

# The Catholic **TIMES**

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**Seminarians aid homeless:** Diocese of Columbus seminarians Kevin Girardi (left) and Michael Haemmerle spent their summer working with the homeless at the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal's center in greater New York City, Page 17



## JUBILEE OF ANNIVERSARIES RECOGNIZES COUPLES REACHING MARRIAGE MILESTONES

## Bishop Fernandes travels to Rome



Bishop Earl Fernandes (left photo, center) in Rome with other bishops.

Bishop Earl Fernandes is one of 179 bishops from around the world participating this week in a course of formation in Rome.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the sessions have not taken place for the past two years and so bishops who were ordained toward the end of 2020 and in 2021 and 2022 are present.

The theme of the gathering is “To Announce the Gospel in a Change of Epoch and After the Pandemic: The Service of the Bishops.”

Topics during the sessions include ministry of the bishop in the context of synodality of the

Church; family and universal fraternity; episcopal holiness in the Catholic community; and educating oneself in synodal leadership.

Bishop Fernandes is joined in Rome by bishops from the United States and from other parts of the world, many of whom are friends who have become shepherds of the Church.

“It really gives you a sense of being part of the Episcopal College,” Bishop Fernandes said.

The bishops were scheduled to meet with Pope Francis on Monday, Sept. 19 before returning home.

## Pro-life Mass, rally, march set for Oct. 5 in Columbus

Thousands of pro-life supporters from throughout the state are expected to participate in the first Ohio March for Life on Wednesday, Oct. 5 at the Statehouse in downtown Columbus.

A Mass for Life preceding the events at the Statehouse is scheduled for 9 a.m. at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., two blocks east of the capitol square. The principal celebrant will be Bishop David Bonnar of the Diocese of Youngstown.

The Mass will be followed at 10 a.m. by a pre-rally concert led by Damascus Worship at the Statehouse. A rally begins at 11 a.m., and the march will get

underway at noon.

Speakers are expected to include Bishop Bonnar, Pastor David Forbes of the Columbus Christian Center, Dr. Alveda King of Priests for Life, Aaron Baer of the Center for Christian Virtue, Peter Range of Ohio Right to Life and Jeanne Mancini of the March for Life Education and Defense Fund.

The National March for Life is supporting the Ohio event and several similar marches in other states. Pennsylvania staged a rally and march on Sept. 19 in Harrisburg.

Organizers say the Ohio rally and march will provide opportunities to hear

from elected officials and to learn about life issues in Ohio and how to become pro-active in advocacy for the unborn.

The Ohio March for Life is set to take place less than four months after the U.S. Supreme Court’s landmark ruling overturning the Roe v. Wade decision on abortion, which allowed an Ohio Heartbeat law to go into effect that bans taking the life of an unborn child once a fetal heartbeat is detected, usually at about six weeks’ gestation.

However, on Sept. 14, Hamilton County Judge Christian Jenkins issued a temporary injunction against Ohio’s Heartbeat law for 14 days, allowing

mothers to procure abortions up to 20 weeks into a pregnancy.

In Columbus, the city put measures in place after Roe was overturned to fund abortion groups, investigate pregnancy help centers and deprioritize the enforcement of the Heartbeat law, allowing abortions to continue locally.

The Catholic Church teaches that all life is sacred and should be protected from conception until natural death.

For more information and to register for the Ohio march, visit [www.marchforlife.org/ohio-march-for-life/](http://www.marchforlife.org/ohio-march-for-life/). Registration is not required, but those who sign up will receive email updates.

## Temporary restraining order against heartbeat law shows fight far from over

By Beth Vanderkooi

Last week, Greater Columbus Right to Life shared heartbreaking news. On Wednesday, Sept. 14, a Hamilton County Common Pleas judge found that Ohio’s Constitution might be interpreted as protecting abortion under the guise of medical freedom and non-discrimination of women. Consequently, he issued a temporary restraining order (TRO) halting enforcement of Ohio’s heartbeat law and returning Ohio to its pre-Dobbs framework of generally prohibiting abortion after 20-21 weeks.

The TRO grants an injunction against Ohio’s fetal heartbeat law of at least two weeks. It will mean that hundreds, and possibly thousands, of babies’ hearts will be stopped in Ohio in the coming weeks.

The response was immediate – with abortion advocates and most members of the media scrambling to declare a victory on behalf of Ohio’s women. A

pro-abortion gubernatorial candidate released a campaign ad touting that all Ohio women want is to be able to have a say in their own lives. Meanwhile, California’s governor bought billboards inviting Ohio women to come to California for abortions. Abortion funders and providers, enriched by millions of dollars in tax funding from municipalities in the past few weeks, took a victory lap.

By contrast, pro-life voices decried the overt forum-shopping, legal contortion, and judicial activism involved. We’ve pointed out that this is a growing trend, that the former de facto abortion legal counsel is now a Hamilton County Judge, and that Hamilton County has become the go-to venue for abortion advocates in case after case over the past few years. We’ve looked at the lengthy list of attorneys signed onto this case – dozens of attorneys representing firms located in high-rise buildings in big cities, and we watched the legal hearing

unfold with an acute sense that this was not an unbiased judge.

If we are being honest, the only surprise in this has been that it took 2 1/2 months to happen. Undoubtedly, there are both legal and political maneuverings at play, and we anticipated that would unfold. To be sure, there is very little about this legal process that could not have happened in June or early July, unless the intention was not to protect the alleged rights of women but to influence the November elections.

There are many ideas and opinions of what it takes to do the work of building the Kingdom of God and faithfully performing pro-life work. At Greater Columbus Right to Life, we often fall back on the instructions in Matthew 10, “I send you out as sheep among the wolves, so be wise as serpents and harmless as doves” (I took some linguistic liberty there). Yes, the world is hostile to our message, and it is hostile in ways that are both intentional (like

timing litigation to influence and election for an outcome benefiting the evil of abortion) and unintentional (many are occupied with the headlines of the day, the economy and families are suffering, general business, exhaustion). This is nothing new. The world has often been hostile to the Gospel and the Gospel of Life.

While none of this is especially new or novel, it is nonetheless important. Very important. Culture shapes law, but laws change culture. So I invite you not to be distracted or distressed or complacent in the weeks or months to come. Instead, let’s be wise and winsome, engaged, courageous and virtuous. There is no time like the present time, and the coming weeks will highlight many opportunities from many groups – including Greater Columbus Right to Life. Consider this your invitation.

*Beth Vanderkooi is the executive director of Greater Columbus Right to Life.*



Front Page photo:

### JUBILEE OF ANNIVERSARIES

The annual jubilee of anniversaries was scheduled to take place on Sunday, Sept. 25, to honor married couples celebrating significant wedding anniversaries in 2022.

Photo courtesy iStock

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BISHOP EARL K. FERNANDES: President & Publisher  
DOUG BEAN: Editor (dbean@columbuscatholic.org)  
EMMA NOEL: Layout/Design (enoel@columbuscatholic.org)  
MAILING ADDRESS: 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215  
EDITORIAL/ADVERTISING: (614) 224-5195 | FAX (614) 241-2518  
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(subscriptions@columbuscatholic.org)

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# Lancaster Adoration Chapel recalls manger in Bethlehem

By Doug Bean  
Catholic Times Editor

A stained-glass window that bears the inscription “Come Let Us Adore Him” provides a fitting welcome to a recently completed Adoration Chapel at Lancaster St. Mark Church.

Bishop Earl Fernandes blessed the chapel before celebrating an outdoor Saturday Vigil Mass and joining parishioners for their annual picnic on Sept. 10.

The Chapel, which is housed in the former parish office inside the front entrance to the church and has seating for eight to ten adorers, was designed to resemble the humble birth of our Lord in a manger in Bethlehem.

The Chapel is open on Mondays and Tuesdays after the 8 a.m. daily Mass until 10 p.m. But it is hoped that more days will be added.

The idea to construct an Adoration Chapel was conceived in early 2021 after former Columbus Bishop Robert Brennan launched the Real Presence Real Future initiative in the diocese and as the church was starting to come out of the COVID crisis.

“We here at St. Mark were thinking that we needed to emphasize the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and to chart a path forward for dealing with a lot of the things that were going on – not only at St. Mark but also in the Diocese,” Deacon Hurdley said. “And we started praying about that and felt that we really needed to draw near to the Lord in prayer to seek His guidance.”

After brainstorming about what to do, the idea of a chapel dedicated to adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament germinated.

“Parishioners had approached us in the past about taking what was then the church office and transforming that into an Adoration Chapel,” Deacon Hurdley said. “And we started praying about that and thought this was probably an ideal location.”

Father Peter Gideon, the parish pastor, presented the idea to the parish council and then made the call to move ahead with the chapel.

To make that happen, a musical chairs of sorts commenced to find new homes for the parish office and various ministries affected by the relocation of the parish office. All of this activity was completed by the fall of 2021.

A committee was then formed to seek input from the congregation on the design of the chapel and how to raise money to build it.

“We had plans of potentially raising a significant amount of money, and we were ready to go forward with a campaign to do that,” Deacon Hurdley said.



**Bishop Earl Fernandes sprinkles holy water during the consecration of a new Adoration Chapel on Saturday, Sept. 10 at Lancaster St. Mark Church.**

*CT photos by Ken Snow*

“But because of the things that were going on with the Real Presence initiative and the planning process that was starting to kick into gear, we were limited on the size of the project to \$10,000, which, at that point, was a constraint in terms of what we were thinking about doing.

“But it really opened up a lot of things that enabled us to move forward because we no longer had to think about a huge fundraising campaign.”

The money came in quickly, and then the next challenge was how to use the limited funds to build a chapel worthy of the Lord.

Considering St. Mark is a church of modest design located on a pastoral 42-acre campus with large, wooded greenspace, the parish settled on incorporating simplicity and a natural setting into the construction.

“We thought about the life of Jesus, and we centered upon the Incarnation and his humble birth in a stable in Bethlehem” Deacon Hurdley said.

“The idea of the Lord being born in a simple, humble manger captivated us.”

With no budget leeway to hire an architect, “we just, on the back of a sheet of paper, started sketching out an idea of what it could look like,” Deacon Hurdley explained. “And then we contacted one of our parishioners, Jim Tawney, who’s gifted with building skills and said, ‘This is what we would like to do. Can you help us out with this?’

“And he said, ‘Yeah, I think I can do that.’ And he’s very creative. And he’s hardworking, and he works fast.”

The work began in early 2022 and was finished in fewer than six months, well ahead of the projected completion



**After the chapel blessing, Bishop Earl Fernandes celebrated an outdoor Mass that was followed by a parish picnic on the grounds of St. Mark Church. Assisting at the altar were Deacon Jeff Hurdley (hands folded); Father Peter Gideon (right), the parish pastor; and Father John Reade (behind Deacon Hurdley). Also concelebrating but not pictured was Father James Walter.**

date of late 2022. In addition to Tawney, parishioners Paul Sullivan and Herb Reeder donated many hours of service on the project.

“People were giving of their talents to make this happen and just using the skills and the abilities that God gave them,” Deacon Hurdley said.

Five stained-glass windows that depict scenes from the Incarnation were commissioned and installed, including the one in the entrance that shows Mary and Joseph with baby Jesus in the manger and the inscription “Come Let Us Adore Him.”

Parishioners contributed to the furnishings, and Father Gideon, on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, purchased a wooden shutter that features a scene from the birth of Jesus painted on the backside that was hung in the Chapel.

Father Gideon credited former Lancaster St. Bernadette Church pastor Msgr. Robert Noon, who died in 2020 at age 97, as an inspiration to build the Chapel. Msgr. Noon had started Eucharistic Adoration at St. Bernadette before he retired and came to live in the rectory at St. Mark before Father Gideon arrived as pastor in 2004.

“When some folks raised the question of starting Adoration at St. Mark, Msgr. Noon was there to answer practical questions and to give much encouragement,” Father Gideon said. “As we dedicate this new Adoration Chapel, the folks

of St. Mark and Lancaster and Fairfield County owe Msgr. Noon an acknowledgement and a debt of gratitude.”

At Bishop Fernandes’ blessing of the rustic-looking chapel last week where the Lord will be adored, parishioners and clergy members looked on in thanksgiving.

“It just all came together,” Deacon Hurdley said. “And we feel blessed. We had some initial hurdles that we encountered, but we cleared those quickly. Our original plan to build something opulent would have been, in retrospect, out of place for the nature of our church.”

“We were led to an aspect of our Lord’s life where He is born into the world not in a palace but in a manger. And He emphasizes to us not only how very close He is to us, but also how important humility is in the Christian walk. And that’s really what we tried to capture in the Chapel.”



**Standing just outside the new chapel holding the book is Deacon Frank Sullivan as Bishop Earl Fernandes reads scripture and the words of blessing just before the consecration.**

*CT photo by Ken Snow*

# Ohio Catholic college football programs fumble when it comes to faith

Exciting news out of the University of Notre Dame recently with reports that new head football coach Marcus Freeman entered into full communion with the Catholic Church and that he reinstated the team's game-day Mass on campus.

You'd think that team Masses before games would be a staple at most Catholic universities, but that's not the case at the six Catholic colleges in Ohio with football programs.

In fact, the presence of Catholic faith on football teams is not particularly strong at any of the six schools, which might come as a surprise to casual fans, parents and even alumni.

The college football experience, for the most part, seems to be much different than in high schools. And we're not talking about the higher level of competition and talent in the college game.

In Columbus and other dioceses, high schools regularly offer Masses, rosaries and other opportunities for student-athletes to pray. But if you're one of the young people playing football at a Catholic college in Ohio, chances are you will encounter an atmosphere of indifference to the Catholic faith.

As one coach at a Catholic university in Ohio put it, "I feel a person's faith is a personal one that they can express however they choose."

OK, fair enough. But shouldn't every Catholic university be on a mission of evangelization? The Church is calling individuals who have been given the gift of faith to proclaim it to everyone they encounter. Missionary discipleship should apply to Catholic institutions and to athletics.

Part of the problem might be that most of the football coaches at these six Ohio universities do not appear to be faithfully practicing Catholics. So that means a campus minister, a priest or student-athletes themselves have to step up to fill the void.

It shouldn't be a shocker then when we hear and read the sad stories about students falling away from the practice of going to Mass during their college years.

Surveying the six Ohio Catholic college football programs, here is some information we found:

Ohio Dominican University, an NCAA Division II school located in the Diocese of Columbus, has not

## EDITOR'S REFLECTIONS

Doug Bean



regularly offered team-only Masses for players in the past on game day, but head coach Kelly Cummings did not respond to repeated requests for information before publication.

Walsh University, also an NCAA Division II program in North Canton that is one of 15 residential universities in America listed in *The Newman Guide of Catholic Colleges* committed to a faithful Catholic education, has only one devoted Catholic out of more than 100 players in its football program who regularly attends Mass on campus.

Team members at Walsh are asked to attend an all-school opening Mass at the start of the fall semester, but there is no team chaplain and no organized Catholic-centered activities outside of general campus ministry, and prayer is apparently only a nominal part of the team's routine. Despite several coaches on staff professing to be Catholic, a solid witness of commitment to the faith is not evident.

The University of Dayton, which plays at the non-scholarship Football Championship Subdivision level, has one practicing Catholic coach. The team attends a Mass together the Sunday before classes begin for the fall semester, and a chapel service is available the morning before games but no game-day Mass.

John Carroll University, an NCAA Division III member in University Heights, does offer Mass before each game. The team also prays before each game and before and after all practices.

Drew Nystrom, the team's head coach, is a practicing Catholic, and Father Bernie McAniff serves as the team chaplain.

Mount St. Joseph University, an NCAA Division III school in Cincinnati, takes an ecumenical approach with faith opportunities made available to all student-athletes but does not provide team Masses. There is a Fellowship of Christian Athletes chapter on campus that was founded by three football players.

