

# The Catholic **TIMES**

The Diocese of Columbus' Information Source

March 27, 2022 • FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT • Volume 71:7

## Inside this issue



**Stations with music:**  
Richard Fitzgerald, director of music and organist at St. Joseph Cathedral, will present improvised musical meditations on the Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m. Friday, April 8 at the cathedral in downtown Columbus, Page 11



**Local authors:**  
Dan DeMatte, executive director of Damascus Catholic Mission Campus in Knox County (pictured with his wife, Amber) authored a new book, *Dream Bigger*, and Father Emmanuel Adu Addai, parochial vicar at Worthington St. Michael Church and a native of Ghana, has a book out on medical ethics, Pages 12-13



**State champs:**  
St. Francis DeSales junior David McClelland (pictured) and Bishop Watterson freshman Mitchell Younger won individual wrestling titles at the 2022 state meet, and DeSales finished fifth as a team in Division II, Page 21



## REAL PRESENCE REAL FUTURE MOVES FORWARD THROUGH THE NEXT PHASE

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## Local news and events

## Diocese to celebrate Mass in union with consecration

The Diocese of Columbus planned to offer a Mass in solidarity with Pope Francis' Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Blessed Virgin Mary at noon Friday, March 25 at St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St.

Msgr. Stephan Moloney, the diocesan administrator and vicar general, will preside at the Mass, which will be celebrated on the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord.

Bishops throughout the world are participating in the consecration and praying for an end to the war.

## Church in postmodern world will be subject of talk

Msgr. James Shea, president of the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota, will speak on the topic "From Christendom to Apostolic Mission: Preparing the Church for the Postmodern World" at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 30 in the Jessing Center at the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus.

Msgr. Shea was involved with the project that produced a book by a similar name that former Columbus Bishop Robert Brennan gave to all the diocese's priests last summer as a vision of missionary discipleship.

Reservations are not required for the free talk. For more information, visit [www.pcj.edu](http://www.pcj.edu) or call (614) 985-2274.

## Greater Columbus Right to Life announces oratory contest

Greater Columbus Right to Life (GCRTL) will be part of the 2022 Ohio Right to Life oratory contest. Judging will take place Wednesday, April 27 at the GCRTL office, 4900 Reed Road, Columbus. Contestants can participate in person or remotely.

The first-place winner will receive \$100 and represent central Ohio in the state oratory contest. Prizes of \$75 for second place and \$50 for honorable mention also will be presented.

In addition, winners will receive complimentary VIP tickets to meet Dr. Steve Hammond, a former abortion provider turned pro-life advocate, at the GCRTL annual banquet. The winner of the Ohio contest will participate in the national contest in Washington.

The event is open to high school juniors and seniors (or the equivalent) who live, attend church or go to school in Franklin, Delaware, Morrow, Union, Madison, Fairfield, Pickaway or Licking counties. Students residing outside of these areas who do not have a local contest in their community also may be eligible to participate.

Students are eligible whether they are homeschooled or attend a public, private or charter school. Students in non-traditional programs or pursuing dual post-secondary enrollment also are eligible.

Contestants will be asked to research,

write and present a five- to seven-minute original speech on being pro-life, focusing on abortion, infanticide, euthanasia or stem-cell research.

Applicants must register online by 5 p.m. Friday, April 22 at [www.gctrl.org/oratory](http://www.gctrl.org/oratory). They then will be contacted to schedule a time to present their speech.

For more information, call (614) 445-8508.

## St. Catharine talk will look at disciple-making

Jason Simon, president of Evangelical Catholic, will speak from 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 30 at Columbus St. Catharine Church, 500 S. Gould Road. His topic will be "Remember, I Am With You Always: Disciple-Making in Troubled Times."

Anyone interested in evangelization and discipleship in the Church is encouraged to attend.

To register, go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/remember-i-am-with-you-disciple-making-in-troubled-times-tickets-289857731277?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>.

Evangelical Catholic created the REACH MORE mission process to help lay disciples become disciple-makers. It is partnering with the Diocese of Columbus to launch the process.

See LOCAL NEWS, Page 9

## Prayers for Ukraine



More than 50 members of the Dead Theologians Society (DTS) chapter at Columbus St. Patrick Church prayed a rosary for the people of war-torn Ukraine at the end of the meeting on Tuesday, March 15 in the parish's Patrick Hall. DTS is part of the youth ministry program at St. Patrick Church. Photo courtesy Eddie Cotter, Dead Theologians Society

## S U B S C R I B E

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Front Page photo:  
**MOVING FORWARD WITH REAL PRESENCE**  
Key parish leaders from throughout the diocese were presented updates this month at the Pontifical College Josephinum's Jessing Center on the Real Presence Real Future initiative.

Photo courtesy Abigail Pitones

## Clergy assignments

The Diocese of Columbus announced the following clergy assignments:

**Reverend Elias Udeh, C.S.Sp.**, from service outside the diocese, to Parochial Vicar, St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus and Chaplain for the Nigerian Catholic Community, effective January 28, 2022.

Confirming the appointment of the Provincial of the Order of Our Lady of Mercy, **Reverend Michael Donovan, O. de M. and Reverend Joseph Eddy, O. de M.**, from service outside the diocese, to residence, Holy Family Church, Columbus, effective January

17, 2022.

Confirming the appointment from the Prior Provincial, Very Rev. Kenneth Letoile, OP of the Dominican Friars, **Reverend Stephen Carmody, O.P.**, from St. Patrick Priory, Columbus, to Parochial Vicar, St. Matthew Church, Gahanna, effective February 15, 2022.

Confirming the appointment from the Superior of the Sons of the Immaculate Conception, **Reverend Cyprian Izu-chukwu, C.F.I.C.**, from service outside the diocese, to residence at St. Phillip Church, Columbus, effective February 10, 2022.

Catholic  
TIMES

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# Real Presence Real Future process enters next stage

By Tim Puet  
For *The Catholic Times*

Early in 2021, the Diocese of Columbus announced a multiyear consultative process titled Real Presence Real Future, asking clergy, lay ecclesial ministers, parish volunteers and all the faithful for their advice on the best path forward to increase the Catholic Church's presence in the diocese.

The initiative began with prayer, including the diocese-wide 40 Days of Adoration for Lent, which has continued this year, and a two-day Eucharistic Gathering in August. Parishioners from each of the diocese's 105 parishes were asked to fill out a survey titled the Disciple Maker Index (DMI) designed to identify ways in which they think their parish effectively supports spiritual growth and to help pastors decide where to focus their evangelization efforts.

The initiative grouped the diocese's parishes into 12 planning areas, creating a plan for a comprehensive Catholic presence in each area that integrates missionary outreach, parish and school footprints, and leadership requirements for the next five years.

In fall 2021, more than 5,000 individuals registered for the parish consultation sessions involving the first round of parish draft models, and more than 2,600 people filled out the accompanying survey. Those comments as well as comments from the priests' feedback on the first round of draft models provided the foundation for the second round of draft models, which were shown to the priests in January and the permanent deacons in early March.

The second round of draft models were then explained to pastors and parish leaders from each area at separate meetings throughout March at the Pontifical College Josephinum, led by Father Michael Hartge, moderator of the Curia for the diocese and director of the initiative.

Also answering questions at the meetings were the diocese's regional vicars – Father David Schalk of Columbus Christ the King and St. Thomas the Apostle churches; Father Robert Penhallurick of Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator Church; and Father David Sizemore of Newark St. Francis de Sales Church.

Father Hartge said the feedback from the fall pointed to four main areas that need clarification in the initiative: whether its principal focus was evangelization or parish realignment; why parishes needed to change; the meaning of possible changes; and the timeline for when they would occur.

"Everything in the Church starts with prayer, and it was that way for this initia-



**Key parish leaders from parishes throughout the diocese gathered in groups at the Pontifical College Josephinum's Jessing Center during the past two weeks to review draft models and survey results taken from the Disciple Maker Index that parishioners were asked to complete last year.**  
*Photos courtesy Abigail Pitones*



**Father David Sizemore (right) is joined by a group from his parish, Newark St. Francis de Sales Church.**

tive," Father Hartge said at a meeting of pastors and parish leaders from Muskingum, Perry, Coshocton, Tuscarawas and Holmes counties on Monday, March 14.

"That's why we began it with the 40 Days of Adoration and the Eucharistic Gathering and are having Father John Riccardo of the Archdiocese of Detroit coming to the state fairgrounds in June for a two-day program called the Rescue Project Live!

"The three focuses of the initiative are prayer, planning and support, with an overall goal of learning how to make the diocese's missionary outreach be most effective. Diocesan offices already have undergone significant change based on results of feedback we've re-



**Representatives from each of the 105 parishes in the diocese were present at one of the sessions.**

ceived. Pastors are critical to the success of this initiative. Resources to support them need to be better developed, and we're trying to be as transparent as possible about this.

"We want to be much better at pastoral support in the future. The presence of a pastor where he needs to be is a major driver of evangelization and a major focus of this initiative."

Answers to the DMI survey showed that pastoral presence and leadership were by far the principal reasons why those responding would recommend their parish to others. Other reasons were, in order of mention, the quality of Sunday Masses, a sense of welcome, the quality of homilies and ease in ob-

taining parish information. Pastoral presence was mentioned more often than those other reasons combined.

Diocesan statistics show that since 2000, Catholic marriages within the diocese are down 47 percent, infant baptisms are down 29 percent, confirmations are down 23 percent and 13 percent of baptized children do not receive first Holy Communion. These numbers reflect national totals.

In addition, Mass attendance fell by 44 percent, from 80,000 to 48,500, between 2008 and 2021 in the diocese, with 43 percent of its parishes having fewer than 250 people attending weekend Masses.

"Sacramental preparation is a real cause for concern, because we know the sacraments are encounters with Christ," Father Hartge said. "We hope Real Presence Real Future will help us see what methods of sacramental preparation best resonate with the people to help them recognize the importance of the sacraments.

"Parishes are getting smaller, with fewer resources," he said. "This is not to say small parishes are bad. Many people like small parishes and say they enjoy the family feeling a small parish provides. But it has to have adequate resources for proper support. No matter what may come out of this initiative, the diocese is committed to retain at least one church in each of its 23 counties."

He also noted that 102 diocesan and order priests are active in the diocese, with 45 percent of the active diocesan priests age 60 or older. As a result, it is projected that 80 active priests will serve in the diocese within 10 years, of whom 70 or fewer will be available for assignment to parishes because of the need to support other specialized ministries.

Priests who responded to the fall survey said that they wanted to have an end date for when parish reorganization might take effect and that multiple-parish pastoring is very difficult and not sustainable for long periods.

They also expressed concern about the financial stability of struggling parishes and about the amount of work required to implement changes and the need for diocesan support in this effort.

They said parish cultural identities, socioeconomic conditions and worship styles might differ, expressed support for a broader Latino strategy for the diocese and emphasized the importance of Catholic schools in making evangelization efforts succeed.

A separate evangelization plan for Catholic schools, based on the components of faith, excellence and sustain-



# The second round of Draft Models is here!

Thank you to the 5,300 parishioners who participated and to the 2,600 of you who provided feedback through the online survey. That doesn't include the numerous e-mails and written letters that we received, which show us how much you are truly engaged in this important work.

The feedback we heard from the Fall Consultation Sessions greatly helped us understand where parishes might be grouped together and what some of your greatest concerns were.

Your feedback has been gathered and is shown in the video presentations for this second round of draft models. *Please go to [realpresencerealfuture.org](http://realpresencerealfuture.org)* to watch the planning group video where your parish is located.

You will hear answers to 4 Big Questions that came from the Fall:

- Wasn't this about Evangelization?
- Our parish is fine, why do we need to change?
- What do these changes actually mean?
- What is the timeline for all of this?

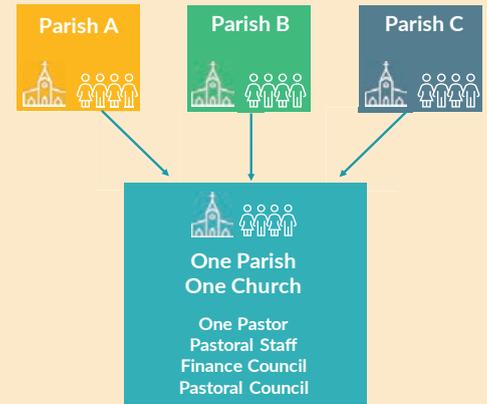
Clarity about what mergers and collaborations might mean as well as some recent statistics concerning sacramental participation, October Mass Counts and next steps are made clear in the Round Two Video Presentations.

One of these models will be applied to every parish in the Diocese of Columbus. With diverse geography, ethnic groups and populations in our diocese one size does not fit all. Watch the Planning Group Video for your parish to find out what the second round draft models show for your area.



