

The Catholic **T**IMES

THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS' INFORMATION SOURCE

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Our Lady of Guadalupe

A number of parishes throughout the diocese will offer special Masses and events on and around the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, which is celebrated on Monday, Dec. 12, Page 5



Gold Mass for musicians

The first diocesan Gold Mass for musicians, celebrated on Friday, Nov. 18 by Bishop Earl Fernandes at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, brought together directors and singers from a number of parishes, Page 9



Christmas gift guide

With Christmas only a few weeks away, some suggestions are offered for Catholic gifts that also support small businesses, Pages 18-19



OPENING HEARTS AND HOMES TO FOSTER AND ADOPT CHILDREN

Congregation of sisters adds to richness of life in diocese

By Father Stash Dailey

The life of the local Church in the Diocese of Columbus has increased in its richness during the past few weeks with the addition of another congregation of consecrated religious sisters.

The Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus opened a local community of sisters in the diocese in late October, deepening their roots in central Ohio. The sisters are in temporary residence at St. Therese Retreat Center on the east side of Columbus.

While their residence in the diocese is new, they have been a part of the local Church's life for years. Their first American vocation hails from Tuscarawas County, and they have many young women in formation who know them through their apostolic work with diocesan youth.



Sister Maria Ecclesiae (left) of the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus sits with students during the Serra Club of North Columbus' vocations luncheon for young women in October.

Photo courtesy Amanda Mahle

The sisters' focus is best explained by their name, as one of their members powerfully summarized at the recent

Marian Dinner for young women. They are first daughters of the Heavenly Father and the Blessed Virgin Mary. They are of the Blessed Virgin Mary, hence Holy Mary, and they are focused on the Heart of Jesus. Their name summarizes their very being and how they approach their call to serve the Lord Jesus.

Given the strength of the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in central Ohio, the sisters have an important role to play in the proclamation of the Gospel through spreading devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Our people are starving for the liberating presence of Jesus Christ, and the role His Most Sacred Heart plays in the sanctification and fortification of the domestic Church should not be overlooked nor underestimated. The sisters have as a central theme in their prayers and their apostolate bringing people to Jesus'

Most Sacred Heart, and they follow the example of Our Lady who directs the attention of the faithful toward Jesus.

The aim of the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus is the sanctification of their members through the apostolate of education and formation in the faith of the youth. The sisters own and run their own schools in Spain and throughout the Americas.

In the United States, the sisters have founded a novitiate in Steubenville and have introduced their congregation's youth apostolate called DOYMAR, a Spanish acronym for their outreach and formation program.

With a residence established in Columbus, the sisters will introduce their youth apostolate in central Ohio.

Father Stash Dailey is the diocesan vicar for religious and a vice rector at the Pontifical College Josephinum.

Two deacons selected for new roles in diocese

Two deacons of the Diocese of Columbus have been appointed to newly created diocesan positions, said Deacon Frank Iannarino, director of the diocese's Office for the Diaconate.

Deacon Stephen Petrill of Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church has been selected as associate director of the diaconate office, and Deacon Jeffrey Fortkamp of Columbus Our Lady of Peace Church is the diocese's new associate director of cemeteries. They are continuing to serve their respective parishes in addition to assuming their new roles.

"Deacon Petrill will assist me with the formation of deacon candidates and with establishment of the Josephinum Institute for the Diaconate (JDI) as a fully online program," Deacon Iannarino said.

The Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus established the institute in 2007 to strengthen pre- and post-ordination diaconal formation on a national and worldwide basis. It offers courses in English and Spanish accenting both the theoretical and practical dimensions of theology.

Deacon Petrill is a member of the Josephinum board of trustees, and Deacon Iannarino serves on the JDI advisory board. The Josephinum recently received a grant of \$878,790 from the Lilly Endowment Inc. to help the JDI in its mission.

Before the start of the COVID pandemic in March 2020, candidates for the diaconate in the Diocese of Columbus had been attending weekly classes offered by the institute on the Josephinum campus, while the institute offered those classes through distance learning to dioceses outside Columbus.

Columbus deacon candidates began taking those classes online because of restrictions on public gatherings result-

ing from the pandemic. After the restrictions were eased, a decision was made to end the institute's in-person classes and switch to a fully online format.

"Candidates are continuing to meet face-to-face weekly to build fraternal support for each other and to discuss liturgical and pastoral aspects of the diaconate that the classes don't cover," Deacon Iannarino said. "Having all the institute's classes online gives the candidates more convenience and flexibility in choosing the times when they will be taking those courses.

"The switch to online also allows the classes to be taught by outstanding academics and theologians from across the nation. Under the in-person format, many of the classes were taught by diocesan priests. With the changes which are likely to result from the diocese's Real Presence Real Future initiative, it would be difficult for many of those priests to continue in a teaching role as their pastoral responsibilities change."

Deacon Iannarino said Deacon Petrill, a psychology professor at Ohio State University, was ideal for leading the institute's transition to fully online learning because he was part of a similar transition at OSU. Deacon Petrill was ordained to the diaconate in 2016 and


served at Powell St. Joan of Arc Church until being transferred to St. Brigid of Kildare.

Deacon Iannarino also said that with many deacons likely to take on increased roles in parishes as a result of the Real Presence Real Future initiative, it's likely that the role of diaconate office director will be split, with Deacon Petrill eventually becoming director of diaconal formation for the diocese and Deacon Iannarino becoming director of diaconal ministry and life.

"There hasn't been an associate director in the diaconate office for several years, since the retirement of the late Deacon Tom Johnston," Deacon Iannarino said. "With the diocese adding deacons every few years, I've felt the need for an associate, but Bishop (Frederick) Campbell and Bishop (Robert) Brennan didn't feel the time was right.

"Bishop (Earl) Fernandes taught deacon formation classes in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, and when I asked him about having an associate, he agreed. He also shared with me the importance of having a strong deacon advisory board to assist the bishop, the diocese and myself. He said he's going to be depending

See DEACONS, Page 3



**SOLEMNITY
of the
IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION**

The Solemnity of
the Immaculate
Conception of
the Blessed Virgin
Mary is Thursday,
Dec. 8. Check parish bulletins or
websites for Mass times.



Front Page photo:

OPENING HEARTS, HOMES TO FOSTER CHILDREN

The Baird family, members of Columbus Immaculate Conception Church, brought Gianna (lower left), now age 2 and recently baptized, into their home as an infant and adopted her at 18 months. Stephanie (center) and Joe Baird (back row, second from left) have three biological children (from upper left: Luke, 18, Tommy, 15 and Mayce, 12 (holding Gianna). They are joined by Deacon Chris Campbell and Father Matt Hoover, pastor at Immaculate Conception.

CT photo by Ken Snow

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Bishop revives divine worship office, names director of music

Bishop Earl Fernandes announced last week that he is reinstating the Office of Divine Worship and appointed a director of music for the diocese.

Father Paul Keller, OP, a parochial vicar at Columbus St. Patrick Church, began serving as the interim director of the diocesan Office of Divine Worship on Dec. 1 while continuing his pastoral duties at the parish.

Dr. Richard Fitzgerald, the director of music and organist at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral since 2015, will assume additional responsibilities as the diocesan director of music. In that role, he will serve as a consultant on liturgical music to parishes throughout the diocese.

Deacon Tom Berg Jr., the diocesan chancellor, had acted as a consultant on liturgy since the worship office began a reorganization in 2021.

Bishop Fernandes issued the following statement on the appointments:

“This year is the beginning of the Eucharistic Revival. We haven’t been able to do too much in the Diocese of Columbus with the transition to a new bishop and with all the activity surrounding Real Presence Real Future.

“Nevertheless, the Eucharist is the ‘source and summit’ of all life in the Church, and our celebration of the Mass ought to be beautiful and reverent, facilitating the encounter of God with His people, helping our people to experience the Mystery, evoking a sense of awe and wonder and transforming our parishes and lives, so that we live the Eucharistic Mystery.

“With the appointment of Dr. Richard Fitzgerald as Diocesan Director of Music, we have someone who is eminently qualified and who knows the Diocese of Columbus. It was truly remarkable how many people were moved by the beauty of the music at my episcopal ordination.

“Dr. Fitzgerald knows the Church’s musical tradition, understands the reform desired by the Second Vatican Council, and has the ability to work with others, including church music directors, musicians and vocalists. I believe he can bring the same high caliber music



Father Paul Keller, OP
Photo courtesy Chancery Office



Dr. Richard Fitzgerald, director of music and organist at St. Joseph Cathedral, will take on added duties as the diocesan director of music.

CT photo by Ken Snow

to worship throughout the diocese and can guide parishes to have music that is noble, reverent and worthy of the liturgy, directing our worship to God. He is also a gifted composer. It is my hope that his gifts can now be shared more widely throughout the Diocese of Columbus.

“I also want to express my gratitude to Deacon Tom Berg, who in addition to serving as Chancellor, undertook the role of interim Director of the Office of Divine Worship, a role which will now be passed to Father Paul Keller, O.P. Father Keller holds a doctorate in sacramental theology and is the author of a number of books.

“His experience as a university and seminary professor and his theological acumen will make him an outstanding resource for the priests, deacons, and pastoral ministers of the Diocese. His expertise will serve our local church in helping to assure beauty in our celebrations, a proper *ars celebrandi*, but also in guiding our Diocese with approaching liturgical changes – the change in the formula for absolution; the new translation of the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults; the new translation of the Liturgy of the Hours; and the forthcoming translations of the books for the Pastoral Care of the Sick and the Lectionary.

“Recently, the Holy Father wrote a letter *Desiderio desideravi* on the liturgy. Pope Francis is concerned that we have neglected the very nature of liturgy and liturgical action. Without en-

gaging in the so-called ‘liturgy wars,’ I believe that these two fine men can help our whole Diocese to be renewed in its Eucharistic worship, as we move toward experiencing next year the Eucharistic Revival in our parishes, culminating the following year in the Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis. We wish both of them well as they begin this service to the Diocese of Columbus.”

Father Keller was ordained to the priesthood on May 21, 1993, in Washington, D.C., for the Dominican order’s Province of St. Joseph. He received his licentiate in sacred theology at the Pontifical Faculty of the Immaculate Conception at the Dominican House of Studies in Washington and his doctorate at Sant’ Anselmo in Rome.

His first assignment was as a parochial vicar at St. Mary Church in New Haven, Connecticut, where he also began his teaching work.

Since then, he has taught at various institutions and made guest appearances on Relevant Radio, the Catholic Channel on Sirius Radio and Vatican Radio, and currently is heard on Catholic Answers Live in addition to preaching retreats and offering lectures throughout the country.

Father Keller is a past president of the Society for Catholic Liturgy and has served on its board of directors. Among the books he has authored are 101 Questions & Answers on the Sacraments of Healing: Penance and Anointing of

the Sick; A Lenten Journey with Jesus Christ and St. Thomas Aquinas; and daily meditations called A Year with the Eucharist.

He has edited *The Cross of Jesus*, written by the 17th century spiritual author Louis Chardon, O.P., and is currently rewriting his Lenten book for republication as well as a book of meditations for Advent and Christmas.

“As part of my responsibilities as interim director of worship, I will be assisting with liturgy planning for the various liturgies at which the bishop presides,” Father Keller said. “I will also be available for answering or responding to questions – theological questions especially dealing with the liturgy that pastors have. I want to be a resource for the bishop and those who have pastoral responsibility.”

Father Keller has spent much of his priesthood involved in various aspects of parochial ministry.

“So, I’m very familiar with liturgy planning,” he said. “The hardest part of my job will be having enough time to respond.”

As a parish priest himself, Father Keller understands the demands on priests who are managing multiple assignments.

“I’m doing two different jobs at the same time, and a lot of them (diocesan priests) are doing the same thing,” he said. “They’re very busy, and I want them to know that I’m in the trenches with them.”

Father Keller’s assignment to Columbus by the Dominican order is his first in the diocese, joining seven other friars at St. Patrick Priory who serve not only St. Patrick Church but in various other ministries that range from teaching to preaching.

“I’m really looking forward to serving the diocese,” Father Keller said.

Fitzgerald has become well known throughout the diocese as the director of music at the cathedral and the beautiful liturgies and concerts taking place there.

Two weeks ago, he coordinated a

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DEACONS, continued from Page 2

on deacons to play a much more significant role in parish administration once the Real Presence Real Future initiative is fully implemented.”

Deacon Iannarino said Deacon Fortkamp, a deacon since 2008 and a member of the Cristo Rey Columbus High School board of directors, was “a perfect choice” for the position of associate cemeteries director because he is an attorney specializing in property management.

“Dealing with property issues is a key

to successful operation of a cemetery, and that’s a talent Deacon Fortkamp has displayed throughout his career in law,” he said. “His appointment also was made with an eye on the future. Both (diocesan cemeteries director) Rich Finn and myself are getting close to retirement, and we feel he would be an excellent successor for Rich.

“He started in his new position in July and immediately got to work overseeing the remodeling and rededication of Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel at St. Joseph

Cemetery, so he has shown his capabilities right away.” Deacon Fortkamp will be assisting Finn with the management of all four diocesan-owned cemeteries – St. Joseph, Resurrection, Holy Cross and Mt. Calvary. In addition to the diocesan cemeteries, about 50 cemeteries are operated by individual parishes, Deacon Fortkamp said.

Msgr. Joseph Hendricks of St. Brigid of Kildare Church is overseeing the financial viability of the cemeteries, and Father Kevin Kavanagh of Marys-

ville Our Lady of Lourdes Church is a liturgical consultant for possible remodeling of chapels at other cemeteries. Bishop Brennan had asked the two priests to serve in these roles before he was appointed bishop of the Diocese of Brooklyn, New York last year.

Deacon Iannarino said the diocese currently has 115 deacons, with 11 candidates being trained in a class that is scheduled to complete formation and be ordained to the sacrament of holy orders as deacons in 2024.