Notre Dame College, an NCAA Division II pro-

gram in suburban Cleveland, did not reply to requests for information.

If all that sounds rather discouraging, there are some colleges across the country – Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., and Ave Maria University in Florida, to name two – where football coaches take the Catholic faith seriously.

Catholic University of America coach Mike Gutelius emphasizes the faith through team Bible studies, pregame rosaries and discussions about the cardinal virtues in an attempt to develop the character of the young men in his program.

Ave Maria football coach and athletic director Joe Patterson authored an inspiring article, "Coaching as a Calling," in the May 2022 issue of "Seton Magazine." In it, he wrote the following:

"The discipline that gets an athlete or coach out of bed at 4:45 a.m. to attend a 5:15 a.m. morning practice is the same discipline that gets the athlete or coach out of bed at 3:45 a.m. to fill the 4 a.m. to 5 a.m. Perpetual Adoration time slot.

"The self-sacrifice that prompts a third-string offensive lineman to serve as a scout team player translates well into the self-sacrifice that prompts a father to humbly toil countless hours to provide for his family."

He described how Ave Maria men's basketball coach Jamon Copeland regularly attends daily Mass and falls to his knees to receive the Eucharist. "I seek clarity from the Lord in the Eucharist as well as visiting him in the tabernacle," Copeland said in the article.

Franciscan University of Steubenville takes a similar approach with its student-athletes, making education in virtue the primary focus of each sport.

Although Franciscan does not offer football, its athletic teams in a variety of sports regularly attend Mass together and pray the rosary and other prayers, and gather for Bible studies.

The Church desperately needs more institutions like Catholic University, Ave Maria and Franciscan to inculcate the faith in young adults, whose hearts and minds are searching for the truth. If Catholic schools

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## Being vulnerable with God, others builds relationships

Any time we try something new or make a change in our lives we are being vulnerable. We don't know if we'll be able to do it, do it well, enjoy it and see growth from it.

This could involve joining a Bible study, going back to church in person, starting an exercise program, taking a class, starting a hobby or meeting a new friend for coffee.

Vulnerability is an interesting topic from a spiritual perspective. A key to spiritual growth is being vulnerable with God and others. It's odd to think that we might try to hide our weaknesses and foibles from ourselves, the all-knowing God and people we are closest to, but as I stand in the confession line, I think, Boy I wish I didn't have to talk to God about this.

Being vulnerable opens us up to forgiveness, healing and growth, but it takes humility and courage – and it can feel risky and frightening. We might wonder if people will think less of us or won't like us if they know the "real" us.

The Pharisees are an example of pride rather than vulnerability. They were concerned about appearances, acted like they were perfect and pointed fingers at others. They hid their true selves and were not vulner-

## 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.



able or humble enough to work on the "inside of the cup." They would, in the words of Jesus, "strain at a gnat and swallow a camel."

St. Paul, on the other hand, was vulnerable. He accepted the difficulties, rebukes and hardships he endured in evangelizing as he traveled with other disciples teaching and preaching, seeking to please God, not man.

Because he had persecuted Christians before his profound conversion, something he never forgot, he openly and authentically shared that he had been saved by Jesus and that Jesus was everything, not him. He was open about his weaknesses and mistakes, and his vulnerabilities drew people to him.

It is interesting to look at our own lives. Sometimes we might prefer to be quiet and hidden. I am reserved and prone to self-reliance. To be vulnerable is something I'm

growing in as I seek to share my personal and spiritual struggles in my writing, speaking and ministries – and even in simple coffee talks with close friends.

As I open up, there is freedom and joy in the authentic exchange that ensues as it builds deeper and truer bonds of love between friends and between me and God.

If we don't have vulnerability, we don't have true friendship? It's a deep topic that I can't do justice to in this short article, but I'll close with this thought:

We are often invited to share in the vulnerability of others. Are we open, loving, kind and receptive when others share their weaknesses and struggles with us? Can we be trusted to love them through it, and do we have a strong reliance on a prayer and sacramental life so that God's grace can work through us to be charitable with Christ-like love and honesty?

Lord, help us to see the goodness in vulnerability, give us the courage to practice it and by your grace may we be charitable and sensitive to those who are vulnerable with us. Amen.

## There is no 'them'

I have a friend that I talk with every day. We call it our 15 minutes. We share the day's highs and lows, spiritual insights, prayer intentions, and what we see God doing in our lives. On the occasion of one of these recent talks, he proclaimed, with the excitement of an astronomer who had discovered a new planet in our solar system, "there is no them." "What do you mean 'there is no them,'" I protested. What about all the groups that deny the human dignity of unborn children, undocumented immigrants, or prisoners on death row? What about the Russian leadership who ordered the invasion of the Ukraine? What about the people who vandalize churches, who spread hate through their rhetoric or their actions, who haven't an ounce of compassion for those that are hurting or in need? What about those people?"

"That's what I am talking about," he said. "When we say 'those people' or 'those groups' or 'the Russian leadership,' we lose sight of the fact that we are talking about individual human persons. Behind the lumping labels are real persons, made in the image and likeness of God, male and female, dark skinned and light skinned, brown eyed, green eyed, blue eyed — a unique and unrepeatable expression of the Creator. Furthermore, they are our brothers and sisters,

### 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.*



part of the same human family that Jesus died to save. God desires all of his children to be with Him in eternity. There can't be any "them;" there is only "us." Our job is to help each person find and connect with the Incarnate Love of God, Jesus. We will meet some persons in our daily lives and are called to show God's love to them in a personal way. Others we are called to help through our prayers.

I have thought a lot about that conversation over the last few weeks and now I try to stop myself if I start moving toward an "us" versus "them" mentality. That conversation linked with a recent posting by Father John Riccardo on the Acts XXIX website. He writes:

"First, as Christians, as disciples of Jesus, the Eternal Son of God who became flesh to redeem the world from the power of Hell, it is paramount that we remember and understand who the enemy is. The enemy

is the Enemy. Period.

It is not another political party. It is not a politician. It is not those who champion a right to abortion. It is not even the doctors who profit from abortion and perform them. The enemy is Hell. Period.

As a disciple of Jesus, I have no human enemies. As a disciple of Jesus, I am not allowed to have any human enemies. I might be theirs. They are not mine. They are just rebels. I have often in my life been a rebel. So have you. And you got won. And you probably got won by kindness, by someone who took the time to listen, by someone who took the time to care, by someone who might have provoked us to ask tough questions. But they did it in such a way that we weren't condemned. We were not yelled at. It was obvious we actually mattered to them. We need to remember that. We in the Church, Catholic and not, often sound like the world. We can't do that. It is not allowed. It is forbidden, as a matter of fact. Forbidden by God. We have to be careful."

So this week let us put aside "us" versus "them" and work to help our brothers and sisters find and connect with the Incarnate Love of God, through our kindness, our caring, our listening, our asking the tough questions, and our prayers!

## Filling our spare time with faith first

I'm 46 years old, and I think I've figured out how to be a mother. It's not bad timing considering that I've launched only three out of the home, and my youngest is 10 years old. I still have time to keep trying, and many lessons have been learned.

The other day, dear friends shared they were expecting their first child. With hearts full of excitement and joy, they yearned to soak up knowledge but also seemed a bit overwhelmed. Time was ticking, and they are growing a baby.

I smiled as I listened, my thoughts trailing back to when I was a first-time mom. A comedy could be made of my mistakes but most of all my worries. That pattern of worry followed me well into eight children where comparison and worry truly held me back from being the mother God was calling me to be.

Now I feel healed from that exhausting and heavy cross, embracing mothering with joy and the knowledge that my daily offering is enough and that God's mercy is abundant. Every day when I fall short of being who God calls me to be, I breathe in the grace God has for me.

### 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.*



Instead of turning to the mothering books, blogs and even well-meaning friends, I turn to Mary, mother of Jesus, to show me how to be the mother I am called to be.

In every word Mary speaks from her fiat to the wedding at Cana, she offers guidance to us her children: "Let it be done to me according to your word." When we embrace parenting with a fiat response to the gift being giving to us, we allow the Holy Spirit to work within us.

At Guadalupe, when Mary appears to Juan Diego, she speaks words of gentleness and trust, "Am I not here who is your mother?" How beautiful it is to look upon our children and speak those words to our children. Trust me. I'll always be here. I want the best for you. I am actively working to help you. In speaking

Mary's words to our children, we say all this to our children.

As our children grow, Mary of Knoch shows us how to be a mother through a ministry of presence. Here she speaks no words, but by her pres-

ence, brings comfort. So, too, is ours to our children when their hearts are aching. Whether at age 2 weeks or 22 years, being actively present to our children helps us build a relationship in times of need.

There are other examples of Mary giving us courage to step into our motherhood. As our children grow and face more worldly influences and free will sets in, we might feel inhibited to engage in conflict, but Mother Mary appearing at Fatima shows us that we are compelled to speak truth to our children.

Mary shows the children what hell looks like if society continued along the path it was on. So, too, must we as parents model Mary's forthright nature and stand firm in what we believe.

I'm enthralled with Mary's apparitions because I know she is teaching me and helping me grow in my motherhood. Our young expecting friends asked me a great question: If I were expecting now, what would I do differently? There is a lot to ponder.

My last little one came 10 years ago. I remember realizing that I carried within me the nourishment the baby needed, and, with a package of diapers and a few onesies, we had everything we needed to cover basic needs.

As a veteran mother, I would purchase less and ponder more, turning to and trusting in Mary to provide me the guidance I need to form the soul of this little child entrusted to me. It is amazing how freeing it is to entrust your parenting to Mary and have her lead you, your spouse and your children to her Son. So, join me in parenting through Mary to Jesus.

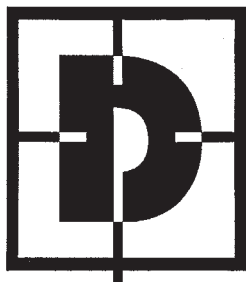
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at any level aren't saving souls and winning converts to Christ, then they're not doing what God intended them to do.

As Patterson stated so well, "It's not ultimately about the scoreboard. It's about the daily commitment to virtue.

"So many wins in life are simply choices. Am I going to be a good teammate? Am I going to set aside time for prayer? Am I going to support the moral behavior of my fellow teammates? "Those are all wins, and there should be little doubt about the importance of winning for coaches at Catholic schools."

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## Evangelization: What and when?

At the “information meeting” of the College of Cardinals this past Aug. 29-30, there was considerable agreement that evangelization is Catholicism’s prime imperative for the 21st century — a consensus understandably gratifying to the author of a 2013 book with the then-provocative title, *Evangelical Catholicism*. Within that consensus, however, serious questions remain to be resolved. Surveying the world Catholic scene today, and considering the past decade of ecclesiastical air turbulence, there are four “what” questions and one “when” question to be settled, if the consensus on the necessity of evangelization is to be fruitful in drawing others to, or back to, Christ.

The first “what” question is Christological: Can the Church evangelize if it does not propose Jesus Christ as the definitive expression of God’s self-revelation to humanity and the unique savior of the world? That was the unambiguous teaching of the Catholic Church from Peter’s sermon in Acts 4:12 through the declaration *Dominus Iesus* (The Lord Jesus), issued by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith with the authoritative approval of Pope John Paul II during the Great Jubilee of 2000. Does that conviction remain the foundation of Catholic evangelism and catechesis today? If so, how is the Church to understand the 2019 Abu Dhabi Declaration, signed by Pope Francis, which affirms that the “plurality” and “diversity” of religions in the world are “willed by God”? Is there a tension here, perhaps even a contradiction, that requires clarification?

The second “what” question is ecclesiological: Is the Catholic Church a universal Church with local ecclesial expressions, or is the Catholic Church a loose federation of local Churches, each with its own doctrinal and moral “path” (to borrow a term from Germany)?

### THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

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



World Anglicanism is an example of the latter; and the sorry condition of the Anglican Communion, which finds it difficult to even gather a meeting of its constituent members, is a cautionary tale. Moreover, aren’t the many challenges of evangelization in the 21st century magnified, even exacerbated, when local Churches proclaim different gospels and different ways of life? What does institutional German Catholicism, which appears determined to reinvent itself as the Church of Woke, have to offer to the Church’s evangelical efforts in Africa and Asia? How can a New Model Catholicism that is barely distinguishable from secular progressivism re-evangelize the post-Christian parts of the North Atlantic world? What happens to evangelization when the Church loses its tether to “one Lord, one faith, one baptism” (Ephesians 4:5)?

The third “what” question involves the architecture of the moral life: Does the 1993 encyclical *Veritatis Splendor* (The Splendor of Truth), which affirms that some acts are “intrinsically evil” in and of themselves, properly identify the biblical and theological foundation on which Catholic moral teaching rests? Or does the Catholic Church now embrace the moral-theological theory known as “proportionalism,” which understands the moral life as an ongoing negotiation in which the individual conscience navigates among unstable

moral norms, changing social standards and personal intentions? Can the Church evangelize if it cannot say, with compassion but also Gospel conviction, that this is the way of righteous living, not that, because some actions are just wrong, period?

The fourth “what” question touches Vatican diplomacy: How can the Church evangelize, especially in cultures and politics hostile to Christianity, if the Vatican seems unwilling to defend its own? The path of “dialogue” taken in Hong Kong and China, with Russia, and in the face of vicious anti-Catholic persecution in Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua has produced few, if any, positive results. What is the effect on future evangelization of the Vatican’s reluctance to defend publicly both individual Catholics (like the imprisoned Jimmy Lai in Hong Kong and the imprisoned Bishop Rolando Álvarez in Nicaragua) and the institutional freedom of the Church (as in, for example, the appointment of bishops in China)? Can evangelization succeed if efforts to “dialogue” with persecutors muzzle the Church’s prophetic voice in speaking truth to worldly power?

As for the “when” question, more than one cardinal in Rome last month asked how a robust program of evangelization can be conducted if the Church is constantly in meetings — whether diocesan synods, national synods, continental synods or global synods. Being Pope Francis’s Church “permanently in mission” is not easy to square with being a Church permanently in meetings. And that problem of prudent time-management is compounded when the meetings in question are conducted on the premise that little or nothing is stable in a Catholicism of “paradigm shifts.”

Evangelization, to be sure: but with what message and by what means?

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## CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others whom he sent ahead of him in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit. - Luke 10: 1



An Outreach Apostolate of Catholic Men’s Ministry.



# Father Sizemore says his call from God couldn't be ignored

By Tim Puet  
For *The Catholic Times*

Father David Sizemore says he knew as a teenager that God was calling him to something, but he wasn't sure that call was to the priesthood until it became too persistent to ignore.

Father Sizemore, 54, pastor of Newark St. Francis de Sales Church for the past five years, said he was the son of an active Catholic mother and an agnostic father and grew up as a member of Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church.

"When I was a boy, I was more like my mom and went to Mass and religious education class each week," he said. "When I was a teenager, I became more like dad and struggled with a belief in God. I also lived a wayward life."

He said an encounter with Jesus at a healing Mass celebrated by Father Robert DeGrandis, SSJ, in the mid-1980s at Columbus Sacred Heart Church changed his life and set him on the road to the priesthood.

"It's hard to easily describe," he said. "It was a moment when I had a profound experience of Jesus' presence that erased any doubt I had that God existed and that He loved me. During that experience, Jesus said, 'Now you know I exist, and I love you. What are you going to do with your life?'"

It took several years to answer that question. Father Sizemore was a sophomore at Groveport-Madison High School in the mid-1980s when the encounter occurred. "I graduated from high school and went on to Ohio University (OU) to study business. During this time, I was being mentored spiritually by Father Richard Pendolphi, who was associate pastor at the Church of Our Lady," he said.