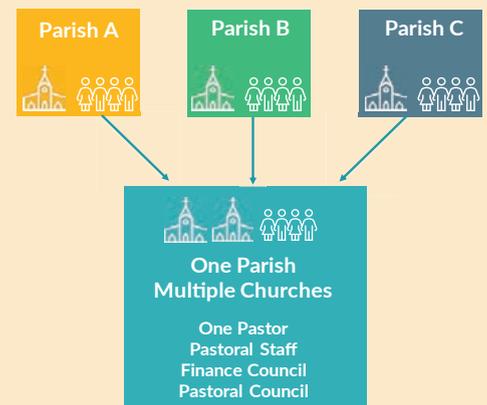
## MODEL A

- Traditional model
- Can be created by a merger of parishes and the closure of some churches
- One parish may merge into the other or two or more can merge and create a new parish



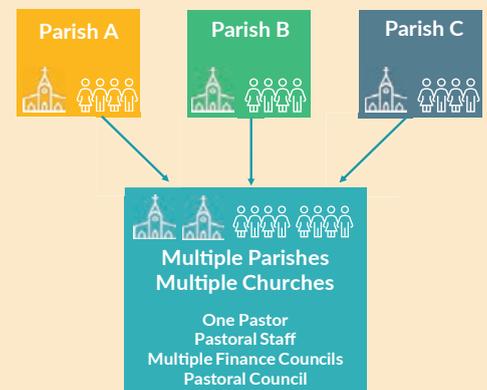
## MODEL B

- Single parish but will have multiple worship sites
- Created by a merger of parishes
- One parish may merge into the other or two or more can merge and create a new parish



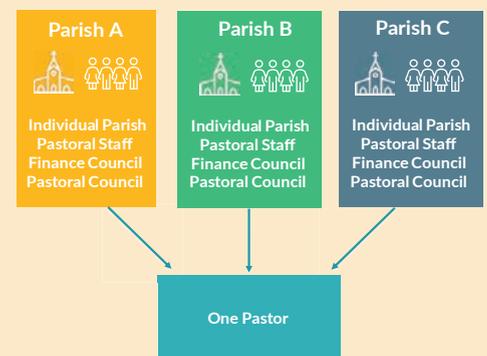
## MODEL C

- One pastor for all parishes in the collaborative
- Each parish remains a separate entity with its own church, but shared vision is created for all parishes in collaborative
- One Pastoral council but separate finance councils for each parish
- Common staff and shared ministry across the collaborative.
- Establish service agreements for shared clergy/ staffing/ ministry costs



## MODEL D

- One pastor is responsible for multiple parishes
- The parishes are separate entities and each offer a full-range of ministries
- May lead to greater levels of collaboration between the parishes, but not necessarily
- We are **NOT** recommending this model.



## Six Elements of Missionary Disciple Formation

As we continue the RPRF initiatives, we must not lose sight of Missionary Disciple Formation.

In Matthew 28:19-20 Jesus tells the disciples, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

The formation of missionary disciples is the heart of evangelization in the Diocese of Columbus. The following six elements are a crucial part of forming and being mature Catholic Missionary Disciples.

.....

### Kerygmatic Encounter

A kerygmatic encounter is the essential first step of the missionary disciple journey. While we encounter Jesus in many ways, most especially in the Eucharist, the kerygmatic encounter is a unique type of encounter in which one comes to know Jesus in their lives while being presented with the gospel message. Essential to this experience, is the opportunity to personally respond in conversion, repentance, and surrender to Christ.

### Ongoing Spiritual Formation in the Sacraments and Prayer

The disciple continues to encounter Christ in the Mass, other sacraments, and daily prayer. This work of formation in prayer and sacramental living is ongoing.

### Missional Training

Having encountered Christ and responded, a disciple's life is moved into a new direction. Formation, or training in how to evangelize is essential after the kerygmatic encounter.

### Discipleship Small Groups/Community

Living as missionary disciples requires the support of fellow disciples. Community is a necessary part of disciple formation.

### Ongoing Catechesis

Catechesis is the echoing or handing on of the Truths of the Faith. Thorough catechesis is necessary for complete and mature disciple formation.

### Ongoing Scriptural Study

Missionary disciples need to continue to grow in their love and understanding of Sacred Scripture.



The Rescue Project with Fr. Riccardo from ACTs XXIX will be a Kerygmatic encounter, the first step of Missionary Disciple Formation.

The Ohio Expo center is prepared to host 5000 people for this amazing event. Plan to attend and bring someone who has never heard the gospel message or who may need to hear it again in this unique way.

**Register at [stgabrielradio.com](http://stgabrielradio.com)**

**June 18th and 19th**

Ohio Expo Center  
Columbus, Ohio

## 40 Days of Adoration helps us follow through on good intentions

As a married woman of almost 25 years, some of the most beautiful moments of that union are the ones where I encounter a deeper, more intimate glimpse of my husband. Maybe it is an insight he shares or a wound that is opened that together we can help heal. Sometimes it is his laugh, a youthful one not filled with the worries of adult parenting.

These moments draw us closer to each other. I want to know Jesus in the same way.

Scripture says, "Ask and it shall be given to you. Seek and you will find. Knock and the door will be opened to you." I know my Lord wants that intimacy with me. I imagine the warmth of His laugh, the joy of His heavenly smile. The freedom that comes from letting Him work through my wounds, which allows me to know Him more closely.

A simple ask of me, and a big give from Him. And yet, maybe the ask is not so simple. Words can be simple, but the meaning, the follow-through is important. It is one thing for my husband to say, "I want us to spend more time together because I love you and want to know you more deeply." It is another for

### ALL THAT WE HAVE

MaryBeth Eberhard

*MaryBeth Eberhard writes about marriage, life experiences of a large family and special needs. She attends Sunbury St. John Neumann Church.*



him to schedule a sitter, take time out of his schedule to meet me for lunch and focus solely on our relationship, even for one hour.

It's the follow-through that matters. And oh, do I feel so loved by the gift of that time! I feel cherished.

I am convinced as I reflect and write that I need to invest that same time more fully into my relationship with Jesus. Our diocese is offering 40 days of Adoration, a specific time to remind us to draw near to Jesus. Each parish is given a day where Jesus will be exposed in the Blessed Sacrament for quiet adoration. I am inviting all my friends and family to join me in that investment, one hour with Jesus.

Lately, I have spent a great deal of time asking, seeking and knocking ... and, of course, the door

opens ... and I peek my head in and tell Jesus I'll be right back ... but I get distracted. In these 40 Days of Adoration, we are given a time to be more intentional. We can show our commitment, our dedication to the Lord by taking that time to listen, to encounter the Lord in the Eucharist.

My dear friends, I am imagining how full our Lord's heart would be if His churches were filled. I can see the brightness and feel the joy of His Eucharistic heart as we, one by one, follow through on all the times we've told the Lord we want to know Him more fully.

I imagine the warmth of my husband's smile, the brightness of his eyes as I lean in to fully see and hear him. I love how marriage mirrors God's love for us. The love reflected there is just a small glimpse of the love the Lord has for me. He has that same love for all of us.

I invite everyone to take time during this season to visit our Lord in Adoration, to allow ourselves to be transfigured by His love for us.

## An Orthodox awakening

For years, the two leaders of the Russian Orthodox Church with whom Pope Francis met by videoconference on March 16 — Kirill, Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus', and Metropolitan Hilarion, the Church's chief ecumenical officer — have worked to buttress Vladimir Putin's efforts to reconstitute a simulacrum of the Soviet Union in the name of a Russkiy mir ("Russian world"). Kirill and Hilarion's efforts have run the gamut from falsifying the history of eastern Slavic Christianity to the virtual beatification of President Putin as a figure providentially ordained to save the world from Western decadence and "liberalism." Most recently, Kirill blasphemously blessed a war of aggression with holy icons.

This shameful enterprise has now been forthrightly rejected by some 500 Orthodox scholars throughout the Eastern Christian world, in a Declaration on the "Russian World" Teaching.

The Declaration unambiguously deplores the "Russian world" ideology as "a form of religious fundamentalism" that is "totalitarian in character." Orthodox believers who espouse this ideology cease to be members of the "Church of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Apostles, the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed, the Ecumenical Councils, and the Fathers of the Church." In a word, the "Russian world" is a "heresy," and from that "vile and indefensible" heresy have sprung "the shameful actions of the Government of Russia in unleashing

### THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

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



war in Ukraine with the connivance of the Russian Orthodox Church."

The Declaration goes on to "condemn ... and reject" six pseudo-theological facets of "Russian world" ideology:

First, the signatories deplore "any teaching that seeks to replace the Kingdom of God, proclaimed and inaugurated by Christ ... with a kingdom of this world, be that Holy Rus', Sacred Byzantium, or any other earthly kingdom."

Second, the signatories "firmly reject all forms of government that deify the state (theocracy) and absorb the Church, depriving the Church of its freedom to stand prophetically against all injustice." They also "rebuke all those who affirm caesaropapism," which subordinates obedience to Christ to obedience to a "leader vested with ruling powers and claiming to be God's anointed, whether known by the title 'Caesar,' 'Emperor,' 'Tsar,' or 'President.'"

Third, the signatories deplore as antibiblical and heretical "any teaching that attributes divine establishment or authority, special sacredness or purity to any single local, national, or ethnic identity," or that divinizes "any particular culture."

Fourth, the signatories reject the demonization of those who are "other" and flatly condemn "any Manichean and Gnostic division that would elevate a holy Orthodox Eastern culture and its Orthodox people above a debased and immoral 'West.'"

Fifth, the Declaration summons

Orthodox believers to exercise authentic Christian responsibility for public life while calling out the hypocrisy of Russian churchmen: "We rebuke those who pray for peace while failing to actively make peace, whether out of fear or lack of faith."

And finally, the Declaration demands that Russian Orthodox leaders be truth-tellers after the mind of Christ. Those who refuse to "speak the truth or actively [suppress] the truth about [the] evils that are perpetrated against the Gospel of Christ in Ukraine" condemn themselves as cowards, liars, or both. The signatories also "condemn all talk of 'fratricidal war'" or the "repetition of the sin of Cain, who killed his brother out of envy" if any such use of biblical imagery does not "explicitly acknowledge the murderous intent and culpability of one party over another" — in other words, Russia's unwarranted assault on Ukraine.

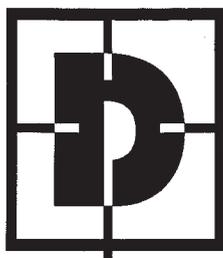
Putin's savage war has altered so many things on the world political stage that its effects on Eastern Christianity may be overlooked. The sea-change that may be underway there is of great importance, however, for two reasons.

For more than a decade, Russian imperial bullying has been paralleled by the bullying of other Orthodox communions by the Patriarchate of Moscow, as it seeks hegemony in the Orthodox world. But because of his pusillanimous actions since the invasion of Ukraine on February 24, Patriarch Kirill's moral authority is now at the sub-basement level. As Putin's missiles have shattered Mariupol, Kirill's acquiescence in barbarism has shattered Russian Orthodoxy's campaign to be first among Orthodox equals.

The Declaration on the "Russian World" Teaching also opens important ecumenical possibilities, especially in fostering a dialogue on social doctrine between Orthodoxy and Catholicism. Through the Putin/Kirill dyad, the ancient Byzantine notion of a "symphony" between Church and state has once again led to the Church's corruption, as Russian Orthodoxy plays chaplain to the czar. The signatories of the Declaration understand that. The door is therefore open to a creative ecumenical conversation on Church, state, society, culture, and economy in the future.

One hopes the Vatican eventually grasps this.

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## Once again, it's time to pray for peace

In the past few weeks, we have all been distressed by the images of incredible destruction in Ukraine and the death and displacement of so many Ukrainians by an incomprehensible war. Unthinkable for us has been the targeting and bombing of apartment buildings, maternity hospitals and civilian safe havens in major Ukrainian cities by the Russian military.

While we have responded to parish collections for Ukrainian relief, supported refugee assistance in neighboring countries and prayed for successful peace talks that would lead to a cease-fire or an end to the war, we still feel helplessly caught in the middle of a bad and unpredictable dream.

The specter of a global conflict, which we had conveniently dismissed after the end of the Cold War and the fall of the Soviet Union, has returned in a new and menacing way.

As a result of these current events, I was brought back to a memory of being a second-grader in Miss Nancy Huhn's classroom in fall 1961. It was during the Berlin Crisis and about a year before the Cuban Missile Crisis.

The border between East and West Berlin was closed by East German and Soviet troops in mid-August. East Germany began construction of a wall. In the United States, Air National Guard units were mobilized.

By the later part of October 1961, U.S. tanks with live munitions faced Soviet tanks similarly armed at the checkpoint on either side of the sector boundary (100 to 200 meters apart) for 18 hours. Alert levels of NATO and the U.S. Strategic Air Command were heightened. We seemed to be on the precipice of another global war.

Pope John XXIII, in his "Message for Peace" of Sept. 10, 1961, called for prayer for world leaders

### FAITH IN ACTION

Mark Huddy

*Mark Huddy is the Episcopal Moderator for Catholic Charities and the Office for Social Concerns in the Diocese of Columbus.*



and their citizens that they would not be "dazzled by exacerbated nationalism and destructive rivalry," and that relationships be regulated by truth, justice, love and the gentle rule of Christ. ([https://www.vatican.va/content/john-xxiii/en/messages/pont\\_messages/1961/documents/hf\\_j-xxiii\\_mes\\_19610910\\_pace.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/john-xxiii/en/messages/pont_messages/1961/documents/hf_j-xxiii_mes_19610910_pace.html))

Later in September, on the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, the pope issued an apostolic letter in which he speaks to the value and effectiveness of praying the rosary for peace and protection in times of political turmoil and warfare.

He recommended praying the rosary for peace during the month of the most holy rosary, October. ([https://www.vatican.va/content/john-xxiii/it/apost\\_letters/1961/documents/hf\\_j-xxiii\\_apl\\_19610929\\_religioso-convegno.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/john-xxiii/it/apost_letters/1961/documents/hf_j-xxiii_apl_19610929_religioso-convegno.html))

Back in our own diocese, Bishop Clarence Isenmann made an appeal on the feast of St. Francis, Oct. 4, 1961, that the Prayer for Peace recited communally after every Sunday Mass be recited after all Masses, devotions and other services from that date until Jan. 1, 1962.

He also asked every parish to hold a weekly Holy Hour for the preservation of peace. Pastors were asked to encourage their parishioners to make visits to the Blessed Sacrament and to arrange a schedule of adorers before the tabernacle during the daytime hours.

I remembered that I had kept a copy of the Prayer for Peace, written in the language of its day, in the missal that I used in grade school. The text is as follows:

"Almighty and Eternal Father, God of wisdom and mercy, whose power exceeds all force of arms and Whose protection is the strong defense of all who trust in Thee, enlighten and direct, we beseech Thee, those who bear the heavy responsibility of government throughout the world in these days of stress and trial.

