

DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

CATHOLIC TIMES

A journal of Catholic life in Ohio

FEBRUARY 28, 2016
THE SECOND WEEK OF LENT
VOLUME 65:21



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE
DRAWS RECORD CROWD OF 3,000

The Editor's Notebook

The Power of Faith-filled Living

By David Garick, Editor



Many Catholics believe that faith is something you either have or don't have. And once you have faith, it's like owning a car: As long as you don't deliberately get rid of it or sell it off, it's yours. The truth is that faith is a lot more complex than that.

Faith does not come all at once. It can constantly grow and mature all through life, just as it can slowly fade away. Our physical bodies become strong and our skills become more acute through exercise and training, but can atrophy through being sedentary and inactive. Faith matures and strengthens us through the application of faith in all of our lives.

Most of us were brought into the Church by our parents, baptized as infants, and made part of the Body of Christ. That is not the end of the story. It is only the beginning. That set us on the path to faith. But that path is a long journey that is fraught with many challenges. It leads us, filled with trepidation, to the cross, and through the cross, we reach our true goal of eternal life with Christ. However, that journey is not automatic.

We often get off that arduous path early on. We may continue to wear the logo of Christian. We may go to church, when it is convenient. But we leave faith behind as we head out the door. We don't want to think of all of that in our daily lives. We think of God being "up there ... in heaven," not in our midst making demands on our

lives. But that is not the life the Christ calls us to.

I recall Matthew's telling of Jesus' encounter with the rich young man who asked Our Lord how he could gain eternal life. Jesus did not tell him to just trust in his own goodness. He told him first to follow the commandments of God, then to sell what he had, give it to the poor, and follow Him. This is not an easy message. Jesus Himself told his disciples that entry into heaven is not easy. But He reassured them that while the challenge is too much for humans on their own, it can be accomplished through faith, because with God, all things are possible.

That is why we need to put our faith to work, exercising it in our lives every day. Jesus challenges us to live our faith with our neighbors, giving freely, not just from our material treasures, but through the sharing of our spiritual treasure that is Christ Himself. We must be evangelists, just like his original disciples. Only that way can we stay on the narrow path He calls us to follow.

This past weekend, more than 3,000 Catholic women came together in Columbus for an annual conference that helped them expand their focus of faith beyond the walls of the church and strengthened them in their journey to live and share the Gospel. This coming weekend, a similar conference will help fortify men from our diocese in their spiritual journey.

Pope: Being Christian is doing God's will, not just talking the talk

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

For a Christian, talk is cheap; the faith requires concretely doing God's will and serving the least, as well as those around you, Pope Francis said at his morning Mass.

"God is concrete" and so is the Christian life, he said on Feb. 23

during the Mass in the chapel of the Domus Sanctae Marthae.

Christianity isn't a religion that's all talk, because "just talking leads us to vanity, to pretending to be Christian," he said.

The day's reading from the Gospel of Matthew (23:1-12) describes Jesus telling the crowds and disciples to beware of the scribes and Pharisees, who have taken on the authority to teach, but do not live as good role models. "For they preach, but they do not practice," Jesus says.

This kind of hypocrisy still exists, the pope said, according to Vatican Radio.

"How many times we meet people -- including us, you know -- so often in the church (who say) 'Oh, I am very Catholic!'" But, the pope said, look at how they live their lives.

"How many parents say they are Catholic, but they never have time to talk to their own kids, to play with their own kids, to listen to their own kids. Perhaps their parents are in a retirement home, but they are



always busy and they can never go visit them and they leave them abandoned," he said.

These people may justify themselves by saying, "Well, I am very Catholic, you know. I belong to this group." This is the religion of all talk. I say I am this, but I do

what's worldly."

Talking without doing "is a deception," he said. This path "leads us to where these doctors of the law were, these clerics, who like to dress and act as if they were royalty, you know? This is not the reality of the Gospel," the pope said.

God wants people to stop doing evil and to learn to do the good, he said. "Being Christian means doing -- doing God's will."

On judgment day, he said, "what will the Lord ask us? Will he say to us: 'What have you said about me?'" No! He will ask about the things we have done."

Fulfilling the deeds listed in the Gospel of Matthew's words about judgment, such as clothing, feeding and caring for those in need, welcoming the stranger, and visiting the imprisoned, "is the Christian life," he said.

The pope prayed, "May the Lord give us this wisdom to understand fully what the difference is between saying and doing and teach us the path of doing."



Front Page photo:

The crowd of 3,000 people for the diocesan Catholic Women's Conference at the Voinovich Center on the state fairgrounds on Saturday, Feb. 20 filled the space available on its main floor.

CT photo by Ken Snow

CATHOLIC TIMES

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Catholic Times (USPS 967-000) (ISSN 745-6050) is the official newspaper of the Catholic Diocese of Columbus, Ohio. It is published weekly 45 times per year with exception of every other week in June, July and August and the week following Christmas. Subscription rate: \$25 per year, or call and make arrangements with your parish.
Postage Paid at Columbus, OH 43218

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Postmaster: Send address changes to Catholic Times, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus, Ohio 43215. Please allow two to four weeks for change of address.

Missionaries of Mercy

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, *Catholic Times*

One of five Dominican friars in Columbus who have been appointed missionaries of mercy by Pope Francis says the title isn't meant merely to honor a few individuals, but describes the role of every priest.

"All priests are missionaries of mercy," said Father Michael Mary Dosch, OP, pastor of Columbus St. Patrick Church. "It was a great gesture of the pope to designate some of us in this way. In so doing, he has recognized the importance of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and of how through the sacrament, God manifests his omnipotence and omniscience, how this brings his mercy to people and raises them up in surprising and exalted ways."

Father Dosch is one of 1,124 priests worldwide who were given the honor during the 5 p.m. Mass at St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 10. He was among 742 of the designated priests who attended the ceremony. The parochial vicars at St. Patrick's – Fathers Thomas Blau, Cassian Derbes, and Boniface Endorf – received similar papal appointments, as did Father Emmanuel Bertrand, who resides at the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus.

They are among 18 friars from the Dominican Province of St. Joseph chosen as missionaries of mercy. The others are Fathers Jordan Turano, Pius Pietrzyk, Andre-Joseph LaCasse, Innocent Smith, John Devaney, James Dominic Brent, Gabriel Torretta, Nicenor Austriaco, Thomas Petri, Bill Garrott, Thomas Joseph White, Matthew Carroll, and Benedict Croell, several of whom have served in the past at St. Patrick's or at Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church, where the pastoral staff also consists of Dominicans.

The appointment of missionaries of mercy is part of the Jubilee Year of Mercy declared by the pope for the period from Dec. 8, 2015, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, to Nov. 20 of this year, the Feast of Christ the King. Speaking to the missionaries at an audience on Tuesday, Feb. 9, the pope said he had entrusted them with this responsibility "because it asks you to be firsthand witnesses of God's closeness and his way of loving. Not our way, which is always limited and sometimes con-

tradictory, but his way of loving, his way of forgiving, which is precisely mercy."

The homily emphasized the missionaries' role in hearing confessions, with the pope referring, as he often does, to the confession that, in his words, "re-oriented my life. What did the priest tell me? I don't remember," he said. "I only remember that he gave me a smile, and then I don't know what happened."

He urged the priests to "express the motherhood of the Church" and to use not "the club of judgment," but "the blanket of mercy" to bring sinners into God's grace. "A missionary of mercy carries the sinner on his shoulders and comforts him with the power of compassion," he said. "And the sinner who goes there, the person who goes there, finds a father."

In announcing the appointment of the missionaries of mercy from the St. Joseph Province, the Dominicans said the role of the missionaries is to be "a living sign of the Father's welcome to all those in search of his forgiveness; facilitators for all, with no one excluded, of a truly human encounter, a source of liberation, rich with responsibility for overcoming obstacles and taking up the new life of Baptism again; guided by the words 'For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy upon all' (Romans 11:32); inspiring preachers of mercy; and heralds of the joy of forgiveness – welcoming, loving, and compassionate confessors, who are most especially attentive to the difficult situations of each person."

Father Dosch and the other appointees in attendance at the commissioning Mass received a personalized scroll announcing their appointment. Those not at the Mass, including the other four missionaries of mercy from Columbus, are having the scrolls sent to them.

Each of the missionaries also received a letter from Archbishop Rino Fisichella, president of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of New Evangelization, saying that for the duration of the Year of Mercy, Pope Francis has granted them the faculty of lifting the penalty of excommunication for certain sins – a power normally reserved to the pope.

The letter states these sins are "profaning the Eucharistic species by taking them away or keeping them for a sac-



Pope Francis has appointed four Dominican friars serving at Columbus St. Patrick Church (from left) – Fathers Michael Mary Dosch, pastor, and Boniface Endorf, Cassian Derbes, and Thomas Blau, parochial vicars – as missionaries of mercy for the current Jubilee of Mercy. Also receiving this appointment was Father Emmanuel Bertrand, who resides at the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus. CT photo by Tim Puet

religious purpose; use of physical force against the Roman Pontiff; absolution of an accomplice in a sign against the Sixth Commandment" – the commandment forbidding adultery – and "a direct violation against the sacramental seal by a confessor."

For the Year of Mercy, the pope also granted to all priests worldwide the authority to absolve women for the sin of abortion. Priests in the United States were granted this authority several decades ago by the nation's bishops.

The pope retains the exclusive authority of absolution for certain sins, such as unauthorized ordination of a bishop.

"This aspect of being a missionary of mercy is one the missionaries are unlikely to use often, if at all, but it's the one everybody asks me about," Father Dosch said.

He said that in planning for the Year of Mercy, the pope had asked bishops and the major superiors of religious congregations to nominate priests for possible appointment as missionaries of mercy. Father Kenneth Letoile, prior provincial for the Province of St. Joseph, nominated the priests from the province who were chosen for the honor.

"I don't know whether other friars in the province were nominated besides those of us who were selected," Father Dosch said. "The whole community expressed interest because we hear so many confessions. That has been part of the Dominic charism since St. Dominic de Guzman founded the Order 800 years ago. The Dominican Order's formal name is the Order of Preachers, and St. Dominic said that if you're not an effective confessor, you won't be an

effective preacher. Good preaching, in turn, should move people to confession and to conversion of their lives."

The priests at St. Patrick's hear confessions every weekday (except holy days and public holidays) following the 11:45 a.m. Mass, as well as from 4 to 5 p.m. Saturdays and a half-hour before Sunday Masses at 7, 9, 10:30 a.m. and noon. Father Dosch said that because of the interest in the Year of Mercy, the friars at St. Patrick's plan to provide more opportunities for confession and to conduct a series of Holy Hours and preaching related to the topic of God's mercy during the Easter season.