21 diocesan Latino young adults to attend World Youth Day

By Tim Puet

For The Catholic Times

Representatives of a group of diocesan young adults who plan a pilgrimage to next year's World Youth Day (WYD) celebration in Lisbon, Portugal will visit parishes with large Latino populations on Sunday, Dec. 11 and Monday, Dec. 12 and sell items such as T-shirts, rosaries and shawls to raise funds for the trip.

Lisset Mendoza, director of the diocesan Office for Hispanic Ministry, said those visiting parishes will be among 21 Latinos ages 18 to 40 who will fly to Lisbon to join hundreds of thousands of other young people for the event, scheduled for Aug. 1-6, 2023. This will be the 16th such gathering since the first World Youth Day was convened in 1986 by Pope St. John Paul II.

The celebration, besides bringing together young Catholics from throughout the world for Masses, talks and other spiritual activities, features one or more large-group encounters with the pope and usually occurs once every three years. The 2023 WYD was delayed for one year because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Among the Latino group from Columbus raising money to go to the event are Alma Vera and Angelica de Leon, office managers for Columbus Christ the King and St. Thomas the Apostle churches; Myra Huddleston, youth evangelization director for

the two parishes; and Meliza Saucedo of Columbus St. Stephen the Martyr Church.

Also among the 21 going to WYD is Father David Arroyo, one of three members of the Theatine order of priests who came to Columbus this year, are in residence at Christ the King and are serving parishes throughout the diocese.

Plans for the local pilgrims to attend WYD began last year with conversations among Saucedo and the three women who work at Christ the King and St. Thomas. "We became friends when I learned about their experience at previous World Youth Days and how they encountered the Lord there, and I also want to have that experience," said de Leon, who was born in Mexico and has lived in the United States for 16 years, including the past 12 in Columbus.

"It was a combination of reversion – our desire to go to another World Youth Day – and convergence – three of us being together, working together for Father (David) Schalk (pastor of Christ the King and St. Thomas and diocesan vicar for Hispanic ministry).

"We started talking and began telling friends about this. The plans were put on hold for a while when Bishop (Robert) Brennan was transferred to Brooklyn last year, but we resumed talking about a possible pilgrimage once Bishop (Earl) Fernandes was installed this year."

"The last World Youth Day in Panama in



Planning a pilgrimage to World Youth Day 2023 by Latino young adults from the diocese are (from left): Angelica de Leon; Myra Huddleston; Father David Arroyo; Lisset Mendoza, diocesan director of Hispanic ministry; Meliza Saucedo and Alma Vera.

Photo courtesy Diocesan Hispanic Ministry Office

2019 was a really powerful experience from which I've continued to grow and expand my knowledge of the faith," said Vera, who moved to Columbus shortly after the event.

"I saw no organized group of Catholic Latino young people in Columbus, but as Angelica, Myra and Meliza and I got to know each other through our church activities, we started reaching out and sharing with others. All of us want to grow the Latino Catholic community here and feel that getting other young people involved is the best way to do it."

Huddleston has been to WYD celebrations in Rio de Janeiro in 2013; Krakow, Poland in 2016; and Panama in 2019, serving as a tour guide for the 2019 event. "I had no money to go to Panama, but the Lord must have wanted me to go, because the guide position opened at the last minute and, based on my past World Youth Day experience, I was hired for it," she said.

"The one thing that never changes at World Youth Day is the presence of Jesus Christ," she said. "What changes are your individual circumstances.

"In 2013, I wasn't sure I wanted to remain Catholic, but my experience there left me with certainty about the faith. In 2016, I took a leap of faith. My mother was dealing with cancer, and I didn't want to go, but my mother insisted on it, and as I put my trust in God and prayed for her, my faith was transformed into something greater. Then came the unexpected opportunity in 2019."

Huddleston grew up in Watsonville, California and became a missionary for The Culture Project, a group of young adults who deliver presentations about living an authentic Catholic life in a secular world to young people across the nation, including in the Diocese of Columbus. That's where she met her future husband, Sam, from Bowling Green, Kentucky. Because of COVID, they carried on a long-distance relationship through Zoom for two years.

Then in 2021, she came to central Ohio to visit friends at the Damascus Catholic Mission Campus in Knox County. "Thanks

to a 10-minute conversation with Monica Richards of the Damascus staff, I got my current job at Christ the King and St. Thomas," she said. "Sam found employment in Columbus at about the same time. It was as though God had opened doors for both of us to allow us to be together. We were married on Oct. 29 of this year."

Vera was born in Houston, lived with her family in several cities and came to Columbus in 2020 from Columbus, Indiana. "I went to World Youth Day in 2016 in Poland. The big deal for me then was just being able to go to Europe for something that just happened to be a Church event," she said.

"But when the Lord comes, he comes powerfully. His presence there was so overwhelming that I knew when I went back, I wanted to be involved with the Church in some way. I did youth ministry in Indiana, spent a year with the Franciscan Friars in New York, then came back home when COVID hit.

"While I was back in Indiana, I saw an ad on the CatholicJobs.com employment site for an open position in Columbus that seemed like a great fit for me, so I applied for it, was hired and started here at Christ the King and St. Thomas."

Saucedo grew up as a member of St. Stephen Church, where the Missionary Sisters, Servants of the Word have served the Latino community for the past 11 years.

"I went to World Youth Day in Panama in 2019 with the sisters," she said. "I had taken part in a vocations discernment retreat with them earlier, and in Panama I said 'Yes' to the call to work for the Church.

"I was especially impressed when Pope Francis said in Panama that 'you are pilgrims for your whole life.' I came back home from Panama, finished college and worked for Chase Bank for a while but left that job and am discerning what the next phase of my life should be.

"It's so important for the Church to engage Hispanic young people, especially because of the decrease in vocations to the priesthood. My World Youth Day experience made me on fire for Jesus, and I'm ready to find out where the next one may lead me."

Mendoza said the total cost for the group's pilgrimage to Lisbon, which also will include visits to the site of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima and to other holy places, will be slightly more than \$90,000 – about \$4,300 per person. The 21 pilgrims have applied for a \$9,000 grant from The Catholic Foundation and, in addition to visiting parishes, will be hosting a fundraising gala on Saturday, Feb. 18 at Columbus St. Catharine Church.

The Office for Hispanic Ministry also will sponsor a Guadalupe Youth Summit on March 9 for all Latino high school students. More details on that event will be announced.

To donate to the pilgrimage or to learn more about the youth summit, contact Mendoza at (614) 221-7992 or lmendoza@columbuscatholic.org.

HIS
NAME
SHALL
BE

MUSIC MINISTRY CONCERT
Friday, December 16
7:30pm
Free Admission



CHURCH OF THE
RESURRECTION
6300 East Dublin-Granville Rd
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www.cotrna.org

Father Arroyo says choosing Theatines was a successful risk

By Tim Puet

For The Catholic Times

Becoming a member of the Theatine Fathers was risky business for Father David Arroyo, CR. He had no doubt that God wanted him to be a priest, for he felt that call from a young age. The challenge was in the choice he made.

"I grew up in Torreon, a community of about 735,000 people in the Mexican state of Coahuila, which borders the United States," Father Arroyo said. "I was a seminarian studying for the diocesan priesthood and felt good about it. I knew that as a priest in Mexico, I would be respected, serve a parish and live a relatively comfortable life.

"But inside, I couldn't help but feel that if that was how I perceived my calling, I would be missing something. Then one day, someone asked, 'What if God is calling me to be a missionary?' That sparked something in me. It opened my eyes, and I began seeing more of the needs of poor children and of people who had migrated to Torreon from elsewhere in South and Central America.

"I realized being a missionary would be a great risk and get me out of my comfort zone, but it was a risk I was prepared to take. Then a friend who is a Theatine invited me to spend some time with him in Colorado, where the Theatines had their only mission in the United States.

"Seeing what his order was doing there made me want to be a Theatine, so I abandoned my plans of being a diocesan priest and joined the order. And now, my Theatine friend is back in Torreon, where I had been."

Father Arroyo grew up as the youngest child in a family that included one brother and six sisters. His parents, the late Victor and Amelia Arroyo, were teachers in the Mexican equivalent of high school.

"They came to Torreon, which is in

ANSWERING GOD'S CALL

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



Father David Arroyo, CR

Photo courtesy Chancery Office

northern Mexico, from the south of Mexico, where the practice of the faith is very different," he said. "While the Church's role is very obvious in the south, it's kind of quiet in the north. My family didn't want to lose the faith, so they made sure to send all eight of us children to Catholic school.

"I started as an altar server at about 5 years old and began feeling even then that God wanted me to be a priest. That feeling grew all through elementary school, so when I graduated from there, I started attending high school in the Torreon diocesan seminary."

After completing college with a Bachelor of Arts degree from the seminary, Father Arroyo was sent to the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome in 2018 to earn a licentiate in sacred theology. He remained in Rome for a while because of

the COVID pandemic after completing his studies there, then was ordained in Mexico on July 16, 2021 by Bishop Juan Munoz of Guadalajara.

He served in Guadalajara for a year, then came this past July with two other Theatines – Father Victor Mendez, CR, and Father Salvador Cisneros, CR – to live at Columbus Christ the King Church and serve the Latino Catholic community throughout the Diocese of Columbus.

They join Father Tomas Carvahal, CR, who has been parochial vicar at Dover St. Joseph Church since July 2021. The four are the first Theatines to serve outside the Archdiocese of Denver and the Diocese of Pueblo in Colorado since the order left New York more than 100 years ago.

The order, officially known as the Congregation of Clerics Regular, was founded in 1524 by four men including St. Cajetan and Archbishop Giovanni Pietro Carafa of Theate, Italy, the city from which the order derives its unofficial name. The archbishop later became Pope Paul IV.

As of 2020, the Theatines had 161 members, of whom 124 are priests. They serve in the United States, Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, the Netherlands and Spain. "Our duty is to be a light and example of priestly life. Any mission, occupation or priestly ministry is our mission as well. Charity is what drives all of our actions," the order's website says. Its motto is "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be given to you as well." (Matthew 6:33)

"We are a relatively small order but one with much diversity in where we serve, and we do much work with young people. Being in Ohio adds to our diversity," Father Arroyo said.

The three Theatines at Christ the King, where Father David Schalk, diocesan vicar for Hispanic ministry, is pastor,

are doing most of their work outside that parish. They help at Columbus St. Thomas the Apostle, St. Peter, St. Mary, Mother of God, St. Stephen the Martyr and St. Agnes churches and Newark Blessed Sacrament church throughout the week and make the 200-mile round trip to Portsmouth Holy Redeemer and St. Mary churches for weekend Masses.

"Father Schalk coordinates us," Father Arroyo said. "If he needs something done, we go where the need is. We are a three-priest team rotating among parishes with large Latino populations. Our assignment is to do this work for one year, then we will see what happens."

Father Arroyo also serves as chaplain of Cristo Rey Columbus High School and is a teacher in the Pontifical College Josephinum's school of theology. "My duty is to teach faith-related subjects, but to me it's just as important to serve in an unofficial way as a teacher of the culture of the faith, especially the one in which I grew up," he said.

"In my short time in Ohio, I've found a real hunger for God among students and adults, as well as great gratitude for what they have and for we priests who have come from elsewhere as missionaries to serve them.

"I hope I can be like St. Cajetan, our order's co-founder," Father Arroyo said. "He had a pretty easy job, working as a priest who was a lawyer for the Roman Curia. But he felt it wasn't enough. He felt the Church needed reform, so he and his three friends took a big risk and founded a new order that set an outstanding example in its time. Priests today are risk-takers in the same way as they challenge the prevailing way of thinking.

"To those wondering where we are headed, I respond with my favorite Scripture verse, John 6:68. That is where Simon Peter says to Jesus, 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.'"

Parishes to celebrate Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas, is Monday, Dec. 12. Several parishes in the Diocese of Columbus will celebrate the feast with special events on that day or on Saturday, Dec. 10 or Sunday, Dec. 11.

Following is a list of activities planned for the feast by diocesan parishes:

Columbus Parroquia Santa Cruz – Procession starting at the COTA Park and Ride stop, 4939 N. High St., traveling 3.9 miles down N. High and E. Patterson Avenue to Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson, 8 a.m. Dec. 11, with Mass on procession's arrival at church; rosary, 7 p.m. Dec. 12, followed by Mass at 7:30.

Columbus Christ the King – *Mananitas* ("Happy Birthday" serenades to Mary in Spanish), 10 p.m. to midnight Dec 11; Mass, 7 p.m. Dec. 12.

Columbus Holy Spirit – Mass, 1:15 p.m. Dec. 12.

Columbus St. Cecilia – Mass in Spanish, 7 p.m. Dec. 12.

Columbus St. James the Less – *Mananitas*, 11 p.m. Dec. 11 to 1 a.m. Dec. 12; Mass and procession, followed by gathering in cafeteria, 5 to 10 p.m. Dec. 12.

Columbus St. Mary German Village – Masses, 8:30 and 6 p.m. (preceded by 5:30 p.m. Eucharistic procession and followed by reception) Dec. 12.

Columbus St. Peter – Dinner and dancing, 6:30 to 10 p.m. Dec. 11, followed by play at 10, performance by Dance Guadalupana at 11, rosary at 11:30 and *Mananitas* at midnight. Mass in English, 8:30 a.m. Dec. 12; rosary, 6:30 p.m. Dec. 12, followed by Mass at

7:30, procession and dance at 8:30; Posadas (re-enactments of Mary and Joseph's attempt to find shelter in Bethlehem), 7 p.m. nightly from Wednesday, Dec. 14 to Saturday, Dec. 24, church Blue Room.

Columbus St. Stephen the Martyr – Procession, 8:30 a.m. Dec. 11, beginning in upper parking lot, with Mass following; Mass, 8:30 a.m. (English), 7 p.m. (Spanish) Dec. 12.

Columbus St. Thomas the Apostle – *Mananitas*, 10 p.m. to midnight Dec. 11; Mass, 7 p.m. Dec. 12.