"Grant them the strength to stand firm for what is right and the skill to dispel the fears that foment discord; inspire them to be mindful of the horrors of atomic war for victor and vanquished alike, to seek conciliation in truth and patience, to see in every man a brother – that the people of all nations may, in our day, enjoy the blessings of a just and lasting peace.

"Conscious of our own unworthiness, we implore Thy mercy on a sinful world in the name of Thy Divine Son, the Prince of Peace, and through the intercession of His Blessed Mother and all the saints. Queen of All Saints, pray for us. Queen of the Holy Rosary, pray for us. Queen of Peace, pray for us."

We prayed that prayer daily in the last months of 1961 and again in the fall of 1962 when the world seemed on the brink of destruction. And those prayers for peace were granted.

Today, we should again storm heaven with fervent prayer, asking God to enlighten the heads of government, inspire them to be mindful of the horrors of nuclear war and to seek conciliation in truth, that we and all of our brothers and sisters throughout the world may again enjoy the blessings of peace.

## Making room for Eucharistic love

By Sister John Paul Maher, OP

"Someone exists who holds in His hands the destiny of the passing world ... and this Someone is Love ... Eucharistic Love." Pope St. John Paul II wrote those words as he encouraged us to "be not afraid" in *Crossing the Threshold of Hope* (1994).

Fear can reach us, but the word of God reminds us "perfect love drives out fear." (1 John 4:18)

The perfect love of God is given to us in the Holy Eucharist. Receiving Jesus and offering a gift of self in return is our life's purpose. Eucharistic love is our vocation.

How do we let ourselves be loved by God? We should pause at that question. If the purpose of life is to receive the love of God in our hearts and give it to others, then we need to have good answers to that question.

We receive the love of God by accepting where He offers it, especially in the sacraments and the liturgy of the Church. While God's grace can reach us in whatever way and wherever He wills, God chooses to encounter us in an extraordinary and direct way in the Holy Eucharist.

God willed to express His love by coming to earth to dwell with us and remain with us in the Holy Eucharist. He decided to become a baby, to die in the best years of his life and to enter the realm of sin and hell to bring our human nature (and us) through death into



*Illustration courtesy Dominican Sisters of Mary Mother of the Eucharist*

eternal life. We relive this plan of God for our salvation most closely through the liturgy.

God comes into physical and spiritual contact with us. By God's grace, He dwells in us. We can be guided by His Holy Spirit and as He speaks to us through the Holy Scriptures. We have nothing to fear with the

Lord in our midst.

Christ, the High Priest, established a holy priesthood so we can hear Jesus speak to us through the words "I absolve you" and "I baptize you." We offer our return to the Lord in the liturgy, declaring, "I confess" and "I believe." Ours is a personal love in response to the Lord, and yet we approach God together, as a human family, in the communion of the Church.

At Mass, we profess belief and take a stand, accepting the duties and implications of our faith. Our presence and responses are intended to reflect a deep commitment to love and honor God all the days of our life. This is seen, for example, when we renew our baptismal promises at the Easter Vigil and at confirmation.

We are asked to turn away from sin and toward freedom. The priest asks: "Do you renounce Satan? And all his works? And all his empty show?"

In another form, the priest asks: "Do you renounce sin, so as to live in the freedom of the children of God? Do you renounce the lure of evil, so that sin may have no mastery over you? Do you renounce Satan, the author and prince of sin?"

As individuals, we make our promise back to God, saying, "I do." We renounce all that gets in the way of receiving the love of God. This is the first step in letting ourselves be loved by God. By His grace, we act to clear the path and make room for Him.

## May prayer be like breathing

In strength training, we use a method of breathing that enables us to brace our core to keep our organs and spine safe during heavy lifts. We breathe in through our nose to fill the diaphragm and exhale through our mouths to calm the nervous system.

Using the proper method and timing of breathing is key to lifting weights safely.

I do the same thing when I settle down to pray. I breathe in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and exhale all the things of the world – the distractions, the concerns, the situations I can't control. Maybe you do the same. It is a wonderful way to start prayer time as it helps clear the mind and settle the body into a calm state so we can pray wholeheartedly.

I also like to compare prayer to breathing. As we seek to spend more time in prayer throughout the day, we might find that prayer begins to naturally rise from our hearts almost continually without thought or effort – much like breathing. At least that is what I desire.

St. Paul tells us to “pray without ceasing,” and I don't think he was referring to hands folded and head down all day, but that in all circumstances we have an awareness and connection to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit who are with us, and in us, in all that we think,

### HOLY AND HEALTHY

Lori Crock

Lori Crock is a SoulCore Rosary prayer and exercise leader and a St. Brendan parishioner. Lori is online at [hollyandhealthycatholic.com](http://hollyandhealthycatholic.com), where she shares her passion for faith and fitness.



say and do.

How wonderful when words of praise and thanksgiving to God bubble up from our hearts in moments of joy. In hard times, we move seamlessly into fervent prayer for assistance. In ordinary moments that overwhelm the senses, as in a beautiful sunset, a peaceful walk, an inspiring book or carefree timelessness with family and friends, we can't help but whisper words of love to our Creator for these gifts.

Some might refer to these prayerful exclamations as “breath prayers,” as they rise from us as naturally as a breath in various circumstances. A few such prayers for me are, “Give me patience, Lord,” “Hail Mary, full of grace,” “Thank you, God,” “Come, Holy Spirit” and “Jesus, I trust in you.”

Being more aware of God's presence and convers-

ing with Him throughout the day, asking and listening, inviting Him into our temporal affairs, big and small, can unite us more fully to Him, and, we hope, over time, we become more like Him.

St. Teresa of Avila said, “Prayer is being on terms of friendship with God, frequently conversing in secret with Him who, we know, loves us.”

Breath is associated with “God in us” throughout Scripture in many beautiful ways and reminds us of our call to rely on God in all things. A few examples: In Job 33:4, “The breath of the almighty God keeps me alive.” In Psalm 150:6, “Let everything that has breath give praise to the Lord!” In Acts 17:25, “Rather it is he who gives life and breath and everything.”

Pope Francis links praise of God with breathing. “Praise is the ‘breath’ which gives us life, because it is intimacy with God ... an intimacy that grows through daily praise. No one can live without breathing. It is the same with the Christian life. And with praise and worship. What do we do when we pray? We ask things of God, we give thanks.”

Let us give thanks to God for every breath, and may prayers of praise and thanksgiving rise naturally from our hearts nearly as often as breathing.

## Tickets on sale for DeSales' spring musical



The Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School performing arts department will present its spring musical *The Addams Family*, a comedy featuring music and lyrics by Andrew Lippa and based on a book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice, at 7 p.m. Friday, April 8 and Saturday, April 9 and at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 10 in the school's Little Theatre. Tickets are \$10 each for adults and \$5 for students, and may be purchased by visiting the DeSales website at [www.sfdstallions.org/spring-musical](http://www.sfdstallions.org/spring-musical). Tickets will be sold at the door depending on availability.

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School

## DeSales students awarded faculty scholarships



Tradition of Excellence Faculty Scholarship recipients at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School for the 2021-22 school year are (from left) Luke Aaron, Seamus Bonte, Ryan Gustafson, Cailin Mascarini, Laurenda Lamboni and Alexis Reynolds. “Receiving this scholarship has allowed me to further my Catholic education at a school as special as DeSales,” Gustafson said. “It's hard to believe I will be graduating in a few short months, but I am so grateful for the opportunities I've been given throughout my four years here.” Beginning in 2011, the faculty and staff began contributing to an annual giving drive that has raised \$148,293 since then. In 2014, the Tradition of Excellence Faculty scholarship was established, and a total of 40 students have received a \$1,000 scholarship. Other money raised during the faculty and staff annual giving drive helps fund additional scholarships at the school that have been named in honor of past faculty members and also support a student aid lunch fund. “Our students are blessed to witness the beauty of Christ's love through your daily service,” DeSales principal Dan Garrick told faculty and staff. “Thank you for demonstrating what it means to be a Servant Leader.”

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School

## DeSales student wins state poetry contest



Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School senior Pius Edzie (center) won the 2022 Poetry Out Loud State Championship, giving the school back-to-back winners in the competition. DeSales graduate Monserrat Tlahuel-Flores (left) was last year's winner. Also pictured is Thomas Ellison, the 2016 winner and a published poet.

Photo courtesy Terry Gilliam

## LOCAL NEWS, continued from Page 2

### Seasons of Hope offers grief-sharing sessions

Seasons of Hope bereavement ministry will offer a six-week, in-person grief-sharing session from 2 to 4 p.m. Sundays, beginning March 20 and concluding May 1, at Columbus Immaculate Conception Church, 414 E. North Broadway. The group will not meet on Easter, April 17.

The ministry is sponsored by North High Deanery churches. The sessions are for anyone suffering the loss of a loved one and looking for friends to share in the grief and healing process. Appropriate COVID protocols will be followed.

To register, contact Karen Droll at (614) 582-8848 or ksdroll@gmail.com. Registrations will be taken through Sunday, March 27.

### Father Dailey continues men's club talk series

Father Stash Dailey, diocesan vicar for religious and pastor of Columbus Holy Family Church, will present the second talk in a four-part series on "Rebuilding a Christian Culture" at the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club meeting on Friday, April 1.

The meeting will follow the 11:45 a.m. Mass at Columbus St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave. Reservations aren't necessary. A \$12 donation is requested to cover the cost of the lunch and meeting. Free parking is available on the Columbus State Community College lot across from the church.

Father Dailey will speak about "Sacred Scripture: A Word Spoken, Rest Received and Lived." The next talk in the series, "Our Lady as Mother and Queen: Living the Life of the Church," will be presented Friday, May 6.

The first talk, on St. Joseph, is available on the club's website, [www.catholicmensministry.com](http://www.catholicmensministry.com). The entire series is sponsored by the Nos Lumine and Attollo organizations for Catholics in business, St. Gabriel Radio AM 820, Egan-Ryan Funeral Service and the Bottoms Up diaper drive.

### Back in His Arms Again sponsors dinner in April

Back in His Arms Again, an organization that supports families who have lost a baby, will host its annual dinner at 6:45 p.m. Thursday, April 28 in the social hall of New Albany Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road.

Featured speakers will be Shawn and Kambra Malone, who founded the organization after losing a child. Admission is free. To reserve a seat, become a sponsor or make a donation, visit [www.backinhisarmsagain.com](http://www.backinhisarmsagain.com).

### Church of the Resurrection sets immigration program

New Albany Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, will host "God's People Coming Together: An Evening of Witness, Reflection and Prayer on Immigration" at 7 p.m. Monday, April 4.

The event will feature speakers from Ethiopia and Venezuela. After their talks, the speakers will be in the church's gathering place, along with representatives from Little Dresses of Love ministry, the parish ministry to El Salvador and Community Refugee & Immigration Services.

For more information, contact Brad Romantic at (614) 855-1400 or bromantic@cotrna.org.

### St. Charles school hosts Black history event

Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School's sixth annual Black history and culture event will take place at 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 5 at the school, 2010 E. Broad St.

Keynote speaker will be Dr. Hasan Kwame Jeffries, associate professor of history at Ohio State University. Jeffries also will be part of a panel with former state Sen. Ray Miller and Kyle Strickland, deputy director of the Roosevelt Institute in New York City.

Theme for the event will be "Black Civic Engagement: Yesterday and Today." The presentation will include an art exhibit featuring work by St. Charles students.

### Aquinas alumni resume luncheons

Columbus Aquinas High School Alumni Association will resume its monthly luncheons at 11 a.m. Monday, April 4 at the TAT Ristorante di Famiglia, 1210 S. James Road, Columbus.

Subsequent meetings are scheduled at the restaurant at the same time on May 2, June 6, Aug. 1 and Oct. 3, all Mondays. The group will meet at 11 a.m. Monday, Sept. 12 at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St.

For more information, contact association president Louis Nobile Jr. at (614) 451-4477 or (614) 313-5889.

### Happy Trails Traveling plans New England trip this summer

Happy Trails Traveling of Newark will conduct a trip to New England in June led by longtime Catholic tour guide Linda Woolard.

Dates for the trip are Wednesday, June 22 to Tuesday, June 28. It will include a Mass at St. Mary Church in New Haven, Connecticut, where the Knights of Columbus was founded by Blessed Fa-

ther Michael McGivney in 1882, and to the McGivney Pilgrimage Center, formerly the Knights' museum.

Another stop will be the Our Lady of Grace Monastery in New Guilford, Connecticut, where cloistered Dominican nuns reside.

The motorcoach tour also will visit Boston and "Old Ironsides;" Salem and Cape Ann, Massachusetts; New Haven; and other towns and attractions.

Departure will be from Newark. The cost is \$730 per person sharing double occupancy. A \$75 deposit is due on signing, and the balance is due by Friday, April 15. Single or triple rooms also are available.

For more information, contact Woolard at (740) 323-3105 or [lindawoolard@windstream.net](mailto:lindawoolard@windstream.net). Checks can be made payable to her and sent to 636 Fox Run Circle South, Newark, OH 43055.

### Pentecost weekend retreat planned at Maria Stein

"Let the Fire Fall," a Pentecost weekend retreat, will take place from 7 p.m. Friday, June 3 to 2 p.m. Sunday, June 5 at Maria Stein Retreat Center, 2365 St. Johns Road, Maria Stein.

The shrine features one of the most documented holy relic collections in the United States.

Cost of the retreat is \$185 for an individual or \$250 for a couple, including accommodations for two nights, dinner Friday, three meals Saturday and breakfast Sunday.