While in Rome, Father Dosch also met with the postulator general of the Vatican's Congregation of Saints to discuss the sainthood cause of Blessed Margaret of Castello, a 14th-century Dominican for whom there has been a special devotion at St. Patrick's since the 1930s. A shrine to her, with a relic of her incorrupt heart, has been at the church since the late 1950s.

"I have seen miraculous things happen through God's mercy as granted in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and I expect to see that mercy abounding in this year dedicated to it," Father Dosch said. "But mercy is broader than confession. Its ultimate emblem is the crucifix."

"Mercy is God being able to transform evil, imperfection, misery, and sin. The greatest evil we have ever done is to kill the Son of God, and through that evil, God has given us our salvation. If he can do this in the worst case, we can bring any sin to him and know it will be forgiven and he will bring us into his loving embrace."

PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

Leap

Did you celebrate the authority and teaching that stems from the Chair of St. Peter this past week? For some, it is easy to embrace the virtues and moral guidance that come from our bishops, including the pope. After all, it is one of the primary responsibilities of any bishop to teach the faithful – you and me – on an ongoing basis. We are taught because our hunger for learning, especially when it comes to our faith, should never be satisfied. The day that I think I know it all, and that I have a complete grasp of my faith, is the day that my mind becomes closed and my ego inflates beyond the capacity of both brain and heart.

For some, it is very difficult to understand why an imperfect human being should be telling us what to do. We have the absolute authoritative teaching of Jesus Christ. Is that not enough? Am I not astute enough to form my own conscience and make my own decisions based upon that? Sounds like an excuse to rationalize. It even sounds like our children when they argue with us and sometimes challenge our authority.

This month we find ourselves in the midst of a leap year. The extra day, or Leap Day, occurs on Monday, Feb. 29. Of course, because an actual year is one-quarter of a day longer than 365 days, we add an additional day once every four years. This keeps most things in balance. Julius Caesar started this not long before the birth of Jesus Christ. He and his astronomers figured it out and established a practice that remains to this day. So what do we do with this extra day? Unfortunately, it is not a day off, nor do we get extra pay for an extra day of work. But it does give us an extra day to pray, to attend daily Mass, to receive the sacraments, and to simply live life as large and as lovingly as we can.

Maybe we can seize this day as an opportunity to do something special. After all, it is kind of a “non-day” that comes along only once every four years. How about an opportunity to tell someone how much he or she means to us? I have an older sister who is younger than me. How is that possible? She is a leap year baby, born on Feb. 29, 1956. This year, she will turn both 15 and 60 at the same time. She is a wonderful person, and we had such good times together growing up, even when she was terrorizing me by putting spiders down my shirt, among other things. This might explain my arachnophobia. The point here is not my sister, but to recognize the opportunity to evangelize by love and example. Our work here on earth is never done. We are charged with a great and challenging commission to teach all nations and root their faith in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Our practical challenge this week is to take advantage of that extra day. Make Feb. 29 a day of prayer and evangelization. It is a Monday. Get the week off to a great start, and do what you normally do. In addition, commit to extra prayer, extra love, and extra Christian example. Extra patience, kindness, and outward signs of love can go a long way, especially on day 60 of 366. I am going to take extra time to talk to my sister as she gets ever so much older. At the same time that I ask her which is more exciting for her now – AARP membership or a driver’s license – I will let her know how much she has meant to me for all these years. Make the most of your Leap Day.

Jeric is director of development and planning for the Columbus Diocese.



FOCOLARE MASS

The Focolare community of Columbus will sponsor a memorial Mass for Focolare founder Chiara Lubich (*pictu edl* at 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 4 at the Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus.

Lubich, who died on March 14, 2008 at age 88, founded the Focolare movement in Italy with a few friends during World War II, inspired by Jesus’ words “that they all may be one.” They sought a sense of family gathered around a hearth – *focolare* in Italian.

The movement now has more than two million members and associates in



12 nations and a strong focus on building positive interfaith relationships.

Focolare has been a presence in the Diocese of Columbus for more than 20 years and has frequent gatherings of various kinds in different parts of central Ohio.

The cause for consideration of Lubich’s canonization is in progress. It began at a Mass celebrated by Pope Francis in January 2015.

For more information about the Mass or Focolare, contact foco.ohio@sbc-global.net or call (614) 521-8711.

CIRCLEVILLE ST. JOSEPH MISSION

Circleville St. Joseph Church, 134 W. Mound St., will host a Lenten mission titled “The Good News of Lent,” led by Father Thomas Buffer, pastor of Marion St. Mary Church, at 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 29 to Wednesday, March 2.

Father Buffer, ordained in 1991, studied at the International Marian Research Institute at the University

of Dayton and earned a doctorate in sacred theology in Rome. He was a professor at the Pontifical College Josephinum for five years before returning to parish ministry. He is also an active teacher, writer, and musician.

For more information, call the parish office at (740) 477-2549.

OUR LADY OF PEACE MISSION

Father Kevin Kavanagh, parochial vicar of Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church, will preach a parish mission titled “Home Sweet Home” at Columbus Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Do-

minion Blvd., from 7 to 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 29 to Wednesday, March 2. Child care will be provided. Father Kavanagh was pastor at Our Lady of Peace from 2006 to 2014.

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Three Bags Full consignment event for spring scheduled at five locations

The semiannual Three Bags Full consignment event will take place at five central Ohio locations in March and April.

Sale dates, times, and sites are:

Tuesday, March 8, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. (presale, ticket required), Wednesday, March 9, from 6 to 9 p.m., Thursday, March 10, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, March 11, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m., and Saturday, March 12, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (half-price on selected items Friday evening and Saturday), Franklin County Fairgrounds, 4100 Columbia St., Hilliard.

Wednesday, March 16, from 7 to 9 p.m. (presale, ticket required), Thursday, March 17, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, March 18, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m., and Saturday,

March 19, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (half-price on selected items Friday evening and Saturday), Community Wesleyan Church, 161 Myrtle Ave., Newark.

Wednesday, March 30 (presale, ticket required), Thursday, March 31, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, April 1, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m., and Saturday, April 2 (from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (half-price on selected items Friday evening and Saturday), HighPoint Nazarene Church, 795 Pollock Road, Delaware.

Wednesday, April 6, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. (presale, ticket required), Thursday, April 7, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, April 8, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m., and Saturday, April 9, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (half-price on selected items Friday evening and Saturday), Grove Commu-

nity Christian Church, 3420 Blacklick Eastern Road N.W., Baltimore.

Wednesday, April 20 from 6 to 9 p.m. (public presale, ticket required), Thursday, April 21, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday, April 22, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m., and Saturday, April 23, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (half-price on selected items Friday evening and Saturday), Hartford Fairgrounds, 14028 Fairgrounds Road, Croton.

The sale began in 2004 in Newark with 12 participating families, led by DeAnn and Kurt Nightingale, who were trying to find a way of making money by selling their children's outgrown items without having a garage sale. Today, more than 800 families sell quality children's and teen items of all types, as well as adult women's clothing, maternity wear, shoes, toys, bikes, and yard toys. Thousands of shoppers from a 100-mile radius come to the event, which takes place on spring and fall weekends.

Sellers earn money on the items they make available. They name the selling price and earn 65 percent. If they volunteer to help with the sale, they can earn as much as 80 percent. Unsold and unclaimed items are donated to Catholic and pro-life charities such as Joseph's Coat, the Knights of Columbus, the Bishop Griffin Center, and the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

It's easy to become a seller.

Complete details and registration information may be found at www.threebagsfull.info. Register to obtain a seller number, price your items, print your price tags, pin tags on items, select a dropoff time at the location of your choice, and volunteer.

All items are uniformly tagged and displayed in groups of the same size and product type, making it easy to shop.

For more information, go to the website or call Joyce Black at (614) 561-5300.

Carol Flanagan Footsteps Foundation Presents Checks to 11 Schools

The Carol Flanagan Footsteps Foundation sponsored its annual breakfast on Tuesday, Feb. 2 at Columbus St. Agatha School. The foundation was created in 2002 in memory of Flanagan, who was a passionate teacher at Hilliard St. Brendan School for 20 years and principal at Columbus St. Mary Magdalene School for four years. She deeply valued Catholic education and wanted it to be accessible for all students.

This foundation provides scholarships for families who experience

unexpected financial hardship after committing to a Catholic education in the Diocese of Columbus. The foundation enables principals at participating Franklin County elementary schools, who know the families and their situations, to provide grants to keep students in their school. During the last 13 years, it has awarded more than \$90,000 to Columbus diocesan schools.

Checks totaling \$7,500 were presented to principals of 11 schools at the annual breakfast.

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Sunday Mass obligation; New luminous mystery?



QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. In the Bible, Jesus says “Do this in memory of me.” But he doesn’t say that it has to be done every Sunday and holy day. So many young people are falling away from the church because of its rigidity.

Please explain why we are obligated. (Cedar Rapids, Iowa)

A. The responsibility to gather on Sundays for the Eucharist has been recognized by Christians since the earliest days of the church, although it was not specifically written into law until the fourth century. That obligation is codified in the current *Code of Canon Law* (in No. 1246), which says that “Sunday ... must be observed in the universal church as the primordial holy day of obligation.”

Sunday is singled out as sacred, of course, because it was the day of Christ’s resurrection. In the *Didache*, which was the compendium of Christian teaching written in the second half of the first century, believers were directed as follows: “On Sundays, get together and break the bread and give thanks, confessing your sins in order that your sacrifice may be pure.”

It is true, as you say, that the Sunday Mass obligation is a precept of the church rather than a verbatim command of Jesus, and therefore it could be modified by competent church authority. But it doesn’t seem to me that removing the obligation would serve to bring young people back to more regular Eucharistic practice.

The solution, I think, has more to do with liturgies that celebrate joyfully what Jesus has done, with homilies that are well-prepared and directed to the challenges people face daily, and -- most of all -- with parents who show their children, by example, the importance of the Mass in their lives.

Q. Recently, we celebrated the Feast of the Epiphany, and I was reminded what an important feast it is. (Jesus and Mary were present, and in some parts of the world, the feast is called “Little Christmas.”)