Delaware St. Mary – Mass in Spanish, 7 p.m. Dec. 12, followed by reception.

Dover St. Joseph – Vigil, 9 p.m. Dec. 11 to 5 a.m. Dec. 12; *Mananitas*, 5 a.m. Dec. 12, followed by Mass at 6 and traditional breakfast; Posadas, 8 p.m. Friday,

Dec. 16 to Saturday, Dec. 24.

Kenton Immaculate Conception – Mass, 7 p.m. Dec. 11, preceded by rosary at 6:15 and followed by dinner.

Lancaster St. Mark – Mass, 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, followed by celebration.

Marion St. Mary – *Mananitas*, 5:30 a.m. Dec. 12; Mass in English, 8:30 a.m. Dec. 12; Mass in Spanish celebrated by Bishop Earl Fernandes, 7 p.m. Dec. 12

Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul – Mass in Spanish with schoolchildren as readers, 12:15 p.m. Dec. 12.

Newark Blessed Sacrament – Mass in Spanish, 6 p.m. Dec. 12, followed by reception.

Portsmouth Holy Redeemer – *Mananitas*, 5 p.m. Dec. 11, followed by Mass at 6 and dinner.

Coshocton parish celebrates with 'Week of Grace'

Coshocton Sacred Heart Church celebrated its 125th anniversary recently with a "Week of Grace" featuring special events and speakers.

The week began with a luncheon that hosted 237 guests and featured a video documentary on the church by local historian Ken Smailes. The parish's anniversary Mass the next day included a homily in which Father Thomas Gardner, the pastor, challenged parishioners to carry Jesus' message outside the church so it can continue to serve the community for another 125 years.

Presentations featuring fellowship time and talks on hope, healing and prayer were given on each of the next three evenings by Rachel Muha, Angel Fox and Dan DeMatte.

Muha spoke about "Finding Radical Forgiveness" in response to the murder of her son Brian, a Franciscan University of Steubenville student, in 1999. Her forgiveness and faith have allowed her to serve countless at-risk youth in Columbus through the Brian Muha Foundation and the Run the Race Club. After her testimony, there was an opportunity for prayer for forgiveness of past wounds.

Fox, speaking on "Healing the Whole Person," focused on her experience of God's loving grace and mercy when she was lost and distressed. Through her healing from Stage 4 cancer, God helped her bring a message of hope to others.

DeMatte, director of missions and advancement at the Damascus Catholic Mission Campus in Knox County, talked about "Embracing Our Mission" and called his audience to follow Jesus in their daily lives as His disciples. The Damascus worship team led an extended time of praise and prayer.

Displays representing parish organizations told the story of their past, highlighted ongoing activities and hinted at plans.

The parish was founded in 1897, but Dominican fathers began visiting Co-



A Mass commemorating Coshocton Sacred Heart Church's 125th anniversary was celebrated in October during a "Week of Grace" that also included presentations from speakers on three consecutive evenings.

Photos courtesy Sacred Heart Church



Father Tom Gardner, pastor at Coshocton Sacred Heart, challenges parishioners during his homily at the anniversary Mass to carry on the parish's tradition of service to the community.



Coshocton Sacred Heart Church's weeklong observance of the parish's 125th anniversary included a luncheon attended by 237 guests.



Displays representing various organizations chronicled some of the history of the parish.

shoctor County in the 1840s. Throughout the next half century, several mission outposts were established, including St. Nicholas Church in Franklin Township, St. Michael in Plainfield, St. Mary in Linton Township, St. Ann in Dresden, St. Elizabeth in Monroe Township, Our Lady of Lourdes in Wills Creek and St.

Rose of Lima in Spring Mountain.

The influence of Irish and German settlers working on the Ohio-Erie Canal fueled the growth of the Catholic community, and, in 1859, a Russian priest, Father Serge de Stchoulepnikoff, oversaw construction of St. George Catholic Church on Third Street, the first Catho-

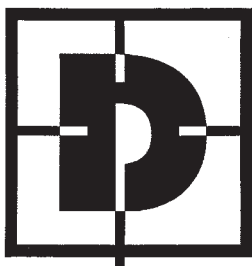
lic Church in Coshocton.

The parish eventually outgrew that building, and the cornerstone of Sacred Heart Catholic Church was laid on Oct. 10, 1897, by Father Walter Ross. The church was dedicated on July 17, 1898.

Sacred Heart has been part of the fab-

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WORSHIP, continued from Page 3

Gold Mass for diocesan musicians celebrated by Bishop Fernandes at the cathedral, bringing together directors and musicians from diocesan parishes to form a choir that accompanied the liturgy with sacred music.

Also an accomplished composer and arranger for the organ, Fitzgerald has been involved with sacred music for most of his music career. He held positions as assistant and associate director of music at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., from 2003 to 2014 and has presented workshops to a

number of organizations, including the Conference of Roman Catholic Cathedral Musicians.

Fitzgerald received his master's and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in organ performance from the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore and a bachelor of music in sacred music from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey.

"I'm looking forward to embracing this new role," Fitzgerald said, "and I plan to reach out to diocesan musicians and provide resources."

Opening our treasures before the Lord

By Sister John Paul Maher, OP

It can be imagined that the Lord loves new things. “Behold, I make all things new” are words from the book of Revelation that speak to us of His eternal, life-giving presence. (Revelation 21:5)

The Son must take great delight in all that the Father makes new, which we see in every day, in every child and in every new heart that turns to the Lord.

In Advent, our hearts, shaped by the liturgy, take on a sense of anticipation and hope in waiting for the Lord. While we enter into a kind of expectation for the Lord’s coming, we also have a raised awareness that more is expected of us. We are called to be made ready, to be made newer, in our heart and interior life, before we see the newborn King.

Matthew’s account of the wisemen’s reaction after “they saw the child with Mary his mother,” says “they fell down and worshipped him ... opening their treasures” before Jesus. (Matthew 2:11) Like the first worshippers of Jesus, we are called to open our treasures and lay them at the feet of Emmanuel, in the company of Mary.

As disciples of Christ, we know that following Jesus involves surrender. Each of us receives the Gospel invitation to leave all things, which includes setting aside anything that separates us from God, including disordered attachments to the things and ways of this world.

We are called to move from habits in the shadows

to an integrated life immersed in the light of God’s truth and freedom. As we reflect on what we can bring more fully to the Lord, perhaps we can also give our gifts and talents?

Advent is a good time to reflect in prayer on our treasures. What would Jesus most love to receive from us as a gift? What treasures haven’t we opened before him?

Perhaps we need the grace to give the treasure of our trust, our vocation or our future to the Lord?

Our needs, obstacles to grace and the challenges of daily life can become a gift that we give to the Lord. We can surrender them to His care and mercy. We can ask Him to help us by giving us His grace and removing everything that keeps us from handing over the treasure of our lives to Him.

Is there something distracting us or holding us back from union with God and His Church? Maybe there is a friendship that has not yet welcomed Christ within it? Perhaps there is a sorrow or desire in our heart that needs the deep consolation of Christ, supported by the gift of true friends? Our turning to Jesus is itself a treasure to Him, especially when we turn with trust to ask Him for what we need.

He wants to bring us consolation and accompany us as we face difficulties and carry crosses. This is the desire of His Sacred Heart that becomes visible to us at Christmas.

As Catholics, the mystery of the Incarnation, celebrated at Christmas, should have a year-round impact

on our lives and worldview. The Lord comes to us, to make us a new creation and to restore us as children of the Father. Through God’s grace, we become newly fashioned treasures and beautiful gifts.

This is one reason the Angelus prayer is an important means of conveying a spiritual reality to internalize in our daily life. Traditionally recited in the morning, at noon and in the evening, the Angelus reminds us that the Word became flesh and dwelt among us so we would personally encounter the redeeming love of Jesus.

Just as the Angelus reminds us of our call to imitate Mary’s readiness to welcome the Lord, the Advent season is an encouragement to prepare the way for the Lord and make our paths straight.

When we give our consent to the Lord and welcome His presence interiorly, we are transformed. This is especially true when we come before His Eucharistic presence and worship Him. It is also true when we go to Him in confession, laying before Him all that needs healing and forgiveness.

We rejoice because Jesus is ready to receive us as treasures, along with any offerings we place at His feet.

This Advent, let us join the wisemen in journeying to the Infant King, ready to offer Him the gift of ourselves and treasuring Him in our hearts.

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

Evangelizing can offer gentle instruction about Church

“Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ.” – St. Jerome

Previously I wrote about the “lie” – deceit in general – and I proposed that it is a chief impediment to the virtuous, and thus happy, life.

Many of us have heard the above quote from St. Jerome. Now, I would like to address ignorance and how it plays a role in mitigating the impacts of the “lie” and finally, our conscience where it all comes together to decide the path we want to go.

Ignorance is an effect of original sin. (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, CCC, 405*)

An example of ignorance cited in the Bible is shortly after Pentecost in Acts Chapter 3 where Peter addresses the people in Solomon’s Portico. After telling the folks they “killed the Author of life,” he said, “And now, brethren, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers.” (Verse 17)

What Peter is saying is those who rejected and crucified Christ would not have done so if they had understood Who He really is. This parallels Christ’s words from the cross: “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” (Luke 23:34)

Ignorance is not fatal. “I (Paul) was once a blas-

COSHOCTON, continued from Page 6

phemer and a persecutor and an arrogant man, but I have been mercifully treated because I acted out of ignorance in my unbelief.” (1 Timothy 1:13)

“And that servant who knew his master’s will, but did not make ready or act according to his will, shall receive a severe beating. But he who did not know, and did what deserved a beating, shall receive a light beating.” (Luke 12:47-48)

“(I)gnorance can often be imputed to personal responsibility. This is the case when a man ‘takes little trouble to find out what is true and good.’ ... In such cases, the person is culpable for their ignorance. ... If – on the contrary – the ignorance is invincible (no reasonable expectation of knowledge) or the moral subject is not responsible for his erroneous judgment, the evil committed by the person cannot be imputed to him. It remains no less an evil, a privation, a disorder. One must therefore work to correct the errors of moral conscience.” (*CCC 1791/1793*)

I have read many stories about conversion to Catholicism. They usually fall into two categories – those whose faith mirrors the parable of the sower or those who had some level of invincible ignorance of Catholicism and were open to the movement of the Holy Spirit.

Instructing the ignorant is one of our spiritual works of mercy. (*CCC 2447*) St. Paul says, “But we would not have you ignorant, brethren, concerning those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who

AQUINAS CORNER

Richard Arnold

Richard Arnold, a parishioner at Chillicothe St. Mary, holds an MA in Catechetics and Evangelization from Franciscan University of Steubenville and is a husband and a father to two children.



have not hope.” (1 Thessalonians 4:13)

Experience has shown instructing the ignorant is not a one shape or size fits all. What it boils down to in our modern language is “evangelization.” This term has been batted around more times than a tennis ball, yet it seems people want to hold it at arm’s length.

“Always be prepared to make a defense to anyone who calls you to account for the hope that is in you yet do it with gentleness and reverence.” (1 Peter 3:15)

Another term that is equally applicable (and more appropriate in many instances) yet is even more radioactive to Catholics is “apologetics.” Catholics will sometimes confuse this with “proselytize,” which is frowned upon.

Apologetics is more akin to explaining the office of pope to a Protestant as opposed to citing John 3:16 to somebody who doesn’t know much about Jesus Christ. The adept homilist will combine catechesis with apologetics.

Like most things in life, you need practice and patience. To share the Good News (instruct the ignorant), you must dust off the spiritual gifts you’ve received with your baptism. (While you are at it, dust off your Holy Bible and Catechism.) If you haven’t been confirmed, you are seriously handicapped in what God wants you to do.

Truth. Lies. Ignorance. Where this all comes together is the conscience.

“Conscience is man’s most secret core, and his sanctuary. There he is alone with God whose voice echoes in his depths.” (*Gaudium et spes 16*).

“A well-formed conscience is upright and truthful. It formulates its judgments according to reason, in conformity with the true good willed by the wisdom of the Creator. Everyone must avail himself of the means to form his conscience.” (*CCC 1798*)

Jesus is eager to be our holiday guest

As I write this column, we are deep in the Thanksgiving weekend, headed to the first Sunday of Advent and a new liturgical year.

During the past few weeks, we have made many preparations. We have spruced up the house for guests, bought festive foods, prepared family favorites for the Thanksgiving dinner and added those special touches that make our invited friends and family know how grateful we are to have them in our lives.

We have lived with a sense of expectancy about the thrill of being together. We have found ways to give thanks to God for all the blessings He has so richly bestowed on us. And we have rested in the presence of those we love amid service opportunities, athletic contests and Wildlights.

Somewhere along the way in the preparation process, I heard my Sirius XM radio play an old Paul McCartney song, *Let 'Em In*. The lyrics go like this: "Someone's knocking at the door, somebody's ringing the bell. Do me a favor. Open the door and let 'em in." It seemed like the iconic Thanksgiving dinner song as I thought about all the relatives who would be coming to spend time with us during the long weekend.

But as I was going to bed on Friday evening, my thoughts shifted as I looked at the print of a painting that hangs on the wall of our bedroom. It is titled *The Light of the World*, painted by William Holman Hunt in 1904, the original of which was St. Paul's Cathedral in London.

Inspired by the verse from St. John's Gospel, "I am

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.



the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life," the painting depicts Jesus radiant and holding a lantern, knocking at a door with no handle, rusty hinges and surrounded by overgrowth.

It is clear that the door has not been opened for a long time. On the frame of the painting are inscribed the words "Behold I stand at the door and knock. If any man hear my voice and open the door I will come in to him and will sup with him and he with me."

Advent, like the pre-Thanksgiving time, is a time of preparation and waiting with expectancy. We associate the Advent season with waiting for Christmas. And so we are, but more. We are waiting to celebrate God's intervention in human history by becoming human to open a pathway home. This was a route that had been closed since Adam and Eve's sin had separated humans from God.