RSVP to Roxy Rubinic at (614) 323-8811 or [roxy@cathetix.com](mailto:roxy@cathetix.com) by Saturday, April 23 to reserve a spot, or mail a check payable to Laity for Mercy to 5125 Collins Way, Grove City, OH 43123.

### Newman Center schedules open house

Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave., the Catholic campus ministry for Ohio State University, will host an open house from 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 28.

The evening, intended for high school seniors coming to Ohio State in the fall and juniors considering OSU, will begin with vespers and include student and parent testimonials, tours, refreshments and a free T-shirt for students. Those interested in attending should RSVP at [www.BuckeyeCatholic.com](http://www.BuckeyeCatholic.com).

### ODU to add data science major

Ohio Dominican University (ODU) will launch a bachelor of science in data science major during the fall 2022 semester. The major will help address a workforce shortage resulting from industry growth and an expanding talent

gap.

It will equip students with knowledge, tools, techniques and experiences related to querying, cleaning and analyzing data, and using industry staples such as Python, SQL, R and Tableau. Ethical and professional issues surrounding collection, analysis, use, sharing and presentation of data will be addressed. Students will be prepared for careers in banking, insurance and retail, which use data to drive decision-making.

Students pursuing ODU's data science degree will have eight required courses and must select one of seven focus areas: accounting; computer science; economics; finance; mathematics; risk management and insurance; and sociology.

Five of the eight required courses will be offered online through ODU's partnership with Rize, an education company seeking to prepare college students for careers in fast-growing fields.

The bachelor's program joins an existing certificate in data science program that began in the fall 2021 semester. Students can complete the five-course, 15-credit program in one year and may choose to take courses all online or in a hybrid format.

Traditional undergraduate students majoring in a business- or STEM-related field also can pursue the certificate to enhance their bachelor's degree.

For more information, visit [ohiodominican.edu/DataScience](http://ohiodominican.edu/DataScience).

### ODU attempts to become Laudato Si' university

Connie Gallaher, president of Ohio Dominican University (ODU), on Tuesday, March 15 signed a pledge to join the Vatican's seven-year journey to become a Laudato Si' campus.

The initiative calls on all sectors of the Catholic Church, including educational institutions, to implement sustainability practices and promote ecological education. It is inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*, which calls for pursuing sustainability as a way to lift up the earth and its inhabitants.

ODU has formed a committee of students, faculty and administrators to develop a plan to advance the encyclical's goals and explore how best to incorporate them into the life of the university.

The goals include responding to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor and vulnerable; fostering ecological economics; adopting sustainable lifestyles; developing and offering ecological education; promoting an ecological spirituality; supporting local communities; and promoting community resilience and empowerment.

ODU's Center for Dominican Studies is leading the initiative.

# Columbus St. Thomas Church remains a community anchor

Columbus St. Thomas the Apostle Church turns 120 years old this year. The building's cornerstone was laid on April 6, 1902, and the church was dedicated a little more than four months later.

Land for the church at East Fifth and Cassady avenues had been donated in 1901 by Thomas Cassady. A rectory was built in 1904, followed by a school in 1921 and a church addition in 1950.

When the church was built, Columbus' near east side, then known as Rarigville, was experiencing an industrial boom. The name came from the Rarig Engineering Co., which built a plant to make steam engines in 1895. The Ralston Steel Car Co. bought it and used it to make railroad cars from 1905 until it closed in 1953.

St. Thomas School closed in 2004, and students from the parish and the former Columbus St. Philip School now attend All Saints Academy on the campus of Columbus Christ the King Church. A committee of parish members, including many St. Thomas School graduates, paid the tuition of all the St. Thomas students who switched to the combined school.

Today, St. Thomas Church and its

former school are surrounded by industrial buildings, low-income housing, and boarded-up storefronts. In that setting, the church, though small in terms of numbers, remains an anchor to its community, still standing because of its members' commitment, dedication and perseverance through changing and challenging times.

The school has left a lifelong legacy of caring and support for its youth. It offered financial support to many of its students and their siblings who attended Catholic grade school and high school. More important, its strong academic curriculum and high quality Catholic education – offered to Catholic and non-Catholic students alike – prepared many of its graduates for successful careers.

Franklin County Common Pleas Judge Jaiza Page said that she, along with her brother, 1984 Olympic boxing gold medalist Jerry Page, and five cousins graduated from the school.

"Our parents and grandparents believed that St. Thomas would afford us the educational foundation we needed to excel in life. I truly enjoyed my schooling there," she said. "All of the teachers were invested in our education

and instilled in us the importance of being good citizens."

Other notable St. Thomas graduates include Pataskala Mayor Mike Compton; former Gahanna Mayor Thomas Kneeland, founder of the Ohio Entrepreneurship Incubation Services Council; Jaime Berry, a microbiology researcher at Nationwide Children's Hospital; and Sister Margaret Hoffman, OSF, who teaches English at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School and who has taught in Ohio Catholic high schools for 50 years.

Gov. Mike DeWine often attends Mass at St. Thomas and received his ashes there on Ash Wednesday this year.

"Fran and I attended the bilingual mass at St. Thomas the Apostle," Gov. DeWine said. "The Mass exuded such joy by the congregation, and the music was great! Parishes like St. Thomas the Apostle are examples of the wonderful faith communities that exist all across Ohio!"

The St. Thomas community has shown resilience and determination in facing change. Despite its aging population and changing ethnic and racial demographics, the parish continues to grow, flourish and meet the needs of its congregation and the surrounding com-

munity.

The school has an active alumni association that sponsors an annual fundraising dinner for the parish. The association also has a newsletter, supports a Facebook page for younger alumni, has a Mass said monthly for deceased alumni and attends the funerals of alumni whenever possible.

This summer, the parish welcomed Father David Schalk as its pastor. He also is pastor of nearby Christ the King Church. "It is a joy to pastor St. Thomas Church, a community with such an incredible legacy," he said. "The Lord is at the center of our parish, and our desire is to continue to follow His lead and to build on a foundation that has been in place for generations."

Improvements to the corner of Fifth and Cassady are bringing new life to the parish. After 120 years without sewers or sidewalks, Cassady Avenue will be upgraded from the Pennsylvania Railroad tracks on the south to Johnstown Road on the north, and the intersection will be expanded. Some buildings will be torn down at the intersection, but the result will brighten the area.

For additional information about the church, call (614) 252-0976.



ANNOUNCING A VERY SPECIAL SERIES FROM THE CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON:

## RE-BUILDING A CHRISTIAN CULTURE

**Over four consecutive First Fridays, Fr. Stash Dailey offers his reflections and prescriptions on re-building a Christian culture. Join us for the remaining talks:**

- April 1 - Sacred Scripture: A Word Spoken, Rest Received and Lived
- May 6 - Our Lady as Mother and Queen: Living the Life of the Church
- June 3 - Sacred Heart of Jesus: frequent encounters with Jesus in Scripture, in Adoration, in the Holy Mass

Fr. Dailey is pastor of Holy Family Church, Vicar for Religious for the Diocese of Columbus, and Spiritual Advisor of Sacred Heart Enthronement Network.

The Catholic Men's Luncheon invites all men interested in growing in their faith to attend one or all of Fr. Dailey's talks. Join us, and bring a friend!

- 11:45 a.m. - St Patrick Parish Daily Mass
- 12:15 p.m. - CATERED Luncheon - \$12 covers lunch and meeting
- 12:30 p.m. - Address by Fr. Dailey
- Reservations are NOT needed.

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First Fridays after the 11:45 am Mass  
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CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON CLUB

For additional information about the Catholic Men's Luncheon, contact Joe Testa at [joetesta9@icloud.com](mailto:joetesta9@icloud.com)

# Improvised organ music to accompany Stations of the Cross

By Doug Bean  
Catholic Times Editor

During Lent, parishes throughout the diocese invite the faithful to pray and meditate on the Stations of the Cross, and many use a traditional format provided by St. Alphonsus Liguori. St. Joseph Cathedral in Columbus will also follow the saint's Way of the Cross on Friday, April 8 at 7:00 p.m., but with a musical addition.

Dr. Richard K. Fitzgerald, Director of Music and Organist at the cathedral, will accompany each of the 14 stations with improvised musical meditations during the 7 p.m. service. He will be performing solo without vocal accompaniment. Throughout the performance, he will play the Cathedral's marvelous pipe organ built by Paul Fritts in 2006.

An award-winning improviser, Fitzgerald will play his own extemporaneous meditations with each station to reflect what is happening to Jesus at the various steps along the Via Dolorosa, the path that He walked on the way to His crucifixion.

Fitzgerald's inspiration for his musical stations comes in part from Marcel Dupré, a 20th century composer and organist whose improvised meditations on the stations in 1931 were based on poems by Frenchman Paul Claudel. Dupré later wrote down his improvised work, and his version of the stations is still performed.

"I want to keep doing things I've never done before. I've never done stations before, and, given this will be the Friday before Palm Sunday, I thought it would be a great offering to foster the prayers of the stations," Fitzgerald said.

"One of the things I love about improvisation is that it fosters a dialogue between the listener or the congregation or the audience, and because the mu-

## EUCHARISTIC LOVE, continued from Page 7

The second part of the renewal of our baptismal promises sets the stage for a profession of loving belief, in which we are prompted to express our "yes" back to God. We are asked to affirm our belief in each Person of the Holy Trinity, the Holy Church and God's plan for our salvation. We respond with, "I do," giving a declaration of love to God.

A lifelong fidelity to the Lord begins one day at a time, every day. We daily seek mercy, ask forgiveness and rise again after each fall. God knows what each step toward Him takes in our efforts to overcome weakness and sin. When we cannot step, He remains faithfully at our side.

As disciples of Christ, let us believe



**St. Joseph Cathedral director of music and organist Richard Fitzgerald**

sician is crafting a composition in real time, specifically for the people listening, it's sort of an intimate dialogue."

For classical musicians to play or sing without notes in front of them is a little like setting out on a car trip without knowing the destination or having a road map as a guide.

Fitzgerald won't just wing it, though, when he plays for the stations. He'll go into the evening with a plan in mind while also allowing himself the musical freedom to capture the moment and connect with those assembled in the cathedral in a prayerful way.

"I don't go in cold. It's sort of like preparing to speak extemporaneously," he said. "I definitely have a concept for each station. And sometimes I even have a structure and fill in the gaps.

"So I work in an impromptu fashion in sort of an organized way. That being said, if I do just feel inspired to do something completely different than I had planned, I can go with that. Or, if I'm doing something that I've conceptualized and planned that maybe was just completely derailed for some reason, I may just go with that.

in His friendship. He calls us friends. (John 15:15) Let us grow comfortable in His Presence as friends do, speaking to Him from the heart.

"His love endures forever." (Psalm 136)

How do we let ourselves be loved by God? We let God love us by renouncing sin, accepting grace to live virtuously and being in the presence of His Eucharistic love in adoration.

Come, let us worship.

*Sister John Paul Maher, OP, is the principal of Worthington St. Michael School and a member of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist.*

"As far as the different stations, you approach each one thinking about the meditation, and that forms what you want to play or convey. And for me, it's a real way of reflecting on these stations from a purely religious standpoint that I really haven't done before."

Each station, from the first to the 14th, provides a unique opportunity to relate to Christ on a deeply spiritual level, and Fitzgerald will tailor his selections to each stop that Jesus makes on the road to Calvary.

"There are specific things in each station that inspire the music," he said. "For example, there are three stations in which Christ falls. For those, I love to have some kind of connection and some cohesion. Those three stations are united musically, and I'll try to have some cohesion, some kind of musical language that binds things together."

While this might be the first time that Fitzgerald has performed the Stations of the Cross in this manner, he's no stranger to improvisation.

His work has been recognized in the United States and overseas. Last summer, he participated in the 53rd Haarlem International Organ Improvisation Competition in the Netherlands. In summer of 2021, he was a finalist in

the National Competition in Organ Improvisation sponsored by the American Guild of Organists. In 2013, he won the second annual Competition in Organ Improvisation sponsored by the University of Michigan and the Ann Arbor chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

In addition, he has taught improvisation at his alma mater, the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore.

Fitzgerald hopes those who attend will be inspired to enter deeper into the mysteries of Christ's suffering and passion.

"I'd like them to join me in reflecting on each station in a way perhaps they haven't done before and to let the music and the listening guide a religious experience," he said. "That's really what I'm trying to do, to honor Christ and His Passion and also this beautiful liturgy that we have.

"I'm really trying to take them along with me on a spiritual experience that, hopefully, will help prepare them for Holy Week and perhaps guide them to a deeper level of appreciation and interpretation of the stations."

For more information and a list of performances and events at the cathedral, visit [www.cathedralmusic.org](http://www.cathedralmusic.org).

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Come discover the true happiness of being known intimately and loved unconditionally in the heart of Christ.

At this special 3-day event, enter into a deeper experience of Christ through inspiring talks by a renowned speaker, Katie Prejean McGrady powerful praise and worship provided by Jon Paul Von Arx, and Eucharistic Adoration. Each evening will be followed by refreshments and a time for fellowship.

### Have you experienced unconditional love?

Night 1: "Knowing the Love of God" – Sunday, April 24, 2022 (6:30-8:30 pm)

### Do you know you were made for greatness?

Night 2: "Internalizing the Mission of God" – Monday, April 25, 2022 (6:30-8:30 pm)

### Do you understand your life's true purpose?

Night 3: "Forming Disciples That Are Disciple Makers" – Tuesday, April 26, 2022 (6:30-8:30 pm)

Register at: [bit.ly/ParishMissionStJ](https://bit.ly/ParishMissionStJ)

St. Joseph Catholic Church  
613 North Tuscarawas Ave., Dover, OH  
330-364-6661, [stjosephchurch@roadrunner.com](mailto:stjosephchurch@roadrunner.com)

# Prayer journal aims to uncover reader's God-given purpose

By Elizabeth Pardi

Dan DeMatte, co-founder and executive director of Damascus Catholic Mission Campus in Knox County, has written his third book, *Dream Bigger: A 21-Day Journey to Unlock God's Dream for Your Life*.