"I also had fallen in love with a young woman and was considering a future with her. Through all of that, I kept being drawn into a deeper relationship with Jesus and kept being confronted by the same question of what I was going to do with my life.

"It became more and more clear that the answer to that question would require taking a risk by entering the seminary to discern the possibility of priesthood. I knew what it was like to be in love with a woman, which was beautiful. But I didn't really know what priesthood might be like for me, so I needed to place myself in an environment where I could explore this honestly."

Father Sizemore transferred from OU to the Pontifical College Josephinum, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy in 1990. He went on to Rome, where he received a bachelor's degree in sacred theology

## ANSWERING GOD'S CALL

*Answering God's Call profiles the life of a priest, deacon or professed religious sister in the Diocese of Columbus.*

in 1994 from the Pontifical Gregorian University and a Master of Arts degree in spiritual theology in 1996 from the Pontifical Angelicum University.

During his time in Rome, he came back to central Ohio for a year in 1994 and "shadowed" Father Jerome Rodenfels, who was pastor of the New Albany Church of the Resurrection, so he could become more familiar with the work he ultimately wanted to do as pastor of a parish. He was ordained as a priest by Bishop James Griffin in Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on June 29, 1996.

A few years after his own encounter with Jesus, Father Sizemore said something similar happened to his father, Bill, who died in 1992. "I was in the seminary at the time, and my father was suffering with cancer," he said. "While in the hospital, he had what is called a 'near-death experience' in which he encountered God in a powerful way. I was blessed to be a part of helping him to understand it and of him giving his life to Jesus.

"My dad fell back in love with my mother, who cared for him faithfully during his illness. And when everything that needed to be said was said and everything that needed to be done was done in my dad's life, my father died, ready to be with God forever. I was blessed to be with him when he passed, holding him in my arms. It was an intimacy in my life that I will always cherish.

"Having these experiences of God's presence and profound grace had a great impact on my own life. These personal examples of the transformative ways Christ reaches out to us, that these encounters with God are possible for any person – Christ wants to reach us all and transform our lives. This realization kept drawing me toward priesthood and wanting to spend my life helping others come closer to Christ," Father Sizemore said.

His mother, Phyllis, died this past March, 30 years after her husband's death. Father Sizemore has three older sisters, Debbie Reida, Lisa Beaudry and Susan Fitz. "Mom always was the one who really influenced us," he said. "Her witness of attending Mass every weekend, praying daily and serving the poor affected us in ways we didn't realize until becoming adults."

Father Sizemore's first assignment as a priest was to Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church from 1996 to 2000. "A large parish like that was a great place for someone like me who considers himself an extreme extrovert, project-oriented and people-oriented," he said.



Father David Sizemore

CT file photo

"Msgr. (Joseph) Hendricks was pastor there and still is. He encouraged me to do a lot of new things. One in particular was the parish's marriage mentoring program, in which an engaged couple spends many months with a married couple, who serve as the engaged couple's mentors, meeting with them regularly and engaging in discussions on all the major aspects of marriage and its impact on every aspect of life.

"I got to put this ministry together. After it was up and running, my role was minimal. It became a laity-run program and is run very well to this day. Its success was an example of how the laity can perform many of the responsibilities once entrusted to priests.

"This and other initiatives helped me see the need to partner with the people in the pews to bring them closer to Christ, making them disciples and teaching them to be disciple makers in a process that's ongoing and extends itself throughout a parish. St. Brigid's was a fertile ground for teaching me what was possible when a priest partners with the laity in ministry together."

After four years in Dublin, Father Sizemore became associate pastor at the cathedral from 2000 to 2002 and Delaware St. Mary Church from 2002 to 2005. While at the cathedral, he completed a Master of Business Administration (MBA) program, which he said has been of great help in every parish he subsequently served. In Delaware, he spent much of his time with the parish's youth ministry and with restarting a campus ministry at Ohio Wesleyan University, where he was Catholic chaplain.

See CALL, Page 11



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# Bishop to first responders at Blue Mass: 'God sees your service'

Bishop Earl Fernandes presided over the Blue Mass honoring firefighters, police, public safety workers, first responders and emergency medical technicians for the first time since becoming the shepherd of the Diocese of Columbus in late May.

Representatives from the Columbus Division of Police, Columbus Division of Fire, Franklin County Sheriff's Office and Ohio State Highway Patrol attended the Mass on Friday, Sept. 9 at Columbus St. Timothy Church, which hosted the event for the 14th year.

The Mass began with a procession that included various organizations. Members of the police and fire divisions also participated in the Mass as lectors and at the presentation of the gifts.

After Holy Communion, the Columbus Division of Police and Fire's pipes and drums played "Amazing Grace."

In Bishop Fernandes' homily, he called first responders ambassadors of peace when they serve their communities and fellow citizens.

"They do so the way Christ went forth from the Father's side, in the way the Holy Spirit came forth upon the Apostles and sent them into the world, in the way Jesus said, 'As the Father sends Me, so I send you,'" Bishop Fernandes said.

"Our first responders show wonderful



**Members of the Columbus Division of Police and Fire pipes and drums play Amazing Grace near the end of the Blue Mass.** *CT photos by Ken Snow*

charity, being willing to risk their lives, some even laying down their lives to bring justice to our world. It is not an easy job. People don't realize the risks you take and the sacrifices you make, what you're willing to do out of love for others so that we might have peace in our streets, peace in our homes, so that families who may have lost loved ones or have experienced tragic situations can be comforted.

"Sometimes your services are not appreciated, but God sees. He sees your sacrifices. God sees your service, and He will give you your just reward."

Bishop Fernandes also remembered



**Bishop Earl Fernandes is presented the gifts during the Blue Mass.** *CT photos by Ken Snow*

all who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001 in the terrorist attacks on American soil.

"Sometimes we think of these days, so close to September 11th, as only showing the dark side of humanity," he said. "With Jesus, the Word made flesh, we see that in humanity there is goodness, that there is goodness along with the shadow of darkness, and that the shadow of darkness, the woundedness, can be healed.

"Each one of us is called to bring the bright light of Christ, His healing power, to those entrusted to our care. Each one of us has been entrusted with a stewardship to protect and to serve the gift of human life.

"We heard in the opening remarks



**Representatives from police and fire divisions kneel during the Blue Mass.** *CT photos by Ken Snow*

before Mass from St. John's Gospel, 'There is no greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.' And when we think of giving one's life for another, we need only look at the crucifix to see what that looks like: a willingness to present our life in a way that's actually life giving, to make a gift and an offering of ourselves in order to save some, to protect and to heal."

The bishop wrapped up his homily by expressing gratitude for all those who serve in selfless ways.

"So, to our first responders, I say, 'Thank you for all you do.' And I also say, 'Thanks be to God for each of you.'"



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# 'Slowly but surely, I was falling in love with Jesus'

By Doug Bean  
*Catholic Times Editor*

When Laura Ruffner came to Columbus from New Jersey seven years ago to attend Ohio State University, she was like most other students. The plan was to get an education, enjoy the college experience and earn a degree.

A religious vocation wasn't part of that plan.

But the college years often take young adults in directions they might not have foreseen. And that's what happened to this Jersey girl.

She did earn her undergraduate degree from Ohio State in business with a minor in history. Along the way, though, her life profoundly changed.

Rather than settling into a job in corporate America or getting married, she was inspired to dedicate her life to the Lord.

On Sept. 8, the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Laura Ruffner, 25, became Sister Jose Mary when she received the habit of the Order of the Most Holy Savior of St. Bridget of Sweden, commonly known as the Bridgettine Sisters, from Mother Abbess M. Fabia, O.Ss.S., during a Rite of Investiture in Rome. Three other postulants also were given the habit that day.

The ceremony began with postulants and the rest of the community processing into the church while singing a hymn. The postulants then knelt. The mother abbess called each of their new religious names, asked what their intentions were and then put on each a white veil before proceeding with a Gospel reading, prayers and another hymn.

"And then it's finished," Sister Jose Mary said. "It was incredibly beautiful."

A Mass followed the investiture.

Sister Jose Mary is the international order's first vocation from America in decades. She will now enter what is called a novitiate, which lasts 18 months, before taking the next step in her religious formation.

Whether she returns to Columbus to serve with the Bridgettine Sisters at their convent adjacent to Holy Family Church, only God knows. What's certain is that the order's devoted sisters in the diocese played a role in her choosing religious life.

Following are excerpts from an email interview with Sister Jose Mary from Rome. A complete version will be available online at [www.catholictimescolumbus.org](http://www.catholictimescolumbus.org).

## FAMILY LIFE, UPBRINGING

"I grew up in East Brunswick, New Jersey, the seventh of eight children. We were that out-of-the-norm big Catholic family on the block. We went to St. Mary of Ostrabama parish in South River, which was a Polish church just under 10 minutes from our house.

"It was a good parish but had a very elderly population. I only had six other kids in my year for religious education classes. So, there wasn't any sort of youth groups or other ways to really get involved as a kid and teenager. I didn't really think much about faith at all. Mass and regular family rosaries was just something we did, but not something I ever initiated or really looked forward to.

"I went to public school all the way through and was really lucky to have a lot of opportunities in our town. ... I was a pretty follow-the-rules kind of kid, nothing too exciting or out of the ordinary."

## COMING TO OHIO STATE

"I went to Ohio State because God wanted me at OSU, but I didn't know that at the time.

"One day, my mom saw in one of the million college promotional mailings we got that OSU had a merit scholarship for out-of-state students that would bring the price to basically the same as Rutgers (University) in-state. So, we decided to visit, and I went on a tour in the pouring rain, and instead of hating it, every minute I was telling my mom, 'OMG how amazing is this school!'

"It's at OSU that I really made my faith my own and had a real encounter with Jesus.

"At the involvement fair, I stopped by the (St. Thomas More) Newman Center table to pick up one of their plants (because, of course, everyone wants a plant) and picked up their schedule of welcome week activities. The next day they were going to have capture the flag on the Oval – and I was in, there was no way I was going to miss an opportunity to play capture the flag, our favorite family/neighborhood game from childhood.

"So I went, but I was a little late, and they had already started playing, and I was standing there – about to run away because I was too scared to try to jump in, when two girls came right up to me and introduced themselves and asked me if I wanted to play.

"I talked to them more throughout that evening and at the end one of them named Anna asked me if I would be interested in joining her Bible study. I said, 'Maybe, really not sure about it.'

"Later, when she followed up in a text message, the first question I asked her was, 'I don't have a Bible here, is that a problem for joining a Bible study?' She said of course not, she could give me one, and so I said yes, and that little yes was the crack in the door God needed.

"That semester, I started reading Scripture and learning from the other women in that Bible study what prayer looks like, and what a real relationship with Jesus looks like. It changed my world.

"I agreed to sign up for a holy hour on Fridays in the spring, and that broke my



**Sister Jose Mary (with white veil) receives the habit of the Bridgettine Sisters from Sister M. Fabia O.Ss.S., the mother abbess of the order, on Sept. 8 in Rome.**

heart open even more. Slowly but surely, I was falling in love with Jesus. Then with the many opportunities for retreats and conferences through the Newman Center (and St. Paul's Outreach, a national organization dedicated to evangelizing college students) my faith just kept growing.

"I had been so shocked when I met people from the Catholic community for the first time because they were just radiating a joy I had never seen before. Later, I realized that joy was from a life given to Jesus!

"SPO was the first time I really experienced praise and worship, which was really pivotal in the beginning of my re-conversion. I also profited majorly from their formation courses and small groups where I learned more about the faith and growing in virtue. Most of all, I was just impacted by the men and women I met who were trying to live out their lives fully for the Lord."

## BEGINNINGS OF A CALLING

"I first thought of a vocation midway through my second year at OSU in January 2017. A friend had shared a talk by a Sister of Life (a religious order dedicated to helping mothers in need and their unborn children), and I watched it and was completely struck by her joy, how young she was and how NORMAL she was!

"I always thought I'd meet a great guy in college, get married and hopefully have a big family. So, the wheels started turning, I 'internet stalked' a bunch of orders starting with the Sisters of Life but didn't go any farther than that because I was pretty intimidated by it all and scared of letting go of my plans.

"Lo and behold, that spring semester we had a vocations course in the SPO formation program. So, throughout the semester we had different talks about

discernment, married life, religious life, etc. An SPO alum, Emily Schafer, gave her testimony. As she was talking, I was thinking, 'Dang it, everything she is saying sounds like me.'

"I knew that the Lord wanted me to talk to her, but I was a little annoyed because I still didn't want Him 'to be right' and have to give up my plans. At the end of her talk, Emily said, 'So the community I am going to be entering is having a discernment retreat this weekend, and since I came down to Columbus for this, I'll be driving back to Steubenville tomorrow and can drive anyone who wants to come but might not have a way to get there.

"Then I was like really, 'Dang it, now I really have to talk to her.' So, I talked to her and told her I wanted to go but I didn't know if it would be possible. Then God just cleared away all the things that were blocking me going just like that, and I found myself less than 24 hours after meeting Emily in her car driving three hours away for a discernment retreat.

"God majorly worked in my heart that weekend. The sisters explained religious life so well and what discernment looks like and how important prayer is. The whole time I never felt super drawn to that particular order, but I saw the beauty of their life and the beauty of religious life in general. It was a complete game changer for me and the start of my discernment journey."

## BRIDGETTINES

"Those sisters in Steubenville had suggested having a spiritual director, and Emily had told me about Father Stash Dailey in Columbus, who had been her spiritual director, and recommended I reach out to him.

"It took me until December 2017 to finally meet with him. In that first meeting after I told him my story, he gave me a list of communities that he thought I might be interested in looking into based on what I had said. One of those communities was the Bridgettines!

"Eucharistic Adoration was really instrumental in my conversion in college, and so I was pretty sure I wanted to join a religious community that had Eucharistic Adoration as a part of their daily life. Eucharistic Adoration is a major part of the Bridgettines' charism, so I was immediately drawn to that.

"I also was immediately drawn to the story of St. Maria Elizabeth Hesselblad, who founded our order in 1911 based on the original Bridgettine Order started by St. Bridget and her daughter St. Catherine.

"The other part I was attracted to was their prayers for unity both in the Church and among the Christian denominations.

## Sister makes first profession of vows

Sister Annie Killian, OP, made her first profession of vows as a member of the Dominican Sisters of Peace on Sunday, July 3 at the congregation's Columbus motherhouse. This is the third step in a four-part process of discernment that may lead to her final profession in three to six years.

Sister Annie, 33, is a Tennessee native currently serving as a public humanities postdoctoral fellow at the University of Notre Dame.

She said her journey to religious life began while studying for her doctorate in English at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, where the Dominican sisters have a presence at Albertus Magnus College. She was a student leader in Catholic campus ministry at Yale, and as she began to discern her call to religious life, she was introduced to the vocations director of the Dominican Sisters of Peace, who lived just down the street from her.

The congregation had just opened a house of welcome for women in formation, and in Sister Annie's words, "These were the women with whom I wanted to throw in my lot." While studying at Yale, she also taught a writing course at a women's correctional facility through the Wesleyan Center for Prison Educa-

tion.

She was a visiting assistant professor at Ohio Dominican University for a year before entering the Collaborative Dominican Novitiate in Chicago in 2020. While at the novitiate, she served at the Kolbe House Jail Ministry, designing and teaching a correspondence course on "Life After Loss" for persons incarcerated at the Cook County Jail and helping former prisoners effectively re-enter society.

After completing the first year of her novitiate, she accepted a position at Notre Dame, where the Dominican sisters have a local community. She will continue her ministry at Notre Dame's Medieval Institute, where she works to engage the public through arts and literature.

The Dominican Sisters of Peace have 10 women in formation to vowed religious life. They are present in 22 states and Nigeria. More than 350 sisters and many associates are affiliated with the congregation.