We are waiting to celebrate the coming of Emmanuel, "God with us," and the opportunity to be in communion with Him, here, now and forever. The first three weeks of Advent focus on Jesus' coming in

glory at the end of the age, to gather those who have recognized Him in the distressing disguise of the hungry and thirsty, the sick and those in bondage and to bring them home.

So, we might ask the same question that people asked John the Baptist before Jesus' first coming, "What are we to do?" The answer is the same. Turn your life around and show evidence of your repentance. Share what you have with those in need. Be in right relationship with those around you. Spend time preparing for His coming, just as you did for your Thanksgiving guests.

The King of the Universe, who loves and cares for you, is knocking at the door. Open the door and let 'em in.



The Light of the World, painted by William Holman Hunt in 1904, was inspired by a verse from St. John's Gospel.

Photo courtesy Mark Huddy

Genocide in Ukraine?

Memo to both newly elected members of Congress like J.D. Vance and incumbents like Josh Hawley and Kevin McCarthy: It's time to stop sloganeering ("America First!" "No blank checks for Ukraine!") and get serious about what is happening in eastern Europe.

A good place to start would be to revisit the 1948 Genocide Convention. That treaty, to which the United States is an accessory, defined "genocide" as "any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such: (a) killing members of the group; (b) causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; (c) deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; (d) imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group; (e) forcibly transferring children of the group to another group."

Yale historian Timothy Snyder thinks that, measured by the criteria of the Genocide Convention (to which Russia is a party), the Russian war in Ukraine is genocidal. That judgment is shared by the leaders of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, who have tried to explain Ukraine's situation to Pope Francis in precisely those terms. In a recent lecture, Professor Snyder amplified the case for charging Russia with genocide by identifying additional "markers" of genocidal intent and activity, drawn from his study of genocidal aggressions over the past several centuries. Those "markers" include denying the statehood of the people a colonizer wants to control; declaring that a historic people or nation is neither; denying the humanity of others; refusing to admit that one has previously committed genocide against a certain population; propagating "replacement" theories claiming that "others

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

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



are taking our space so we're going to take it back;" and overloading the world's conceptual circuitry by committing so many acts of cruelty that those not directly affected, stunned, ask whether what's going on is really "genocide."

In addition to meeting the Genocide Convention's criteria, how does the Russian war in Ukraine exemplify Professor Snyder's further "markers" of genocidal intention and action?

Denial of statehood and nationhood. Russian President Vladimir Putin, whose claims have been buttressed by a false religious history propagated by high authorities of the Russian Orthodox Church, has been denying that Ukrainians are a real nation, and that Ukraine is a genuine state, since at least 2011. The Russian dictator has continued that prevarication ever since, not least while occupying (and now claiming to have annexed) large swaths of eastern Ukraine. Putin also used overtly genocidal language in the days immediately before launching his invasion on February 24.

Dehumanization and demonization. Putin's excuse for invading a peaceful, non-threatening neighbor was that it was a fascist non-state ruled by "Nazis." Russian propaganda during the war has continually described Ukrainians as demonically possessed or satanic — and therefore an affront to the Christian nationalism that Putin grotesquely claims as the justification for his regime and its actions.

Displacement/Replacement. Putin and his propaganda machine have declared that the rightful inhabi-

tants of the territory that is now Ukraine are Russians, subjected to servitude by an international conspiracy that manipulates Ukraine's pseudo-leaders. If the usurpers can be exterminated, right order will be restored. This foul line of argument has been a staple feature of televised Russian propaganda, even as more than 100,000 Ukrainian children have been taken to Russia to be "Russified."

Denial of Previous Genocidal Acts. Putin's Russia continues to deny that Stalin's Soviet Union conducted a program of mass starvation in Ukraine in 1932-33, calling that politically motivated genocide, which killed at least three million people, a "natural disaster." Today's Russian attempt to cut off water, electrical power and food in Ukraine cannot help but recall the bestiality of the Stalinist terror-famine known as the Holodomor.

Dulling Sensibilities and Consciences by Constant Prevarication About Mass Murder. International investigative bodies have confirmed genocidal Russian atrocities in Ukraine. Yet the constant denial of these realities by Russian propagandists, and by Russian foreign minister Sergey Lavrov, may have dulled the world's sensibilities — as they were dulled in the Balkans and Rwanda in the 1990s; as they are being dulled today in the face of China's genocide of the Uyghurs.

Professor Snyder's 20-minute lecture is available on YouTube: "Timothy Snyder: 6 Steps to Prove Russian Genocide in Ukraine." (Link for editors: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5wUWN2am8QI>) It is required viewing for any member of the U.S. House of Representatives or Senate who wishes to enter the Ukraine debate in an empirically informed and morally serious way.

Bishop concelebrates Gold Mass for musicians

A Gold Mass for musicians was celebrated Friday, Nov. 18 by Bishop Earl Fernandes at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, bringing together directors and individuals involved in music ministry at parishes throughout the diocese to perform together as a choir.

Concelebrants included Father Bob Kitsmiller, the cathedral's rector, and Father Tyron Tomson, pastor at Lancaster St. Bernadette and Bremen St. Mary churches. St. Bernadette parishioners assisted as lectors, servers, ushers and greeters.

The choir was led by Dr. Richard Fitzgerald, director of music and organist at the cathedral. Amanda Renee Mole, principal organist and assistant director of music at the cathedral; Dr. Nicole Simental, interim director of music at the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center; and Robert Wisniewski from Powell St. Joan of Arc Church were the organists.

Parishes musicians who made up the choir came from the cathedral; Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, St. Leo Oratory, Newman Center, St. Mary German Village, St. Margaret of Cortona, St. Christopher, St. Patrick, Holy Family and St. Catharine; Lancaster St. Mark and the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption; Powell St. Joan of Arc; Westerville St. Paul; Sugar Grove St. Mary; and Groveport St. Mary.

Also joining the choir were a brass quintet, timpanist Julia Licata and flutist Karen Gallant.

Fitzgerald hopes the Mass will be offered annually as a prayer and as encouragement for those throughout the diocese who participate in the arts as church musicians both professionally and as volunteers.

The Gold Mass might not be as well known as other Masses honoring professionals in various careers. In the diocese each year, there is a Blue Mass for police, fire and emergency personnel; a White Mass for medical and health-care professionals; and a Red Mass for all who work in the legal field.

This tradition dates to 1245 when a Red Mass was celebrated in Paris for lawyers and jurists. Similar Masses for selected professions followed in later years.

The names for the various Masses are derived from the color of vestments (red), officers' uniforms (blue) and medical office and lab coats (white).

Gold for the musicians' Mass symbolizes the color of brass instruments and also is associated with special liturgies in the Church when gold vestments are worn at Christmas and Easter to accompany white.

"This Gold Mass celebrates the gifts and talents in the praise and worship of



(Left photo) Dr. Richard Fitzgerald directs the Gold Mass choir made up of musicians from parishes in the diocese at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on Friday, Nov. 18. (Right photo) Singers from 16 churches formed the choir that accompanied the Mass with sacred hymns and chants. *CT photos by Ken Snow*

Almighty God, of those who are musicians and vocalists," Bishop Fernandes said in his homily.

"For the most part, the Roman rite and the other Eastern rites of the Catholic Church did not have hymns initially. They simply sang antiphons and psalms. But in the Mozarabic rite, and later in the Ambrosian rite as well, we have hymns which capture the beauty of our faith. ...

"Not the modern hymns that are somewhat peppy, somewhat theologically erroneous. No, true hymns which were written to help simple people understand the faith and praise God with their voices.

"One does not need to know how to read and write in order to praise God with the voice. Just ask little children who sing so many great and beautiful hymns in church. No, hymnody as well as chanting captures the drama of our story."

Mole's Prelude and Fugue in E-flat Major by Johann Sebastian Bach on organ preceded the Mass. The Gloria, Memorial Acclamation and Amen were taken from the Mass in Honor of St. Benedict and the Agnus Dei in Latin from Missa Quinti Toni by Orlando di Lasso.

The Introit and Communio, composed by Gregorian chant expert Father Columba Kelly, OSB, were sung by the choir, as was the Thanksgiving prayer Exsultate Justi in Domino by Lodovico Grossi da Viadana.

During the Communion procession, Wisniewski played Nun bitten wir den heiligen Geist (We pray now to the Holy Spirit) by Dietrich Buxtehude on organ and was joined on flute by Gallant for Siciliano from Sonata in E-flat Major by Bach.

Mole's organ postlude Carillon de Westminster (Op. 54, No. 6) by Louis Vierne ended the evening.

"There are many songs we can sing

with our lips, but the most important one is the song we sing with our soul," Bishop Fernandes reminded the faithful earlier in his homily. "Is it a beautiful song? Could it be one? One that offers praise to our God, for all of creation.

"A song which shows true adoration, to recognize that He is God and we are not, but He is worthy of our worship. A song that constantly cries out with the soul, 'Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison,' begging for mercy and forgiveness. Or a song which sings the praises of our

God in thanksgiving for all the many blessings we have received. ...

"We must think about the great good that God has called us to do. And so, our song, in the end, is not the Dies Irae, but the Alleluia. God is with us, and may His praises be sung now and in eternity. Amen, Alleluia."

The Gold Mass at the cathedral was celebrated ahead of the feast of St. Cecilia, the patroness of musicians, which was observed on Tuesday, Nov. 22.

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DAY 9 | 12/23
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CONCELEBRATED MASS PRESIDED BY:
MOST REVEREND BISHOP EARL FERNANDES,
DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS, OHIO
CONCELEBRANT: FATHER RAMON OWERA

MAKING ROOM IN THE INN: *Fostering, adopting vulnerable children*

“And whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me.” – Matthew 18:5

Stephanie Baird remembers when she first felt called to become a foster mother. A nurse, she had assisted in the delivery of yet another child born exposed to heroin and experiencing symptoms of withdrawal.

She knew from experience that this child would likely go into foster care while the mother was sent to rehab to get her life on track so she could raise her baby. But addictions are hard to break, and many mothers in this situation lack strong support systems. As a result, many mothers can't break the cycle of addiction so they can get their children back.

When a baby is born exposed to drugs, a social worker is called to determine if Children Services needs to become involved. If so, the child is placed with a foster family and may eventually become available for adoption. Although Stephanie and her husband, Joseph, parishioners at Columbus Immaculate Conception Church in the Clintonville neighborhood, both had jobs and three children at home, Stephanie thought, “Who is going to help this little one? We have room in our home for another child.”

Currently, the United States faces an extreme shortage of foster families, according to statistics cited on the Focus on the Family website. Across the country, more than 400,000 children are in foster care. Each year, more than 250,000 children enter the U.S. child welfare system, and more than 23,000 children age out of foster care when they turn 18. Statistics provided by the organization Promise686 reveal bleak futures for many children in foster care:

- 70% of human trafficking victims in the U.S. spent time in foster care.
- In several states, 65% of imprisoned inmates had aged out of foster care.
- 2 million 18- to 24-year-olds, many of whom spent time in foster care, are homeless in the U.S.
- 71% of young women become pregnant within one year of aging out of foster care.

In the 23 counties of the Diocese of Columbus, 7,097 children are in foster care and 655 children await adoption, according to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. In Knox County alone, 113 children are in care, and there are only 20 foster families.

According to the National Council for Adoption, more than half of those who become foster families stop fostering

after one year. Fostering is difficult because many children needing care have experienced trauma, neglect and abuse. Regardless of the profound difficulties such children might have endured in their family homes, these youngsters are often further traumatized by being removed from their birth families, leaving behind all that is familiar, including friends and sometimes siblings if they are unable to be placed together.

When Stephanie told her husband, Joe, that she wanted their family to start fostering children, he was against the idea. Joe said he felt busy enough and did not think they could take on more children.

Although he was always open to helping in the community and going to church on Sundays, he thought he was doing enough. “No way was I giving up my extra social, family and weekend time to take on more responsibility,” he said.

After multiple conversations with Stephanie, however, he “begrudgingly” agreed to attend one training class to see what fostering was about. In that class, the instructor showed a short documentary about foster care. In one scene, a man said, “Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.” (Matthew 10:39)

“At that moment, hearing those words,” Joe said, “I knew I was being called to do more.”

Reimagining foster care

Stephanie and Joseph started taking classes at the Bair Foundation to become certified foster parents, which included completing a home study, submitting references, background checks, a fire inspection, home safety check, and 24 hours of pre-placement training. Not knowing anything about caring for a child who had experienced trauma, they were relieved to receive comprehensive training through their foster care agency.

Soon after completing their certification, they welcomed a 7-month-old baby boy, Deon, into their home. After some time, the agency found a kinship placement for Deon when a family member adopted him. Deon, who had stayed with the Bairds for a year, had become part of the family, and the Bairds welcomed his new parents into their family as well.

Deon's adoptive mother, Kathy, said, “Who would have ever known in the beginning that God loved Deon so much that His love could cause two families



Gianna, the daughter of Joe and Stephanie Baird of Columbus Immaculate Conception Church, is pictured at 18 months old after her adoption. Gianna is now age 2.

Photo courtesy Baird family

from different cultural backgrounds to unite and become one big family in Christ to help raise this precious gift He has bestowed among us? Deon has been a blessing to both of our families.”

Deon was recently baptized, along with the Bairds' newly adopted daughter, Gianna, and Deon's parents asked Stephanie and Joseph to be his godparents. “Deon would not be the happy little boy he is today without the love and care that Stephanie, Joe and their children have given to him while he was most in need,” Kathy said. “They have become our family, too.”

The Baird family's experience is not unique. Fostering is considered a mission to love not only vulnerable children but also their hurting families. There can be situations where children go back to their parents and then return to care. When a foster family can connect and even partner with a child's birth family, they can better support and care for the child and his or her family through life's ups and downs.

During the past four years, the Bairds have fostered several more children and were overjoyed to adopt their 2-year-old daughter who has been with them since birth. “Opening our hearts to foster and adopt has brought us the greatest joy,” Stephanie said.