The book is a three-week meditation to help Catholics connect to and live out the dreams God puts within them, no matter how seemingly impossible they might be.

"Remember," DeMatte writes in the book's closing letter, "it was God who put these dreams on your heart, and it's the devil who wants to stop you from pursuing them."

"Pursue the dreams He gives you – but, most of all, pursue His Heart. I promise you, in the depths of His Heart, in the depths of prayer, you will discover the greatest adventure and the greatest mystery you could ever imagine."

The 37-year-old husband and father writes with a warmth for his readers that emulates God's love for them. "You're not just a number to (God). You're not just a nameless slave working in His vineyard: no, you are a son, you are a daughter, and He knows the number of hairs on your head. His plan for your life is both personal and positive! He has a good plan because He is a good Father."

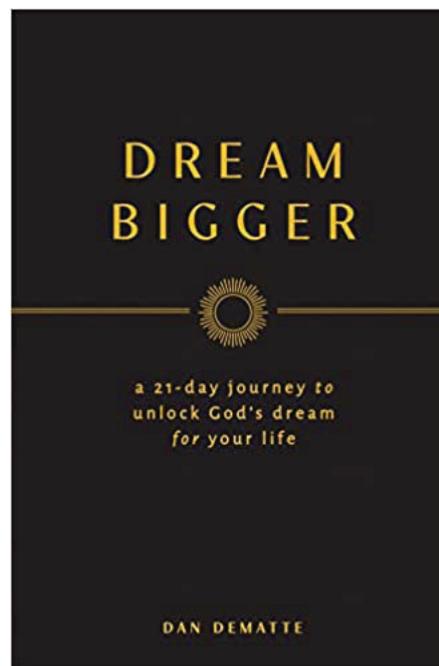
*Dream Bigger* is meant to be used a prayer journal over three weeks, which are titled *All In*, *Intimacy with God* and *Bold Steps of Faith*. Each day begins with a five- to six-page meditation, and then readers can respond to personal prompts through contemplation, writing and prayer.

When asked why he chose this format, DeMatte said, "So often, we read books that inspire us, but our lives aren't changed by them. This book is aimed at helping you not only be inspired, but take concrete action to transform your dream into reality."

DeMatte makes it clear, however, that we must discern whether a certain dream is worth chasing. "I've seen people pursue dreams that seem holy on the surface, but these ultimately become a source of brokenness in their families," he said.

"(We) need to make sure we are dreaming with God and not dreaming for ourselves – because while dreams have the ability to pull greatness out of us, they also have the ability to ruin us. Egocentric dreams can cause division in families and marriages."

After going through the first day's meditation, readers might initially be turned off by what seem like harsh and drastic words from DeMatte: "If you want to live a life of significance, prepare yourself for the cross."



Amber and Dan DeMatte

Later, in the same meditation, he writes, "To be a Christian means you throw away your life ... into the trash. Then, and only then, can you discover the Father's dream for your life."

DeMatte makes it clear, however, that throwing one's life away in a biblical sense is an easy choice once someone has felt the Father's love. He cites Jesus' words in Matthew 13 in which He compares the kingdom of heaven to a man who finds treasure in a field, covers it up and then joyfully goes and sells all that he has to buy the field.

"(Notice) his joy," DeMatte writes. "He knows he is getting something of so much more value than he is giving that it is not only worthwhile to sell everything but a joy to do so."

"The decision to give everything is easy, so easy that the man sells everything he owns with joy! Here's the deal: if the message of throwing your life away for the Kingdom and giving everything is hard for you ... it's because you have not tasted the goodness of the Lord."

Instead of a set of instructions on how to pursue a dream or goal, *Dream Bigger* is more of a guide for discovering one's unique, God-given purpose through contemplation and prayer.

DeMatte emphasizes the need to abide in Christ to accomplish anything significant. "Abiding in Jesus is deeper than working for Him and following Him. Abiding involves an intimate relationship, one in which you dwell in the very essence of the other."

DeMatte lives in Bexley with his wife, Amber, who co-authored another book with him, *Three Secrets to Holiness in Marriage: A 33-Day Self-Guided Retreat for Catholic Couples*. They and their four children attend Columbus St. Catharine Church.

*Dream Bigger* is available through Sophia Institute Press (sophiainstitute.com) and Amazon.

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# Ghanaian priest serving in diocese writes book on medical ethics

By Doug Bean  
Catholic Times Editor

A priest in the diocese has written a book that covers an important topic in today's rapidly changing society.

Father Emmanuel Adu Addai, the parochial vicar at Worthington St. Michael Church and the pastor for the Catholic Ghanaian community in Columbus at St. Matthias Church, joined the ranks of published authors last year with his book, *Medical Ethics: A Physician's Guide to Clinical Medicine*.

The book, which came to fruition through his postgraduate work in philosophy and ethics, focuses on doctor-patient relationships in a medical environment. While completing his Ph.D. in 2021, he spent time in a clinical setting, mainly at Mount Carmel East Hospital in Columbus, observing, assisting and gathering material for the book.

"I tried to investigate the relationship between the moral and ethical practices of the physician and the success of doctor-patient relationships and patient satisfaction," he said. "I tried to use the scientific method to do that."

"My conclusion was that the physician may not always be able to adhere to every particular ethical principle or practice in every situation. But it is imperative for the physician to inculcate some values and virtues of a good doctor, like honesty, objectivity, respect and confidentiality."

Father Addai's study of medical ethics originated in his home diocese in Ghana, west Africa, where the local bishop asks priests to specialize in a discipline outside of their ecclesiastical duties. Some priests train to become medical doctors, others pursue architecture or civil law.

Father Addai always has enjoyed philosophy, and his foray into medical ethics emerged from that interest and also satisfied a need in his diocese in Ghana.

After Father Addai was ordained, he spent the first few years of his priesthood teaching economics and Christian studies and serving as an administrator in Catholic and public schools before Archbishop Gabriel Justice Yaw Anokye approached him about studying medical ethics and bioethics.

When Father Addai was a headmaster at a Catholic school, he had encountered a boy who was isolated because of the stigma and concerns of others that his mother had died of HIV.

"I was told you have to be careful about what you say to the child," Father Addai said. "It was very sad news. So that's where I developed an interest in the issue, and when my archbishop told me he wanted me to study medical ethics, my mind went to that child. God

## MEDICAL ETHICS

A PHYSICIAN'S GUIDE TO CLINICAL MEDICINE



Emmanuel Adu Addai

knew what He wanted me to do, and this confirmed it."

Father Addai was sent to the United States to study moral theology and bioethics at Boston College, and he earned a master's in theology and a licentiate of sacred theology in 2016.

He was set to pursue a Ph.D. in Canada when his archbishop called and said he needed Father Addai to go to Ohio to serve the Ghanaian community in Columbus. "I was already admitted, and I suggested that he get another priest to come from Ghana, but there are immigration issues and it would take a while," he said. So he quickly pivoted and headed for Columbus.

"I've been called to work in the vineyard, and that is my first duty," Father Addai said. "So I had to obey him. But the archbishop still wanted me to pursue my Ph.D."

Father Addai spent his first months in the diocese at St. Mary, Mother of God Church in the German Village area of Columbus and then moved to Westerville St. Paul Church while ministering to Ghanaian Catholics who gather weekly for Sunday Mass at St. Matthias Church.

In 2017, he enrolled in a doctoral program in medical ethics at Loyola University in Chicago. For a year and a half, he commuted to the Windy City during the week for classes and seminars.

Because he was serving in Columbus as a priest, an arrangement was worked out to do his practicum and field work locally at Mount Carmel East. He was mentored by Amy VanDyke, a system ethicist for Mount Carmel.

The book emerged from his research and experiences in the clinical environment.



**Father Emmanuel Adu Addai's medical ethics book is available at the Marian Gift Shop at Westerville St. Paul Church or online.**

**CT file photo by Ken Snow**

"The relationship between physicians and patients in my country is bad," he said. "It's so bad that the patients suffer sometimes at the expense of the physicians. There's so much respect for the physician there that the patients often find it difficult to ask questions. Sometimes, when you question them (doctors) about treatment, they don't take it kindly."

"So I looked at the history of medical ethics, and I tried to apply the concepts and principles of ethics to morality in clinical health-care settings."

Included in the book are several studies of actual cases in which medical ethics principles are applied, examining how a doctor handled a situation ethically and legally.

The concepts also can be applied to priests and their work in medical settings. In instances when the clergy or pastoral associate ministers to the severely ill or dying, moral and ethical questions often arise.

"When discussing these issues, we need to be careful not to go against the teachings of the Church," Father Addai said. "When I finished school, a lot of people came to me in the parish and I had one-on-one interaction with them, helping them to resolve issues with a doctor and their personal issues concerning their sickness."

Father Addai hopes that the book,

which is available online through Amazon and other outlets, will serve as a resource for medical professionals. Moreover, he wants to share his knowledge in the diocese and through teaching.

He presented a copy of his book to Bishop Robert Brennan while he was still in Columbus and has also reached out to the Pontifical College Josephinum.

"I want to be used more," he said. "I feel like I'm underutilized, and I don't know what to do now. Anywhere my service is needed I'll be glad to serve."

In the meantime, his pastoral duties in the diocese at St. Michael and with the Ghanaians at St. Matthias keep him busy.

About 300 families with ties to Ghana live in the Columbus area, he said. Some of them attend the Sunday afternoon Ghanaian Mass at St. Matthias.

The humble priest relates well with the people from his native country, where he was given the Catholic faith by a grandmother, Mary Asamtewaah.

"Her whole life was about God and the church," he said. "We would not wake up without going to church."

Father Addai tagged along with her every time she went to their parish, St. Agnes Catholic Church in Maase Offinso, whether it was praying with the rosary group or accompanying her to choir practice.

"She couldn't leave me home, and I would have to go with her," he said. "I would never miss Sunday school, and so my life was about the church."

"I so much loved the church, and I loved the priests. And it was like, 'I want to be like this. I want to be a priest.'"

When he entered the minor seminary in Kumasi, his grandmother asked whether he could be successful. She knew that studying for the priesthood is not easy.

"I remember telling her it will be by God's grace and not my strength," he said. "She said, 'I needed to hear this from you because you have to realize that we are not going to do it. God will lead you. But don't disgrace me, don't disgrace the family.'"

"I remember that she prayed that God would see me through to become a good priest. Unfortunately, as I entered seminary, my grandmother died. She gave me the faith, she nurtured me, and God prepared me through her."

### PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN

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

# EWTN host compares Christ's love to marital bond at St. Catharine talk

By Tim Puet  
For *The Catholic Times*

The best way to describe Jesus' relationship with His Church is in terms of a married couple's bond with each other, EWTN radio host Dr. David Anders said this past weekend in Columbus.

"The New Testament uses many metaphors for Christ – shepherd, teacher, door, king – but I find that the description of Him as a bridegroom is peculiarly appropriate," Anders said during a day of reflection on Saturday, March 19 at St. Catharine Church. "If a couple's relationship is sound, then love, fidelity, trust and union come to the fore. All those are qualities of how Christ relates to the Church.

"The trust and self-giving that are part of a good marriage also serve as a metaphor for acts of faith and free-will response to God," Anders said. "Love can be elicited but can't be commanded. It's the ultimate act of self-donation to another, for the benefit of the other. As Shakespeare put it in one of his sonnets, 'How do I hold thee but by thy granting?' It mirrors our relationship to God and His relationship to us."

Anders, who describes himself as "a convert who read my way into the Church," has been married for 25 years

and has five children. "In marriage, you give yourself through fidelity, desire and hope, as well as through the virtue of long-suffering," he said. "It does help you learn humility as you deal with your differences with each other for the greater good of your marriage and family.

"Over time, the personality of both of you is transformed in Jesus. It's transformed in ways you never could have imagined. I never would have been doing a Catholic apostolate without the encouragement of my wife. Another thing about marriage is that you never feel you've really arrived. You never stop growing in your relationship."

Anders cited several Scriptural comparisons of divine love and marital love in his first of two presentations. "The biblical Song of Songs is a long collection of wedding hymns and is allegorical to God's desire for the love of His people," he said.

"St. Paul speaks in Ephesians 5 of the relationship between Christ and His Church. That chapter is perhaps the most important text in the New Testament on marital spirituality because it speaks of Jesus' giving Himself up for His bride, the Church, making her holy and blameless. Skip ahead 2,000 years to Vatican II's Constitution on the



Dr. David Anders, an EWTN radio host, speaks to participants in a day of reflection on Saturday, March 19 at Columbus St. Catharine Church.

Photo courtesy St. Catharine Church

Church and St. John Paul II's Familiaris Consortio, and they make similar references.

"Sometimes marriage references in the Old Testament aren't always flattering," Anders said. "Take the story of Hosea. It's a disturbing book because Hosea is told to marry a promiscuous woman and have kids with her. Hosea does this as a symbol of the disrespect he believes Israel is showing to God."

He said a key insight to the Scriptural view of marriage comes from the works of St. Irenaeus, a Greek bishop of the second century. "Christ came to restore the beauty, the purity and the elegance of the soul that was lost through original sin," Anders said. "As Irenaeus put it, 'What was lost in Adam – namely, to be according to the image and likeness of God – is regained in Christ.'

"Eventually you get to the New Testament and Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well," Anders said. "He speaks to a woman who is a foreigner, who is promiscuous – everything the Old Testament repudiates – and offers Himself as living water. This overturns the Old Testament traditions of marriage, going beyond ritual. As Jesus tells the woman, 'True worship now is in spirit and truth.' The New Testament Church fathers understand the Samaritan woman as an analogy to the Gentile Church."