**Sister Annie Killian, OP**  
Photo courtesy Dominican Sisters of Peace

## Gahanna man professes Benedictine vows

Brother Roman Pallone, OSB, of Gahanna professed his first, or simple, vows as a Benedictine monk on Sunday, July 10 at St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, Pennsylvania.

He entered the monastic community at the archabbey as a monk in July 2021 and will spend three more years discerning a vocation as a monk before professing solemn vows.

He is one of seven children of James and Mary Pallone of Gahanna and is a 1987 graduate of Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering from Cornell University in 1991 and a Master of Business Administration degree from Ohio State University in 1999.



**Brother Roman Pallone, O.S.B., pledges his first vows before St. Vincent Archabbey Abbot Martin de Porres Bartel, O.S.B.**

Photo courtesy St. Vincent Archabbey

### VOCATION, continued from Page 9

I have always had a desire to bring people together and to make sure people feel included and welcomed, so the Bridgettines' focus on hospitality and unity spoke to those desires of my heart."

### DECISION TO ENTER RELIGIOUS LIFE

"So, I definitely felt an attraction to the Bridgettines right from the first visit with them in December 2017, but I also was really intimidated by an international order. It was so early in my discernment process

that I thought, 'OK, there is something here, and I do need to come back for another visit at some point, but I'm going to go back to school now and leave it there for now.'

"So, I went back to school. I also looked at other communities of religious and continued meeting with Father Stash.

"I was seriously considering entering with a community of Franciscans even to

See VOCATION, Page 11



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## VOCATION, continued from Page 10

the point of applying. So, I didn't look too much into the Bridgettines more because I didn't want to be confusing myself between two communities. But that summer after graduation the door was firmly shut for me with the Franciscans.

"I had graduated school, my lease with SPO was almost up, I didn't have a job lined up or anyplace to live. But I was quickly convinced I needed to stay in Columbus. I applied for jobs, and the first interview that I had, I loved the people and the work. Just a few hours after the interview I got a call from the woman who had interviewed me, and she wanted to offer me the job.

"Just like that, God solved the job problem. Then I was put in touch with a woman from Father Dailey's parish who I would be able to live with for a few months while I looked for an apartment, and, just like that, God also solved the housing problem.

"I started working and attending Holy Family Church. Guess whose convent is right next to Holy Family? Ah, yes, the Bridgettines! Funny how that works, right? So soon I found myself going to their Tuesday Adoration on my way home from work, then joining them for rosary

and Vespers on Saturdays, and then Sundays, too.

"A community retreat in March 2020 at the Bridgettines' motherhouse in Darien, Connecticut was a big confirmation for me that this was the place I was supposed to be. (I ended up) entering officially as an aspirant in February 2021."

### NEXT STEP

"So, I finished aspirancy and postulancy, which were the first experiences of life in community. Now I have just entered novitiate. The first year is called the canonical year, which is in the motherhouse here in Rome. It is the time in formation most dedicated to study and prayer as you prepare to take vows. Then we will have the opportunity for a six-month experience in one of our other communities."

### DISCERNMENT ADVICE

"Remember that God hasn't given you a vocation that you are going to be miserable in. Look at where you experience true joy, and peace, that is where God is! ... God's timing is perfect! It's not always easy, but in the end, He always knows what He is doing. We just have to have patience!"

## Bridgettine Sisters mark anniversaries

By Father Stash Dailey

On Sept. 8, the Church throughout the world celebrated the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. While giving thanks for that special day, friends and family of the Bridgettine Sisters in the Diocese of Columbus had reasons also to give thanks for a rich history, an anniversary of vows and signs of new life.

In 1911, Maria Elizabetta Hesselblad refounded the Order of the Most Holy Savior of St. Bridget of Sweden in Rome at the House of St. Bridget on the Piazza Farnese on the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In 2016, when Maria Elizabetta was made a saint, I traveled as the diocesan vicar for religious along with Mother Eunice, local superior of the Bridgettines community in Columbus, to be present with thousands of others in Rome for the Mass and canonization.

Six years later in Columbus, on Sept. 8, 2022 at Holy Family Church, former Diocese of Columbus Bishop Robert Brennan, now the bishop of Brooklyn, New York, offered Holy Mass for more than 100 people who gathered to celebrate the 25th anniversary of vows of Sister Faviola, a member of the Columbus community of Bridgettine Sisters, one of only two convents of the order in the United States.

Meanwhile, in Rome, Laura Ruffner, her parents and two aunts celebrated the rite of investiture in the holy habit of

the Order of the Most Holy Savior of St. Bridget. Ruffner attended Ohio State University and was an active member of St. Paul's Outreach as a student. While in Columbus, she started discerning a religious vocation, eventually entering the Bridgettine Sisters.

In celebration of the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin and mindful of the refounding of the order on that date, Ruffner and three other women were received into the novitiate of the order, receiving new names and the holy habit. She is now known as Sister Jose Mary, and her classmates are known as Sister M Angela, Sister M Anna and Sister M Theresia.

One cannot overstate the importance of celebrating the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary and yet for those who are members of the friends and family of the Bridgettine sisters, the joy of Sept. 8 brings us to silence as we contemplate the great abundance of blessings the Lord has showered down upon these sisters.

One marvels at the spirit of fidelity and perseverance of Sister Faviola celebrating 25 years since she professed vows while also praying for the purification and strengthening of the vocation of Sister Jose Mary, who enters the novitiate before she will process the same vows.

The entire diocese is invited to rejoice

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His first pastorate was at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, where he served for 12 years before being appointed to his current position. That period coincided with a housing boom in southern Delaware County, which resulted in growth of the Sunbury parish from 400 parishioners in 2005 to 1,800 in 2017. That number continues to rise.

"Two things stand out about my time in Sunbury," he said. "First is that this was the first time that, with the help of a small, dedicated staff, I began to catch wind of the potential of what the New Evangelization can do for a parish.

"The parish became part of nationwide programs such as Divine Renovation, Amazing Parish and Rebuilt, all of which are focused on parish renewal and designed to make the laity realize how they can be disciples and make disciples of others. The most exhilarating adventure of my life to that point was creating a discipleship culture at St. John Neumann."

The other major accomplishment there was all the building that had to be done to accommodate the growth – building a new church, parish hall and adoration chapel; making the old church into offices; renovating the rectory; building a pavilion; and purchasing acreage for a possible future school.

"When I was transferred from Sunbury to Newark in 2017, I didn't think it would be possible to love a parish the way I loved St. John Neumann, but I was wrong," he said. "I've come to feel the same way about St. Francis de Sales because the people here have responded to the New Evangelization and parish and school renewal in the same way they did in Sunbury."

Unlike the Sunbury parish, St. Francis de Sales has a long history, dating to 1843. Its first pastor, Father Jean-Baptiste Lamy, became the pioneer archbishop of Santa Fe, New Mexico, serving there for 32 years until his resignation in 1885.

"Taking the lessons learned at St. John Neumann about how to set the vision and mission of parish renewal, one

of the important things we have done at St. Francis de Sales has involved using the concept of a senior leadership team (SLT) – a group of nine committed people, including myself, from whom flow the decisions for everything that happens in the parish and school. All are on fire for Christ and embrace the concept of prayerful discernment before taking actions," Father Sizemore said.

"They are supported by about 40 other parish staff members, half paid and half offering their services not for money, but to benefit the mission of the parish because they don't need the money. They are what is called 'missionary staff.'"

Father Sizemore said St. Francis and a few other parishes have been testing the SLT concept for the rest of the diocese, which is seeing more pastors adopting this concept.

Since Father Sizemore arrived at St. Francis, the parish has renovated the rectory – made possible through parting gifts to him from St. John Neumann parishioners. Through a \$3.25 million capital campaign, the parish also has demolished two buildings and built a new faith and family center and completed much-needed maintenance and renovation to the nearly 140-year-old church and to school buildings.

"My greatest satisfaction has been bringing people to Jesus Christ through the sacraments, faith formation, retreats, Bible studies, conferences, discipleship groups and many other initiatives and opportunities to grow faith," Father Sizemore said.

"None of this would have been possible without the parishioners believing in what is possible when they move closer to Christ and their willingness to be activated as disciples and disciple makers. They are the true change agents – allowing change to happen first in their lives and then becoming agents of change across our parish and school and into the lives of so many new members they have welcomed to the mission of Jesus Christ here at St. Francis de Sales."



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# Petrys say communication, humor keys to successful marriage

By Tim Puet  
For *The Catholic Times*

John and Marise Petry say having a strong sense of humor is one of the things responsible for the success of their marriage after 50 years. That was obvious as soon as the couple answered the door when a “Catholic Times” reporter came to their house. John was wearing a T-shirt with a caricature of the couple and the words “annoying each other for 50 years and still strong.” Marise has a matching shirt.

The Petrys said they had the shirts made because they express their sense of humor and often lead to conversations with people they meet.

The couple had a 50th anniversary party following a ceremony at which they recommitted themselves to God and each other during a Mass on Sunday, June 12 at New Albany Church of the Resurrection, which the couple attend.

Celebrants for the Mass were Father Jerome Rodenfels, the parish’s former pastor, and Father Thomas Petry, John’s brother. The Petrys and other couples from the diocese who are celebrating milestone anniversaries this year will be attending the diocesan Jubilee of Anniversaries at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25 in Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church, 7179 Avery Road.

John Petry and Marise Robinson exchanged marriage vows on June 10, 1972 at Portsmouth St. Mary Church with Father Michael Reis as the clergy witness.

The couple have two sons – Jason, 49, and Aaron, 45, and a daughter, Martha Nicodemus, 40. John was an Ohio State University (OSU) police officer for 39 years and was OSU’s police chief for the last 18 months of that period. He retired on June 1, 2005. Marise has been a voice and piano teacher for 56 years, beginning in high school. She has about 30 students ranging in age from 7 to 85.

John went to Portsmouth St. Mary School, Portsmouth Notre Dame High School and Ohio University (OU)-Portsmouth. Marise, a graduate of Liberty Union High School in Bal-

timore, Ohio, met John at OU-Portsmouth, but the couple didn’t start dating until after both had transferred to OU’s main campus in Athens.

“During our first week in Athens, a mutual friend had a get-together,” John said. “We saw each other there, and the next thing you know, we had talked the night away. We started dating and kept going, and here we are still talking 50 years later.”

John grew up in a strong Catholic family that includes Father Thomas Petry, pastor of Columbus St. Anthony Church, and Father James Petry, a Columbus diocesan priest who died in Wyoming in 1982 when his car went off the road and he drowned in a creek.

Marise grew up as a member of the United Church of Christ and became interested through John in becoming a Catholic. “I wanted us both to belong to the same church,” she said. “One weekend when John was visiting, the minister at our church made some very derogatory remarks about Catholics, so I knew I was not going to stay in the denomination I was in.”

“Also, I had been going to Masses at the Newman Center at OU and wanted to partake of the Eucharist. The current RCIA process for entering the Church didn’t exist then. Instead, Father Reis handed me a book and asked me to study it. We had three sessions together, with him explaining some of what was in the book and asking me if I had any questions, and that was the extent of my formal training before joining the Church at a weekday Mass in August 1972.

“There still were a lot of things I didn’t understand about the faith, but I got a lot of help from John’s brother Tom and from Father Art Dimond, Father Ed Keck and Msgr. Mario Serraglio, who were serving at parishes in Lancaster, where John was on the police force before coming to OSU.”

The Petrys said a Marriage Encounter

weekend retreat at St. Therese’s Retreat Center in Columbus was a significant moment in their married lives. “We began some real solid dialogue with each other, and we eventually began presenting with Father Pete Gideon as the spiritual adviser and our dear friend Father Loren Connell, then became the lead Marriage Encounter couple for the diocese for several years,” John said.

“We had to cut back when John’s mother moved in with us because she had Alzheimer’s disease, but we continued with the pre-Cana program at Resurrection and still do parish and diocesan pre-Cana programs, which last one day. We also serve as mentor couples in our parish, which means we sit down

with engaged couples for four or five sessions and talk to them about what they are anticipating and what to expect from married life.”

John and Marise both have been Parish Council members at Resurrection. John was part of the RCIA program, an-

Marise remains involved with it. John also is a sacristan at the 11 a.m. Sunday Mass.

“All this ‘marriage stuff’ has made our own marriage more solid,” Marise said. “Many times we say, ‘We’ve got this thing (a marriage preparation event) coming up, so we’d better get our act together and figure if there’s anything we need to straighten up.’ Going to Mass every Sunday is also very important to us. If there’s a situation where one of us can make it and the other can’t, it doesn’t seem right.”

She said Resurrection is an ideal parish for someone new looking for a ministry with which to become involved. “The church has around 50 ministries, and if you’re looking for something that isn’t there, Father Denis (Kigozi, the parish’s pastor) will be happy to help you get it started. It’s so important that the laity get together beyond Mass.”

“It’s the most hospitable church I’ve ever been to,” John said. “Our welcome desk is right in the center where you come in at the main entrance. We want visitors and new parishioners to stop by there every week to learn how they can contribute to our parish.”

The Petrys have talked about all aspects of marriage during their minis-

try. John says, “We tell people we will give any talk except communications, because that’s something we don’t do well.” That last remark was said facetiously, with the couple then talking back and forth about how confused communication helped lead to the purchases of their first home in Lancaster and the home in Reynoldsburg where they have lived for 36 years.

“We have this dinky little kitchen, and Marise has wanted a new kitchen for 36 years,” John said, “We almost got the job started a couple of times, but once there was a family member who needed help, and another time, a new roof took priority over a new kitchen. Now I think I’m ready,” John said.

“I’m not getting my hopes up,” Marise responded.

“She can read my mind,” John said of Marise. “She knows whether I’m having a good day or a bad day without me saying a word. In spite of what I said about communication, we’ve learned to communicate better with each other through the help Marriage Encounter provided.

“Sometimes it’s best not to try to change the other person. There’s the old story of whether you prefer to squeeze toothpaste from the bottom of the tube or the top. Each of us has our own preference, so we buy two tubes, and everyone’s satisfied.”

“Compromise, communication and a sense of humor all are important throughout marriage,” Marise said. “If you can’t have fun being married, why be together?”

“She (Marise) makes every day an adventure,” John said. “We have people from Nepal living next door, and one day, the city shut their water off. They couldn’t speak English and didn’t realize the city had sent them a notice ordering them to pay their bills. Marise said, ‘John will help you,’ so I tried the best I could to negotiate between them and the water office. Despite the language barrier, we managed to solve the problem, but I needed to be there when the water people came.

“The same thing happened recently with a Hispanic couple living down the street. We’ve invited our neighbors to come to us when they need help, and we’ll try to do whatever we can. It’s a way of being missionary disciples and performing the corporal works of mercy in a practical way.

“Another neighbor is 80 years old and lives by herself,” John said. “She comes to our house to watch (Cleveland) Guardians games and told us once, ‘I prayed to God to send me a friend, and He did.’ I hear something like that, and I forget all about my own preference to watch the (Cincinnati) Reds.”



Marise and John Petry

Photo courtesy Petry family

# Musselmans describe their marriage as founded on faith

By Tim Puet  
For *The Catholic Times*

Mike and Corinne Musselman said faith formed the foundation of their 64-year marriage from the earliest days of the relationship.

"We began dating after graduating from Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans High School in 1958, but neither of us had much money," Corinne said. "The one thing we did do every Friday night was attend the Sorrowful Mother novena at Zanesville St. Nicholas Church together. We wanted Mary to bless our relationship, and she surely has, for here we are still together."

"There's no question that our Catholic faith and sharing the same values, goals and priorities have been responsible for our long marriage," Mike said. "We've tried to do everything together, especially in the last 20 years or so since I retired as a machinist with Zanesville Mold (later Anchor Glass Container).