“Every child is a gift and a true blessing. It was our faith that led us to the decision to look into fostering. When we started taking classes, we didn't realize that many children are not able to reunify with family and therefore need a permanent home. We went into fostering knowing that God would lead us on the path that He intended, and that whatever situation we were given was meant to be.”

Joe agreed. “Fostering has given my life a purpose and opportunity to make a difference I otherwise would have never had. I am very thankful our family has chosen this path. It's been a blessing for all of us.”

Fostering, hoping to adopt

Kristina Keiffer, a parishioner at Columbus St. Catharine Church, and her husband, PJ, had frequently discussed the possibility of adoption, but after hearing a homily from Father Thomas Blau, OP from Columbus St. Patrick Church and then seeing a billboard with the number of children in foster care in Franklin County, they felt called to look into fostering.

Like Joe, PJ was hesitant to add more to their busy lives, which included four biological children. But after much prayer, they began taking classes where

St. Vincent Center looking for foster families

By Tim Puet

For The Catholic Times

More than 16,000 children are part of Ohio's foster care system – a number that has increased nearly 30 percent since 2011, according to a fact sheet from Gov. Mike DeWine's Ohio Children's Initiative. But the state has only about 7,200 families licensed to serve them. In the United States, a child is removed from his or her home every two minutes and placed into foster care.

St. Vincent Family Services of Columbus is looking for families and single people of all ages who feel a calling to be foster parents for children who need the nurturing, security and love a family can provide while the children wait for their own families to settle stressful economic, behavioral or other situations.

St. Vincent Family Services began offering foster care in 2013 as the most recent addition to the help it has provided to children from its family center at Kelton Avenue and Main Street on Columbus' east side since 1875, when it was founded as an orphanage by religious sisters. It served its original purpose for nearly 100 years, and in the past half-century has evolved into a residential and daytime behavioral health treatment center for children and young people.

Its 24-hour, seven-day-a-week residential program includes children from across central Ohio and sometimes from other parts of the state. The impact of that program led nine years ago to the center's decision to offer people the chance to be foster parents.

"Some families from distant areas of Ohio who had children in the residential program did not want to take them back. We had a need for people who would accept those children and provide an environment favorable to them," said The-

resa Van Dootingh, program director for foster care at St. Vincent. She has been at the center for about a year and has spent about five years in social service work with Franklin County Children Services (FCCS), Nationwide Children's Hospital and other institutions.

"Adding foster care became a natural extension of the residential program and the many other ways we try to help families build bright futures by increasing positive behaviors in children and strengthening family relationships," she said.

"We currently are the sponsoring agency for 27 foster children who are living in 28 homes," Van Dootingh said.

"We know from our contacts with other agencies dealing with children that we could place many more children if we had more foster parents available, especially in Licking and Fairfield counties and other parts of central Ohio beyond Franklin County. We're trying to expand our reach to serve more children in those areas. Having foster parents there would be a great help."

She said one of the advantages for foster parents aided by St. Vincent is that because the center works with children all day through its residential program, there's always a trained professional on-site to help parents deal with unexpected situations.

"We offer an intimate, family-centered approach to supporting foster parents," she said. "We are by their side every step of the way. Our foster parents are provided with expert training, one-on-one coaching and access to all of our emotional health services and a staff of more than 150 pediatric behavioral health specialists who offer the support needed to foster a child."

Anyone interested in becoming a foster parent through St. Vincent can start by applying at its website or calling the center. Prospective foster parents are sent an information packet, and an informational session is scheduled at their

convenience. Anyone 18 or older, single or married, may apply. Van Dootingh said St. Vincent's current foster parents range in age from their 20s to their 70s.

The next step is attendance at 24 hours of parent training classes. A set of classes is to begin in January 2023 after a pause for the holiday season. The classes clarify the expectations, responsibilities, challenges and rewards of foster parenting.

Families also must undergo a background check and be fingerprinted and complete an assessment that includes three or more home visits from a licensing coordinator. In addition, documentation related to a family's financial ability to care for a child and its residency (a foster family must have lived in Ohio for five years) must be submitted to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, which coordinates the state's foster care programs.

Van Dootingh said it takes from two to 18 months for a prospective foster parent or family to receive state approval. "It all depends how quickly they want to obtain a state license," she said. "Also, it's important to know that the process to become a foster parent is different than for an adoptive parent. Anyone who wants to adopt a child should seek help from another agency."

She said references of children needing foster care must come from FCCS or similar agencies in other counties, or from a foster home. Foster parents can care for as many as five children at a time.

"Those who want to be parents have a strong love for and dedication to the welfare of children," said Sara Russell, community engagement director at St. Vincent. "Another key is patience. Even in cases when children have not been abused or neglected and have been removed from the family for other stress-related reasons, it's traumatic to the child. It's important for foster fami-

lies to know that we and other agencies are here to support them.

"A key is to never give up on a child. An example of that is one of our single parents who currently is taking care of three boys ages 8 to 15 and has worked with several others over a number of years. He was in foster care when he was a child and is a special-education teacher, so he saw the need to help.

"One young man in particular who is in permanent custody of the county was difficult to deal with at first, but this foster parent kept being positive, and now the young man says he doesn't want to be adopted and hopes he can stay with his foster father until he reaches 18," when foster care generally ends. The age limit can be extended to 21 in some cases.

"This man is providing a positive role model and is willing to take teenagers, who sometimes are difficult to place because not all families can take them," Russell said.

Van Dootingh said the hardest children to place in foster homes are those ages 8 to 13 or in sibling groups.

Russell said that because the COVID pandemic added to the stress on many families, "we're seeing the results of that now, with the need to place children in good foster homes becoming perhaps greater than ever.

"The ability to provide temporary help and support and enable families to heal while they work out problems provides a great opportunity for people of faith," she said. "Being able to help the children of today and their children who come after them by ending a cycle of generational trauma can bring benefits now and help an untold number of people in the future."

For more information on St. Vincent Family Services' foster care program, go to its website, www.svfsohio.org or call (614) 743-5856.

FOSTERING, continued from Page 10

they met the Bairds. Kristina was excited to meet another Catholic at the training, and Stephanie and they quickly became friends. "I can't imagine not having Stephanie to encourage me when things were really hard," Kristina said.

Kristina and PJ became foster parents with the goal of adopting, but during the past four years, they have not had the chance to adopt any of the 10 children who have stayed in their home.

They were especially heartbroken to say goodbye to two brothers who had been with them for 2 ½ years and whom they had planned to adopt.

The boys' birth father came back into the picture and was reunited with his sons. The father decided it would be best for the boys not to have contact with the Keiffers while he re-established his connection with his children. However, after a year, the boys' father reached out to



Kimberly and Greg Henkel, parishioners at Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul Church, are a foster and adoptive family with four children.

Photo courtesy Henkel family

start a relationship again.

"We just saw the boys for the second time in two weeks," Kristina said, "and it has been such a joy and comfort to see how well they are doing with their father. We anticipate a new and restored rela-

tionship where we can support and love the boys and their father."

Needing support when fostering

Kristina and PJ believe said that fostering has been the hardest and most beautiful thing they have done in their marriage.

"Our family has really grown in our faith by learning so much about sacrificial love," Kristina said. "We realize the impact our 'yes' can have on God's kingdom." She admits, however, that sometimes fostering can feel like being on an island all alone, even though she trusts that God fulfills His promises and provides the graces they need to continue.

She speaks of the high turnover of foster families who quit after the first year, citing how a lack of support can play a big role. "I think many people would be willing to help, but they just don't know what they can do."

Although the Keiffers are blessed to have supportive friends from St. Catharine, Kristina said it can be difficult to ask for help. She said there were times when she needed assistance but felt reluctant to ask, such as when she needed child care so she could enjoy a day with her husband and biological children, or when she had to miss events because she had to drive her foster children to visits with their birth parents.

Lacking homes for siblings

Kristina said a need exists for foster families to care for sibling groups. The Keiffers currently are fostering two siblings. "Sometimes, we have tough weeks where both children have doctor's appointments, therapy sessions and home visits," she said. "It would be such a blessing to

See FOSTERING, Page 12

Benefits of Mass by missionary priest are far-reaching

By Sister Zephрина Mary, FIH

Director, Diocesan Missions Office

On behalf of missionary priests, I thank all donors who are sending Holy Mass requests/stipends to the Missions Office. We are providing Mass stipends for 41 priests from many countries.

At most of the mission parishes in remote villages, the priests celebrate Holy Mass daily without special Mass intentions or Mass stipends. We receive numerous requests for Mass stipends from many missionary priests. Mass stipends are a critical means of support, helping them with their mission and pastoral needs.

The benefits of a Mass celebrated by a missionary priest are far-reaching. To help spread the Gospel message throughout the world by having a Mass said by a missionary priest for your loved ones and friends, living or deceased, would be great missionary work.

St. Francis Xavier is a patron of the missions, and we celebrate his feast day Dec. 3. While the Church has sent out many missionaries into the world, Francis Xavier is generally considered the greatest after St. Paul. He was known for his long hours of hard work. He loved the poor and sick and showed great joy in their service. He gave his life to bring the Good News to people who had never known Christ.

His ultimate mission was to make known Jesus Christ, and his proclamation was: "He who believes and is baptized shall be saved."

Francis Xavier, born in Navarre, Spain, in 1506, to a noble family, eventually went to Paris to study philosophy. He began a promising academic career and was focused on the things of this world. But Francis' plans changed after he met Ignatius Loyola who guided him into more spiritual interests.

In 1534, Francis Xavier became a founding member of the Society of Jesus (better known as the Jesuits) and was ordained two years later. Within a



Father Vijayakumar Yadala, a parish priest in India, offers a Mass for the intention of a donor who provided a stipend.

few years, he sailed for India with the title of papal nuncio. He spent almost a decade bringing Christ's message to the people of Goa, Malacca and other areas before going to Japan in 1549.

St. Francis Xavier did everything he could to obey Almighty God and help His people, body and soul. He evangelized the people of India. He baptized thousands of them, taught them the Catechism of the Catholic Church and basic prayers. He taught them spiritual and corporal works of mercy. He taught them to pray: "I adore Thee, O God; and I implore Thy help forever."

St. Francis Xavier's letter from India to the Society of Jesus at Rome in 1543, read, "Every Sunday I collected them all, men and women, boys and girls, in the church. They came with great readiness and with a great desire for instruction. Then, in the hearing of all, I began by calling on the name of the most Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, and I recited aloud the Lord's Prayer, the Hail Mary, and the Creed in the language of the country: they all followed me in the same words, and delighted in it wonderfully.

"Then I repeated the Creed by myself, dwelling upon each article singly. Then I asked them as to each article, whether they believed it unhesitatingly; and all, with a loud voice and their hands crossed over their breasts, professed aloud that they truly believed it. I take care to make them repeat the Creed often than the other prayers; and I tell them that those who believe all that is



A priest at a tribal mission parish in Challapalli, India carries the Blessed Sacrament through the church. Photos courtesy diocesan Missions Office

contained therein are called Christians. After explaining the Creed, I go on to the Commandments, teaching them that the Christian law is contained in those ten precepts."

The parish priests of the mission Church continue following the path of St. Francis Xavier, giving witness to Christ through their missionary activities to teach their parishioners how to be true to the Christian faith and the sacraments.

Even though we cannot go to all nations to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we can help missionaries in their work on behalf of the Church. Providing a stipend to have a Mass celebrated by a missionary priest for your loved ones and friends is one way to help.

Your loved ones will receive a beautiful Christmas-themed Mass card, acknowledging your gift.

In fact, you would be doubling your gift, as Mass stipends are a critical means of support in helping missionary priests with their mission and pastoral needs. It is a gift to your loved ones/friends and a gift to the missions.

Visit columbuscatholic.org/missions/request-a-mass-or-dioceseofcolumbus.org/christmas-gift-mass-form-1.

Let our minds and hearts be lifted up by the spirit of prayer and the assistance of St. Francis Xavier. Let us reach and connect more deeply with overseas ministries and across this country. Let us serve the Universal Church joyfully.

St. Francis Xavier, pray for us!

Diocesan collection to aid aging religious

The National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) announced that on Dec. 10-11, the Diocese of Columbus will hold its annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection.

Last year, the parishioners of the diocese donated \$116,136 to the collection.

"The care of our aging religious presents an enormous financial responsibility," said Sister Stephanie Still, NRRO executive director and a member of the Sisters of the Presentation, San Francisco. "It is our privilege to care for those who gave a lifetime of tireless service, and I feel we are deeply blessed by all the U.S. Catholic donors who have steadfastly contributed to this fund."

Historically, Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests – known collectively as women and men religious – served for little to no pay. With rising health-care expenses, hundreds of U.S. religious communities face a large gap between the needs of their older members and the funds available to support their care. As a result, many now lack adequate retirement savings.

The 2021 appeal raised nearly \$28.5 million nationwide, and the NRRO distributed funding to 271 U.S. religious communities. Donations also underwrite resources that help religious communities improve elder care and plan for long-term retirement needs.

The NRRO coordinates the annual national appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious and distributes financial assistance for retirement needs to eligible religious institutes. To help address the deficit in retirement funding among U.S. religious orders, Catholic bishops of the United States initiated the Retirement Fund for Religious Collection in 1988.

For more information, visit retiredreligious.org, or contact Robin Cabral, campaign director, at (508) 685-8899 or robincabral@retiredreligious.org.

FOSTERING, continued from Page 11

have a group of volunteers to reach out to provide a meal, child care or transportation. Having support could give foster families that extra encouragement and strength they need to continue this ministry."

Stephanie agreed: "Through our journey, we have found that there are limited resources and support in the Catholic community for foster parents." She encourages Catholic parishes to rally around those parents who have chosen life but need help beyond the birth of their child, as well as caregivers who step in when the parents are unable to care for their children.