Anders' second presentation focused on the Catholic view of morality. "The Catholic Church saved my marriage and, quite possibly, my life," he said. "At one point in our marriage, the biggest thing my wife, Jill, and I had in common was contempt for one another. All that changed as I learned more about the Church, and we came to fully understand its teachings on marriage."

Anders was a Protestant scholar, earning a doctorate in Reformation history before becoming persuaded by the truth of the Catholic faith to convert to Catholicism. "Martin Luther's basic principle was Sola Scriptura – all morality can be found solely in Scripture – which leads to what's known as divine command ethics; that is, something is right because God said so, and if God didn't say anything about it, you're free to make your own decision," he said.

"That creates a problem when talking about marriage, specifically the issue of contraception, because contraception never is mentioned in the Bible. From the divine command ethics point of view, it appears to be morally irrelevant.

"Protestant leaders of the Reformation era repudiated the Catholic understanding of morality, which goes back to the Sermon on the Mount and states that reason can discern the nature of things and what it means for something to flourish," Anders said.

"As historian Stephanie Coontz pointed out in her book *Marriage: A History*, until the Industrial Revolution, marriage was considered a valuable institution mainly because that's how society was replenished. Coontz said a



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See **MARITAL BOND**, Page 15

# Program examines Church's teaching on disabilities

By Tim Puet  
For *The Catholic Times*

People with disabilities always have struggled to find their place in society.

In Jesus' time and the centuries preceding His coming, such people often were literally on the margins of society, banished to areas at the fringe of cities, where they could be easily overlooked. Today, though their presence is accepted, they still often face difficulty dealing with people's perception of them.

As more has become known about what causes various conditions, the attitude of the Church and society toward people with disabilities has centered for the most part on inclusion rather than separation. This change in viewpoint was the focus of an evening of reflection presented via Zoom on Wednesday, March 9 by Mark Butler, director of founded ministries for the Dominican Sisters of Peace.

Butler and his wife, Susan, are the parents of two developmentally disabled children. Butler has become one of Ohio's leading activists for disabled persons through his work helping Ohio establish specialized managed care programs allowing significantly disabled youths to receive behavioral health services in or near their homes, rather than be sent to residential treatment centers.

Butler began the evening by noting that the Bible contains conflicting views concerning people with disabilities, seeing them as a protected group, a sign of God's wonder and a blessing, but also describing disability as a blemish, using it as a metaphor for disobedience and supporting the erroneous view that a disability was the result of sin, whether by the person who is disabled or an ancestor.

Butler noted that Jesus in His words

and actions consistently demonstrated the error of this viewpoint. "God is present wherever His people are present," Butler said. "We are given the same opportunities to do the same things as Jesus did, to be the hands of God and do the works of God in a person's life. In doing good for others, my own faith grows stronger."

Participants in the program were asked about their encounters with biblical views on disability. One said it's a mistake to have low expectations for someone who is disabled. "Don't be afraid to let them fail," she said. "Keeping them from doing something prevents them from being the person they can be. Many people with challenges want to be part of the wider world and see how much they can do."

Butler said Church teaching on disability during medieval times also could be both helpful and hurtful. On the one hand, Archbishop Datheus of Milan in 787 opened the first asylum for abandoned babies, many of whom were abandoned by people of all economic classes because of disabilities. In 1215, a shrine was dedicated in Gheel, Belgium, to St. Dymphna, the patron of mental disorders. The shrine has been in operation for more than 800 years, with about 250 people with mental health issues currently living as boarders with residents of Gheel.

In that same year of 1215, the Fourth Lateran Council expressed the view that sometimes a physical disorder can be the result of a spiritual disorder. Later in the 13th century, St. Thomas Aquinas avoided the notion that disabilities were a punishment for personal sin but saw them occurring as a result of the original sin of Adam and Eve.

The development of science and knowledge of how the body works has proven those ideas incorrect. Catholic

teaching now stresses the dignity of persons with disabilities and urges their participation in the life of the Church. Butler said Pope St. John Paul II's example in continuing to actively serve the Church while struggling with Parkinson's disease provided a powerful witness for the disabled.

On Dec. 3, 2000, John Paul celebrated a Jubilee Day for the Disabled as part of the Jubilee Year the Church declares every quarter-century. He told an audience of disabled persons on that day, "I am close to you," and said those who are disabled have the rights "to study, to work, to a home, (and) to the removal of barriers, and not only architectural ones."

On that day, the pope pledged the Catholic Church to 10 goals toward which it still strives. The first five are: to promote a positive image of persons with disabilities and engage them as active subjects and not only the object of charitable actions; to protect the guarantee of health assistance for people with disabilities; to assign adequate resources to rehabilitation programs; to remove all physical barriers and obstacles that impede access to communication and information, beginning from within the Church; and to be on the front line in protecting the rights of people with disabilities to education.

The others are: to take action in those countries and circumstances in which the state does not guarantee persons with disabilities and their families the means for living a dignified life; to support materially, and especially spiritually, families that include a person with disabilities; to not wait for civil authorities to act concerning disabilities; to represent in all political areas

the interests of people unable to defend their rights on their own; and to form all pastoral agents to be conscious agents for full integration of persons with disabilities in every Church activity.

Butler said Pope Francis, in his encyclical *Laudato Si'* and his apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*, also mentions the Church's duty to the disabled. In addition, the Catholic bishops of the United States issued guidelines in 1995, with a revision in 2017, for the celebration of the sacraments with persons with disabilities.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, in Section 2208, speaks of a family's responsibility for disabled members, while Section 2276 states, "Those whose lives are diminished or weakened deserve special respect," and Section 2277 declares that it is morally unacceptable to end the lives of the disabled through euthanasia.

The evening of reflection ended with participants being presented a list of questions on how their parishes are meeting the needs of people with disabilities and with suggestions on how language can be used to show respect to and for such individuals. A closing prayer was said to St. Margaret of Castello, who was canonized last year.

St. Margaret was a woman with disabilities who was abandoned by her wealthy parents in the early 14th century at age 15 but was taken in by the people of Castello, Italy. She eventually became a member of the Dominican Third Order, a teacher and an advocate for prisoners, the sick and the dying. There is a statue of her in Columbus St. Patrick Church, which also is the home of a society honoring her.

## MARITAL BOND, continued from Page 14

good marriage ideally would result in strengthening a couple's relationship, but the ultimate reason for marriage was not friendship, not romance, not passion but babies," Anders said.

"This corresponds to traditional Catholic beliefs about marriage. Without this fundamental purpose of being open to the possibility of children, there can't be a marriage, no matter what its other virtues.

"If a man and a woman decide to prevent any possibility of having children, it's not a marriage. That's also why two people of the same sex can't have a marriage. That's not how biology works," he said. "One of Luther's core doctrines was that marriage was not a sacrament — a divine institution, but not

a sacrament. Luther was adamant about this because he wanted marriage to be regulated by the state, not the Church.

"The Catholic Church sacralized marriage because it fits the definition of a sacrament. It's an efficacious sign of grace instituted by Christ," whose first public miracle came at a wedding feast when he changed water into wine at Cana, Anders said.

"A marriage doesn't have to be sacramental or between Christians to be valid," he said. "In a sacramental marriage, Christ takes a natural marriage and makes it a sign of union with the Church, giving it His blessing. Couples then make this sign visible to the world, and manifest Christ to the world through their fidelity to each other."

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## Fourth Sunday of Lent Year C

## Act like Jesus: Show mercy

**Joshua 5:9a, 10-12**  
**Psalm 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7**  
**2 Corinthians 5:17-21**  
**Luke 15:1-3, 11-32**

The Fourth Sunday of Lent invites us to discover anew the implications of our relationship with Jesus Christ. We can leave behind the old journey and what has happened along the way to enter into a new situation and to embark on a new journey to the true Promised Land.

By encountering Jesus and opening ourselves to His grace, we are transformed. The Scriptures offer us images of this movement and call us to put it into practice with joy.

Joshua, now having led the people of Israel into the Promised Land, is told by the Lord, "Today I have removed the reproach of Egypt from you." The Book of Joshua notes that the Passover is celebrated at the end of the 40 years of the wilderness journey in the way that Moses instructed them, and that the produce of the land of Canaan is the source of their sustenance rather than the manna of the desert.

God has fulfilled the promise made to the fathers and to Moses. Joshua receives the pronouncement of Israel's new status.

Paul emphasizes this message of new freedom. All things are made new in Christ, and those made new have the task of passing on the promise to others. There is a transformation that has happened that gives new capacities for the life of grace. We become ambassadors of God Himself, serving as witnesses to the offer that is given through Jesus Christ.

Paul explains this and then invites his readers to respond to the grace that is offered.

The parable of the father who had two sons is presented by Jesus to a crowd that questions how He acts with those who have been left out, the "tax collectors and sinners." Pharisees and scribes complain and Jesus tells a story that invites them to

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Father Timothy Hayes

*Father Timothy M. Hayes is pastor of Chillicothe St. Mary and St. Peter; and Waverly, St. Mary, Queen of the Missions.*



understand God's mercy.

The father gives all he has to both of his sons. One squanders his share and then returns. The father receives him back with open arms. The elder son, who now owns all the property that is left, fails to understand that it is not a matter of possessions but relationship. The parable closes with an invitation to rejoice in the relationship renewed.

When the world is divided into "us" and "them," we miss the fact that we belong to one family. When we cling to our past and old ways, we carry the desert with us into the Promised Land.

When we miss the call to serve as witnesses and ambassadors of God's mercy, we fail to realize who we are in God's way of organizing the world. We are invited, called, encouraged to open our eyes, see things in a different light and behave accordingly.

Our way of thinking and our approach to others who do not share that way of thinking can get in the way of our living in accord with the true meaning of what we are thinking about. The truth is not abstract but engaged in the real world.

When our grasp of the truth prevents us from having a relationship with those who are wounded by the world's way of reacting to them, we miss the freedom of the Gospel. Every generation has persons who are marginalized and left powerless. The mercy of God is shared with us, and we are called to "pass it on."

How we respond to the persons we would rather leave out is the true measure of our understanding of Jesus. When we act like Jesus, we experience joy. That joy then serves to invite others to come to Jesus, and we are the "ambas-

woman who has been condemned by the leaders of the people.

In encounters such as this, Jesus always shows great wisdom as He reframes the matter placed before Him. Like Solomon, He calls on the accusers to respond in a way that reveals their insincerity. They place before Jesus the dilemma that is bound to "convict" Him whichever direction He chooses.

If Jesus agrees with the judgment of death according to their interpretation of the Torah, He goes against the Roman

## THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

3/28-4/2

## MONDAY

Isaiah 65:17-21  
 Psalm 30:2,4-6,11-12a,13b  
 John 4:43-54

## TUESDAY

Ezekiel 47:1-9,12  
 Psalm 46:2-3,5-6,8-9  
 John 5:1-16

## WEDNESDAY

Isaiah 49:8-15  
 Psalm 145:8-9,13c-14,17-18  
 John 5:17-30

## THURSDAY

Exodus 32:7-14  
 Psalm 106:19-23  
 John 5:31-47

## FRIDAY

Wisdom 2:1a,12-22  
 Psalm 34:17-21,23  
 John 7:1-2,10,25-30

## SATURDAY

Jeremiah 11:18-20  
 Psalm 7:2-3,9b-12  
 John 7:40-53

4/4-4/9

## MONDAY

Deuteronomy 13:1-9,15-17,19-30,33-62  
 Psalm 23:1-6  
 John 8:12-20

## TUESDAY

Numbers 21:4-9  
 Psalm 192:2-3,16-21

John 8:21-30

## WEDNESDAY

Deuteronomy 3:14-20,91-92,95  
 Daniel 3:52-56 (Ps)  
 John 8:31-42

## THURSDAY

Genesis 17:3-9  
 Psalm 105:4-9  
 John 8:51-59

## FRIDAY

Jeremiah 20:10-13  
 Psalm 18:2-7  
 John 10:31-42

## SATURDAY

Ezekiel 37:21-28  
 Jeremiah 31:10-13 (Ps)  
 John 11:45-56

## DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION

## MASS SCHEDULE: WEEKS OF MARCH 27 AND APRIL 3, 2022

## SUNDAY MASS

10:30 a.m. Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at [www.stgabrielradio.com](http://www.stgabrielradio.com) and diocesan website, [www.columbuscatholic.org](http://www.columbuscatholic.org).

10:30 a.m. Mass from Portsmouth St. Mary Church on St. Gabriel Radio (FM 88.3), Portsmouth.

Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 7:30 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus and 10:30 a.m. on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18, Zanesville. Mass from St. Francis de Sales Seminary, Milwaukee, at 10 a.m. on WWHO-TV. Check local cable system for cable channel listing.

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

p.m., and midnight).

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

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

## DAILY MASS

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

(AM 820), Columbus, and at [www.stgabrielradio.com](http://www.stgabrielradio.com).

12:05 p.m. weekdays, 8 a.m. Saturdays, Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at [www.stgabrielradio.com](http://www.stgabrielradio.com) and diocesan website, [www.columbuscatholic.org](http://www.columbuscatholic.org). (Saturdays on radio only).

Videos of Masses are available at any time on the internet at these and many other parish websites: Mattingly Settlement St. Mary ([www.stannstmary.org](http://www.stannstmary.org)); Columbus St. Patrick ([www.stpatrickcolumbus.org](http://www.stpatrickcolumbus.org)); Delaware St. Mary ([www.delawarestmary.org](http://www.delawarestmary.org)); Sunbury St. John Neumann ([www.saintjohnsunbury.org](http://www.saintjohnsunbury.org)); and Columbus Immaculate Conception ([www.iccols.org](http://www.iccols.org)). Check your parish website for additional information.