"I worked different shifts there as a machinist for 44 ½ years, so Corinne had to do most of the raising of our six children. After retirement, we were able to do many of the things we hadn't been able to because of my work." That includes attending Mass nearly every day, either at St. Nicholas Church or via the EWTN network's televised Mass.

"We've always told couples that what will keep them together beyond their initial attraction to each other – what's kept us together – is that we have shared values, and we talk about them," Mike said.

"You've always got to talk things out," Corinne said. "There's no such thing as a perfect marriage, and any problem will reveal itself in time, so don't try to ignore it when a problem first comes up. 'Never go to bed angry with each other' is an old saying, but it's sound advice."

The Musselmans, both 82, have six children – sons Mark, 63; Matthew, 56 and Luke, 54; and daughters Denise, 60; Renie, 59 and Theresa, 57. They also have 20 grandchildren and recently added an 11th great-grandchild.

"That's a large family by today's standards, but Corinne is the youngest of eight children, and I'm the oldest of 12," Mike said. "We were only blessed with six. Both of our families tend to be long-lived. My mom died about a year ago at age 103, and Corinne's dad was nearly 100 when he died."

Mike Musselman and Corinne Soller knew each other throughout high school. "She was a cheerleader, and I played football, basketball and baseball and ran track," Mike said.

"We were acquainted with each other all that time, but we never dated until after taking a senior class trip to New York City and Washington. We went on a dinner cruise one night along the Potomac River

in Washington., I asked her to dance, and things just took off from there.

"We started talking and realized we had a lot in common. Once we got back, we became engaged on July 15 and were married on Nov. 8 at St. Nicholas." The officiating priest was Mike's uncle, Father Camillus Musselman, OP. Assisting was Father Linus Dury, the parish's pastor from 1951 until his death in 1976.

"I came from a farm background and enjoyed growing up in what probably was the largest fruit farm in Muskingum County," Corinne said.

"I lived on a 100-acre piece of property, but my dad was not a farmer. He grew children instead of crops," Mike said. "He worked for Zanesville Mold, and that's where I worked right out of high school and stayed until retirement. Two of my brothers also retired from the company. I was making \$1 an hour when I started, and that was good money."

Corinne stayed home and raised the couple's children, then worked in the late 1970s and early 1980s as manager of the Rosecrans cafeteria. She also provided child care for a couple for several years.

"She raised the family while I was working odd shifts and a lot of 12-hour days," Mike said. "I know I missed out on a lot, and I wish I had more time with them, but by working as I did, we were able to put the kids through college."

"My mom was a remarkable story in her own right. She was orphaned at 4 months old in 1918 because of the Spanish flu. Her father couldn't support her because he was injured in an industrial accident. She got her education at St. Ann's Orphanage in Columbus and the St. Aloysius Academy boarding school in New Lexington, and she ended up marrying my dad and raising all 12 of us brothers and sisters. Her mind was perfect until the end of her life, and she never had to leave home."

The Musselmans' oldest son, Mark, was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy in 1980 when he was 20 years old. "It's a challenge, but he didn't let that stop him," Mike said. "He married, learned to drive and has lived a full life. He's a good, devout Catholic man, and seeing him deal with his situation has made us better Catholics. He's the rock in our family."

Mike said that when the couple's son Matthew worked at Guardian Angels School in Cincinnati, he knew Columbus Bishop Earl Fernandes, who arrived in Columbus earlier this year from the Queen City. Mike, Corinne and Matt recently attended the Columbus diocesan Senior Citizens Day luncheon at which the bishop spoke, and Mike said the bishop immediately recognized Matt, even though the two hadn't seen each other for some time. "That impressed me right away," Mike said. "I

think Bishop Fernandes is going to be a wonderful bishop."

The Musselmans have served their parish and the community in many ways. They were involved for more than 20 years with their parish's pre-Cana program for engaged couples, and Mike taught religious education to high school students for several years.

They also helped form the Muskingum Valley Right to Life Society and have worked with the Heartbeats pregnancy health center in Zanesville. They helped restore a house in Slidell, Louisiana in the wake of Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and have returned there every year since. In addition, they went with young people to summer work camps in several areas and have been part of the Cursillo and Marriage Encounter movements.

In September, they were in eastern Kentucky to assist Sister Marge Eilerman, OSF, who is stationed there and was assisting victims of devastating floods in the region. Sister Marge is an aunt of Father Craig Eilerman, pastor of Lancaster St. Mary Basilica.

The couple went on a pilgrimage to Rome in 2002 after Mike's retirement and traveled to Lourdes and Fatima in 2018 with a group led by Father Eiler-



**Mike and Corinne Musselman**

*Photo courtesy Musselman family*

man and Father Jan Sullivan, pastor of Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church.

"We're starting to slow down a little," Mike said. "Corinne's had a knee replacement and is dealing with spinal stenosis. I've been pretty blessed so far because I haven't had any major health issues."

"We've lived a full life. We used to live in the country but now live just east of Zanesville, 10 minutes from church and right by an Interstate 70 exit. We don't know what the future holds, but that doesn't really matter. We'll continue to serve the Lord in the best way we can for as long as we're able."

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- John 14:27

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October 21 - 23 | Men's Retreat with Fr. Michael Graham, SJ

October 28 - 30 | Men's Retreat with Fr. Jeff Puttoff, SJ

November 4 - 6 | Women's Retreat with Jenene Francis

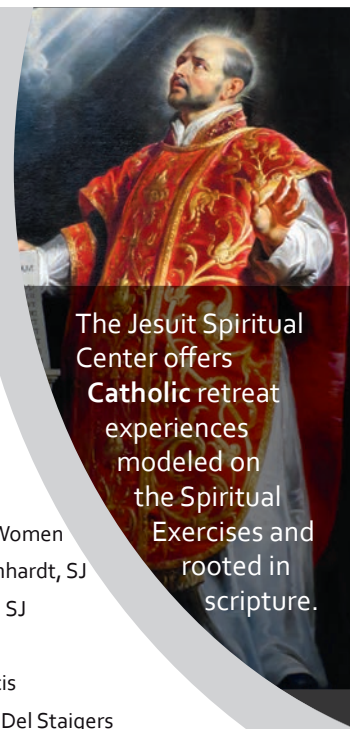
November 25 - 27 | 12-Step Men's Retreat with Fr. Del Staigers

December 2 - 9 | Personally Directed Retreat for Men and Women

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# Couples Celebrating Significant Anniversaries

<b>BLESSED SACRAMENT, NEWARK</b>	<b>HOLY TRINITY, POND CREEK</b>	<b>OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP, GROVE CITY</b>	<b>SETON PARISH, PICKERINGTON</b>	<b>ST. AGATHA, COLUMBUS</b>	<b>ST. BRIGID OF KILDARE, DUBLIN</b>
JAY & JULIANNA GOLETZ 30	GARY & TERESA LUTE 50	RAUL JR. & JENNIFER MADERO 25	CHRISTOPHER & DEBORAH KITSMILLER 25	JOHN & DEBRA TORTORA 25	LARRY & JODI FLYNN 30
R MICHAEL & TRACEY TENNYSON 30		ARTHUR & ANNA GOULD 45	MARK & MARGARET HERTENSTEIN 30	GARRETT & SHERRI SCANLON 30	CARMINE & DEANNA SPADA 30
REX & GENEVIEVE HOBBS 45	<b>IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, COLUMBUS</b>	RICHARD & CAROLYN KARCZEWSKI 50	ROBERT & SHARON COHOLICH 40	LAWRENCE & LINDA MURCKO 35	MICHAEL & IRMA UEBER 30
JIM & NORMA HUNT 55	DOUGLAS & RENA E KNUTH 25	RONALD & CHRISTINA KRICK 60	CHRISTOPHER & JULIA HEINE 40	GREGORY & RITA BAUER 45	KEVIN & FRANCES O'BRIEN 35
	JIM & MOLLY FAULK 40		DANIEL & KATHLEEN MURPHY 40	ROBERT & PAULA BORTON 60	JAMES & PEGGY STEIN 35
<b>CHRIST THE KING, COLUMBUS</b>	STANLEY & CAROL RODOCK 45	<b>OUR LADY OF VICTORY, COLUMBUS</b>	PAUL & NANCY COX 45		PETER & ANNE TRAN 35
DENNIS & MARY ELLEN PARKER 50		ROBERT & AMY DUNN 30	DENNIS & DIANNIA O'CONNOR 45	<b>ST. ANTHONY, COLUMBUS</b>	MICHAEL & CATHERINE ZAINO 35
MARK & DEBORAH SALTER 50	<b>IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, KENTON</b>	ARTHUR & HEIDI VARNER 30	MARK & CYNTHIA HOLKO 50	RICHARD & EILEEN FUNK 63	MICHAEL & SUSAN CLARK 40
PATRICK & MARY JANE STUHLREHER 50	ERNEST & KATHLEEN KLINGELHOFER 45	ROBERT & KRISTINE JOSEPH 35	WILLIAM & JAYNE WHITEHEAD 50		JOHN & SHELLY COCUMELLI 40
LYNN & LAURENE BAUM 55	ROBERT & STEPHANIE TEMPLE 45	JOHN & CHRISTINE KANE 45	JAMES & ARLENE KEEGAN 55	<b>ST. BERNADETTE, LANCASTER</b>	RANDALL & KATHLEEN NAMETH 40
DAVID & DOLORES BRANNIGAN 55	SYLVANUS & GERALDINE COTE 63	RADER & PAT FEAMSTER 50	JAMES & BARBARA MYERS 55	KENT & ANGELA KERNS 30	KEN & JUDY RODGERS 40
JOHN & SALLY IMES 55	JOE & JUDY KRYCH 65	RICHARD & JOANNE MILLER 50	BILL & BRENDA BURTON 60	BRIAN & CHRISTINA MESSERLY 30	MARK & DEBORAH CRNKOVICH 45
NEWT & KATHLEEN THOMAS 67			DALE & CONNIE HOHMAN 60		PETER & GAIL FRANTZ 45
ALFRED & MARILYN SCHNEIDER 70	<b>OUR LADY OF LOURDES, ADA</b>	<b>SACRED HEART, COLUMBUS</b>	CLARENCE & BARBARA SMITHBERGER 63	<b>ST. BRENDAN, HILLIARD</b>	PATRICK & ANNE MEREDITH 45
	ROY & KAREN SMITH 25	PAUL & LINDA CLUTTER 40	RAYMOND & ARLENE KROLL 66	NEAL & MICHELE NIKLAUS 25	TERRENCE & DIANNE MORAN 45
<b>CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, JOHNSTOWN</b>	<b>OUR LADY OF LOURDES, MARYSVILLE</b>	<b>SACRED HEART, COSHOCTON</b>	JOHN & MARY MONK 66	JOHN & JILL TODD 25	DENNY & CONNIE CAHILL 50
MICHAEL & ADELE ROBBINS 40	JAMES & BECKY ELCHERT 35	JAMES & MARY ELIZABETH BROWN 30	DONALD & SUZANNE CRUICKSHANK 70	JOHN & SUSAN FLEMMING 30	KEITH & PAULA DUNNIGAN 50
TERRANCE & EILEEN BAESMANN 45	STEVEN & SHARON SMITH 45	JOHN & LYNN HARDESTY 40		MIKE & DEB RICO 35	WILLIAM & MARY KAY KLANG 50
	ED & ROSIE ERDY 50	MIKE & CHERYL HARDESTY 50	<b>SS. SIMON &amp; JUDE, WEST JEFFERSON</b>	SEAN & ROBIN STONE 35	HOWARD & JEAN ILLIAN 55
<b>CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION, NEW ALBANY</b>	GARY & DIANE SHANNON 50		STEVEN & MELISSA MCARTHUR 25	THOMAS & LAUREL ZULLIGER 35	BOB & LORI IRWIN 55
DAVID & TINA FESENMYER 25	JACK & ELAINE LIGHT 62	<b>SACRED HEART, NEW PHILADELPHIA</b>	KEITH & LINDA COLLINS 50	DAVID & LYNNE DRIVER 40	ROLAND & SANDRA ROBBINS 55
JOHN & MARISE PETRY 50		LOUIS & RUTH FANTIN 50	GARY & DEBORAH PALATAS 50	JEROME & MARGARET NYPAVER 40	DAVID & MARGARET BURGESS 60
FRANK & NANCY ANN MCDONALD 55	<b>OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL, BUCKEYE LAKE</b>		WILLIAM & JANET WEEKS 50	RUSSELL & KAREN SMITH 40	JERRY & FRANCES MERRELL 61
JAMES & ELIZABETH NOE 60	BERNARD & JANE PAUMIER 73	<b>SACRED HEARTS, CARDINGTON</b>		JACK & CATHY HERSHEY 50	FREDERICK & MARY ELLEN LANCIA 62
EDWARD & REBA TEIGA 61		PHILLIP & BRENDA ZUZOLO 35	<b>ST. ANDREW, COLUMBUS</b>	STEPHEN & NANCY MILLER 50	HERBERT & VERA BELL 67
			ROBERT & SALLY POWELL 50	JERRY & CAROL PRICE 60	CHRISTIAN & MARGARET SARYCH 67
			WILLIAM & LINDA GARRETT 55	JOHN & IRENE THOMAS 60	
				JOSEPH & MARJORIE BREMBECK 65	

## THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS along with the **DIACONATE COMMUNITY** congratulates **DEACONS, DEACON CANDIDATES** and their wives on their **JUBILEE WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**



<b>69 years</b>	Dcn. Richard & Kay Baumann	05/09/1953	<b>40 years</b>	Dcn. Marion & Carol Smithberger	09/11/1982
<b>67 years</b>	Dcn. Ronald & Sue Fondriest	11/26/1955		Dcn. John & Kathleen Malone	10/30/1982
<b>64 years</b>	Dcn. Elmer & Catherine Lampe	08/09/1958	<b>35 years</b>	Dcn. Jim & Leah Kelly	02/21/1987
<b>63 years</b>	Dcn. Joseph & Phyllis Schermer	11/28/1959		Dcn. Jeff & Christine Hurdley	06/13/1987
<b>61 years</b>	Dcn. Thomas & Betty Berg, Sr.	08/26/1961		Dcn. Rob & Krista Joseph	06/20/1987
	Dcn. James & Rose Rouse	09/07/1961		Dcn. Jim & Becky Elchert	07/11/1987
	Dcn. Peter & Judi-Ann Peterson	11/04/1961	<b>30 years</b>	Dcn. Carl & Gloria Calcara	03/07/1992
<b>55 years</b>	Dcn. Donald & Patricia Robers	01/14/1967		Dcn. Eric & Maggie Wright	04/08/1992
	Dcn. Thomas & Halina Barford	03/31/1967		Dcn. Todd & Mimi Tucky	07/25/1992
	Dcn. Albert & Linda Cain	06/09/1967		Dcn. Doug & Lisa Yglesias	08/15/1992
<b>50 years</b>	Dcn. Joseph & Kathy LeMay	07/31/1972		Dcn. David & Brenda Lozowski	12/19/1992
	Dcn. John and Mary Crerand	08/26/1972	<b>25 years</b>	Dcn. Jesus & Maria Figueroa	05/24/1997
	Dcn. Felix & Melanie Azzola	10/28/1972		Dcn.- Cand. Fidel & Andrea Pitones	06/21/1997
<b>45 years</b>	Dcn. James & Karen Gorski	05/21/1977		Dcn. Kevin and Arlene Murrin	07/19/1997
	Dcn. Reed & Thecla Hauser	06/17/1977		Dcn.- Cand. Dave & Tina Fesenmyer	09/15/1997