My question is this: Why isn’t the Epiphany one of the mysteries of the rosary? When St. John Paul II introduced the “luminous mysteries,” the Epiphany could have been the third of these mysteries -- instead of “the spread of the kingdom,” which is still a mystery to me! I feel presumptuous second-guessing JP II, but would you please comment? (Dublin, Ohio)

A. When Pope St. John Paul II in 2002 proposed a new set of mysteries, he did so because he wanted to make the rosary more of an overview of the entire life of Christ. He felt that there was a gap between the childhood of Jesus, which we meditate on in the joyful mysteries, and Christ’s passion and death, reflected on in the sorrowful mysteries. (The glorious mysteries celebrate the triumph over sin and death of Christ and the Virgin Mary.)

The pope pointed out that it is during his three years of public ministry that Jesus reveals his identity to us and invites us to share in his vision of God’s plan. (If the Epiphany were to be added, as you suggest, it would properly belong to the joyful mysteries -- but that would make six of those, and our present rosary beads would be out of date!)

I agree with you that the third of these luminous mysteries (the proclamation of the kingdom) is rather generic and a bit harder to grasp than the other four, which highlight specific events (the baptism in the Jordan, the miracle at Cana, the Transfiguration, and the institution of the Eucharist). That third mystery refers to the various parables, especially in Matthew’s Gospel, in which Jesus teaches us the great value of the kingdom of God (a treasure hidden in a field, a pearl of great price, the leaven in the flour, a mustard seed, etc.).

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 40 Hopewell St., Albany NY 12208.

Men’s Luncheon Club

The next Catholic Men’s Luncheon Club session, on Friday, March 4 will feature Father Michael Mary Dosch, OP, pastor of Columbus St. Patrick Church, who has been appointed a missionary of mercy by Pope Francis. He will be speaking on “Mercy and Justice.”

The event will take place following the 11:30 a.m.

Mass at the church, 20 N. Grant Ave., and will conclude by 1 p.m. No reservations are necessary. A \$0 donation is requested to cover the cost of the lunch and meeting.

For information on the Catholic Men’s Luncheon Club, contact its president, Tim Merkle, at htm@ejhlaw.com.



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24 Hours for the Lord

Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, will be taking part in the worldwide “24 Hours for the Lord” Lenten initiative sponsored by the Pontifical Council for the New Evangelization on Friday and Saturday, March 4 and 5.

Pope Francis is inviting every parish around the world to open its doors for 24 hours so that the faithful might encounter Jesus Christ anew in Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The initiative also is intended to be a time of reflection and prayer, an opportunity to speak with a priest, and a chance to rediscover, or perhaps discover for the first time, the great mercy at the heart of the Catholic faith.

The schedule of “24 Hours” activities at St. John Neumann is as follows:

Friday, March 4: Adoration, 4 to 8:30 p.m. in the chapel, 8:30 p.m. to midnight in the church, including a Holy Hour with worship music from 8:30 to 9:30; Stations of the Cross, 6:45 to 7:30 p.m. in the church; Lenten reflection presentation, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the church; Reconciliation, 8:30 p.m. to midnight in the church.

Saturday, March 5: Adoration, midnight to 8 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the chapel, 2 to 3 p.m. in the church, and 3 to 3:45 p.m. in the chapel; Mass, 8 a.m. in the chapel; Reconciliation, 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the church.

For more information, contact Amy Davis at (614) 579-0874 or amymdavis@hotmail.com.

Movies That Touch Our Hearts

ReMoved, the story of a 10-year-old girl navigating her way through the foster care system after being removed from her home and separated from her younger brother, is the next film in the “Movies That Touch Our Hearts” series at the Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. It will be shown at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 10.

Described as being one of the most realistic portrayals of the challenges faced by all who are involved in foster care, the film is used by social service agencies as a tool for training case workers who work with children, their families, and foster parents.

After the film is shown, there will be a discussion with LaVeda Foster, a case worker for Buckeye Ranch, who has worked for years with the foster system, plus another adult who will share from personal experience what it’s like to grow up in the foster system.

A free-will offering will be taken to support the center’s work. Those interested in attending are asked to register online at cccenterofpeace.org, email corpuschristicenterofpeace@gmail.com, or call (614) 512-3731.

Answering God's Call

TELEVISION PROGRAM LED HER TO VOCATION



Sr. Marjorie Davis, OP

by Tim Puet

A call from God to a religious vocation may come at any time, and in what may seem to be an unlikely place. Sister Marjorie Davis, OP, said the moment she began to recognize her call came while watching a made-for-television movie.

The program which changed her life was “A Time for Miracles,” an ABC Movie of the Week which was shown in 1980 and featured Kate Mulgrew as St. Elizabeth Seton, the first saint born in the United States. St. Elizabeth was a widowed mother of five who founded the Sisters of Charity at Emmitsburg, Maryland, in 1810 and spent the 10 remaining years of her life pioneering Catholic education in this country.

Sister Marjorie said she had not seriously thought about the religious life before watching the movie, although she was an involved parishioner at Westerville St. Paul Church. At the time, she was 32, was employed as a secretary, had been engaged at one point, and was active in the dating scene.

“When I saw Mother Seton’s story, something began to happen to me which I now recognize as a call from God,” she said. “At first, I thought what I was feeling was a joke and it couldn’t really be God speaking to me. But as I thought about it some more, I realized ‘Oh my God! This is real!’ and began feeling an excitement I couldn’t have imagined.”

Sister Marjorie, 67, grew up as the third child in a family of six who lived a short distance from Our Lady of Peace Church in north Columbus. After graduating from Columbus Bishop Watterson High School, she was a secretary for Chemical Abstracts Service for two years before going to Ohio Dominican College (now University).

During some of her college summers, she was a waitress at Yellowstone and Glacier national parks. After graduating from Ohio Dominican in 1972 with a degree in social work, she was employed at the former Jai Lai restaurant near The Ohio State University. The Jai Lai was the favorite eating place of OSU football coach Woody Hayes and his wife, Anne. “They were there all the time. I remember Anne would have pumpkin pie and Woody would have chocolate ice cream,” she said.

Sister Marjorie also lived for a year in St. Paul, Minnesota, with friends she had made while working in the West. Moving back to Columbus, she did secretarial work for a law firm and a concrete company. An important point in her faith life came when she took part in a Christ Renews His Parish weekend at St. Paul Church in the late 1970s.

“Through that weekend and other supportive, educational programs and lots of prayer, support of family and friends, and spiritual direction, I found myself trying to discern where God was calling me to serve,” she said.

The realization that her call was to the religious life began a two-year period in which she worked with Sister Noreen Malone, OP, who at the time was with the diocesan vocations office, to determine which order of sisters might be best for her. She considered several congregations, but said “I kept coming back to the Dominicans,” who had educated her at Our Lady of Peace, Watterson, and ODC.

Dominican “Sister Catherine Colby began talking with me, and we just clicked,” she said. “I knew she was really listening to me.

Father Jim Petry, who was at St. Paul’s at the time, led the Christ Renews His Parish retreats and became my spiritual director. He gave me a lot of books which helped develop my faith, as I came to realize I was really thirsting for God and didn’t want this to be just another fad.”

Sister Marjorie entered the community of the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace) in 1982, making her first profession of vows on Aug. 11, 1985, and her final profession on the same day three years later.

After taking her first vows, she was employed at Ohio Dominican’s financial aid office for two years. From 1987 to 1990, she was involved in what she describes as her favorite ministry, working at The Dwelling Place in New York City, a transitional shelter for homeless women in Manhattan.

“I worked individually with the women living there, giving them money and medicine and helping them learn social skills so they could obtain housing and live on their own,” she said. “Through that experience, I realized how I wanted to use my social work degree to help others.”

She has lived and worked in Columbus since returning from New York. She obtained a master’s degree in social work from OSU in 1992 and was a case manager and team leader for the Southeast Community Mental Health Center from 1991 to 1996 and again for a brief period in 2008. From 1996 to 2004, she was social services director for the Mohun Health Care Center. During much of that period at Mohun and through 2007, she also was part of the vocations ministry for her congregation.

“The Mohun center is unique because it’s for retired priests and religious,” she said. “More than at most places, you become their family, since the residents are unmarried and in many cases are the last surviving sibling of a family.”

The year of 2008 was a memorable one for Sister Marjorie because, shortly after returning to work for Southeast, she was diagnosed with lung cancer, “even though I never smoked,” she said. “Through a combination of chemotherapy, the care I received at the Zangmeister treatment center, a positive attitude, and, above all, prayer, I’m in remission now,” she said.

“The experience has taught me to live each day fully, do the best I can, and know that if I die, I’m going to see God. It’s a win-win situation, so I’m at peace with whatever happens.”

Sister Marjorie decided that when she returned to work in 2009 after her cancer treatment, she wanted to do something different. Three days after considering a position with the Dominicans’ Heartland Farm in Great Bend, Kansas, she was asked if she would consider becoming campus minister at ODU.

She accepted that post and has been there ever since. Since 2013, she also has been one of about a half-dozen members of her congregation across the nation who serve as core animators, a position which involves support for the vocations ministry in their geographic area.

In these ministries and whatever she does in the future, Sister Marjorie said, “I want to be a witness of God’s love; to be a productive role model of living the Gospel life, trying to be there for everyone, trying to bring about a more just world and to be as involved as I can with the world.”

Mount Carmel Celebrates Grand Opening of MC Fitness & Health

A blessing ceremony was conducted to mark the grand opening of MC Fitness & Health, a new state-of-the-art health and fitness facility in Lewis Center operated by Mount Carmel Health. MC Fitness & Health is the largest and most comprehensive facility of its kind in central Ohio and will blend elements of wellness, fitness, and medical care.

The 130,000-square-foot facility at U.S. Route 23 and Corduroy Road includes a state-of-the-art fitness center, a demonstration kitchen for healthy cooking classes, a healthy food cafe, and a spa.

In the tradition of Mount Carmel's people-centered care, MC Fitness & Health will provide a personalized approach to help patients and fitness center members be at their best health and reach their wellness, nutrition, and fitness goals through health assessments, followed by a personalized program for each member.

Most of the center is dedicated to keeping people healthy, but a medical services area is included for when people inevitably get sick or injured. Inte-

grated medical care will be offered in the form of an emergency department, cardiac rehabilitation, chronic disease management, imaging services, occupational health, physical therapy, and a women's health center, along with other primary care and specialty physician offices, including Mount Carmel Sports Medicine Specialists.

Deacon Jeffrey Fortkamp, director of acquisitions and integration for the Mount Carmel Medical Group, blessed the facility. The blessing reflected on the commitment of Mount Carmel to bring opportunities for health and wellness to individuals and families living in Delaware County.

"As the health care industry continues to transition away from just treating people after they are already sick, to one that focuses on prevention and keeping people well, Mount Carmel is at the forefront of this change in central Ohio. This facility embodies that leadership," said Dr. Richard Streck, Mount Carmel executive vice president and chief clinical operations officer, during the ceremony.