We pray Weeks IV and I of the Liturgy of the Hours.

sadors of Christ." Alternate readings for the Second Scrutiny Year A

**I Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a**

**Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6**

**Ephesians 5:8-14**

**John 9:1-41**

The Year A readings, used at Masses

when the Second Scrutiny is prayed over catechumens of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, employ the themes of light and darkness, sight and blindness, to invite us to receive the light of Christ and to allow faith to influence how we look upon all that happens in our world.

We see with new eyes, the eyes of faith.

## Fifth Sunday of Lent Year C

## Feeling joy despite challenges and not judging is Christ's way

**Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15**  
**Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11**  
**1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12**  
**Luke 13:1-9**

The Fifth Sunday of Lent brings us into a heightened moment of Jesus' encounter with the authorities who are hostile toward Him. They seek a reason to condemn Him and to undermine the effect He has on the people.

The Gospel of John offers us the poignant scene of Jesus showing mercy to a

woman who has been condemned by the leaders of the people.

In encounters such as this, Jesus always shows great wisdom as He reframes the matter placed before Him. Like Solomon, He calls on the accusers to respond in a way that reveals their insincerity. They place before Jesus the dilemma that is bound to "convict" Him whichever direction He chooses.

If Jesus agrees with the judgment of death according to their interpretation of the Torah, He goes against the Roman

law that does not allow local authorities to execute this judgment. If He disagrees with the judgment, then He can be accused of blasphemy against the law of Moses and lose His influence with the people who are beginning to see Him as someone important.

"Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." This simple statement, made after Jesus has been "writing on the ground" with his finger, serves to turn the accusers from the scene.

Many speculate concerning what Jesus was writing. Some see a parallel with the writing of the law by the "finger of God" on Mount Sinai. Others wonder whether Jesus was writing the names of the accusers and their sins.

Another parallel that makes sense is the account in the book of Daniel of the judgment against King Belshazzar by the handwriting on a wall: "Mene Tekel Peres." (Daniel 5:25) The interpretation

**CHRIST'S WAY,**  
*continued from Page 16*

of these words is given by Daniel, who in an earlier account, as a young boy, saved Susanna from false accusations by elders of the people in exile.

Jesus could have written these words as a silent judgment against the accusers. Those who read them would see the connection with their challenge. In the end, Jesus releases the woman from judgment, challenging her not to repeat the sin. Jesus thus meets the challenge brought to Him and settles the dilemma on the side of mercy.

As we continue our journey in life, we are often confronted by situations where there seems to be a desire for a "simple answer" to a complex problem. Humans want "easy outs" from dilemmas that weigh heavily on them.

Isaiah's poem about the Lord's action on behalf of His people, opening a "way" through the sea and across the desert, invites a spirit of hope in the face of past troubles. We know that our God can create something new. God Himself invites us to search for it. "Remember not the events of the past, the things of long ago consider not; see, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"

St. Paul offers us the attitude that we must have to face the troubles we encounter. "I continue my pursuit in hope that I may possess it, since I have indeed been taken possession of by Christ Jesus."

In the days ahead, we will follow Jesus along the path of the Passion, entering once again into our annual celebration of the Paschal Mystery. May we see all things through the eyes of mercy, and may we keep from judging others or even ourselves as we await the salvation that has already been won for us by Jesus Christ.

Let us join together with a cry of the heart: "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy." God makes all things new through Jesus Christ.

Alternate readings for the Third Scrutiny Year A:

- Ezekiel 37:12-14**
- Psalms 130: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8**
- Romans 8:8-11**
- John 11:1-45**

The Year A readings, used at Masses when the Third Scrutiny is prayed over the catechumens who are part of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, reveal God's power over life and death. Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life, and our response to Him in faith opens us to see Him for Who He is.

**REAL PRESENCE, continued from Page 3**

ability, is to be announced shortly.

Parishioners responding to the survey expressed similar concerns. They said that while they understood the need to close some churches, they wanted to keep as many open as possible, even if it meant priests had to be shared or Mass times had to be changed. Most parishioners who responded were women age 55 and older who have been members of their parish for more than 10 years.

The survey resulted in creation of four possible parish realignment models. One is the traditional "one parish-one pastor." Another would have one pastor serving one parish consisting of multiple churches. A third would have one pastor and one staff member serving several parishes, each with multiple churches. A final model, with one pastor, multiple parishes, multiple churches and multiple staffs, was listed for consideration but is not being recommended.

Draft proposals have been made concerning possible groupings of parishes in each of the 12 areas of the diocese. Those proposals were discussed during area meetings at the Pontifical College Josephinum and can be found at [www.realpresence-realfuture.org](http://www.realpresence-realfuture.org).

Father Hartge and the regional vicars emphasized that these are not final recommendations, but they provide a starting point for discussion.

"People are starting to realize Real Presence Real Future is not just an evangelization effort, but is an opportunity to re-envision life in the diocese," Father Penhallurick said. "I compare it

to pruning a rose bush like the ones we have at St. Brendan's. You may lose something, but you give the plant more vigor so it can grow strong. Getting rid of the dead part of the plant allows more air and light in."

"Having all the parishes in our area together here today to hear the next steps in Real Presence Real Future in person has been extremely valuable," said Robin Rokisky of Zoar Holy Trinity Church, located in the northeast corner of the diocese, following the March 14 meeting. "I'm impressed by the transparency and commitment that has been part of the initiative, and that no final decisions have been made, allowing parishes to have enough input to refine the process."

"I'm pleased that the diocese is looking to change and to adapt to what the Church needs today. Our parish always has been able to adapt and to flourish, even though it's small and somewhat isolated, because our culture always has been not about the church building, but the people coming to it."

"I sort of had an idea of what to expect, but this has been a super-informative meeting," said Ed Hammond of New Lexington St. Rose Church. "I especially appreciated the honesty of the priests concerning the current situation."

"It's great that we have ideas to take back concerning possible parish groupings, but they're not set in stone. I'll take this to the parishes (in the Perry County Consortium) in the hope that I hear from more people and that they all work toward what's best for the Church in Perry County, the cradle of Catholicism in Ohio."

"The drafts will get a lot more specific, based on what people are asking for, now that they have some ideas to look at. What's been proposed probably are not the best solutions, but they're a start," Father Hartge said.

"We expect a lot more feedback from this second round of discussion. Since we don't have a bishop, (the

new bishop) will have to get to know the diocese before deciding on parish realignment. Targeted visits also will continue to be made to individual parishes by me and others involved with the planning process. So there's quite a bit of time left before any final decisions are made."

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# PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

**ADAMS, Mary J. 94, March 3**  
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

**ANDERSON, Catherine O., 47, March 10**  
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

**BAKER, Theresa K. (Kungis), 89, March 3**  
St. James the Less Church, Columbus

**BARNHART, Anna (Diltz), 90, March 4**  
St. Joseph Church, Circleville

**BUTLER, Ragine A., 55, March 13**  
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

**BROWN, Dr. Edward E., 83, formerly of Columbus, March 8**  
St. Joseph Church, Springfield

**CANINI, Valerio S., 89, March 7**  
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

**CLARK, Patricia C. (Eickholt), 89, March 4**  
St. Anthony Church, Columbus

**DRAUDT, Rita D., 78, March 14**  
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, Columbus

**FOSTER, John A., 83, March 10**  
St. Leo the Great Oratory, Columbus

**FREY, Ellen (Whalen), 80, March 7**  
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

**GUNDERSON, Stephen M., 57, March 8**  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

**HARRISON, Warren G., 67, March 3**  
Sacred Heart Church, Columbus

**HOSTENSKE, Mary S. (Trembach), 98, March 2**  
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

**HUGHES, Dorothy J. (Butler), 94, March 10**  
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

**HUSTON, Joette C., 71, March 12**  
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

**LANNUTTI, John J., 63, March 6**  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

**LITTLETON, Elena (Gastaldo), 86, March 10**  
St. Joseph Church, Dover

**MAROTTA, Robert D., 75, March 6**  
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

**OLDHAM, Jerry L., 77, March 4**  
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Buckeye Lake

**PAESANO, Joann (Giuliani), 95, March 9**  
St. John the Baptist Church, Columbus

**PETRELLA, Anthony P., 96, March 2**  
St. Christopher Church, Columbus

**STAKER, James B., 79, March 7**  
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

**STOUT, Marianne (Bifaro), 91, March 2**  
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

**WARNKE, John, 72, Feb. 18**  
St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

**WOHLEBER, Mary (Gremer), 102, March 6**  
St. Peter Church, Columbus

## Charles W. "Bill" McCarrick

Funeral Mass for Charles W. "Bill" McCarrick, 93, who died Friday, March 4, was celebrated Wednesday, March 9 at Columbus St. Patrick Church. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

He was born on Nov. 17, 1928 to Charles and Harriett (Bandy) McCarrick, was a 1946 graduate of Columbus Aquinas High School and served in the U.S. Army in Germany during the Korean conflict.

After returning from the military, he retired from the McNally Lumber Co.

after more than 50 years with the business.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, James; and sisters, Sister Anne McCarrick, SND and Kathleen Kellison. Survivors include his wife of 64 years, Mary Ann; daughters, Patty Cooley, an administrative professional with the Diocese of Columbus; Molly, Peggy (Scott) Irion and Terre (John) Orenchuk; brother, Pat (Barb); 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

## Sister Carol Jander, OSF

A private funeral Mass was celebrated for Sister Carol Jander, OSF, 83, who died Monday, March 14, followed by burial at Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, Illinois.

She was born in Columbus on July 18, 1938 to the late Paul and Anne (Wene) Jander.

She graduated from Columbus St. Mary High School and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in education from the College of St. Francis in Joliet, Illinois and a Master of Science degree in education administration and supervision

from DePaul University in Chicago.

She formerly was known as Sister Paulanne and was a member of the Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate for 64 years, ministering in education and administration in Illinois. From 1979 to 2017, she was co-director of the Franciscan Learning Center in Joliet, then served the residents and staff at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home in Joliet until her death.

She is survived by brothers Thomas (Marlene), Daniel and Stephen (Marsha).

## Sister Dorothy Lemon, OP

Funeral Mass for Sister Dorothy Lemon, OP, 100, who died Monday, March 14, was celebrated Wednesday, March 23 at the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born on Aug. 29, 1921 in Pittsburgh to Clarence and Mary (Haney) Lemon and received a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education from the College of St. Mary of the Springs (now Ohio Dominican University) in 1955.

She entered the congregation of the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace) in 1942 and made her profession of vows on Aug. 14, 1944, taking the name Sister Antoninus.

In the Diocese of Columbus, she taught at Columbus St. James the Less School from 1949 to 1955, was pastoral minister at Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church from 1987 to 1996, was facilities director at the Motherhouse from 1997 to 1999 and was a social visitor at the Mohun Health Care Center from 1999 to 2006.

She also did missionary work in Chimbote, Peru for 20 years and taught in the Diocese of Steubenville and in schools in Connecticut, New Mexico and Pennsylvania.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Clarence; and sister, Anna Margaret Evangelista. She is survived by nieces and nephews.



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In the marriage case styled **ASHLEY WILSON JACKSON and BRADLEY CHARLES KESSLER**, the Tribunal of the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio is currently unaware of the present address of **BRADLEY CHARLES KESSLER**. The Tribunal herewith informs him of the case and invites him to contact **MONSIGNOR JOHN JOHNSON, JCD**, Presiding and sole Judge, no later than – 11 APRIL 2022, or call phone (614)241-2500 Extension 1. Anyone who knows of the whereabouts of **BRADLEY CHARLES KESSLER**, is herewith asked to make this Citation known to him or to inform the Tribunal of his current address.

Given this 27 MARCH 2022;

**MONSIGNOR JOHN JOHNSON, JCD**  
Presiding Judge

**KAREN KITCHELL**  
Notary

## Bell choir accompanies Ash Wednesday Mass



The seventh-grade bell choir from Columbus St. Timothy School provided music at the parish's Ash Wednesday Mass celebrated by Father David Poliafico with Deacon Marion Smithberger assisting. St. Timothy music teacher Kristen Babjak (left) and the three-octave hand-bell choir led the congregation in song. During COVID, students in the bell choir were able to socially distance themselves and still be part of the music experience. There are 41 students in grades 6 through 8 participating, and each grade's choir performs for the school Mass each week. "Participating in a bell choir presents a unique challenge," Babjak said. "Each student needs to focus on their pitch and play at precisely the right moment. It takes a lot of mental energy to play the bells. You can see the concentration and focus that is evident in their faces as they play. It is a great way for students who love music to have a chance to participate. It is gratifying to see middle school students excited about their faith and providing music for the service." Babjak also directs the St. Timothy children's choir and school plays, and plays piano for Saturday evening Masses.

Photo courtesy St. Timothy Church



**March 4, 11, 18, 25  
April 1, 8**



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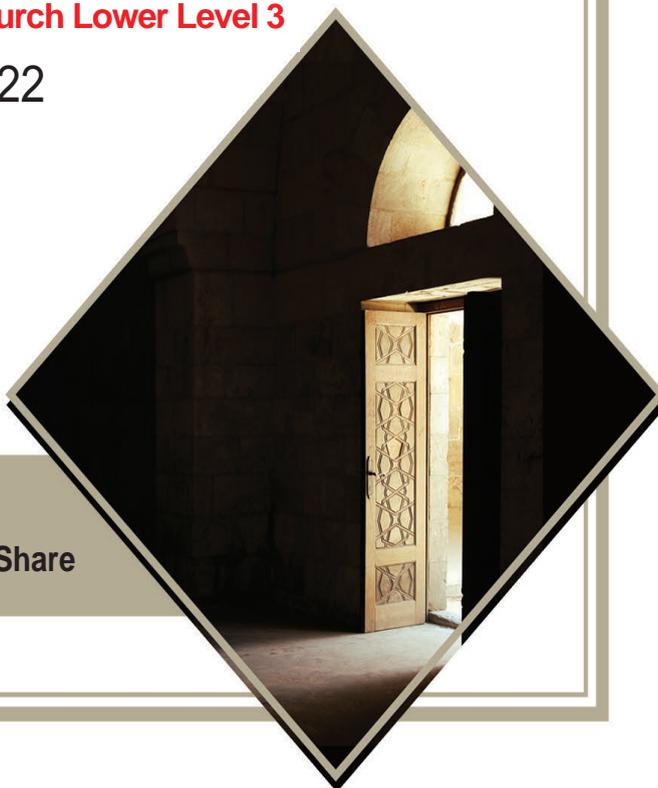
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## St. Dominic goodwill ambassador retires

Cecil Douglas, known as Columbus St. Dominic Church's "ambassador to the neighborhood," has retired as manager of the parish center after 31 years.