# Couples Celebrating Significant Anniversaries

<b>ST. CECILIA, COLUMBUS</b> TOM & TAMMY BERGMAN 35 DAVID & JACKIE MULHOLLAND 50	<b>ST. JOHN XXIII, CANAL WINCHESTER</b> FRANK & JACQUELINE PIPER 35	<b>ST. MARY, MARION</b> RUSSELL III & MARILYN MCBRIDE 50 JOHN & MARY MOODIE 67	<b>ST. PAUL, WESTERVILLE</b> ROBERT & DIANA CUMMINGS 25 THOMAS & JANEL FANNING 25 TODD & ANGELIQUE SMITH 25 CHUCK & LAURA BASICH 30 JOHN & KELLY OLSON 30 JOE & LORI HAMROCK 35 SCOTT & SUZANNE TRIFILETTI 35 STEWART & MARY BELL 40 ANTHONY & DONNA ERAMO 40 RICHARD & DENISE SHOMO 40 ALAN & MARIE DAUER 45 KEVIN & MONICA HENRY 45 ROBERT & DIANE DEPHILIP 50 JAMES & MARY ELLEN MULDER 50 JOSEPH III & JULIE STRANGES 50 FRANK & EDIE SMITH 55 NATHANIEL & HAZEL WATSON 55 JOHN & BARBARA LIEDTKE 60 THOMAS & JANICE OBRINGER 60 DENNIS & MARCIA KAIRIS 61 STU & ELLIE PHILLIPS 61 DONALD & RITA KING 63 ROBERT & MARY ANN MUDD 65 JAMES & RITA MARSINEK 68	<b>ST. PETER, MILLERSBURG</b> THOMAS & ELAINE BELKO 30	<b>ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE, COLUMBUS</b> TOM & JOAN FOWLER 50 JIM & FRAN ORR 66
<b>ST. CHRISTOPHER, COLUMBUS</b> SCOTT & PHYLLIS SULLIVAN 30 JEFFREY & MARY BAUER 50 THOMAS & SHARON GEHRlich 55 DOMINIC & FLORA VALENTINO 68	<b>ST. JOSEPH, CIRCLEVILLE</b> JAMES & JODY FLYNN 30 DANIEL & JAMIE HUGGETT 35	<b>ST. MARY, PORTSMOUTH</b> MICHAEL & SHAWNA QUEEN 25 THOMAS & MIRIAM CLAUSING 45 LJOSEPH & NANCY DONINI 50	<b>ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR, COLUMBUS</b> DOMINIC & POLLY POLICARO 60	<b>ST. THOMAS AQUINAS, ZANESVILLE</b> WILLIAM & ANN RUDINSKY 50 JAMES & KAREN SCOTT 50 JOHN & MARY ANN THAGARD 50 TOM & PAT PAUL 64 ROBERT & HELEN FEDORKE 67	
<b>ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, GRANVILLE</b> JAMES & MICHELE GARDNER 25 PHILIP & SHEILA HEIST 25 VON & MARGARET DOWNING 30 LOREN & STACEY BROWN 35 HENRY & HANNELORE MCFADDEN 60 CHARLES & JOANN HOHMAN 65	<b>ST. JOSEPH, PLAIN CITY</b> JOSEPH & LAURA WEISBURN 25 JAMES & RENEE DVORSKY 40 EDWARD & ANN STRANSKY 40 RICHARD & MARYANN BRYANT 50 GEORGE & FLORIN HAMLIN 50	<b>ST. MATTHEW, GAHANNA</b> THEODORE & YVONNE DEIBEL 40 FRANK & JUDEEN HARTGE 40 ANDREW & TERESA PROCIUK 55	<b>ST. PIUS X, REYNOLDSBURG</b> MICHAEL & MARY VAIL 25 SCOTT & TINA BANASKI 40 WILLIAM & JEAN RICHARDS 45 RANDY & RITA YOST 45 ROGER & RUTH ANN MILLER 50 JOHN & ELIZABETH WASKO 50 WILLIAM & JOYCE BLACK 55 WAYNE & KATHERINE BUESCHER 55 DENNIS & PATRICIA JOHNSON 55 BOB & JANET MUNJAS 55 JAMES & ALETA DOBBINS 60 CHARLES & MARIA GIAMETTA 60 DAVID & KATHY BROOKER 61 EMERY JOHN & MARIAN ECK 61 STANLEY & CAROL ANN VINGLE 66 MALCOLM & EILEEN BALLMER 67	<b>ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE, COLUMBUS</b> ROBERT & SUZANNE BURKE 35	
<b>ST. ELIZABETH, COLUMBUS</b> WAYNE & SUSAN STROHACKER 30 RONALD & VICTORIA GOEPPNER 50 TOM & MARY MAYNARD 55	<b>ST. JOSEPH, SUGAR GROVE</b> PATRICK & MARY REGINA HENRY 61	<b>ST. MATTHIAS, COLUMBUS</b> BRIAN & CONNIE SWIGERT 35	<b>ST. MICHAEL, WORTHINGTON</b> FIDEL & ANDREA PITOMES 25 JOSEPH & MARIA SUOZZI 30 GEORGE & ALICE PAVLICK 45 JOHN & MARY CRERAND 50 JOHN & MARIE PROVANZANA 55	<b>ST. TIMOTHY, COLUMBUS</b> ROBERT & PATRICIA ALBERT 60 BEVERLY & THOMAS SWEENEY 61 JIM & MARY ANNE REINMANN 65	
<b>ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI, COLUMBUS</b> DANIEL & JANET O'BRIEN 30 RAYMOND & JOAN CREAMER 70	<b>ST. LEONARD, HEATH</b> THOMAS & PATRICIA HERR 55 ROBERT & MARY MORMAN 60 JOSEPH & CAROL SCHOLL 63	<b>ST. NICHOLAS, ZANESVILLE</b> JOHN & DEE GINKOS 35 GREGORY & SUZANN BATROSS 50 AUSTIN & JUDY HOOPER 50 ROBERT & SHIRLEY NEEL 50 THOMAS & PATRICIA SCOTT 50 CARL & VIRGINIA GUTRIDGE 55 MIKE & CORINNE MUSSELMAN 64	<b>ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, MT. VERNON</b> JAMES & TERESA DUFFEY 50 MICHAEL & THERESA MCALPIN 50		
<b>ST. FRANCIS DE SALES, NEWARK</b> STEVEN & HELEN CARPENTER 35 JIM & DIANA HAREN 60 MICHAEL & ROBERTA MAGERS 60 JAMES & CHARLEEN JACQUET 67 CHARLES & MARGARET FRANKS 70	<b>ST. MARGARET OF CORTONA, COLUMBUS</b> JOHN, JR. & SALLYE EVELAND 25 MICHAEL & SANDRA WILCOX 45 JAMES & JULIE BERTOLINO 50 JESS & JO MARIE WILSON 50 JOHN & MARY ELLEN SHOMBER 62	<b>ST. PATRICK, COLUMBUS</b> ART & LAURA MCCALL 35 DENNIS & ELIZABETH FLYNN 40 TIMOTHY & KIMBERLY LANGEN 40 EDWARD & PAULINE MERKLIN 63			
<b>ST. JAMES THE LESS, COLUMBUS</b> JOHN & BERNEDA CURTISS 50 GARY & MARY ANN GROVE 50 WILLIAM & ESTHER MCGEE 65 JAKE & KATE ILLIAN 70	<b>ST. MARK, LANCASTER</b> JAMES & MADONNA KETCHAM 64	<b>ST. PATRICK, LONDON</b> KARL & RANDI CROOK 40 GARY & DENISE ZIMMERMAN 40 DAVID & KATHLEEN HUSEK 45 GARY & ELLEN JANE FINCHUM 50			
<b>ST. JOAN OF ARC, POWELL</b> LEONARD III & KAREN BERGLUND 25 JOHN & CANDY GIOFFRE 40 RON & MARY ANN KONCAL 50	<b>ST. MARY, DELAWARE</b> RAUL JR. & JENNIFER MADERO 25 ARTHUR & ANNA GOULD 45 DAVID & DEBRA CRECELIUS 35 DAVID & DEBRA KELLER 35 WILLIAM & JANIS CROHEN 50 MIKE & TERRY FESENMYER 50 GERALD & KATHLEEN MCDONOUGH 50 JOHN & DIANA ROACH 50 ROBERT & ANA DEATRICK 60 WILLIAM & LUCILLE LEONARD 71	<b>ST. PETER, COLUMBUS</b> JAMES & CARLA FUSSNECKER 45 MICHAEL & MAUREEN LUIS 50 GARRY & KATHLEEN RUPP 55			
<b>ST. JOHN NEUMANN, SUNBURY</b> DOUGLAS & LYNNE STELMACH 40	<b>ST. MARY, GROVEPORT</b> JOHN & ANDREA MAIER 25 GENE & MARYANN GUSSLER 50 JOHN & LOIS SCHILLING 55				
<b>ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, COLUMBUS</b> SAMUEL & LINDA MCCREARY 50	<b>ST. MARY, LANCASTER</b> FRANCIS & JENNIFER FULLIN 35 BON & SHEILA HEATH 35 RICK & LYNANN SHEA 35 BILL & MOLLIE SHONEBARGER 40 MICHAEL & LINDA KAUFFMAN 50 JOHN & MARCIA BAUGHMAN 55				



# Mommies Matter helps women facing unplanned pregnancies

The dream of Mommies Matter lived in the heart of its founding director, Monica Flynn, for nearly two decades before its official inception.

Countless hours spent answering calls on a crisis pregnancy hotline led to an unshakeable conviction that although the pro-life community did much to provide women with options at the time of an unplanned pregnancy, it offered few opportunities for extensive accompaniment and mentorship to single mothers once they had made the brave choice for life and against abortion.

Mommies Matter was founded on the fact that 75% of women who chose abortion say they would have chosen life for their unborn child if they had been offered support and a community to walk with them during and after the pregnancy. Three out of four pregnant mothers choose abortion because they feel they cannot take on motherhood alone. And they are right – they cannot do it alone.

Single motherhood is not easy. In one week, Mommies Matter walked alongside mothers who:

- Lost jobs due to car issues.
- Could not find affordable child care to go back to work full-time.
- Became homeless because of an injury that prevents them from working.

- Are suffering through domestic violence.

“Doing life together” is the mantra of Mommies Matter. When a single, pregnant mother comes to Mommies Matter, she is invited to join a community that will help her navigate challenges while embracing her dignity and value as a woman. But what does doing life together look like?

Recently, the Mommies Matter family has shown up to “do life” with mothers in the following ways:

- Paying rent during unpaid maternity leave to stabilize the financial picture so that a mother could bond with her baby.
- Providing support during labor and delivery.
- Driving downtown with a mother to submit paperwork to seal an eviction and request child support.
- Caring for a mother’s children so she could attend a job interview.
- Driving a mother’s older children to school because her car wouldn’t start.
- Coordinating the donation of a car to a mother and encouraging and supporting her to put her goals in motion.
- Sending a gift card for food to a new mother of twins.
- Providing two weeks of gas cards because a mother missed work and therefore pay because she contracted COVID.

- Reviewing several mothers’ finances and determining next steps to stabilize their situations and move toward financial goals.

Mommies Matter provides the financial, emotional and spiritual support every pregnant mother needs, for as long as she needs, to choose life and support herself and her child/children. This is done through in-person monthly enrichment nights, life coaching, legal assistance, respite care, long-term goal planning, therapy with trusted partners and more.

Since the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*, the pro-life community has recognized the need to walk with single, pregnant mothers, offering the support necessary so they can be the mothers our Lord created them to be. It is up to us as individuals and a Church to respond by “doing life” with these single, pregnant mothers.

This can include hosting a baby shower for a single, expectant mother; becoming an ally and walking with a mother through the challenges of single motherhood; providing a meal or child care at our monthly enrichment night gatherings so that the mothers can recharge and connect with other single moms; providing a meal for the mother and her children after birth of their new sibling; or working as a community liai-



**Mommies Matter provides assistance to a new mother.** Photo courtesy Mommies Matter

son to communicate the needs of Mommies Matter to your church community.

Together, we can be the catalyst for the healing, hope and change our mothers and babies need. Mothers facing an unwanted pregnancy, and their babies, deserve nothing less.

On Tuesday, Oct. 11 at 5:30 p.m., Mommies Matter will host its annual Fall Fundraiser at Columbus St. Catharine Church. The event will include food, beverages, comedy and a silent auction in support of single motherhood.

To purchase tickets or to learn more about becoming involved with Mommies Matter, visit [mommiesmatter.org](http://mommiesmatter.org) or call 614-723-9308.

**BRIDGETTINES,**  
*continued from Page 11*

in the steps our dear young people take when they pursue Jesus as their all.

It is important for every household in the diocese to understand and appreciate there is a strong wind blowing through the Church, and this wind is the Holy Spirit. He is stirring many souls to listen to the voice of the One whose voice the world has tried to silence, Jesus.

Our dear young people are responding with generosity, and we must pray for them. We must pray with them, and we must celebrate the life and vocation that Jesus has bestowed upon them.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
FOR MOMMIES MATTER ANNUAL

*Fall Fundraiser*

October 11th at 5:30pm  
St. Catharine Catholic Church

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF ENTERTAINMENT  
AND FUN INCLUDING FOOD, BEVERAGE,  
COMEDY, AND AN AUCTION  
*all in support of pregnant, single mothers*

[MOMMIESMATTER.ORG/FALL-FUNDRAISER](http://MOMMIESMATTER.ORG/FALL-FUNDRAISER)

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# 3 seminarians spend summer working with homeless men in the Bronx

By Ken Snow  
For *The Catholic Times*

Three Columbus seminarians recently finished a profound summer assignment in one of the roughest boroughs in New York City.

Perhaps divine providence influenced Kevin Girardi, John Paul Haemmerle and Michael Haemmerle to learn of the possible missionary stint with the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal in the Bronx.

Girardi, whose home parish is Columbus Our Lady of Victory, was just starting his 2021 summer assignment at Westerville St. Paul Church when a former son of the parish, just-ordained Father Joseph Michael, CFR, came home to visit and celebrate a few Masses at St. Paul. With him were fellow Franciscan friars and a Franciscan deacon.

“I was really captivated by how prayerful and penitential they were,” said Girardi, who is currently serving his pastoral year in the Knox County Consortium of Parishes. “Plus, part of the appeal was that they were always joyful and possessed a zest for life that was nothing short of radiant.

“A few weeks later, I mentioned my encounter with the Franciscans to Father Bill Hahn (diocesan director of vocations) and commented that, were the opportunity to arise, I’d love to be able to spend a little time working and praying with them.”

In talking with Father Joseph Michael, Girardi learned that the Franciscan friary in the South Bronx operates a night shelter for homeless men and accepts applications from men worldwide, who are discerning to become priests or religious brothers, to be missionaries there for limited periods.

In 2021, then-Bishop Robert Brennan added a pastoral year (September through May, between Theology 2 and Theology 3) for Columbus seminarians. This freed up the summer for some seminarians, so, in fall 2021, after consulting with the Franciscans, Father Hahn gave Girardi the go-ahead to apply.

About that time, John Paul Haemmerle, whose home parish is Columbus St. Patrick Church, told Father Hahn that during summer 2022 he wanted to focus on growing in his spiritual life and spending more time in structured, intentional prayer.

John Paul, who is currently serving his pastoral year at Gahanna St. Matthew Church, said, “One thought I had was to do that through working with the poor and especially alongside a religious order to see how they were able to maintain a balance between their active charism and their intense spiritual life.”

He told Father Hahn that he had heard about the homeless shelter in the Bronx,



**Kevin Girardi**



**John Haemmerle**



**Michael Haemmerle**

*Photos by Abigail Pitones*

operated by the CFRs (Community of Franciscans of the Renewal), and Father Hahn encouraged him to talk to Girardi and consider applying as a missionary.