"The quote 'It takes a village to raise a child' is so true, and we are blessed with

the support of our family and friends. We pray that the broader Catholic community becomes that village for those around us who feel that call to foster and adopt."

When a foster family gets a call for a placement, they often must pick up the child within a few hours. Families do not know the age of the child until they get a phone call, and the child usually does not have anything other than perhaps a small bag with a few clothes. Even after a call, it's not certain that the child will end up in their home.

"I think it would be helpful to have support for last-minute items that may be needed," Stephanie said. "Some of the items can be diapers, formula, clothes, food etc. We are always prepared for a placement with

certain items but not everything that may be needed depending on the situation."

Encouraging fostering, adopting

To help mobilize Catholics to become involved with caring for vulnerable children, a new ministry has recently launched called Springs of Love (springsoflove.org) that encourages, educates and equips Catholics to discern and live out the call to foster and adopt. Springs of Love is a sister organization to Springs in the Desert (springsinthedesert.org), which accompanies those struggling with infertility.

Springs of Love serves both Catholics struggling with infertility and those who are not to raise awareness of the

need for loving families for the approximately 400,000 children in foster care in the U.S. and countless children in need throughout the world.

Critical to the mission of Springs of Love is establishing care teams in parishes who will provide for the material needs of children in care, offer wrap-around support to foster families (including prayer, meals, child care, rides, mentoring, etc.), host foster and adoption awareness events and inspire more Catholics to consider fostering and adopting. According to Springs of Love, the 50% retention rate for fostering families increases to 90%

See FOSTERING, Page 13

FOSTERING, *continued from Page 12*

when they are supported by a care team.

Springs of Love was founded by foster and adoptive parents Greg and Kimberly Henkel, parishioners at Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul Church. Greg and Kimberly met while studying at the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage & Family in Washington, D.C., and married in their late 30s.

After several years of struggling with infertility, they became foster parents with a hope of adopting. They fostered and then adopted their son, Anthony. While he was still a baby, they adopted twin girls, Zailie and Gabriella, who were just 5 months younger than Anthony. When the “triplets” were 4, the couple received another foster son, John Paul, whom they adopted.

Kimberly discussed fears that she and her husband had when they first brought Anthony home from the hospital. Because they were fostering with hopes of adopting, Kimberly feared that Anthony might go back with his birth mother.

“Even though I knew in my head that the goal of fostering is for the child to be reunified with his birth family, I was more focused on my desire to adopt,” she said.

Greg explains, “When a couple fosters in hopes of adopting, it can be a temptation to compare themselves with the child’s birth parents, thinking the child would be better off with them. With foster care, however, it is important to affirm the priority of supporting the birth

parents to get their lives in order so that they can take care of their children.”

“As Catholics, we need to remember that God loves a child’s mother and father as much as He loves their child,” Kimberly said. “We need to pray, encourage and support the birth parents who frequently have not been loved well. Fostering their child gives us a connection with them and allows us the opportunity to pour into their lives, affirm their dignity and let them know that God loves them and has a beautiful plan for their lives.”

As Kimberly and Greg brought Anthony home, Kimberly’s fears soon dissipated as she felt God pour His grace upon her. “I realized I was taking care of this child who truly belonged to God. It honestly felt like I was taking care of the baby Jesus.”

In recognizing that they had opened their home to a child who needed a mother and a father right then, they shifted their focus from desiring to adopt to providing for a child in need.

“We didn’t know if we would be Anthony’s forever mother and father, but we knew that he needed us at that moment,” Kimberly said. “It was an overwhelming privilege to be able to give him everything his birth mother was unable to at that time and know that we were also allowing her the time and space to focus on her own healing.”

Springs of Love is hosting a free “Be Not Afraid” virtual retreat for anyone interested in learning about fostering and adopting. Anyone wishing to access talks

given by families who have fostered and adopted can register at springsoflove.org. Special attention is given to fostering and adopting after infertility, adopting older children, discerning adoption from a man’s perspective, fostering by faith, adopting a child with special needs and international adoption.

Springs of Love is also producing a video series to highlight the stories of those who have been in the foster care system, as well as those who are finding joy, even amid pain, through fostering and adopting. One of the videos tells the story of Tori Hope Petersen, who spent time in 12 foster homes before aging out of the system.

Fortunately, a track coach brought encouragement and hope into her life, and she became a four-time state track champion, college graduate and, recently, Mrs. Universe. She is the author of the book *Fostered* as well as founder of the Beloved Initiative, a nonprofit that seeks to change the narrative for youth in foster care.

The Henkels encourage fellow Catholics to consider how God might be calling them to care for His children in the foster system. “Families are messy,” Kimberly said, “and it can be intimidating to jump into another family’s mess, which looks so much more unmanageable than that to which we may be accustomed. But Christ calls us to enter into the mess.”

She speaks of the heartache experienced by so many children in foster care and how God is calling Catholics to

reach out of their comfort zones to learn how to best care for them by showing them the love of Jesus. “Instead of offering merely temporary shelter for these children, what if we made our homes and hearts places for vulnerable children who have been separated from their families to begin to heal?”

Kristina likewise urges Catholics to get involved. “Not everyone is called to foster, but as pro-life Catholics we are called to help support families who have said ‘yes.’ We can love foster families, encourage them, pray for them and help provide physical needs so they can have the strength, endurance and support they need to continue. Every one of us can play an important role in fostering and adoption.”

Foster families in the Columbus diocese looking for connection and support or those wishing to learn more about helping local foster families can email info@springsoflove.org. There are many ways to be involved, such as forming a committed prayer team, helping recruit foster and adoptive families, serving a family (perhaps with a weekly meal or babysitting), community service projects and meeting the physical needs of families at risk.

“We believe that cultivating a culture of fostering and adoption is an absolutely essential part of building a comprehensive culture of life in our parishes,” Greg Henkel said. “Everyone can do something to make a difference in the lives of vulnerable children.”



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Second Sunday of Advent Year A

Be open to welcoming all

Isaiah 11:1–10
Psalm 72:1–2, 7–8, 12–13, 17
Romans 15:4–9
Matthew 3:1–12

Advent is the season of expectation. The liturgy calls us to open our hearts to a new way of seeing the world so that God's kingdom will find room in our lives. The challenge is that we are all "in the same soup." We tend to limit our expectations, shaping them for our own benefit or allowing the world around us to be the source of what we desire.

John the Baptist appears on the scene at the beginning of the proclamation of the Gospel, challenging his hearers to understand the kingdom first through responding to a call of conversion. "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

This call is not merely to turn away from sin, though that is a necessary part. The expression used by John comes from the root "metanoia," meaning a change of heart and mind. "Think differently."

Among the first to approach John are Pharisees and Sadducees. John's response to them is direct: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance." John the Baptist himself expects the day of the Lord as a day of wrath, God's action rooting out sin and complacency.

The Pharisees are a group of laypersons – not of the priestly tribes – who seek to put the law into practice. As we encounter them in the Gospels, they are limited by their inability to see that others beyond their group are also capable of a relationship with God, even though they are "outside the law" as interpreted by the Pharisees.

Third Sunday of Advent Year A

Perseverance, trust needed to enter God's kingdom

Isaiah 35:1–6a, 10
Psalm 146:6–7, 8–9, 9–10
James 5:7–10
Matthew 11:2–11

Human beings are usually goal oriented. We want to accomplish something. All our actions are designed to achieve some purpose. Our purpose might be rather self-serving. On the other hand, we might be altruistic or unselfish in our intentions. We do what we do to help others or to serve God.

Even when our goals and aims are right, nonetheless, we are generally eager to observe some progress. John the Baptist, from prison, sends his disciples to Jesus to discover if his life's work has been accomplished. "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?"

Jesus' response to John is merciful. Realizing that the manner of His own arrival is not quite as John had preached, Jesus points out that Scrip-

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.



The Sadducees are a group of priests, connected with the worship at the temple, and cooperating with the Roman authorities who hold power so that they may continue the delicate balance that allows for Jews to live and worship differently than the pagans who rule them.

Members of these groups, and others who are not mentioned in the Gospels, are "doing their best" to interpret the law and to conform their lives to what they hold that God expects of them. The problem, as John and later Jesus suggest, is that they have created a relationship with God that does not open beyond a narrow vision.

We live in a world that has great promise and, at the same time, is setting the stage for disasters of our own making that are beyond imagining. The divisions that are fomented in families and among people who think differently about many matters can become self-fulfilling predictions of violence and harm. The Gospel call that rings out today as clearly as in the days of John is to "produce good fruit as evidence of our repentance."

When our thoughts lead us to presumption of our own innocence and justification of our own narrow views, we can be sure that John would see us as he saw the Pharisees and Sadducees. Our way of life must have evidence that it is inspired by God's way of thinking and not our own.

St. Paul prays: "May the God of en-

ture is fulfilled by the actions He has been performing in John's absence.

"Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me."

John has indeed fulfilled his mission. Jesus goes on to praise him as the greatest of those "born of women." But He also challenges those who are now following Him to examine their own motives for following John in the first place and to reflect upon their own destiny, to go beyond John's preaching and to enter into the kingdom of heaven. John's mission was to prepare the way. Jesus' followers are given a greater charge.

Advent continues with the theme of expectation. On this Gaudete Sunday, Isaiah promises renewed life, vindication and recompense, healing from all

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

12/5-12/10

MONDAY
 Isaiah 35:1-10
 Psalm 85:9ab,10-14
 Luke 5:17-26

TUESDAY
 Isaiah 40:1-11
 Psalm 96:1-3,10ac,11-13
 Matthew 18:12-14

WEDNESDAY
 Isaiah 45:6c-8,18,21c-25
 Psalm 103:1-4,8-10
 Luke 7:18b-23

THURSDAY

Genesis 3:9-15,20
 Psalm 98:1-4
 Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12
 Luke 1:26-38

FRIDAY

Isaiah 48:17-19
 Psalm 1:1-4,6
 Matthew 11:16-19

SATURDAY

Sirach 48:1-4,9-11
 Psalm 80:2ac,3b,15-16,18-19
 Matthew 17:9a,10-13

12/12-12/17

MONDAY
 Zechariah 2:14-17 or
 Revelation 11:19a,12:1-6a,10ab
 Judith 13:18bcde,19
 Luke 1:26-38 or Luke 1:39-47

TUESDAY

Zephaniah 3:1-3,9-13
 Psalm 34:2-3,6-7,17-19,23
 Matthew 21:28-32

WEDNESDAY

Isaiah 45:6c-8,18,21c-25
 Psalm 85:9ab,10-14

Luke 7:18b-23

THURSDAY
 Isaiah 54:1-10
 Psalm 30:2,4-6,11-12a,13b
 Luke 7:24-30

FRIDAY

Isaiah 56:1-3a,6-8
 Psalm 67:2-3,5,7-8
 John 5:33-36

SATURDAY

Genesis 49:2,8-10
 Psalm 72:1-4ab,7-8,17
 Matthew 1:1-17

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION

MASS SCHEDULE: WEEKS OF DEC. 4 AND DEC. 11, 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 and diocesan website, 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.

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 and diocesan website, 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); Columbus St. Patrick (www.stpatrickcolumbus.org); Delaware St. Mary (www.delawarestmary.org); Sunbury St. John Neumann (www.saintjohnsunbury.org); and Columbus Immaculate Conception (www.iccols.org). Check your parish website for additional information.

WE PRAY WEEKS II AND III OF THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS

durance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another, in keeping with Christ Jesus, that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

His advice to us, that also rings true in the chaos of the modern world, provides a key that allows the Gospel to bear fruit: "Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God."

Isaiah's vision is still unfulfilled, but

when we set our sights on what it promises, we are full of hope. "On that day, the root of Jesse, set up as a signal for the nations, the Gentiles shall seek out, for his dwelling shall be glorious."

Our will and our desire for shaping the world must conform to God's will, which keeps the kingdom open to all.

See **WELCOMING**, Page 15

that has held us back from the kingdom. St. Paul calls for patience and trust in the Lord that His action will accomplish all that has been promised.

Perseverance in the face of apparent delay and commitment to our relationship with God as savior is the response required of disciples of the Lord. We rejoice, believing that salvation is near at hand.

Our hearts cry out, "Lord, come and save us." Putting faith in God, we commit to a purpose that goes beyond what this world can offer. Like John, we must allow our expectations to be pruned. What seems to require a divine action that shows God's power and strength in no uncertain terms is often replaced by an action that is subtle, hidden, unseen except with the eyes of faith. Yet, it offers fruit that is evident.

We see with new eyes and have the strength to continue on our way to the kingdom. We can move forward, even if at times we still limp along. Life is renewed

when we feared it was lost. Accepting our emptiness, we can open our hearts to be filled with the grace to persevere.

Soon, the theme of Advent turns from the final coming of the Lord to preparation for celebration of the Nativity. Liturgy and the Scriptures assigned to us each day remind us that, while we look forward to ultimate fulfillment of the promises, in the meantime we are to prove our faith by living in accord with it in the circumstances in which we find ourselves.

Christmas comes for hearts that are open. The Lord Who was born in Bethlehem is born anew in our lives. We want our faith to bear fruit. We look again to the unfolding of human history that has already borne fruit in the birth of the Child in Bethlehem.

The Collect of the Third Sunday of Advent presents the themes of this time of

See **TRUST**, Page 15

CATHOLIC WORD SEARCH

ADVENT

www.wordgamesforcatholics.com

S	F	V	C	P	U	N	D	S	K	E	A	X	S	G
E	E	Y	E	Q	P	R	E	A	N	L	O	M	P	R
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ANTIPHONS
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DECEMBER
EXPECTATION
FOUR

GAUDETE
JOYFUL
PENITENT
PURPLE
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SCROLL
SEASON
WAITING
WREATH
YEAR

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.

It was not the apple on the tree ...