His duties in that role involved handling bookings, setup and cleanup for parish and community events, but he also provided food to anyone who asked from a food closet he operated at the center. He also collaborated with the Furniture Bank for 20 years to help local families, including Somali immigrants, in furnishing their apartments.

He often used his own money to buy diapers and hygiene products for families in need and served as a mentor for young people, giving them small chores to do and paying them from his own pocket. He will remain a familiar face at the center, working for Community Kitchen Inc. feeding the hungry and retaining his ties with the Furniture Bank.

He is a Vietnam veteran who has served as sergeant-at-arms at the Ohio statehouse and worked with young people at a juvenile corrections facility. He has never sought credit or called attention to his works of mercy. He embodies the spirit of Acts 20:35, "In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"



Parish center manager Cecil Douglas receives a plaque recognizing his retirement from Father Ramon Owers, pastor of Columbus St. Dominic Church. Photo courtesy St. Dominic Church

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# Two diocesan wrestlers grab state championships

By Doug Bean  
Catholic Times Editor

Two wrestlers from Columbus diocesan high schools came away from the Jerome Schottenstein Center at Ohio State University with state wrestling titles, and one team claimed a top-five finish in the three-day tournament that ended Sunday, March 13.

Bishop Watterson freshman Mitchell Younger was crowned an individual champion at 144 pounds in his first state meet, and St. Francis DeSales junior David McClelland also captured a title at 132 pounds while helping the Stallions to a fifth-place finish in Division II with 73.5 points.

DeSales sophomore Max Shulaw made it to the final at 215 pounds before dropping a 7-2 decision to Carter Neves of state champion St. Paris Graham.

The Stallions received additional points from Owen Eagan (third at 144) and Lincoln Shulaw (seventh at 165).

Bishop Hartley's Dylan Newsome took third at 165 pounds to help carry the Hawks to a 14th-place finish in the team standings with 30 points. Team-mate Aiden King was seventh at 120.

DeSales coach Collin Palmer has quickly restored a program that struggled in recent years. The Stallions' last individual champion came in 2005.

"Our team goal was to be top five in the state," Palmer said. "We started two years ago with four guys on the team. So we had to set some goals to make the progress we needed. We're moving in the right direction."

McClelland's closest match in his first state tournament appearance came in the final at 132, an 8-3 decision over Pablo Castro of Louisville. In the earlier rounds, his wins included a pin and a technical fall. He ended the season with



**St. Francis DeSales junior David McClelland (right) shows his emotion after winning a Division II state title at 132 pounds.**

*Photo courtesy John Hulkenberg*

a 43-5 record.

"He's really turned the corner," Palmer said. "We've always known that he was good. All the guys on the team look up to him, and he had to set the example."

"He and Max did a great job this year of leading by example, of not just talking the talk but doing exactly what we needed."

Max Shulaw improved on his fourth-place finish in 2021 at 195 pounds as this year's runner-up at 215.

"We're trying to just look at all the positives at the moment," Palmer said of Shulaw. "He lost to somebody who wasn't a slouch. So yeah, exactly. We had a game plan going into that match,

and we didn't really stick to it. And that ended up costing us. He's still young."

Eagan lost to eventual runner-up Nolan Gessler of St. Paris Graham by a major decision in the semifinals and then was pinned in 2:37 by Maddox Simcoe of Tiffin Columbian in the third-place match. Shulaw's younger brother, Lincoln Shulaw, battled back from a quarterfinal loss to claim seventh at 165.

"Lincoln did a great job this year in the 165-pound weight class that's filled with juniors and seniors," Palmer said. "And so next year with more mat time the expectations are going to go through the roof for him."

"And I called Owen the sleeper of the tournament. He's a super strong, athletic kid, and things all started coming together this season."

Watterson ended up 22nd with 22 points on the strength of Younger's impressive performance.

The freshman won two matches by three points and one by four to reach the final against Gessler in a rematch of a district final a week earlier that Younger won 5-2.

In the state final, a wrestling miracle allowed Younger to pull out a 4-3 victory.

The Watterson wrestler (24-0) trailed 3-0 midway through the third period. With the clock winding down at the end of the match, Younger closed to 3-2 after a series of stalling calls were whistled against his opponent. With three seconds to go, when the referee blew his whistle to restart the match for the final time, Gessler immediately moved backward to avoid Younger.

The clock hit 0:00, and Gessler appeared to be the winner, but Watterson coach Felix Catheline pointed out to the officials that the rules stipulate a wrestler moving directly backward is a stalling infraction. After the officials huddled to discuss the rule, the final stalling call (the fourth in the match against Gessler) was awarded, resulting in two points and giving Younger the victory.

"I had lost track of the points, and we believed we were going to get the call and go to overtime," Catheline said. "I was yelling at Mitchell, trying to pump him up, saying, 'One-minute overtime, alright, here we go. You can take him down.'"

"And then there was this awkward pause, and the match is over. It's definitely a weird way to win, but I'm really happy for him."

Younger's resilience, maturity and ability to handle more experienced wrestlers at the state meet impressed his coach.

"He definitely took their best shot," Catheline said. "So it's awesome. It's great that he won a title as a freshman, but it's even more enjoyable for me just because of the character of the young man and his family."

Newsome, a junior who finished second a year ago at 170, was bidding for his first state title but was edged 3-2 by Max Kirby of Fairless in the semifinals before coming back to win his third-place match by a 19-6 major decision over Thad Stuckey of Wilmington.

King won two matches in the meet and reached the medal stand as an eighth-place finisher.

2021-2022 CCL Bowling Champions and All-League	
<b>Boys CCL Champion</b>	<b>Girls CCL Champion</b>
<b>Bishop Hartley</b>	<b>Bishop Ready</b>
Boys 1st Team All-CCL	Girls 1st Team All-CCL
Marlin Yarborough - Bishop Hartley	Mercedes Bassitt - St. Francis DeSales
Caden Lester - St. Francis DeSales	Melissa Montgomery - Bishop Watterson
Philip Ryan - Bishop Ready	Jennifer Pond - Bishop Ready
Zach Jahn - Bishop Ready	CeCe Muraco - Bishop Ready
Stuart Hankinson - St. Charles	Joy Packard - Bishop Watterson
Nick Maliwesky - Bishop Watterson	Alexis Reynolds - St. Francis DeSales
Boys 2nd Team All-CCL	Girls 2nd Team All-CCL
Shane Shultz - Bishop Hartley	Camille Payne - Bishop Hartley
Nick Gillian - St. Francis DeSales	Cailin Mascarin - St. Francis DeSales
Aiden Potts - St. Charles	Ann Flores - Bishop Hartley
Adam Schwab - Bishop Ready	Katie Whitsett - Bishop Watterson
Brayden Roof - Bishop Ready	Sienna Phoung - Bishop Hartley
Andy Karas - St. Francis DeSales	Neveah Forby - Bishop Ready



**Bishop Watterson freshman Mitchell Younger (right) wrestled his way to a Division II state championship at 144 pounds at Ohio State's Schottenstein Center on the weekend of March 13-15.**

*Photo courtesy John Hulkenberg*

## Former Swiss Guard tells of experiences with Pope John Paul II

Former papal Swiss Guard Mario Enzler delighted an audience at the Portsmouth Holy Redeemer Church activity center earlier this month with anecdotes about his time serving Pope St. John Paul II.

One of his stories recalled a time when four guardsmen were taking a break and playing cards on the patio of the pontifical summer residence at Castel Gandolfo. One of the guards played the wrong card, which triggered what Enzler described as “spicy language.”

Suddenly, a zucchetto (the papal skullcap) appeared in the middle of the card table. The guards looked up and found John Paul standing on the balcony above them. He never said a word, but let his zucchetto speak for him. Moments later, his secretary, Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, arrived to retrieve the skullcap. “Sorry! The wind,” he said, but Enzler said the guards knew better.

On another occasion, Enzler was dispatched to deliver a binder to His Holiness at around 3 p.m. Enzler thought the pontiff would be napping; however, as he passed the chapel on his way to the papal apartment, he found John Paul kneeling with his head pressed against the altar, deep in prayer.



**Former Swiss Guard Mario Enzler (right) is joined by members of the Portsmouth Notre Dame High School girls basketball team, coach JD McKenzie and his wife, Crystal, after Enzler's talk at Portsmouth Holy Redeemer Church. Team members volunteered at the event.**  
*Photo courtesy Wanda Dengel*

Enzler described the pope as a very spiritual, intelligent man who favored simplicity – a quality which made others very comfortable around him.

Enzler also talked about his life before the Swiss Guard. As a graduate student, he wore his hair long and worked as a part-time model in Milan to earn extra money. He thought he was the “coolest dude” with his long, flowing hair, and once appeared on the runway following the famed model Christie Brinkley.

He still was sporting the loose, sleek hair style, often worn in a ponytail, when his Swiss father recommended

that he join the military to give his life some focus. After comparing the officer schools of the Italian and Swiss armies, he chose the Swiss Army because it had a shorter training period.

When he arrived in Geneva with his ponytail, an officer had him stand at attention while he silently inspected Enzler from top to bottom and front to back. Suddenly, he felt his ponytail being pulled back sharply and snipped off in an instant. He was now just another recruit. Months later, a Swiss Army chaplain recommended Enzler for the Swiss Guard.

After the program, Enzler spoke individually with audience members after posing with members of the Portsmouth Notre Dame High School girls basketball team who had volunteered to bus tables. “For teenagers to give up a Saturday evening is remarkable. It is evident that they have a true dedication to their faith community,” he said.

Those in attendance came from all over Scioto County, as well as nearby Pike and Ross counties. “He was an amazing speaker. Even our 10-year-old son loved him,” said Christie McKenzie of Wheelersburg. Marian Beckett of Otway said, “He was fabulous and inspiring,” and Bill Schwamberger of Stout remarked, “My wife, Debbie, and I found him entertaining and illuminating. He was wonderful.”

Marianne Fairbairn of Chillicothe said, “He was a sincere man of God. Not only that, his devotion and dedication to the Blessed Mother and the Church are examples for all of us to follow.” Tess Hatmacher, also of Ross County, added, “He impressed me as a genuine individual. What a blessing to have in his possession a first-class relic of the pontiff's blood on his handkerchief. Mario's presentation is one I will not soon forget.”



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*ODU President Connie Gallaher signs the Laudato Si' pledge on March 15 alongside Sr. Diane Traffas, OP, Fr. Dan Millisor and members of ODU's Laudato Si' Committee.*

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# 'World's Largest Diaper Drive' coming in May

In only its second year, the "World's Largest Diaper Drive" is becoming one of the more significant events in Ohio aimed at helping the poor with a basic need. This year's event happens in the first week of May and culminates on the day before Mother's Day.

Started by Bottoms Up Diaper Bank in 2021, the event realized more than 360,000 donated diapers that were collected by churches, schools, businesses, and civic organizations around the 12-county area served by Bottoms Up.

Jo Welsh, founder and president of Bottoms Up, marveled at the success of the 2021 World's Largest Diaper Drive and is looking forward to building on that success this year.

"This year, we have a goal of collecting more than 500,000 donated diapers," he said. "It's been amazing how the com-



munity responded last year and a significant part of the success was the vigorous involvement of the Catholic community.

It made me proud to be Catholic."

In addition to the church community, schools and businesses stepped up to the challenge last year in a major way. Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare School collected nearly 17,000 diapers for the drive. That was the high mark for a school last year.

Welsh hopes other schools will be up for the challenge.

"This is a great opportunity for students to experience the great joy of charity and do something tangible for those in need," she said. "Mothers and families are in dire need of help and a little help can make a big difference.

Welsh also knows that Bottoms Up can't continue without the help of volunteers, diaper drives, prayer and a little money.

"Five hundred thousand diapers can help 20,000 families with diapers," Welsh said, "and we can't meet that goal unless we have enough volunteers and financing. Prayer is paramount to the success of the World's Largest Diaper Drive."

The World's Largest Diaper Drive will be held in all of Ohio's major cities this year, and two million diapers are expected to be collected.

That may seem like a big goal, but Welsh believes that God will provide.

"Bottoms Up experiences a miracle almost every day," she said. "We are truly blessed to be called to help in this small way."

For more information and to volunteer or donate, go to [www.worldslargestdiaperdrive.org](http://www.worldslargestdiaperdrive.org).

## Watterson senior wins Zonta Club award



Columbus Bishop Watterson High School senior Kate Drab was named the top scholarship recipient of 12 chosen for the Zonta Club of Columbus Outstanding Young Women Program for 2022. She was selected based on scholastic achievement, leadership and commitment to service in the community and school. As the scholarship winner, she is nominated for the Zonta International Young Women in Public Affairs Award. Zonta is one of the largest women's service organizations in the world with a mission "to improve the lives of women locally and globally through service, advocacy, education and fundraising efforts." More than 100 central Ohio high schools were invited to nominate a student for the Outstanding Young Women Program.

Photo courtesy Bishop Watterson High School

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