Michael Haemmerle, John Paul’s older brother and fellow seminarian at the Josephinum (currently Theology 3) and whose home parish is also Columbus St. Patrick, said, “I wanted to do some sort of work with the poor for my 2022 summer assignment.

“I cooked and served lunches at the Holy Family soup kitchen (in the Franklinton area of west Columbus) a few years back but had only limited interaction with the people who came there. I really wanted a more immersive experience in ministering to the indigent population. I was hoping for an assignment in a foreign country, but the COVID pandemic put a halt to that.

“It was about that time that Kevin and my brother, John Paul, approached me and asked if I’d like to join them as missionaries at the CFR shelter in the Bronx the following summer. I jumped at the opportunity and am so thankful I did.”

The three seminarians left Columbus the day after Bishop Earl Fernandes’ ordination and installation May 31 and drove to the Bronx. A week earlier they had attended orientation and training, so they started working in St. Anthony Shelter of the Renewal the day following their arrival.

The Franciscan Friars of the Renewal was founded as a religious order in 1987 by Father Benedict Groeschel, CFR, and about 10 other Franciscan friars, mostly Capuchins. The order was created to work with the homeless and the poor. They were given property by the Archdiocese of New York that included the building serving as their friary as well as a former parish church, St. Adalbert’s, that had been closed for years.

In the late 1990s, the friars acquired a former apartment building next to the church that had seen better days. A fire had rendered it uninhabitable, but the friars raised funds to transform it into a night shelter for homeless men.

The men staying at the shelter are referred to as “guests” of the friars to give

them a sense of dignity and self-worth. The guests can stay up to six months, and most have jobs such as working as clerks or in trades.

A typical day for the missionaries, who vary in number from six to 10, consists of rising early, having morning prayer (Lauds), and then some would cook breakfast for the guests. The guests would get up at 5:30 a.m.

One missionary would man the office where the guests could retrieve their phones and other personal items they were not allowed to keep in their rooms, such as prescription medications and knives that they carry for protection on the street.

Guests normally left the shelter at 6:45 a.m., although they could stay for Mass at 7. Of the 26 or so guests, about 10 attend Mass every day. Upon returning to the shelter in early evening, the guests would eat dinner, relax and spend time with the missionaries and the Franciscans.

According to John Paul, perhaps a quarter of the guests were Catholic, but all are welcome to come to Mass, though non-Catholics could not receive Holy Communion.

“There was something about the Mass that attracted them,” John Paul said. “It kind of drew them in. And, for me, it was cool to see that, while these guys were broken and had a lot of set-backs in their lives – a lot struggled with addiction, or abusive family life when they were growing up and maybe falling into that themselves – it was cool to see that even in their brokenness they were striving after holiness, many of them in different ways.

“In the evenings, we missionaries would take turns leading the rosary in the chapel. One night, when it was my turn, I was delayed in getting there, but when I did arrive, I saw a single man inside saying the rosary out loud.

“Even though I was supposed to witness the faith to him, I realized in that moment he had witnessed the faith to me – that we always have to go to Our Lady, we always have to open that relationship with her, because it’s through our relationship with her that we can

fall more in love with Christ.”

The missionaries had many duties in the shelter: picking up food donations from grocery suppliers and supervising the guests’ chores such as sweeping and cleaning dishes and bathrooms. But they cherished the relaxing moments spent one-on-one with the guests.

They also spent time during the day with the Franciscans. “I was able to see clearly what an order priest or a religious brother is,” Girardi said.

“What struck me most is that they are filled with joy. They are some of the most joyful men I’ve ever encountered, yet they are doing some of the most penitential work possible. They’re cooking and cleaning, and they are living a life of prayer and poverty, even to the point of sleeping on the floor every night and fasting.

“Most of all, they truly seemed one with the homeless they are serving. They’re really embracing their vow of poverty, and in doing that it really gives them the freedom to enter into relationships with the guests because there’s no distinction between the lives of the men living in the shelter and the lives of the friars and brothers are living. They’re really one in the same.

“I believe the guests are drawn into St. Anthony Shelter not just because it’s a refuge from the streets, but because Jesus is clearly calling them, that He has brought them here to this place where the Blessed Sacrament is present, where there are priests present, where prayer is always taking place, and that they are being drawn here precisely because of their suffering and their brokenness.”

Besides living and working with the CFRs, the missionaries participated in two pro-life marches with the friars and brothers. These were regularly conducted on the first Saturday of every month and would begin with prayer in St. Patrick’s Cathedral, followed by a two-block walk while reciting the rosary, and ending outside an abortion clinic where the marchers would pray.

“All along the march, and especially at the clinic, pro-choice people would push and shove us as well as yell and scream at us for three hours,” Michael said. “But the Franciscans were just focused on prayer, praying for an end to abortion and praying for the conversion of the pro-choice people who were there.

“They (the CFRs) were very aware of spiritual warfare going on, but they were so fatherly in their response, even to those who were spewing hatred toward us.”

Girardi said, “I think the way that the CFRs choose to take on the brokenness and sinfulness of the people they serve

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

# Serving others serves us well

**Amos 6:1a, 4-7**  
**Psalm 146:7, 8-9, 9-10**  
**1 Timothy 6:11-16**  
**Luke 16:19-31**

One criticism of the Christian way of life often made through the ages – and prevalent now – is that in stressing the reality of eternity, engagement in this world is de-emphasized.

For some, the Christian perspective seems to be “pie in the sky by and by when you die.” The fact that Christianity encourages us to “take up our cross” and to learn from suffering also serves, critics say, to imply that we are complacent about the suffering of others.

The parable of the nameless rich man and the beggar Lazarus and the prophetic critique of the prophet Amos tell a different story.

People of faith are called by God in no uncertain terms to better the plight of those around them and create a world that includes justice and mercy for those who have been sidelined. As people of faith, in the Jewish heritage and in Christianity, we are called to rise from our “beds of ivory” to attend to others. When we fail to do so, the prophets and Jesus call us out.

The promise of eternity is not an invitation to leave the world in its sad state. Rather, it is a message of hope that suggests that even though our efforts might often seem to fail or be slow in accomplishing our goals, that in the long run, God is on our side and justice will prevail.

Woe to those who are complacent and do nothing in the face of injustice! Blessings are proclaimed, both in this life and in the life to come, for those who work on behalf of justice and for those who have not experienced what God has intended for all even in this

## 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.*



world. Lazarus is remembered by name and is comforted in the bosom of Abraham.

In only three months, we will celebrate Christmas. The joy of the Incarnation of the Son of God offers a way of seeing this world that reminds us that our faith is not only about what will happen to us after our earthly life is over. The prophetic vision also suggests that we must see what is happening around us and commit ourselves to all that establishes justice.

Pope St. Paul VI is famous for saying, “If you want peace, work for justice.” Justice is not merely about giving each person what is due, though that is its center. Rather, justice is about opening up the fullness of shalom, a peace that is more than the absence or cessation of war.

We must be concerned about “competing well for the faith,” as St. Paul counsels Timothy. Our witness must provide evidence that we have allowed God’s love for the world to penetrate our hearts. Our actions on behalf of justice are to be directed not only to an earthly fulfillment, but also to the blessings God holds in store for us “in the bosom of Abraham.”

Who is at your doorstep, awaiting your acknowledgment? Can you open your eyes and be concerned not only about your own wellbeing and that of your family and your circle of friends?

The rich man carries with him a concern for the “success” of his brothers,

9/26-10/1  
**MONDAY**  
 JOB 1:6-22  
 PSALM 17:1BCD,2-3,6-7  
 LUKE 9:46-50  
**TUESDAY**  
 JOB 3:1-3,11-17,20-23  
 PSALM 88:2-8  
 LUKE 9:51-56  
**WEDNESDAY**  
 JOB 9:1-12,14-16  
 PSALM 88:10B-15  
 LUKE 9:57-62  
**THURSDAY**  
 DANIEL 7:9-10,13-14 OR  
 REVELATION 12:7-12A  
 PSALM 138:1-5

## THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

JOHN 1:47-51  
**FRIDAY**  
 JOB 38:1,12-21,40:3-5  
 PSALM 139:1-3,7-10,13-14B  
 LUKE 10:13-16  
**SATURDAY**  
 JOB 42:1-3,5-6,12-17  
 PSALM 119:66,71,75,91,125,130  
 LUKE 10:17-24  
 10/3-10/8  
**MONDAY**  
 GALATIANS 1:6-12  
 PSALM 111:1B-2,7-9,10C  
 LUKE 10:25-37  
**TUESDAY**  
 GALATIANS 1:13-24  
 PSALM 139:1B-3,13-15

LUKE 10:38-42  
**WEDNESDAY**  
 GALATIANS 2:1-2,7-14  
 PSALM 117:1BC,2  
 LUKE 11:1-4  
**THURSDAY**  
 GALATIANS 3:1-5  
 LUKE 1:69-75 (PS)  
 LUKE 11:5-13  
**FRIDAY**  
 GALATIANS 3:7-14  
 PSALM 111:1B-6  
 LUKE 11:15-26  
**SATURDAY**  
 GALATIANS 3:22-29  
 PSALM 105:2-7  
 LUKE 11:27-28

## DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION

### MASS SCHEDULE: WEEKS OF SEPT. 25 AND OCT. 2, 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 Breezeline 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).

[stgabrielradio.com](http://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 II AND III OF THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS**

even as he sees Lazarus as one who could offer him relief from his torment. Abraham reminds him that the truth is evident for any who have the heart to receive it. Can we open our eyes and commit to serve this world? Only then

can we hope for the eternity of bliss promised to us.

The Gospel is not an invitation to forget this world and leave it as it is. Rather, it is a call to build up the kingdom among us.

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

# Faith fosters knowledge of truth, strength to endure

**Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4**  
**Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9**  
**2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14**  
**Luke 17:5-10**

Faith is a living relationship. It begins with trust. It grows the more we “lean into it.” As faith becomes for us a foundation for action, we discover that it opens us to a world that we can never see unless we begin with faith. This is where our world tends to get things backward. We do not have to “see it to believe it.” Rather, we have to “believe it in order to be free to see it.”

“The just one, because of his faith, will live.” The one who is “rash,” that is, who runs forward without faith, makes a mess of things. But one who believes, one who

allows faith to open up a vision of hope, will discover the truth about life and find strength to persevere.

The Apostles ask Jesus, “Increase our faith.” They are on the right track. They trust Jesus to offer them a way to move forward. However, in the moment, they cannot see the obstacles to faith in their hearts. Realization about lack of faith must come first.

When we make plans, we can sometimes think that we are being “objective.” We believe we see how things are and a way forward. But our vision is limited.

Jesus tells His disciples that they have missed the first step. They think they are already men of faith. In reality, they are being “subjective” in their approach. Humility is necessary to give room to faith

to operate. “When you have done all you have been commanded, say, ‘We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do.’”

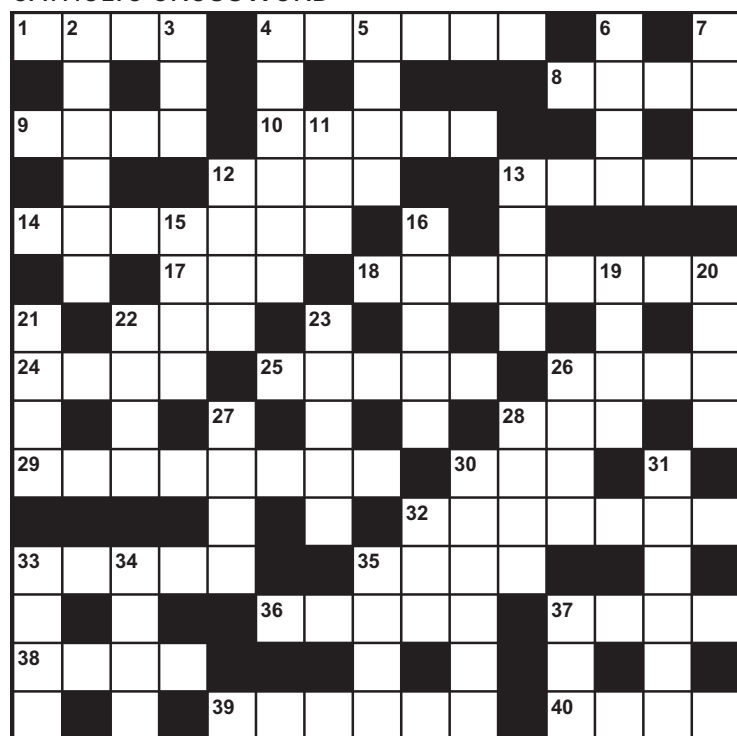
A mustard seed is very small. It is the source of something larger, but it is not the largest of plants. Faith is about something more ordinary than extraordinary. It grows. But its “size” is a surprise. To be a person of faith means not to measure but to trust in the growth in relationship that comes from participation in that relationship. Servants to a master do not become friends by presuming a friendship. But by serving at table, being present, then friendship, true relational faith, is allowed to grow at its own pace.

Relationship with God as a people invites us to come to know that God’s plan

for us will be fulfilled, but not on our schedule. The prophet Habakkuk is told: “Write down the vision clearly upon the tablets, so that one can read it readily.” It is a revelation that must be received and contemplated. Its fulfillment is sure: “For the vision still has its time, presses on to fulfillment, and will not disappoint; if it delays, wait for it, it will surely come, it will not be late.”

The troubles of our world are many. They challenge our faith, our trust in God. We can lose focus and seek solutions of our own, leaving faith behind. This will not accomplish what we might hope. The Spirit is at work in our hearts.

CATHOLIC CROSSWORD



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ACROSS

- 1 \_\_\_ of Hosts
- 4 Noah's boat was measured in these
- 8 Lectern
- 9 NT epistle
- 10 "Its \_\_\_ was named Death" (Rev 6:8)
- 12 Church section
- 13 Catholic pastime?
- 14 Rerum \_\_\_
- 17 Holy ones (abbr.)
- 18 Merton's university
- 22 Book attributed to Solomon (abbr.)
- 24 Religious instruction for converts (abbr.)
- 25 Number of days Jesus spent in the desert
- 26 Wife of Tobit
- 28 Religious instruction, formerly (abbr.)
- 29 Slave of Philemon
- 30 Day dedicated to Marian devotions (abbr.)
- 32 Jewish month of Hanukkah
- 33 Archdiocese in Morocco
- 35 Parable of the \_\_\_ in the fish
- 36 Commandment word
- 37 Catholic actor who won a Tony Award for his Guys and Dolls role
- 38 "\_\_\_ in a manger..."
- 39 Husband of Mary
- 40 "... \_\_\_ and female he created them." (Gen 1:27)

DOWN

- 2 \_\_\_ for the poor
- 3 Benedictine title
- 4 \_\_\_ Christi
- 5 Monk called "The Father of English History"
- 6 "Turn Back, \_\_\_" ("Godspell" song)
- 7 Catholic singer of "Papa Loves Mambo"
- 11 Catholic ending
- 12 Catholic Association of the Performing \_\_\_
- 13 Marian color
- 15 Paul preached in \_\_\_ Minor
- 16 "... for eye, \_\_\_ for..." (Ex 21:24)
- 19 "Whatever you \_\_\_ on earth shall be bound in heaven ..." (Mt 16:19)
- 20 Biblical name for Syria
- 21 Book containing calendar of Masses
- 22 Describes the gate that leads to destruction (Mt 7:13)
- 23 Sacre \_\_\_
- 26 NT book that follows John
- 27 Brought by a wise man
- 28 First child
- 30 Old Testament town that was home of the tribe of Ephraim
- 31 Monk who is father of modern genetics
- 32 NT epistle
- 33 \_\_\_ presence in the Eucharist
- 34 Prayer counter
- 35 Catholic-raised, Oscar-winning actor of "Leaving Las Vegas" fame
- 37 "He has shown might with his \_\_\_..." (Magnificat)

## Words of Wisdom

by Pat Battaglia, aka Dr. Fun

Draw a path from letter to letter to spell the capitalized words to complete the wisdom statement. Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left and diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

Patience ...