"MC Fitness & Health is a demonstration of our commitment to transform the way health care is delivered in central Ohio, and we are very proud to provide this healthy-living destination to the residents of Delaware County," Streck said.

For more information, visit www.mountcarmelhealth.com/mcfitnesshealth.

Photo: Attending the blessing ceremony and grand opening for the MC Fitness & Health Center in Lewis Center were (from left): Deacon Jeffrey Fortkamp, director of acquisitions and integration, Mount Carmel Medical Group; Aaron Whittaker,

president and chief executive officer, Mount Carmel Medical Group; Brett Justice, vice president of strategic advancement, Mount Carmel Health System; Rob Quigley, Orange Township trustee; Dr. Richard Streck, executive vice president and chief operations officer, Mount Carmel Health System; Unhee Kim, president, Mount Carmel St. Ann's; Lisa Knapp, Orange Township trustee; Peg Bravo, vice president of operations, Power Wellness; Barb Lewis, Delaware County commissioner; Dr. Frank Orth, Mount Carmel Emergency Care; Deanna Stewart, president, Mount Carmel Foundation; Jarrod Daddis, managing principal, NexCore; and Tom Rhind, president, Power Wellness. Photo courtesy Mount Carmel Health

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LIVING Faith

Always and Everywhere

Earlier this week, I had only one student for my evening strength class. I was a little disappointed that more people didn't make it to class, even though I understand that work, traffic, family plans, or simply being tired after working all day can make it hard for people to make it to class.

However, this turned out to be a great opportunity for me to work one-to-one with this student on his weightlifting technique.

I ended up training, as well, because it makes it more fun for the student, and it can be helpful, especially if the student is a visual learner.

We had a great time challenging each other to moving well and lifting strong.

Our conversation shifted from training to a new topic when the student began talking about a personal struggle. I listened and offered encouraging words. I felt blessed to know this student, who has been

working to develop new, healthy habits for the past few months.

By the end of class, we both were feeling energized from talking, laughing, and training.

As I was driving home, I said a little prayer for my student. Life can be hard, and praying for each other is so powerful. I am really proud of my student's progress inside and outside the gym; I prayed that this child of God will continue to be strong and active in the faith during daily life.

I started thinking about how God felt so present to me, through this student, in the gym while we were training. I am always a little surprised that God's presence is so clear to me in my workplace, in the middle of what I do every day.

But why not? God is always and everywhere, which surely means he is where we are in the midst of our ordinary activities. How often do I miss seeing him



Holy and Healthy
Lori Crock

because I am too busy?

The one-to-one time with my student was an important reminder to me that God reaches us through the people and events in our daily lives just as powerfully as he does in our quiet prayer time. But if we are moving too fast, we'll surely miss the little miracles.

"I see in my neighbor the Person of Jesus Christ."
-- St. Gerard Majella.

Lori Crock is a wife, mother, Plain City St. Joseph Church parishioner, strength and movement coach, and owner of MoveStrong Kettlebells in Dublin.



Wil Price, Eagle Scout

Wil Price of Gahanna St. Matthew Church and Boy Scout Troop 317 in Gahanna has earned the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest honor in Scouting. He is pictured with his grandmother and grandfather, Margo Price and Carl Tisone. His Eagle service project was to assist the city of Gahanna with its Grow Zone initiative by planting trees and building bird boxes at Fleet Run Reserve. Price is a junior at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, where he is a member of the water polo and swim teams. Mike Swaney is scoutmaster of the troop. Tom Liszkay was scoutmaster for most of the period when Price was working on becoming an Eagle.

Photo courtesy Steve Price

Sacredness in family life program

National speaker Dr. Jo Ann Paradise (pictured) will present a workshop on "Rediscovering the Sacredness of Family Life" from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 10 at Gahanna St. Matthew Church, 807 Havens Corners Road.

This workshop will explore Catholic teaching on the "domestic church" that roots marriage in vocation and vocation in baptism. Participants will be given concrete tools and practical skills for developing ways to evangelize parents so that they are more equipped and inspired to be intentional about forming their children in faith. Teacher-catechists, parents, and grandparents are invited.

The workshop is sponsored by the diocesan Office of Religious Education and Catechesis, with the support of *Our Sunday Visitor*



Publishing. Light snacks will be provided, and 1.5 hours of religious education certification methods/enrichment credit will be awarded.

To register, email orec@cducation.org or call Sandy Lape at (614) 221-4633, extension 1341 by Friday, March 4.

Paradise is a national consultant for the *Our Sunday Visitor* curriculum division. She has been a catechetical leader in the Diocese of Pittsburgh for more than 30 years and is a former teacher in Catholic elementary and secondary schools. She holds a doctoral degree in spirituality and has a deep love for the retreat work she does with catechetical leaders, principals, teachers and catechists. Through her stories, she helps faithful adults develop the skills they need to be heralds of the Good News.



Award Recipient

Alexandra Weikert of Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School has been chosen as one of 12 recipients of the Outstanding Young Women of 2016 award from the Zonta Club of Columbus. She will be honored at a luncheon and will have an opportunity to win a \$1,000 scholarship.

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School

Diocese of Columbus Annual Catholic Women's Conference Keeps Growing

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, Catholic Times

In nine years, the annual Catholic Women's Conference of the Diocese of Columbus has become what its organizers describe as the largest event of its type in the nation.

A record-setting crowd of more than 3,000 women attended this year's conference on Saturday, Feb. 20 in the Voinovich Center at the State Fairgrounds to hear talks by Jennifer Fulwiler, Father Nathan Cromley, CSJ, and Sonja Corbitt, and music by Sarah Kroger.

About twice as many women attended this year's event than were able to make it to the 2015 conference, which was affected by a seven-inch snowfall that kept many of those who purchased tickets from attending. This year, the temperature on the day of the conference was above 50 degrees, but conference co-chair Julie Naproano said the weather wasn't as much of a factor in the increased attendance as one might expect.

"There were only about 100 walk-ins who bought tickets at the door," she said. "It was great to have nice weather, but we knew earlier that we'd have a record crowd this year, unless we had a repeat of last year's weather, because of the pace of advance sales. Women who have been to past conferences spread their enthusiasm about it to their friends.

"Attracting this many women shows that women are craving to be together for a day of spirituality, to know God more. Even in this big crowd, we know God is

speaking to us as individuals, through the speakers who are telling their own story of faith."

Following recital of the rosary, a Mass celebrated by Bishop Frederick Campbell, and remarks by Father Thomas Blau, OP, of Columbus St. Patrick Church, one of five Dominican friars in Columbus appointed by Pope Francis as missionaries of mercy, Fulwiler told her story of conversion from atheism to Catholicism.

She said she grew up in a household where her father was an atheist and her mother was a "Macy-ist," someone more concerned with what was on sale at Macy's than with anything concerning religion. She said her father, an engineer who believed something to be true only if it could be scientifically proven and who thought of religion as dangerous, raised her not to be an atheist because he said so, but to seek truth and question assumptions.

She said her conversion came in five steps: meeting her husband; realizing love exists; asking "What if it's true?"; being baptized; and seeing Jesus not as a concept, but as a person.

Fulwiler lives in Austin, Texas, where she met her husband, Joe, when both were working at a technology company in Austin. The Fulwilers have six children under age 12.

Her husband, though baptized in a Protestant denomination as a teenager, was "a Christian who did not follow the traditional code" when the couple met. He gave Fulwiler her first significant exposure to religion, but "we both worshipped the same god. Lifestyle and career were

our real gods," she said.

The birth of the couple's first child was a significant moment. "Joe and I were both only children, so this whole baby thing blew my mind," she said. "I began thinking, and I started questioning my atheism. 'What is this child? Just a precious little randomly evolved set of chemical reactions? This is false,' I thought. Giving birth made me realize love was real, that it came from something eternal and would exist beyond us. I thought about prayer, but I didn't know what to do. So I said, 'God, if you're out there, I'm open to hearing from you.' Then I said 'Amen' because that's what I heard people saying on TV."

Fulwiler said because she didn't receive a magic answer to her prayer, she dabbled in Buddhism for a few months. Then she read *The Case for Christ*, a book by Lee Strobel, himself a former atheist, in which he described his own conversion, which was similar to Fulwiler's experience.

Strobel looked at the transformation in the lives of the Apostles, their willingness to accept persecution and, in most cases, execution, and at how Christianity spread throughout the Roman Empire despite constant efforts to suppress it. He concluded none of this could have happened unless Jesus had indeed risen from the dead and Christianity was true.

"With my logical background, I kept asking 'What if?' questions. 'What if God did become a man and died for us? What if before Jesus returned to heaven, he founded a church, made of imperfect people but conveying perfect truth? What if he promised to be with them forever? What if that church is still around?'" she asked.

While in the midst of posing these questions, she had started a blog. She was confused by how people had varying interpretations of Scripture when it came to topics related to respect for all life, and she found that everyone who responded in a consistent matter on the subject, "everyone who I had picked to demolish atheism," was Catholic.

This led her to the Catholic Church as "the only thing that makes sense." In studying the church's *Catechism*, she found it to be "like an owner's manual to the human soul. Yes, the Church has al-

Left: Father Cromley lifts the monstrance containing the Eucharist during Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Right: Conference attendees listen to Fulwiler's story of conversion.



Featured speakers at the 2016 diocesan Catholic Women's Conference were (from left) Jennifer Fulwiler, Sonja Corbitt, and Father Nathan Cromley, CSJ. At right is an overhead view of the crowd of 3,000 for the Feb. 20 event at the Voinovich Center on the State Fairgrounds. (CT photos by Ken Snow)

ways had its corrupt and sinful people," she said, "but for 2,000 years, it has been speaking the same wisdom. It's usually been the most hated institution on the planet, but it will not go away. If it's filled with sinful people, why is it still here? It's because the fingerprint of God is on this institution."

She and Joe entered the Catholic Church together in 2007 at the Easter Vigil. Over the subsequent years, they've had several remarkable experiences she attributes to God's mercy, including her giving birth to six children despite a blood clotting disorder made more difficult by pregnancy. Her father says he's no longer an atheist, but an agnostic — someone open to the possibility God exists — "who takes my kids to church and spends more time

there than I do," she said.

Fulwiler concluded her talk by saying that after she was baptized in 2007, she was going through a drawer of old things and found a long, narrow box which held a candle. "My mom's parents were Catholic, and this was my baptism candle. I was baptized Catholic, was Catholic all along, and didn't know it," she said.

