contains two plants consisting of 4-8 blooms. To donate a poinsettia in memory of your special loved ones, see the coupon below. We will tag your plant with your loved one's name. You may then pick up your poinsettia any time after January 1st, should you wish to take it home.

OFFICE HOURS: M-F 8AM - 4:30 PM, Sat 8 AM - Noon

CEMETERY HOURS: 8AM - Sunset

- Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel/St. Joseph Cemetery**
6440 S. High St./Lockbourne, OH 43137/614-491-2751
- Chapel Mausoleum/Resurrection Cemetery**
9571 N. High St./Lewis Center, OH 43035/614-888-1805
- Chapel Mausoleum/Holy Cross Cemetery**
11539 Nat. Rd. S.W./Pataskala, OH 43062/740-927-4442



Please return this coupon with a \$15.00 donation to the cemetery of your choice . . . thank you.

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