	A	H	E	
I	B	P	T	H
R	E	E	T	T
N	A	U	B	

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Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Year A

Mary chose God; through grace, we can do the same

Genesis 3:9-15, 20
Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4
Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12
Luke 1:26-38

The United States of America was dedicated to Mary under her title as the Immaculate Conception in 1792 by Bishop John Carroll, the first Roman Catholic bishop of the new nation. This consecration was renewed by the bishops of the United States at the Sixth Provincial Council of Baltimore in 1846 and has been renewed several times since then, most recently on May 1, 2020, amid the COVID crisis.

The dogma of the Immaculate Conception was formally declared in 1854. It speaks of the providence of God in the work of salvation. Mary was prepared beforehand, by virtue of the merits of her divine Son's Passion, for the task that was entrusted to her. The Scriptures assigned to this feast remind us of human sin and of the power of grace to intervene and overcome its effects. They also highlight the gift of human freedom to make a choice for God.

Original sin did not touch Mary due to a special intervention of grace. She was free to make the choice for God that Adam and Eve failed to make: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me accord-

ing to your word." Her response to the angel Gabriel opened human nature to the grace that had been rejected in the Garden of Paradise. Because of this, human nature itself has been redeemed, and all human beings are capable "once again" of a living relationship with God.

What God does for Mary and in Mary He continues to do for us through the same grace at work in her, the grace of Jesus Christ. While we must admit that we have been affected by original sin and that we have chosen our own will over God's will in many ways, we can be confident that God still offers us the grace required to enable us to live in freedom.

Our nation has been a beacon of hope and promise for people from many parts of the world who have come to live here. It has also served as a reminder of the precious gift of freedom to nations and peoples who relate to us as a nation. We declare "liberty and justice for all." Mary's unique role in salvation history as the mother of the Redeemer is an example for us of the fruits of freedom that is exercised in cooperation with God's will and with divine grace.

We recognize that "liberty" is not the same as "license." True freedom is the capacity to be who God calls us

to be. In our celebration of the perfect humanity given to Mary from the first moment of her conception and the acknowledgment of what she chose to do with her freedom, we find consolation and hope for ourselves and for our world.

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day of Obligation for Catholics throughout the world. For us, it is especially important to observe this obligation because it is our nation's patronal feast. We put our faith into practice, and we pray that our nation might live up to its responsibility as an example of true freedom.

In the Prayer over the Offerings of the Mass of this feast, we pray: "Graciously accept the saving sacrifice which we offer you, O Lord, on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and grant that, as we profess her, on account of your prevenient grace, to be untouched by any stain of sin, so, through her intercession, we may be delivered from all our faults."

We acknowledge the privilege of Mary as an example of what God can do by His power and as One who will intercede for us, her children, so that we might live the salvation won for us by Jesus Christ her Son. "Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous deeds."

TRUST, continued from Page 14

preparation in a beautiful synthesis: "O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing."

Perseverance in faith is the light that will guide us to the kingdom. Trust in the power of God to overcome sorrow will be the source of joy. The God we desire meets us where we are and guides us into the kingdom that surpasses all expectations.

WELCOMING, cont. from Page 14

When our way of organizing our lives and of demanding a certain approach from others gets in the way of our witness to the Gospel, we are far from the kingdom. May we broaden our expectations and be ready for the coming of the day of the Lord.

VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATION-TREASURER

THE PONTIFICAL COLLEGE JOSEPHINUM, a Roman Catholic Seminary located in Columbus, Ohio is accepting applications for a Vice President of Administration/Chief Financial Officer-Treasurer to replace a long serving, retiring employee. This position reports directly to the Rector/President, is a member of the Board of Trustees, and provides leadership to enable the Josephinum to fulfill its mission through sound fiscal management, prudent stewardship of resources, and student-centered delivery of services. Responsibilities include:

- Preparation of financial statements, operating budgets, information for annual audit and tax returns
- Ensuring the successful operation of maintenance, housekeeping, and administrative staff in providing outstanding service to support the mission of the Josephinum.
- Working with the Rector/President and others to monitor the strategic plan
- Maintaining banking relations and arranging the financing of projects

- Overseeing the external management of the Josephinum Investment Portfolio
 - Managing all human relations issues and employee benefits
- The successful candidate must embrace the mission of the Josephinum and should have 10 or more years of related experience in financial administration, an undergraduate degree in accounting, CPA with MBA preferred. Excellent organization and communication skills and a track record of supervising others are required.

Please respond with a resume, letter of interest, and salary history to: **The Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43235, Attention: Mark A. Evans, Coordinator of Institutional Accreditation and Planning.** Alternatively, you can email the information to: mevans@pcj.edu or call (614-329-7723)

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PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

COX, Patricia A. (Thibaut), 92, Nov. 10
St. Mary, Mother of God Church, Columbus

KOCOLOSKI, Josephine, 100, Nov. 15
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

RICE, Jane C. (Maher), 80, Nov. 19
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

CREAMER, Raymond G., 91, Nov. 21
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

MALAS, Stephanie L. (Crawford), 54, Nov. 16
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

SCHMIDT, T. Gregory "Greg," 89, Nov. 9
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

EHRET, Ellen E., 53, Nov. 3
St. Thomas More Newman Center, Columbus

McAVOY, Mark, 68, Nov. 11
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

THIEKEN, David Paul, 77, Oct. 15
St. Joseph Church, Plain City

ERNST, Angela D. (Giorgio), 89, Nov. 15
St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

O'BRIEN, Elizabeth J. (Richardson), formerly of
Columbus, 98, Nov. 16
Immaculate Conception Church, Traverse City, Mich.

ULRICH, Arthur N., 94, Nov. 17
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

GOLDEN, Dorothy Marie, 95, Nov. 10
St. Joseph Church, Plain City

PIATT, Thomas E., Marine Master Sgt. (Ret.), 86, Nov. 10
St. Christopher Church, Columbus

WILLIAMS, Imogene, 87, Nov. 8
St. Dominic Church, Columbus

GRANNAN, Ruth (Herron), 94, Nov. 20
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

WORSTALL, Mary Ann, 80, Nov. 16
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

SISTER MARY ZIGO

Funeral Mass for Sister Mary Zigo, OSF, 106, who died Wednesday, Nov. 23, was celebrated Monday, Nov. 29 at the Holy Family Convent in Manitowoc, Wisconsin. Burial was in the convent cemetery.

She was born on Oct. 11, 1916 in Pittsburgh to Stephen and Katharine (Kucey) Zigo and grew up in Zanesville.

She earned a bachelor of science degree from St. Norbert College in De Pere, Wisconsin. She entered the Franciscan Sisters of Charity convent in Manitowoc in 1932 and professed her vows in 1935, taking the name Sister Medard.

In the Diocese of Columbus, she taught at Zanesville St.

Nicholas School. After retiring, she tutored and performed a variety of ministries at St. Nicholas Church, Wellston Sts. Peter and Paul Church and in Manitowoc. She also was a principal in West Virginia and a teacher in the Diocese of Steubenville and nine schools in Wisconsin.

She was preceded in death by her parents; stepmother Anna (Soter) Zigo; brother, Paul (Rita) Zigo; and Joseph Zigo; sister, Phyllis (John) Stone; stepbrothers, George (Anna) Soter, John (Faye) Soter and Mike (Mary) Soter; stepsister, Mary (Orville) Graves; half-brothers, Joseph (Betty) Zigo; and half-sisters, Margaret (Glen) Corbin and Rose (Edward) Donnelly.

JOB OPENING | THE CATHOLIC TIMES | REPORTER

The Catholic Times is seeking a full-time reporter for its print and online editions and for social and digital media platforms. The reporter edits news and feature stories, has the ability to take photographs and record video interviews, and assists the Editor as needed. Evening and weekend availability for assignments will be required occasionally. Potential to advance to assistant editor.

Essential job responsibilities: Write and edit news and feature stories; research stories, mostly through online and phone interviews, with some travel to parishes or other activity sites; compile weekly notes and obituaries; assist with proofreading of the newspaper prior to publication; perform miscellaneous duties, including answering phone calls and assisting readers.

Required: Compliance with BCIA background checks and completion of

Protecting God's Children program.

Education: Bachelor's degree is required, preferably in journalism, communication or a related discipline.

Experience: A minimum of two years' prior reporting experience is preferred.

Job Related Skills: An understanding of journalism and the Catholic perspective; the ability to both serve and lead others; excellent written communication skills and knowledge of office equipment. Knowledge of Microsoft software applications (Microsoft Word, Microsoft Outlook) and Adobe InDesign software.

Please forward a cover letter, resume, and references for consideration to the attention of Anne Streitenberger at amstreitenberger@columbus-catholic.org.

JOB OPENING | MY VERY OWN BLANKET

My Very Own Blanket charity is looking for a self-motivated, highly organized individual, working independently to complete daily tasks at the Blanket Workshop.

These tasks include:

- greeting volunteers with donations
- managing donation drop-off bins
- coordinating daily volunteers in the workshop
- provide support to packaging and shipping coordinator

- entering data for blanket tracking
 - prepping materials for senior and adult day center facilities
- This individual will be asked to open the Blanket Workshop, **Monday - Friday, 9 am - noon.**

Applicants should have basic rotary cutting & sewing skills. Be pleasant, honest & reliable.

This is a paid position.

Those interested, please contact info@myveryownblanket.org

2022 Central Catholic League football

Varsity	Overall	CCL
Bishop Watterson	12-2	3-0
St. Francis DeSales	7-5	2-1
Bishop Hartley	5-7	1-2
Bishop Ready	8-4	0-1
St. Charles	4-6	0-3

Junior Varsity	Overall	CCL
Bishop Watterson	8-0	3-0
Bishop Hartley	2-4	2-1
St. Francis DeSales	2-5	1-2
St. Charles	4-5	0-3
Bishop Ready	7-3	0-1

Freshman	Overall	CCL
Bishop Watterson	7-2	3-1
St. Francis DeSales	5-2	2-1
Bishop Hartley	4-4	2-2
St. Charles	3-5	0-3

All-CCL first team

St. Francis DeSales: Cameron Gwinn, jr., DL, Max Shulaw, jr., LB; Asher Hayles, sr., DE; Omarion Con-teh, sr., OL; Ty Neubert, soph., DL; Issac Pekarsic, sr., DB

Bishop Watterson: Ryan Rudzinski, sr., WR/QB/DB; Dominic Purcell, jr., RB/LB; Brandon Trout, sr., WR-DB; Elliott Baur, jr., SS; Charlie Bernotas, sr., DB/RB; Cole Rhett, sr., OL-DL; Michael Malagrega, sr., TE-DE

Bishop Hartley: Isaac Asiedu, sr., OL-DL; Donovan Davis, jr., OL-DL; Denim Cook, soph., LB/WR; Anthony Murphy, sr., LB; Rory Ralston, jr., LB-RB

St. Charles: Ryan Carretta, sr., OL; Mason O'Reilly, sr., LB; Austin Fraley, sr., DE; Abrem Igwebuikwe, jr., OL; Colin Greenhalge, jr., DB

Bishop Ready: Kasen Abbott, soph, LB; JD Catena, jr., DB; Cullen Dent, sr., DL-TE

All-CCL second team

DeSales: Seamus Bonte, sr., LB; John Maas, sr., LB; Gabe Caruso, sr., RB; Max Materu, sr., OL; Liam Harmon, sr., DB

Watterson: Tyler Lieu, sr., LB; Treyton Mercer, jr., RB-LB; Thomas Jenkins, sr., OL-DL; Luke Riedlinger, sr., DE; AJ McAninch, jr., QB

Hartley: DeAunte Hubbard, sr., RB; Robert Lathon, fresh., RB-DB; Joey Wooten, jr., RB-DB; Brenden Laret, jr., TE-DL; Eyan Jackson, sr., OL;

St. Charles: Pete DeSocio, sr., RB; Will Bratt, jr., WR; Aidan Fox, jr., DB; Garrett Hoffman, jr., DB



WORDS OF WISDOM SOLUTION

Watterson donates food to St. Francis Center



Columbus Bishop Watterson students and staff collected nearly 5,000 non-perishable food items before Thanksgiving for the St. Francis Center in McArthur. As part of the school's Season of Giving, a monetary collection for the toy drive at St. Lawrence Haven in downtown Columbus totaled \$4,800.

Photo courtesy Bishop Watterson High School

Afternoon tea at St. Dominic



The Columbus St. Dominic Altar Rosary Society and women's bible study group hosted an afternoon tea with teas, desserts, entertainment, a history of tea presentation, an art auction and information on Black Catholic contributions to the Church. The tea featured an Ohio History Center interpretive presentation on Servant of God Sister Thea Bowman, FSPA, a Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration nun whose cause for canonization was opened in 2018. Additionally, members of the Urban Strings youth orchestra, whose members include St. Dominic youth, provided entertainment. The hostesses transformed the parish center with an array of individually themed and decorated tea service tables that featured prayer cards with the three African Popes, cards for the canonization of Sister Bowman and other mementos.

Photo courtesy St. Dominic Altar Rosary Society

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• Online orders can be Prepaid using credit card through PayPal. Cash, check and credit cards will be accepted on day of sale.

• The church will be open from 11am to 12pm during the sale for those who wish to visit. Church Tour begins at 11:30am

• **All Preorders must be picked up by 1:00pm or items will be offered for general sale.**



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Donor advised fund holders are encouraged to make grants before December 20th to ensure your charity receives your gift by the end of the year.

- Transfer **appreciated stock** to your donor advised fund to reap maximum tax benefits.
- The Catholic Foundation accepts bitcoin, dogecoin and other cryptocurrencies.
- Gift : Make a grant to someone's favorite charity.

A donor advised fund is a smart, easy way to manage your charitable giving while receiving an instant tax deduction.

Contact Scott Hartman at 614-443-8893 to open your donor advised fund today!

CHRISTMAS 2022 GIFT GUIDE

By MaryBeth Eberhard

This Christmas gift guide aims to bring religious items into your home to increase faith while supporting both local and small Catholic businesses.