She then told the audience, "Perhaps you have loved ones who have been baptized and have turned away from the Church. I'm here to tell you there's hope for them. Keep praying for them, because, like me, they have belonged to Christ all along."

Father Cromley, a member of the Community of St. John in Laredo, Texas, is a Toledo native and a promoter of total consecration to Jesus through Mary. He

opened his talk by turning the "OH-IO" cheer into one for "MA-RY" and said women have been entrusted by God to be "his special emissaries, doing a job no man can do."

"God has entrusted everyone he created into your hands, to be with him, like Mary, as he opens his side to give new birth to humanity," he said. "God gave rebirth to this universe with Mary through the cross. ... On behalf of all priests, thank you for standing at the foot of the cross."

"Jesus could have saved this world with a smile," Father Cromley said. "But he had one shot, and his best shot was the cross. Any time religion removes itself from the cross, it removes itself from the source of its power. It's the same with individuals. The cross is our only hope, and it's the role of the New Evangelization to bring the world to the cross and to let the power of the resurrection shine through it."

"You are the primary agent of culture in your family," he told the women. "This is true of everyone to whom your heart dares to be bound. You are to go where no one else will go, to show the face of mercy, the face of Jesus. ... Satan has a plan to eliminate your strength by taking you away from the word of God. That's what too much of TV and popular culture does. I'm not against those, but who do you listen to most?" he asked.

"Our hearts have become so afraid, so closed that we don't think we are the ones to carry out our mission" to keep families strong, he said. "You can't depend on priests to do it. It's up to you. Get over your fears, go to the foot of the cross with Mary, and become the resurrection yourselves."



"Mary was sinless, but she went through the same trials of faith you are. That's why we need her desperately, because of how she says 'Yes,' though she doesn't understand," he said.

"The vision of evangelization doesn't end with you. It starts with you," Father Cromley said, following that by mentioning his 14 years with Eagle Eye Ministries for young people and his newest venture, the St. John Institute. This program, to be launched in July in cooperation with Walsh University in North Canton, combines philosophy and theology with a fully accredited master of business administration program

"The biggest roadblock to young people giving themselves to the Church is often the people in the Church," he said, noting that the vocations director of the Archdiocese of New York had told him that for young men entering the priesthood, the obstacle they had to overcome most often was the opposition of their mothers.

"If your son wants to be a priest, give him to God, so God can give him to the world as Mary gave her son," he said. "And in the same way, don't hold your husbands or your children back."

Corbitt's talk used the familiar parable of the prodigal son to focus on "the prodigal God."

"Prodigal means generous to a fault," she said. "That's how God's mercy feels, I'm almost afraid to consider the lavishness of that mercy because it makes me feel presumptuous. Yet if it makes us feel overwhelmed, that's where we're supposed to be."

Corbitt lives in the Diocese of Nashville, Tennessee, which has fewer Catholics in proportion to the total population — about 3.5 percent — than almost anywhere else in the nation. She said she comes from a Baptist background in which divisiveness among congregations over personalities is not uncommon.

During one such split, "I was enraged at the people in the church. I wanted to sling lightning bolts at them because they ran our pastor off. That's when I learned my greatest lesson," Corbitt said.

At the time, she was being a part-time caregiver for a disagreeable aunt. "She became my most unlikely teacher," she said. "I was going to serve her because I may not have liked her, but it was my Christian duty. That's what I did, feeling very self-righteous about the whole thing. Then one day after I was cleaning up after her, God came to me and asked 'Sonja, what are you doing?'"

"What am I doing? I'm scrubbing up a mess from the bathroom carpet of a woman I don't like. And in that moment, I came to my senses," she said. "Something came over me and I realized that in spite of everything, I really loved her, that what had begun out of duty had become something I did out of love."

"God told me, 'I feel the same way about those church people you don't like as you now realize your feel about your aunt.' That's when I realized God loves your enemy as much as he loves you," she said. "He's out to do for your enemy just as he does for you. I've never been the same since."

CONFERENCE, *continua* from Page 11

Corbitt said that lesson was of great comfort to her when she herself became a divisive figure after being appointed director of religious education at a parish in Gallatin, Tennessee, not long after becoming a Catholic. The appointment caused resentment among some parishioners who felt that position should not be held by someone new to the Church.

“Ultimately, the bishop had to step in and support me,” she said. “That wouldn’t have happened in my old church, where people would just go and form another congregation. That showed me the unity of the Catholic Church. And if anyone says the Catholic Church doesn’t support women, you can’t prove it by me.”

Corbitt said the parable of the prodigal son is the story of both the profligate younger son and the pouting older son, and that all of us have played both roles at various times.

“The younger son was determined to be lost, and I know I’ve been that way. The older son exaggerated his goodness. ‘This son of yours wasted everything,’ he said. How did he know? If a story isn’t bad enough, we’ll embellish it because we’re self-righteous,” she said.

When we are acting like either son, “we are missing the party” which comes at the end of the story, she said. “I was the prodigal daughter, but eventually, I realized God had been preparing for me to come to the party all along.

“Most of you here are ‘cradle Catholics,’” Corbitt said. “Thank you for holding the fort for 2,000 years so you can be as much of a blessing to us as we who are new to the faith want to be for you.”

She said the key to the parable is in the father’s words to the older son that “You are always with me. All I have is already yours.”

This Jubilee Year of Mercy in the Catholic Church “is meant to teach you to risk big and to throw everything on God’s mercy,” as the prodigal son did to his father. “God cares for you more than for anything you do for him.

Mercy changes everything,” she said, repeating the theme of the conference.

Kroger, a musician from Atlanta, added to the day’s reverent atmosphere with liturgical music between talks and during a Holy Hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and gave her own testimony. “I knew I could sing, but was terrified of ever opening my mouth at an event like this,” she said. “But at a retreat, someone told me ‘If you have a gift from God and know it, but are not using it, you are denying the glory of God within you.’ After that, I said ‘Yes’ to God about singing, and I’ve had an incredible journey.”

She said she asked God what she should concentrate on this year, and the word “presence” came to her. “We have lost the art of being present to people, even as we have become more connected through technology,” she said. “We are desperate for the presence of God. He wants to meet you exactly where you are.”

Columbus Catholic author, broadcaster, and speaker Elizabeth Ficocelli was master of ceremonies for the day, which also included lunch and the opportunity to visit displays from more than 60 Catholic organizations and vendors.

For the first time, the conference was signed for the deaf. For that reason, Susan Bender, who is deaf, traveled to Columbus for the event from St. Patrick Church in Bellefontaine, which is in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

“I’ve known about this conference for years and it’s wonderful to have an interpreter present,” she said in sign language. “Everyone’s stories have been so powerful, and seeing them interpreted makes them so much more clear.”

Christine Stepien of Hilliard St. Brendan Church also was able to hear the



Gina Cecutti (left) of Catholic Youth Summer Camp talks to Paula Alves of Marion St. Mary Church and her 12-year-old daughter, Vincenza, at a conference display. CT photo by Ken Snow

speakers through the signers. “There’s so much I want to know about the faith, and today I received a great education,” she says. “It’s an amazing

feeling to be among 3,000 women and to get a powerful sense of the presence of God and how we can bring that presence to the world.”



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St. Margaret of Cortona 1600 N. Hague Ave. Phone: 614.279.1690

18th Annual **Best in Town** **Fish Fry** **Free seconds!**

Every Friday from February 12 - March 18 • 4:30 - 7:30 pm

BEST IN TOWN!

fried ocean perch, baked cod, baked potatoes, french fries
baked steak fries, coleslaw or apple sauce, rolls & butter
free coffee, home made desserts, pop & beer extra

Carry-outs available at the door • Adults \$9.50 • Seniors \$9.00 • Children (10 & under) \$4.50

St. Matthew Music Educator Receives \$2,500 Grant from Columbus Symphony

The Columbus Symphony recently announced the winners of its 2016 music educator awards, honoring individuals who make a difference in the community through a dedication to music education and promotion of a greater understanding of and appreciation for the art form.

The 2016 music educator award for elementary education went to Randy Frazier, general music, choir, and drama director at Gahanna St. Matthew School. He will receive a \$2,500 grant to spend at his discretion on music education endeavors. Past winners have used the

money to host guest instructors, repair instruments, take professional development classes, or purchase new instruments, computer software, and music.

Frazier (*pictured*) is a music specialist at St. Matthew School, where he teaches more than 600 students in grades kindergarten through eight. He earned a bachelor's degree in music education in 2000 from The Ohio State University, where he was a member of the symphonic choir, chorale, men's glee club, symphonic band, and marching band. In 2008, Frazier earned a master's degree in music education with

Kodaly emphasis from Capital University, where he graduated with distinction. He oversees St. Matthew's music program for all grade levels, preparing students for participation in a Christmas performance, a Veterans Day performance, four musical theater productions, nine talent shows, and a diocesan honor choir each year. Additionally, he teaches fourth- and fifth-grade students to play the soprano recorder, which is sometimes used at Mass. Frazier also gives private lessons and serves on the planning committee for



the diocesan honor choir program. He is a former member of the Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral choir and schola and the Columbus Cecilia Singers, and is director and tenor of the *a cappella* vocal group Voice-Quad, best-known for its performances as Victorian Christmas carolers at the Easton Town Center.

He will be presented with his award at a dinner on Saturday, April 16, at the Sheraton Capitol Square Hotel, followed by a presentation on the stage of the Ohio Theater before the Columbus Symphony concert that evening.

All You Can Eat! Friday 5:00 - 7:30 pm
LENTEEN FAMILY



Knights of Columbus
Council 10765



EVERYONE WELCOME!

St. Joan of Arc Church Feb. 12 - March 18

10700 Liberty Road, Powell  Find us on Facebook www.bestfishfry.com

London St. Patrick Logo Competition

Concepts submitted by London-area residents Abby Swierz and Nick Young (*pictured*) inspired the logo design for this year's 150th anniversary celebration of London St. Patrick Church.

Swierz is an eighth-grade student at St. Patrick School. Young is a home-schooled eighth-grader and a member of the parish youth group.

A contest to select the winning ideas for the logo was open to all St. Patrick School students, as well as students in the Parish School of Religion and youth group. Members of the 150th anniversary committee selected the two winners from about 100 entries.

"Abby and Nick had similar concepts of using a Celtic cross with Celtic knotting," said Deacon Dan Hann, committee chairman. "Abby drew the detailed St. Patrick image for the center of her design. She also developed the lettering font. Nick's proportions for the Celtic cross, as well as his intricate Celtic knotting, were used in the finished logo."