CARRIES A LOT OF WAIT

### SEMINARIANS, continued from Page 17

sort of crosses over into (diocesan) parish life in that we (as parish priests) are to take on penances for our people, to truly be intercessors for them. The disintegration of life for so many in the Bronx is really present everywhere. We just have more complicated ways of masking it, or acting like it's not there.

"That same brokenness that the homeless experience in the Bronx, the same longing for meaning, longing for purpose, longing to understand why one is sinful even though one hates one's sins, exists here in every single parish as well.

"And just to know that, that the same healing and renewing effects of the Gospel which

can take place in people who are recovering from addiction, or people who have no family, or people who find themselves on the street for whatever reasons, that same Gospel is needed for the people of our parishes.

"So, I'm really glad I decided to follow the call of the Lord to be a missionary serving the less fortunate in the Bronx and that Father Hahn had the confidence in me, John Paul and Michael to send us there."

Father Hahn agreed and said, "It's a good story to be told. I think our three seminarians saw this as an immersive process of really helping their formation in growing more fatherly as they move closer to becoming priests and ministering in our diocesan parishes."

### FAITH, continued from Page 18

The voice of God whispers to us to invite us to faith. "If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts."

St. Paul reminds Timothy "to stir into flame the gift of God" that has been shared with him. Each soul who chooses to live by faith finds the strength to stand firm, "not be ashamed of ... testimony

to our Lord" and to bear one's "share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God."

Faith provides a way of integrity that meets the challenges of our time and presses on to the fulfillment promised by the One Who is trustworthy.

In the marriage case styled JOSEPH PAUL POREMBSKI and EVA MARIA SINGOALLA KAJVING, the Tribunal of the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio is currently unaware of the present address of EVA MARIA SINGOALLA KAJVING. The Tribunal herewith informs her of the case and invites her to contact VERY REV. ROBERT KITSMILLER, M.Div, JCL, Presiding and sole Judge, no later than - 10 OCTOBER 2022, or call phone (614)241-2500 Extension 1. Anyone who knows of the whereabouts of EVA MARIA SINGOALLA KAJVING, is herewith asked to make this Citation known to her or to inform the Tribunal of her current address.

Given this 25 SEPTEMBER 2022;

VERY REV. ROBERT KITSMILLER, M.Div, JCL | Presiding Judge  
KAREN KITCHELL | Notary

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# PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

**Baljak, John**, 88, Sept. 10  
St. Margaret Of Cortona Church, Columbus

**Bernard, Timothy**, 78 Sept. 9  
St. Bernard, Corning

**Browning, Judith Ann**, 79, Sept. 10  
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

**Courtney, Robert W.**, 84, Sept. 3  
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

**Damiano, Marc**, 69, Sept. 5  
St. Peter Church, Columbus

**Devereaux, Patricia E. (Sturgill)**, 84, Sept. 2  
St. Patrick Church, Columbus

**Duffy, Pattie Jo (Stickdorn)**, 68, Sept. 10  
St. Bernard, Corning

**Ersley, Emmett J.**, 88, Sept. 2  
Our Lady Of Peace Church, Columbus

**Foster, Doris B. (Gorham)**, 87, Aug. 29  
Mohun Health Care Center, Columbus

**Glowacki, Julie A. (Nimtzt)**, 80, Sept. 10  
St. Brigid Of Kildare Church, Dublin

**Grimm, Anne K. (Gouse)**, 95, Sept. 4  
Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus

**Holub, Patricia J. (Deluca)**, 87, Sept. 9  
St. Brigid Of Kildare Church, Dublin

**Hutchinson, Donna M.**, 73, Aug. 28  
Church Of The Resurrection, New Albany

**Ivory, Thomas E.**, 71, Sept. 1  
St. Mary Church, Delaware

**Karl, Robert L.**, 89, Sept. 12  
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

**Kramer, Barbara (Comerford)**, 98, Sept. 5  
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

**Moder, Judith (Lynch)**, 83, Aug. 30  
St. Joseph Church, Dover

**Novack, Thomas J.**, 61, Sept. 9  
St. Peter Church, Columbus

**Paxton, Linda E. (Irvin)**, 73, Sept. 5  
Our Lady Of Victory Church, Columbus

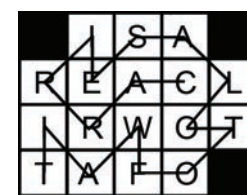
**Potts, Phyllis E. (Brown)**, 96, Sept. 9  
St. Rose Of Lima, New Lexington

**Smith, Karen L. (Geneser)**, 61, Sept. 2  
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

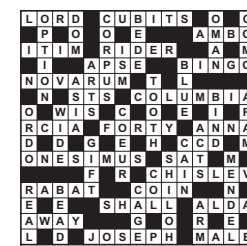
**Price, Rhea M. (Pierce)**, 86, Sept. 11  
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

**Stephens, Condita "Connie" (Baad)**, 76, Aug. 30  
St. Joseph Church, Dover

**Trenor, Jeanne (Mcguire)**, 98, Aug. 26  
St. Michael Church, Worthington



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## Michael J. Elton

Funeral Mass for Michael J. Elton, 77, who died Monday, Sept. 11, was celebrated on Saturday, Sept. 17 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral. Burial was at Penn Lincoln Memorial Park, McKeesport, Pennsylvania.

He was born on Feb. 2, 1945 in Fort Worth, Texas to Betty and Ted Schramm and attended the University of Texas before working in a number of cities from the mid-1960s to the mid-1970s.

His last assignment was in Washington, D.C., where he was a senior vice president of a major international fashion company for 16 years. From 1992 to 2006, he was a real estate broker in the Washington area.

He relocated to Columbus in 2006

and was involved in many Catholic ministries in the Diocese of Columbus. He was a longtime president of the cathedral's pastoral council, directed its liturgical ministry and was president of the diocese's Center-South Deanery Council.

He was a volunteer in the chaplaincy divisions of Mount Carmel Medical Center and Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus, also volunteered for the American Cancer Society and the Mid-Ohio Food Collective, and was a member of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Donna Allen Fenn. He is survived by a sister, Mary (JD) Grundy.

## Alzada H. Gallagher

Funeral Mass for Alzada H. Gallagher, 83, who died Saturday, Aug. 20, was celebrated Saturday, Sept. 17 in the Resurrection Cemetery Chapel, Lewis Center.

She was born in Lyons, Kansas on Dec. 2, 1938, to Paul and Ruth (Harris) Oliver. She was a graduate of Cushing (Oklahoma) High School and received her undergraduate degree from the University of Oklahoma and her graduate degree from Ohio State University.

She spent several decades in nursing,

with her last position being vice president of patient services at St. Ann's Hospital (later Mount Carmel St. Ann's Hospital) at its original site in Columbus and its current location in Westerville.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Paul. Survivors include her husband, Paul; daughter, Brooke (Jason) Reusch; sisters, Gwen (Richard) Arcara and Marilyn Gilbert; a grandson and a granddaughter.

## Michael Thomas Millisor

Funeral Mass for Michael Thomas Millisor, 67, who died Monday, Sept. 5, was celebrated Tuesday, Sept. 13 at St. Edward the Confessor Church, Granville.

He was born in Marion on Oct. 2, 1954, to Thomas William and Mary Alice (Andrews) Millisor. He graduated from Marion Catholic High School in 1972 and from Marian College in Indianapolis in 1976.

He spent several years as an executive with Travelers Insurance in Day-

ton, Atlanta and Hartford, Connecticut before returning to Ohio and obtaining a Master's degree in Religious Education. He served as Director of Religious Education at Columbus Holy Spirit Church and St. Edward the Confessor for 20 years before retiring in 2019.

Survivors include brothers, Timothy (Renee), Patrick (Michelle), Father Daniel Millisor, Charles (Karen); a sister, Mary (Brian) Grim; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

# Mass, procession caps St. Margaret of Cortona's 100th anniversary



Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church concluded a yearlong celebration of its 100th anniversary on July 31 with its annual festival, a Mass led by Bishop Earl Fernandes and a procession through the San Margherita area carrying statues of St. Margaret of Cortona, St. Lucy, St. Ann, St. Joseph and St. Anthony, the parish's patron saints, while singing hymns and praying the rosary as part of an ancient tradition brought here from Italy by the parish's founders. Concelebrating the Mass with Bishop Fernandes (center) were (from left) Msgr. Frank Lane and Father Jeff Rimelspach, the parish pastor. Assisting was Deacon Tom Rowlands (right). Behind Msgr. Lane is a statue of St. Margaret of Cortona. Outside, Bishop Fernandes leads the procession with Father Rimelspach to his left and Msgr. Lane to his right through the parish parking lot and then into the neighborhood. Parishioners carry a statue of St. Anthony while diocesan seminarian Jake Asuncion walks and prays alongside.

Photos courtesy Jan Childers

1980

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# Brian Muha Memorial Foundation

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## About Us

The Brian Muha Foundation memorializes Brian Muha, a graduate of St. Charles Preparatory School and student at Franciscan University, who was killed in a random act of violence at the age of 19, twenty-three years ago. The foundation honors his kind and charitable spirit by helping others who are in need. The Run the Race Club (RTR) was started by Brian's mother, Rachel Muha, and the foundation. RTR offers a safe and loving atmosphere on Columbus' West Side (The Hilltop) where children can go to play, learn and study. RTR provides education, clothing, food, furniture, toys and more to families in our community, at no cost. The Muha Foundation is able to help others continue to 'Run the Race' through its generous donors and fundraising events such as the annual 'Night of Champions'.

## Night of Champions

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## COLLEGE NEWS AND EVENTS

### Ohio Dominican adds three new programs

To help address a rapidly growing workforce demand in the technology sector, Ohio Dominican University (ODU) has added three new technology-focused Bachelor of Science degree programs to its major areas of study.

Students now have the option of pursuing undergraduate degrees in cybersecurity, information technology or data science.

For assistance in developing these programs, ODU collaborated with Rize, an education company that seeks to prepare college students for careers in fast-growing fields. Courses in each of the new programs have been designed by academic and industry leaders vetted by ODU.

The cybersecurity program will equip students with the information, knowledge and skills they need to understand sophisticated methods that people with harmful intent use to gain access to locked computer networks and systems; identify modern and effective ways to secure systems from unauthorized access; and understand how to respond to a cybersecurity incident in a way that minimizes the impact to an organization and stakeholders.

The data science program will equip students with knowledge, tools, techniques and experiences related to querying, cleaning and analyzing data, using industry staples such as Python, SQL, R, and Tableau. In addition, students will understand the ethical and professional issues surrounding the collection, analysis, use, sharing and presentation of data.

The information technology program will prepare students to apply IT support to improve business practices while managing and maintaining the computing infrastructure on which organizational systems operate. Students will gain skills, including web development, database management, operating system knowledge, programming, technical writing and hardware deployment to ensure that processes reliant upon technology are not disrupted.

To learn more about any of the three majors, go to [www.ohiodominican.edu](http://www.ohiodominican.edu) and click on the links to each major.

### ODU to host Health Day

Ohio Dominican University (ODU)

and Central Ohio Primary Care (COPC) have partnered to host a community health day on Thursday, Oct. 6 for students, faculty, staff and residents of the area surrounding campus in northeast Columbus. The event will take place from 3 to 7 p.m. in front of Erskine Hall on ODU's Oval at 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Free parking will be available in the gold lot.

This free event will feature dozens of health-related vendors, services and family-friendly activities including health screenings, health provider information, yard games, free food, inflatable slides, touch-a-truck and more.

Representatives from several central Ohio health organizations, agencies and partners will be on hand, including the Franklin County Office on Aging, CareSource, Lifeline of Ohio, LifeCare Alliance, Central Ohio Trauma Association, National Alliance on Mental Illness, American Heart Association, ODU's physician assistant studies program, OCALI Autism Awareness and Stop the Violence.

In April 2021, COPC opened a Care Forward Center on the ODU campus. The center provides adult and pediatric primary care to ODU staff and students and residents of the surrounding community. In addition to treating patients, the center provides ODU students with opportunities to gain hands-on experience in a health care setting. Students in ODU's master of science in physician assistant studies program have access to clinical rotations in the center.

### Franciscan honored by college guide

U.S. News & World Report's 2022-23 Best Colleges Guidebook has ranked Franciscan University of Steubenville 26th among 167 Midwestern universities. Among the leading factors for the ranking are an 86 percent first-year retention rate, a 72 percent graduation rate, and a 14-to-1 student/faculty ratio.

The ranking also reflects the growth of the university, which this fall welcomed its largest incoming class — almost 750 new full-time undergraduate students. Online class numbers also have increased, with a record-breaking 1,050 students enrolled. Including on-campus and online undergraduate and graduate students, total enrollment for the fall of

2022 has reached a record of 3,650.

In addition, U.S. News listed Franciscan 11th among best value universities in the Midwest. This listing rates academic quality relative to the amount of financial aid a student receives that does not have to be paid back.

The magazine also ranked Franciscan ninth among best colleges for veterans, which lists schools that make pursuing a college education more affordable for veterans and active-duty service members.

### Saint Paul's Outreach names new president

Saint Paul's Outreach (SPO) has appointed David Fischer as its new president, succeeding Gordon DeMarais, who was a co-founder of the organization in 1985. DeMarais will continue to serve the mission of SPO by helping support Fischer and the SPO board of directors.

Fischer was an SPO missionary from 2001 to 2003. During that time, he also worked in the campus ministry office at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota. He then attended the university's law school and was admitted to the Minnesota State Bar in 2006.

For the next nine years, he focused primarily on economic development and growth for a variety of organizations whose mission is to make a positive impact on culture; most notably as legal affairs director for the Catholic Community Foundation of Minnesota. He was SPO's vice president for advancement from 2015 to 2020 and was appointed executive vice president in 2021.

SPO, based in the Minnesota state capital, was founded in 1985 to train full-time lay missionaries and student leaders to build communities that reach out and invite college students and young adults into a transformative relationship with Christ, forming lifelong disciples. There are SPO communities at Ohio State University and the University of Cincinnati and in Arizona, Florida, Kansas, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey and Texas.

## LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS

### St. Padre Pio relics coming to German Village St. Mary

Relics of St. Padre Pio will be displayed at St. Mary Church, 684 S. 3rd St. in Columbus' German Village neighborhood, from 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Oct. 28 and 29 and 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 30.

The relics will include crusts of the saint's wounds, a lock of his hair and gauze with his bloodstains, each in a separate reliquary.

St. Padre Pio, a Capuchin friar, died at age 81 in 1968 and lived for most of his life at a friary in San Giovanni Rotondo, Italy. He is best-known for bearing the stigmata, the five wounds of Jesus Christ, for experiencing other spiritual phenomena, and for his powers as a healer. He was canonized in 2002.

### Westerville St. Paul to host Sacred Heart Congress


The 11th annual Columbus Sacred Heart Congress, which has become the largest event of its kind in the nation, will take place Saturday, Nov. 5 at Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church, 313 N. State St.

The theme for the day will be "Rebuild, Renew and Restore the Domestic Church through the Heart of Jesus." Speakers will include Bishop Earl Fernandes; Father Joseph Laramie, SJ, and Father Thomas Dailey, OSFS. Father Stash Dailey, spiritual director of Sacred Heart Columbus, will lead Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and Emily Jaminet will be host for the day.

Doors will open at 7:30 a.m., with the rosary at 8 and Mass at 8:30. The program is scheduled until noon. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available.

Tickets are \$15 per person or \$25 per family. Scholarships are available for those needing financial assistance. To register, go to [www.welcomehisheart.com](http://www.welcomehisheart.com).

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