SPA AT RIVER RIDGE BOUTIQUE

The Spa at River Ridge's faith-based boutique, Remain, features Catholic gifts such as rosaries, T-shirts, sweatshirts, baby clothes, jewelry and candles. Best sellers include CORDA candles, Elevated Faith apparel and accessories and prayer pillows.

www.thespaatriverridge.com

www.instagram.com/spaatriverridge

www.facebook.com/TheSpaAtRiverRidge

GENERATIONS RELIGIOUS GIFTS

Generations Religious Gifts is a locally owned Catholic store with everything you might need to evangelize your family and your community through gifts. The store carries puzzles, such as those by Shining Light Dolls and the Vermont Christmas Company, that are great for spending time with family around the holidays. Generations also has the Catholic Card Game, Apples to Apples: Bible Edition, BibleOpoly and mini boxed puzzles featuring the Sacred, Immaculate and Chaste hearts. Suggested deadline for ordering for Christmas (shipping to destinations in the U.S.) is Dec. 12.

www.generationsreligiousgifts.com

[generationsreligiousgifts.com/puzzles-games](https://www.instagram.com/generationsreligiousgifts)

www.instagram.com/generationsreligiousgifts

SHINING LIGHT DOLLS

Shining Light Dolls' award-winning Catholic books, toys and more are a fun and easy way to spark a lifelong relationship with Jesus and His saints using proven play-based learning. The premium toys are designed to speak to the hearts and imaginations of children. The suggested deadline for standard shipping is Dec. 15. The coupon code is **CatholicTimes15**

www.shininglightdolls.com

www.instagram.com/shininglightdolls

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THE LITTLE ROSE SHOP



The shop offers a soft and flowy bamboo/cotton muslin swaddle to wrap your precious babes in Mary's Mantle. What does it mean to be wrapped in Mary's Mantle? Jesus gave us the gift of His mother as He was dying on the cross when He said, "Behold, your mother." Mary, as

our spiritual mother, looks after us in a special, intimate way. As a mother comforts her baby, Mary

gently comforts us. As a mother supports and nurtures her child, Mary guides and encourages us. As a mother protects her child from harm, Mary, through her intercession, defends us from evil. As a mother embraces her child, Mary covers us in her perfect love. As a mother lovingly swaddles her baby, Mary lovingly wraps us in her mantle and offers us courage and strength to unite ourselves more fully to Christ.

STATES OF FAITH

States of Faith is a brand for Catholics who love the rosary and are proud of where they live. The company features high-quality products – sweatshirts, T-shirts, coffee mugs or stickers – with images of your state outlined in the rosary. The deadline to order for Christmas is Dec. 13. The coupon code for 15% off through Dec. 31 is **COLUMBUS15**

statesoffaith.com

www.facebook.com/statesoffaith

www.instagram.com/states_of_faith/

www.youtube.com/channel/UCqFMdrTSqK3xT_qw3pyjADQ

www.tiktok.com/@statesoffaith



NAZARETH CREATIONS

Local artist Alaina Sincich creates handcrafted earrings designed to show off your unique style. Using polymer clay, the jewelry is lightweight and meant to be worn during everyday activities or on any special occasion.



ANNUNCIATION DESIGNS

Clothing for the whole family by #saintgoals apparel is a fun and meaningful way to share the faith. Annunciation Designs also offers home goods such as fair-trade tea towels and mugs, children's activities such as a water reveal book, a subscription letter called "The Wanderlust Catholic" and more. The deadline for Christmas orders is Dec. 15, but subscriptions and digital gift cards are always available. The coupon code for 10% off through Dec. 15 is **GIFTGUIDE**
Annunciationdesigns.com
[instagram.com/annunciationdesigns](https://www.instagram.com/annunciationdesigns)

PARTY LIKE A SAINT

This family business was born when the co-owner could not find saint-themed party decorations for her daughter's birthday. The company offers products perfect for a simple gift, stocking stuffers, St. Nicholas feast day (Dec. 6), Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration (Dec. 12) and Epiphany (Jan. 6).

www.partylikeasaint.com

[party_like_a_saint](https://www.facebook.com/partylikeasaint)

www.facebook.com/partylikeasaint

SOCK RELIGIOUS

It all started with a conversation about doughnut socks: "I can wear socks for National Doughnut Day. How cool would it be if I could wear saint socks on a saint's feast day?" said Sock Religious' co-founder Scott Williams. Five years later, Sock Religious is a rapidly growing company that makes

not only socks but also T-shirts, sweatshirts, stickers, onesies and coffee mugs. The deadline for Christmas orders is Dec. 13. The coupon code for 15% off through Dec. 31 is **COLUMBUS15**

sockreligious.com/

www.facebook.com/sockreligious

twitter.com/sockreligious/

www.instagram.com/sockreligious/

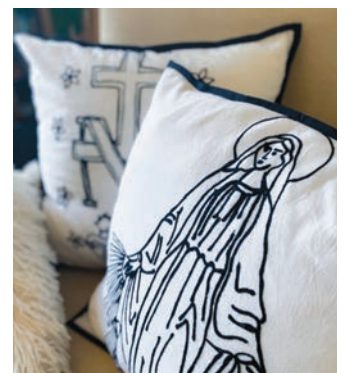
<https://bit.ly/3EZvLE2>

www.tiktok.com/@sockreligious?is_from_webapp=1&sender_device=pc



MOTHER & HOME

Mother & Home curates theologically rich, heirloom-quality goods and gifts for Catholic families. Each piece is intentionally selected and often handcrafted. Purchases help to support more than 30 Catholic families and small businesses, many owned by mothers. The company also tithes from every purchase to Be Not Afraid, an international nonprofit that supports parents carrying their baby to term following a prenatal diagnosis. Items available from Mother & Home include the Miraculous Medal hand-embroidered



CHRISTMAS 2022 GIFT GUIDE

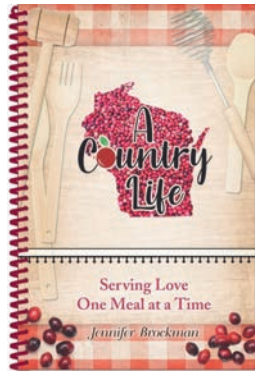
decorative pillow cover and the Fiat Bracelet Stack (Fiat Mihi means "Let it be done in me," the words Mary said to the Archangel Gabriel). There is free shipping for orders of more than \$150. The deadline for Christmas orders is Dec. 13. The coupon code for 10% off is **CTIMES10** motherandhomemarket.com mother.and.home

BRICK HOUSE IN THE CITY

Guardian Angel T-shirt
brickhouseinthecity.com

A COUNTRY LIFE

For those longing to build family in the kitchen, a touch of homemade goodness is found in A Country Life cookbook. Join Catholic mother of seven, cranberry farmer and Down syndrome advocate Jennifer Brockman as she explains how to bring delicious meals to the table. The cookbook is for those looking for family friendly recipes with simple ingredients. These recipes are highlighted on A Country Life YouTube channel. The deadline for Christmas orders is Dec. 15. The coupon code for 15% off is **COLUMBUS15** www.acountry-life.com/shop www.youtube.com/@acountrylife



CATHOLIC FAMILY CRATE

Catholic Family Crate is a faith formation brand focused on delivering creative, high quality and engaging materials for Catholic families to learn about their faith. Monthly and seasonal subscription boxes are available consisting of faith-filled (faithful to the Magisterium) crates designed to make cultivating a strong family within the domestic church easy and streamlined. The highly engaging and beautifully crafted catechesis tools make growing in the faith doable in a busy, modern life. Items available include the first-ever Christmas crate. Also available is the Faith in a Year seasonal subscription to receive crates with Catholic activities and traditions that follow the liturgical calendar. Every item is designed by theologians and Catholic moms with the goal of distilling the faith into meaningful, true, ready-to-use and fun family activities. The subscription consists of five total boxes featuring each

liturgical season (Lent/Triduum, Easter, Ordinary Time, Advent and Christmas). Each box is filled with over \$100 in products, discounted to \$79.95 in the subscription. The deadline for Christmas orders is Dec. 16. The coupon code for 20% off through Dec. 31 is **CatholicTimes** catholicfamilycrate.com catholicfamilycrate.com/collections/seasonal-subscription [@catholicfamilycrate](https://twitter.com/catholicfamilycrate)

HOUSE OF JOPPA

Among House of Joppa's offerings are Catholic Prayer Candles, perfect for filling your home with a calming, peaceful scent. Made from natural waxes and premium fragrances, they're a wonderful way to create a serene atmosphere for prayer and contemplation. Each candle is hand-crafted with care and burns for up to 45 hours. Whether you're looking to add a little extra beauty to your prayer time or simply want to enjoy the lovely fragrance, these candles are a perfect choice. The deadline for Christmas orders is Dec. 15. The coupon code for 10% off is **CATHOLICTIMES** www.houseofjoppa.com www.instagram.com/houseofjoppa/

PINK SALT RIOT

Pink Salt Riot aims to empower modern Christian women to reject the lies perpetuated by our culture and live instead in the truth God has for us in His Word. They do this through educational resources that help shine a spotlight on the lies we are believing and what God wants for us instead and lifestyle products that come alongside the women we serve to make the truth incarnate in their daily lives. Their shop features giftable jewelry, journals, vinyl stickers, cards and home goods. Items available include the I Am Who He Says I Am bandana, the Prodigal Father embrace and the Light of the World earrings. The deadline for Christmas

orders is Dec. 16. The coupon code for 15% off through Dec. 16 is **JOYFUL** pinksaltriot.com [instagram.com/pinksaltriot](https://www.instagram.com/pinksaltriot) www.tiktok.com/@pinksaltriot [facebook.com/pinksaltriot](https://www.facebook.com/pinksaltriot)

CATHOLIC COFFEE

Be inspired by the lives of the saints and energized by this coffee. The company combines each of its coffees with an extraordinary saint, making every roast a special treat for any Catholic who loves quality coffee.



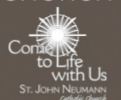
CARLA QUIGLEY ART

Carla Quigley is a Catholic artist who is inspired by her faith to create art and gifts that glorify God. She offers open-edition, high resolution Ricoh Digital Press prints from her original paintings and are personally signed by the artist. The prints are made using a dry ink that is applied onto 100% type 1 acid free archival Neenah Classic Linen paper using a technique incorporating heat and pressure. This process creates an ultimate vibrancy to the colors. The print itself measures 17 1/2 inches by 11 3/4 inches and has a 1/4-inch white border around the entire image. Shipments are made only within the U.S. The deadline for Christmas orders is Dec. 15. [CarlaQuigleyArt \(Etsy shop\)](https://www.etsy.com/shop/CarlaQuigleyArt) [@carlaquigleyart](https://www.instagram.com/carlaquigleyart) [@carlaquigleyart](https://www.instagram.com/carlaquigleyart)

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NIGHT
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ADMISSION IS FREE!



LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS

Holy Rosary-St. John sets Breakfast with Santa

Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church is hosting its first Breakfast with Santa from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Dec. 17 in Campion Hall in the Community Center, 640 S. Ohio Ave.

The event will feature pancakes from Chris Cakes (aka, the Pancake Guy), and money raised will go toward a new roof for the church.

“The children and youth had so much fun when we had Chris Cakes at a previous event, and I just thought he would be perfect to bring in for Breakfast with Santa,” said Violet Jackson, coordinator of the event.

Santa will be in attendance and available for selfies. Also included is breakfast, beverages and participation in the activities. The cost is \$15.

“I’m so glad to see the parish doing this exciting fundraiser to go toward a new church roof,” said Fern Upshaw, parish council member. “The church is almost 125 years old but is still so beautiful. Christ is the center of our Christmas celebration, but the children love an event with Santa as well, and I look forward to watching the sheer joy that I am sure they will bring to this.”

Go to hrschurch.org/santa for details and a link to the Eventbrite registration page or call (614) 252-5926, ext. 200.



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Ohio Dominican receives Purple Star designation

The state of Ohio has designated Ohio Dominican University (ODU) a Collegiate Purple Star campus in recognition of its commitment to serving military veterans, active duty military personnel and their families.

To receive this designation, ODU met a list of criteria, including having a dedicated military point of contact or office on campus; establishing priority registration for veterans and service members; surveying student veterans and service members, spouses and dependents about needs; and allowing establishment of student-led groups and organizations for veterans and service members.

The designation is determined by a collegiate Purple Star advisory committee appointed by Randy Gardner, chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

To demonstrate its commitment to providing military service members, veterans and their dependents an opportunity to enhance their academic credentials, ODU offers a Salute to Service scholarship in which the university covers as much as \$3,000 in tuition per semester that is not already covered by

military education benefits or other state and federal grants and scholarships. The scholarship is designed to help military students complete a degree at little to no personal expense.

Through ODU’s PATRIOTS program, military veterans can pursue either an associate, bachelor’s or master’s degree. For more information about the Purple Star program, visit ohiohighered.org/purple-star. For more information about ODU’s military services and programs, visit ohiodominican.edu/Military.

Bereavement ministry hosts holiday-themed session

Anyone mourning the loss of a loved one during this holiday season is invited to attend a special session on “Coping with Grief Over the Holidays” presented by the Seasons of Hope Bereavement Ministry and sponsored by the North High Deanery.

The program will be on Sunday, Dec. 4, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Worthington St. Michael Church,

5750 N. High St. To register, contact Karen Droll at ksdroll@gmail.com or (614) 582-8848. The deadline to register is Wednesday, Nov. 30.

Light Shines in the Darkness
JOHN 1:5

COLUMBUS CATHOLIC WOMEN’S CONFERENCE

February 18, 2023
8:00 AM to 4:30 PM
Ohio Expo Center

REGISTER TODAY!
www.columbuscatholicwomen.com

Featured Speakers:



Danielle Bean



Fr. Michael Denk



Fr. Rob Galea



Paula Umana



Mass Celebrant:
Bishop Earl Fernandes



Music By:
Hannah Schaefer



Emcee:
Debbie Georgianni

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CATHOLIC MEN’S CONFERENCE
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