Andrew Carter, Caleb Cline, Zach Swierz, Emma Scott, and Lily Jones



were semifinalists in the contest.

The finished design will appear on parish T-shirts, stationery, and publications throughout the year.

Festivities will kick off with a 5:30 p.m. Mass on St. Patrick's Day, Thursday, March 17, at the church. Dinner in the parish center will follow. The meal will feature corned beef, cabbage, and stew. A children's menu will be available.

Other 150th anniversary commemorative events include a parish trip to Ireland in April and a reunion of St. Patrick School alumni in August.

"There are additional projects that are ongoing," Deacon Hann noted.

Bishop Frederick Campbell will celebrate Mass at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 30, to conclude the anniversary observance.

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

Spring Clean-up!

CEMETERY field workers will be removing winter-time and artificial decorations from graves and mausoleums at all Catholic cemeteries beginning March 1, 2016.

WE request that families wishing to retain any personal keepsakes, to please remove them by March 1.

DUE to the number of decorations involved, the cemetery staff can not be responsible for collecting or storing personal items. Thank you for your cooperation.

STD SEPH
614-491-275

RESURRECTION
614-8 185

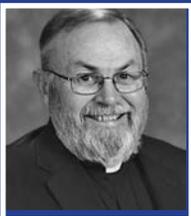
MTC ALVARY
614-491-275

HOLYC ROSS
740-927-4442



Third Sunday of Lent (Cycle C)

Removal of sandals and untying of personal knots



Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

**Exodus 3:1-8a,13-15;
1 Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12;
Luke 13:1-9**

Where the scrutiny takes place for RCIA participants, most parishes will use the alternate readings from Cycle "A" for the next three weeks. We will address only the readings for the "C" cycle.

In Exodus, Moses encounters "the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob." Note how the Hebrew author uses the same expression for each of the ancestors ("the God of your fathers, the God of ..."). Rabbis later remarked about the consistency of the expression, that like each of the patriarchs, so each person must believe in God based on personal decision, not just on what has been handed down (see *The Jewish Study Bible* by the Jewish Publication Society).

Moses is told to remove his sandals as he approaches the burning bush. Among many other explanations for the custom of removing sandals in approaching holy places is the idea that we should untie all knots before approaching God. Isn't that what we do when we approach God in sincere and honest prayer? We lay ourselves bare and untie all the knots we get ourselves into. A wonderful thought, whether it's connected to this custom or not!

By asking the name of God, Moses thinks he will have more credibility when he comes to his kinsmen to tell them God has sent him. The name itself is not very helpful. People have struggled for centuries trying to give meaning to what has no meaning. It is mystery and remains so. It is a way of saying to Moses and to all later generations, "You can come this close, but no

closer." Like the place where Moses encountered the Lord (this far, but no farther), so the divine name can reveal only so much, but no more.

Luke's Gospel reading presents Jesus' response to questions raised about certain tragedies that occurred. Jesus says those affected by the events were not any guiltier of sin than anyone else. Although we have no independent report of Pilate mixing Galilean blood with the blood of sacrifices the Galileans themselves were offering, it was certainly possible that Pilate could have done such a thing (a man's inhumanity to men). We also have no other witness about the tower at Siloam falling and killing 18 people. (Wrong place, wrong time. See Father Fitzmyer's commentary.) In either case, Jesus says their deaths were not because of their sins.

These two incidents and the parable of the barren fig tree are unique to Luke. Luke uses the untimely deaths of the people mentioned as a warning to his audience about the need to repent, lest they suffer a far worse fate. The parable, which some think similar to, but certainly not the same as Mark 11:12-14,20, shows the need to respond to the loving care offered by God now, while it is possible. The fig tree will be cut down if it does not produce fruit. On the other hand, some have deemed this a "parable of mercy," stressing the merciful care of the gardener for the tree, rather than looking to its destruction. The actions of Jesus in healing the sick and freeing the oppressed represent the same kind of loving care the gardener gives to the fig tree.

In the Corinthians reading, Paul indulges in some Christian "midrash," which is a rabbinic way of explaining a Biblical text. Paul presumes his readers know the basic story of the Exodus, as he refers to "the cloud, the sea, the food, the drink, the rock, and the grumbling." Paul combines all this imagery to speak of baptism and Eucharist. He also notes that all of this has been done "as a warning for us, upon whom the end of the ages has come." So they believed and so Paul taught.

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

Wooden rosaries made for presents

Students at Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Childcare each painted a wooden bead in a shade of pink to honor St. Valentine. The beads were used to assemble two large rosaries, one of which will be given to the Pontifical College Josephinum, while the other will be used by students in the school's chapel. The school, located at 4567 Olentangy River Road, Columbus, serves students from infants (six weeks and older) to kindergarten. It will have an open house from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 6. Open enrollment for school (age 2 through kindergarten) and the summer program (age 2½ through sixth grade) is under way.

Photo courtesy Our Lady of Bethlehem School



The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
2 Kings 5:1-15b
Psalm 42:2-3;43:3-4
Luke 4:24-30

TUESDAY
Daniel 3:25,34-43
Psalm 25:4-5b,6,7bc,8-9
Matthew 18:21-35

WEDNESDAY
Deuteronomy 4:1,5-9
Psalm 147:12-13,15-16,19-20
Matthew 5:17-19

THURSDAY
Jeremiah 7:23-28
Psalm 95:1-2,6-9
Luke 11:14-23

FRIDAY
Hosea 14:2-10
Psalm 81:6c-11b,14,17
Mark 12:28-34

SATURDAY
Hosea 6:1-6
Psalm 51:3-4,18-21b
Luke 18:9-14

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 28, 2016

SUNDAY MASS

10:30 a.m. Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

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

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

(Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight). Mass from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 6:30 a.m. on ION TV (AT&T U-verse Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirecTV Channel 305).

DAILY MASS

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

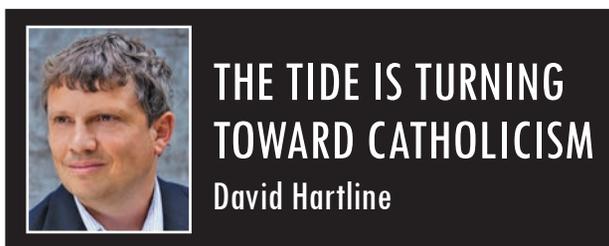
We pray Week III, Seasonal Proper of the Liturgy of the Hours

Your Mission, Should You Decide to Accept It

One of the earliest television memories I can remember is from the opening segment of the original *Mission: Impossible* television show, in which a tape recorder started to smoke as a voice bellowed, “Your mission, should you decide to accept it, is...” This was followed by the same voice saying, “This tape will self-destruct in five seconds,” with the tape then sizzling and disintegrating. Kids today would find such special effects primitive, but if you were growing up then, it was a big deal. Oddly enough, this has a parallel in the life of a believer, God never forces us to do the good he wants, just as no one on the *Mission: Impossible* team was forced to follow an assignment, but it is in our own self-interest to follow his will.

I thought about this during a six-hour drive to the Kitchener-Waterloo area of Canada, where I recently gave a talk. I spoke to the “Faith and Froth” group organized by Dr. David Wang and his wife, Dr. Jodie Wang. They are two very special people whose intellect and generosity is eclipsed only by their faith. You’d better have faith if you are raising nine children in this modern era. They live in Canada’s high-tech corridor, that nation’s version of Silicon Valley. As you can imagine, it is hardly a place where faith naturally flourishes.

However, the Wangs feel called to change that equation. Perhaps Dave’s father, a happy-go-lucky 86-year-old who barely escaped the wrath of Mao Zedong’s Communist forces, has something to do with it. Though many members of his family violently and brutally perished at the hands of Mao’s men, he in-



**THE TIDE IS TURNING
TOWARD CATHOLICISM**
David Hartline

stilled in his children the importance of faith, having seen firsthand the work of those who want to violently extinguish that faith.

I have spoken at “Faith and Froth” before and once again was impressed with the diverse Catholic group that assembles to hear the various speakers the Wangs bring to their talks. These folks have accepted their mission and are doing what they can to better themselves and those around them. A potluck dinner is served before the talk, with beverages being served during the talk and often continuing to be consumed long into the night. Members of the group talk about the personal peaks and valleys in their spiritual lives, and the conversation often is steered toward more lofty subjects. There also is lots of humor on display, lest anyone think too much of themselves.

I told the group that this meeting wasn’t that much different than an early Christian gathering of 2,000 years ago, aside from an occasional text coming in on someone’s cell phone or the light that was electronically produced and the heat that thankfully kept us all warm in a Canadian winter.

God occasionally calls us to be alone for a period of time while he molds and shapes us, but for the over-

whelming majority of our earthly existence, we are called to be surrounded by inspiring, faith-filled people. Everyone needs community – lay people (young and old), priests, sisters, and even monks and nuns living in remote communities. We need each other to help us preserve and reach our goals.

This doesn’t mean we are not called to associate with those who have no faith or with people who belittle us. Jesus called us to be in the world, helping even the ne’er-do-wells. Jesus just doesn’t want us to be shaped by their influence and their ways.

You don’t have to be a psychiatrist or a sociologist to realize that as our world is increasingly more individualistic and less community-oriented, all kinds of pathologies are going to happen, from violence to odd and disturbing behavior. People need people. Even the most self-assured introverts need the company of others, whether it be close friends or just someone they feel comfortable enough to bounce ideas off of and share dreams and disappointments.

We are about halfway through Lent. Easter will be here before you know it, and hopefully you won’t be kicking yourself for another missed Lenten opportunity for spiritual growth. Soon, the weather will turn warmer and our minds will ponder pleasant, warm summer thoughts. There’s no better time than the present to accept your mission, find more time for a group get-together, and maybe even seek out someone who might need a little camaraderie and friendship.

Hartline is the author of “The Tide is Turning Toward Catholicism” and a former teacher and administrator for the diocese.

Church safety sessions

The Diocese of Columbus is offering free training sessions on church safety and security, presented by OSS-International, which will provide valuable information to parish staff members and volunteers on how to help keep their environment safe and secure for all parishioners and guests.

Topics will include a historical perspective of known issues that can occur in church settings; how to perform a parish security assessment; methods to de-escalate confrontational situations; and general safety guidelines and tips.

The sessions will last from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and are scheduled on Saturdays at three sites around the diocese. Dates and locations are: March 12, New Albany Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road; April 2, Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul Church, 303 E. High St.; and April 16, Circleville St. Joseph Church, 134 Mound St.

All clergy, staff, and other interested persons are invited. A light lunch will be offered at each session. Please RSVP to the diocesan Chancery at (614) 224-2251 if you plan to attend so there can be a good head count for each session.



Merit Scholarship Finalists

Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School seniors Julia Murray (left) and Brittany Truong have been recognized as finalists in the 2016 National Merit Scholarship Program. They are among about 15,000 finalists who are eligible for about 8,000 scholarships to be awarded in the spring. Academic records, participation in school and community activities, leadership ability, employment, and honors and awards received are all considered in determining scholarship recipients.

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School

St. Pius X parish mission

The spiritual life committee of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, will host the annual parish mission at 7 p.m. Sunday, March 13 to Tuesday, March 15. “Life of Passion, Life of Love” will be the theme of this year’s mission, with Adam Storey, director of the marriage and family life office for the Diocese of Des Moines, Iowa, as the featured speaker.

Storey will speak about how a life of passion must be rooted in a loving relationship with Jesus Christ. It is in Jesus where we encounter the most passionate lover conceivable and where we find fulfillment of our heart’s deepest desires. He will explore the value of this relationship, discuss common challenges to the relationship, and offer five practical, simple ways for everyone to grow closer to God.

The topic for the first night will be “Passionate Hearts,” about entering into a loving relationship with God. Subsequent topics will be “When the Rubber Meets the Road,” showing that developing and nurturing a relationship with Jesus is accessible to all of us, and “Let’s Get Real,” talking about small patterns of holiness every Christian can embark upon each day.

For information, call Leah Kelly at (614) 866-2859.

Pray for our dead

ABEL, Robert L., 91, Feb. 18
Sacred Heart Church, Coshocton

BELMONT, Philip J., 70, Feb. 20
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

BILLS, Wilbur H., 89, Feb. 20
St. Mary Church, Delaware

CARROLL, Raymond, 76, Feb. 15
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

CERVI, Daniel J., 51, Feb. 18
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

DISTELHORST, Michael, 67, Feb. 17
St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

DUFFY, Ralph A., 75, Feb. 18
St. Mark Church, Lancaster

FERGUSON, Mary C., 62, Feb. 14
St. Anthony Church, Columbus

FREDERICKS, Marian "Bonnie," 95, Feb. 17
St. Michael Church, Worthington

HEMMER, Laura J., 90, Feb. 16
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

HUNT-SMITH, Joann, 77, Feb. 16
St. Patrick Church, Columbus

JAUQUAY, Eugene A., 89, Feb. 14
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

KRIVDA, Stephen J., 61, Feb. 12
St. Leo Church, Columbus

LANGHORNE, Olive P., 94, Feb. 11
St. Matthias Church, Columbus

MAGAS, John D., 67, Feb. 16
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

McALLISTER, Alexa "Lex," 31, Feb. 16
Holy Family Church, Columbus

MCCORD, Harold, 88, Feb. 16
St. Rose Church, New Lexington

OUDEKIRK, Kelly D., 49, Feb. 8
St. Mary Church, Delaware

PAYNTER, Loretta E., 89, Feb. 11
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

RAVER, Christina M., 68, Jan. 18
St. Ladislav Church, Columbus

REED, Cheryl L., 59, Feb. 15
St. Matthias Church, Columbus

REEDER, David W., 88, Feb. 17
St. Thomas More Newman Center, Columbus

ZIEMBA, Colleen A., 61, Feb. 15
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

David A. Glenn

Funeral Mass for David A. Glenn, 88, who died Saturday, Feb. 6 was held Friday, Feb. 12 at Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church. Burial was at Evergreen Burial Park, Columbus.

He was born Feb. 16, 1928 to Lee and Rebecca Glenn, and was a graduate of Columbus St. Dominic School, Columbus Bishop Hartley High School, and Ohio Dominican College. He served for several years as executive director of the St. John Learning Center, was a service bailiff for Frank-

lin County Municipal Court, most recently was a clerk for Franklin County Probate Court and operated his own insurance agency. He also was a Boy Scout leader at Columbus St. Dominic Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Jack. Survivors include his former wife, Margarita; sons, Elango (Jakia) and David (Jessica); daughters, Marilynda (Bryan) and Amanda; siblings, Lois and Beverly; and 12 grandchildren.

Martha Sheeran

Funeral Mass for Martha Sheeran, who died Friday, Feb. 5 was held Thursday, Feb. 11 at Columbus Christ the King Church. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was a graduate of St. Mary of the Springs College, receiving its distinguished alumnus award in 1988, and was retired corporate communications

director for Nationwide Insurance.

She was a charter member of Christ the King Church and its longtime organist. She was a member of the Catholic Women's League and several other organizations.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James. Survivors include many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Sonja L. Brown

A funeral service for Sonja L. Brown, 77, who died Tuesday, Feb. 2, was held Friday, Feb. 6 at the Tidd Funeral Home in Hilliard. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born June 27, 1938 in Ottumwa, Iowa, to Frank and Kate Prosser.

She was a teacher at Columbus St. Mary Magdalene School and was employed by *The Columbus Dispatch* for

25 years. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the PEO Sisterhood, the Hilliard Senior Center, and Silver Sneakers.

She was preceded in death by her father, and husband, James. Survivors include her mother; sons, Bill and David (Jayne Akison); daughters, Julia (Douglas) Frost and Kate (Joseph) Hunyor; 10 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Carol L. Westkamp

Funeral Mass for Carol L. Westkamp, 82, who died Wednesday, Feb. 3, was held Thursday, Feb. 11 at St. Margaret Church in DeFuniak Springs, Florida.

She was born April 11, 1933, in Columbus. She was secretary to the principal at Columbus Bishop Ready high

School for more than 10 years before moving to Florida.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Richard. Survivors include a daughter, Debbie Montenegro; one grandson; one granddaughter; one great-grandson; and two great-granddaughters.

CLASSIFIED

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CHURCH

1559 Roxbury Road, MarbleCliff (Parish Life Center)

FISH FRY DINNERS

Fridays, 2/12 - 3/18, 4:30 - 7 pm

Fresh Ocean Perch (fried)

Baked Potatoes, French Fries or Rice Salad or

Slaw, Beverages, Dessert included

\$9 Adults, \$5 Kids • Carryouts available

LENTE FISH FRY'S - COME JOIN US

ST. ANDREW CHURCH

Nugent Hall (below the church)

1899 McCoy Rd. Upper Arlington

February 12, 19, 26 March 4, 11, 18

4:30 - 7:00 P.M.

Baked cod or deep fried perch, sides, dessert & beverage included, also cheese pizza & mac 'n cheese

Adult \$10, Child (10 and under) \$5

Carryout \$9 / \$4 (no dessert or beverage)

ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH

6077 Sharon Woods Blvd, Columbus

Lenten Fish Fry • February 12

\$9: Adult dinner - Baked & Fried Fish, Shrimp

\$6 Small dinner: Fish or Grilled Cheese

Sandwiches Mac & Cheese

Includes 2 sides, biscuit, dessert & beverage

Carryout available

Followed by a concert by Dan Schutte at 7 p.m.

Concert cost \$15

LENTE FISH FRY

Fridays 5-8 pm, Feb 12-March 18

ST. MICHAEL CHURCH

5750 N. High St., Worthington

Fish Dinner: Regular-\$8; Small-\$6

Macaroni Cheese Dinner - \$6

Clam Chowder, Desserts - \$1

Dine In, Drive Thru & Carryout

ST. MARGARET OF CORTONA CHURCH

1600 N. Hague Ave, Columbus

18TH ANNUAL

"BEST FISH FRY DINNER IN TOWN!"

Fridays during Lent,

Feb. 12th - Mar. 18th, 4:30 - 7:30 PM

Fried Ocean Perch or Baked Cod, with French

Fries, Baked Potato, Baked Steak Fries, Cole

Slaw, Applesauce, Roll & Butter, and homemade

Desserts. Free seconds & coffee!

Adults/\$9.50; Seniors/\$9.00;

Children (10 & under) -\$4.50

Pop, Beer, & Carryouts available. Info: 279-1690

ST. CHRISTOPHER CHURCH

LENTE PASTA DINNER

1420 Grandview Avenue

Trinity School Cafeteria

Fridays: Feb. 12 - March 18 • 5-7pm

\$7.00 for adults/\$4.00 for kids/\$25.00 per Family

Pasta Sauce Provided by local area restaurants

H A P P E N I N G S

FEBRUARY

THROUGH MARCH 20, SUNDAY

40 Days for Life

7 a.m. to 7 p.m., sidewalk in front of Founder's Women's Health Care Center, 1243 E. Broad St., Columbus. 40 Days for Life campaign of daily vigils at clinic. Individuals may sign up for one- or two-hour shifts. Churches, schools, and other organizations may select one day in which their representatives will cover all shifts.

614-445-8508

25, THURSDAY

Pregnancy Decision Health Center Open House

5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Pregnancy Decision Health Center, 5900 Cleveland Ave., Columbus. Open house and tour for prospective volunteers.

614-888-8774, extension 6115

Cenacle at Holy Name

6 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayers in the Cenacle format of the Marian Movement of Priests.

Scripture, Encyclical Study at Marion St. Mary

6 to 7:30 p.m., St. Mary Church, 251 N. Main St., Marion. Study of the Letter of James and the encyclical "Laudato Si" with Deacon Todd Tucky, continuing on Thursdays through March 17.

740-382-2118

Guided Meditation Program at de Porres Center

6 to 7:30 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus. Program introducing guided meditation practices with Dr. Sonia BasSheva Manjon. \$10 suggested donation.

614-416-1910

'Rediscover Jesus' at Plain City St. Joseph

7 to 8 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave., Plain City. Second in five-week series of talks based on "Rediscover Jesus" by Matthew Kelly.

614-873-8850

Holy Hour of Reparation at Columbus Sacred Heart

7 to 8 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour following Holy Hour of Reparation prayer format, concluding with Benediction and social period.

614-372-5249

Sung Vespers at St. Margaret of Cortona

7:30 p.m., St. Margaret of Cortona Church, 1600 N. Hague Ave., Columbus. Sung Vespers, following Stations of the Cross during weekly Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, continuing every Thursday through March 17.

614-279-1690

25-28, THURSDAY-SUNDAY

St. Charles Presents 'The Lady Cries Murder'

8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. School's drama department presents "The Lady Cries Murder," a comedy-drama by John William See. Tickets \$10 adults, \$5 students.

614-252-6714

26, FRIDAY

Discussion of 'Rediscover Jesus' at St. John Neumann

7:30 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. Third of six Friday-night discussion programs on "Rediscover Jesus" by Matthew Kelly.

740-965-1358

26-28, FRIDAY-SUNDAY

Yarncrafters Retreat at Corpus Christi

Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. "Ah, the Knots of Our Lives! A Weekend Retreat for Yarncrafters," led by Erin Cordle of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns. Participants may bring projects to work on. Cost: \$125 for full weekend, \$60 for commuters, including Saturday lunch and supper.

614-512-3731

27, SATURDAY

Columbus Catholic Men's Conference

8 a.m. to 2:45 p.m., Voinovich Building, State Fairgrounds, Columbus. 19th annual Columbus Catholic Men's Conference, with talks by Father Larry Richards, Hector Molina, and David Karam. More at www.pluginatholicmen.com.

Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City

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

Centering Prayer Group Meeting at Corpus Christi

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

614-512-3731

College Funding Seminar at Ohio Dominican

12:30 p.m., Bishop Griffin Center, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. College funding seminar for high school students and their parents, sponsored by ODU and Education First Credit Union. Register at pirwitz@ohiodominican.edu.

'People of the Passion' at St. Timothy

7:30 to 9 p.m., St. Timothy Church, 1088 Thomas Lane, Columbus. "People of the Passion," a performance of music, drama, and dance, suggested for audiences 12 and older.

614-451-2671

28, SUNDAY

Exposition at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

9:15 to 10:15 a.m., Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 5133 Walnut St. S.E., Buckeye Lake. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, continuing every Sunday during Lent.

740-928-3266

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education

10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. "Who Is Jesus?" with Scripture scholar Karen Gagel.

Praise Mass at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

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

614-861-1242

'When the Game Stands Tall' at Marion St. Mary

2 p.m., St. Mary Church, 251 N. Main St., Marion. "Sunday Afternoon at the Movies," featuring "When the Game Stands Tall," about the record football winning streak of De La Salle High School in California and its aftermath.

740-382-2118

St. Catherine of Bologna Secular Franciscans

2:30 to 5 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave., Columbus. Rosary, Meet in church for prayer, followed by general meeting, ongoing formation, and social.

Cathedral Music Series

3 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Organ concert with Christophe Mantoux, professor of organ at the Conservatoire Regional de Paris and titular organist at the Church of Saint-Severin in Paris.

614-241-2526

Adoration, Vespers, Benediction at Lancaster St. Mary

4 p.m., St. Mary Church, 132 S. High St., Lancaster. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, sung Vespers, and Benediction, continuing every Sunday during Lent.

740-653-0997

Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King

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

614-886-8266

Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter

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

706-761-4054

29, MONDAY

Lenten Quiet Morning at Corpus Christi

10 a.m. to noon, Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Third of six Lenten quiet mornings of reflection on the Lenten readings through the prism of mercy.

614-512-3731

Adoration, Evening Prayer at New Philadelphia

5 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 139 3rd St. N.E., New Philadelphia. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and confessions, followed by Evening Prayer, continuing every Monday during Lent.

330-343-6976

'Exploring the Passion' at St. John Neumann

7 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. "Exploring the Passion" liturgy.

740-965-1358

29,-MARCH 2, MONDAY-WEDNESDAY

Parish Mission at Circleville St. Joseph

7 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 134 W. Mound St., Circleville. Parish mission with Father Thomas Buffer, pastor, Marion St. Mary Church. Theme: "The Good News of Lent."

740-477-2549

Parish Mission at Our Lady of Peace

7 to 8 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus. Parish mission with Father Kevin Kavanaugh, parochial vicar at Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church and former Our Lady of Peace pastor. Theme: "Home Sweet Home."

614-263-8824

MARCH

1, TUESDAY

Adoration, Mass, Speaker at Dover St. Joseph

5 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 613 N. Tuscarawas Ave., Dover. Eucharistic Adoration, followed by Mass at 6 and talk from 7 to 8 with Dr. Donald Ascii of Franciscan University of Steubenville. Topic: "Christ Lives In Me: Reflections On Embracing the Call to Follow Christ."

330-364-6661

Lenten Soup Supper at Plain City St. Joseph

Parish activity center, St. Joseph Church, 670 W. Main St., Plain City. Lenten soup supper following 5:30 p.m. Mass.

614-873-8850

Lenten Soup Supper at St. Edward

6 p.m., St. Edward Church, 785 Newark-Granville Road, Granville. Lenten soup supper with parish music director Paul Radkowski speaking on "Global Solidarity."

740-587-3254

Catholic War Veterans Monthly Meeting

7 p.m., Red Room, St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Catholic War Veterans Post 1936 meeting. For those who served three months, were honorably discharged, or are on active duty.

614-221-7601

Abortion Recovery Network Group

7 p.m., Pregnancy Decision Health Center, 665 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus. Abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program. and wants to stay connected.

614-444-4411

'Life: From Beginning to End' at Delaware St. Mary

7 to 8:30 p.m., St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware. Program on "Life: From Beginning to End" with Jerry Freewalt of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns.

740-363-4641

'Maximilian: Saint of Auschwitz' at St. Catharine

7 to 8:30 p.m., St. Catharine Church, 500 S. Gould Road, Columbus. "Maximilian: Saint of Auschwitz," a live production telling the story of St. Maximilian Kolbe, performed by Leonardo Defilippis of St. Luke Productions. Tickets \$10; family rate \$30.

614-231-4509

Prayer Group Meeting at St. Mark

7:30 p.m., St. Raymond Room, St. Mark Center, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Light of Life prayer group meeting.

740-654-6928

2, WEDNESDAY

Lenten Soup Supper at St. Pius X

5 to 6:30 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Lenten soup supper.

614-866-2859

Lenten Soup Supper at St. Agatha

6 p.m., St. Agatha Church, 1860 Northam Road, Columbus. Lenten soup supper benefiting Hands Together program in Haiti.

614-488-6149

Scripture, Encyclical Study at Delaware St. Mary

6 to 7:30 p.m., Beitel Commons, St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware. Study of the Letter of James and the encyclical "Laudato Si" with Deacon Todd Tucky, continuing on Wednesdays through March 16.

740-363-4641

3, THURSDAY

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Paul

Following 8:30 a.m. Mass to 7 p.m., St. Paul Church, 313 N. State St., Westerville. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, continuing every Thursday through March 17.

614-882-2109

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

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

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

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focus on ART

BOOK REVIEW

Divine Mercy for Moms

By Michele Faehnle and Emily Jaminet

Divine Mercy for Moms invites mothers to explore and deepen their personal devotion to Divine Mercy during the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

Originating in the early 20th century, the Divine Mercy devotion of St. Faustina Kowalska is one of the most celebrated of all Catholic devotions. In this, their first book, Catholic bloggers and speakers Michele Faehnle and Emily Jaminet of the Columbus Catholic Women's Conference – one of the largest annual Catholic women's conferences in the nation – break open the history, practices, and prayers associated with the devotion, guiding busy moms to receive God's message of Divine

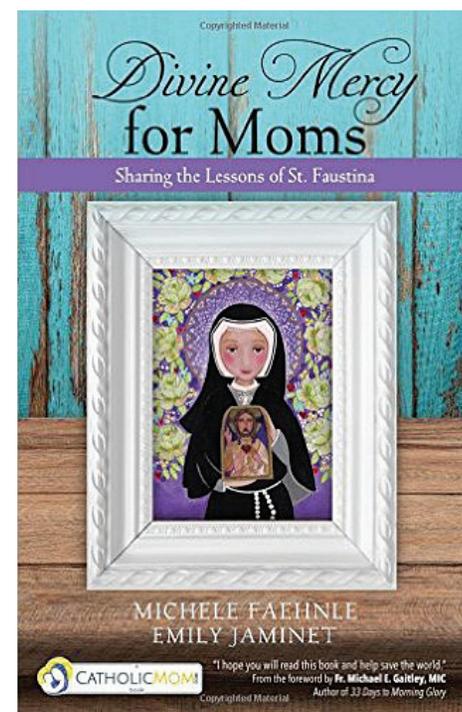
Mercy and pass it on to others through their words, deeds, and prayers.

In her famous *Diary: Divine Mercy in My Soul*, St. Faustina recorded a series of visions of Jesus where he revealed the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and promised that anything can be obtained with the prayer if it is compatible with his will. Pope St. John Paul II formally established the Divine Mercy devotion and canonized St. Faustina in 2000. The Marians of the Immaculate Conception are dedicated to spreading the Divine Mercy devotion; the foreword for this book was written by Father Michael E. Gaitley, MIC, author of *Divine Mercy Explained* and *33 Days to Morning Glory*.

In *Divine Mercy for Moms*, the authors draw upon their own experiences to introduce you to St. Faustina and her five essential elements of the Divine Mercy message:

- The image of the Merciful Jesus;
- The Feast of Divine Mercy;
- The Chaplet of Divine Mercy;
- The House of Mercy;
- Spreading the honor of Divine Mercy.

With heartwarming stories and practical advice, this book reveals that mercy is not just a gift to be received in the confessional, but a spiritual resource that strengthens those who extend themselves in word, deed, and prayer. Designed for personal or group study,



Divine Mercy for Moms celebrates the infinite mercy of God and the role of Mary, the Mother of Mercy, in the lives of all believers.

The book also includes group study questions, prayers of mercy, and 30 reflections from the authors' website, Mercy4Moms.

THEATER

The Lady Cries Murder!

The Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School drama department will present its winter production, *The Lady Cries Murder!*, a comedy by John William See, from at 8 p.m. Thursday to Saturday, Feb. 25 to 27 and 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28 in the campus theater, 2010 E. Broad St. Adult tickets are \$10 and student tickets are \$5. Reservations may be placed by calling the St. Charles main office at (614) 252-6714 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Set in 1938, *The Lady Cries Murder!* is a classic detective tale of the period, packed with twists. A successful radio producer has purchased a detective story from a writer named Raymond Chandler. Chandler is incensed that the producer is rewriting and distorting the story, but seems powerless to do anything. With that as a background, the playwright segues into one of the slickest, smartest, funniest spoofs of the hard-boiled detective genre ever to hit the boards.

The Lady Cries Murder! draws much

of its inspiration from the hard-boiled detective novels of the 1930s and '40s. These novels, by such authors as Chandler, James Cain, Dashiell Hammett, and others, depict a world where flawed anti-heroes and their *femmes fatales* live in a world permeated with corruption and despair.

St. Charles also is pleased to announce women's auditions for its spring musical, *Godspell*, at 4 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, March 1 and 2 at the campus theater. Auditions are open to all high school women in central Ohio. For more information, email Doug Montgomery at scdramadirector@aol.com or call the school's main office.



Photo: Cast members for Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School's production of "The Lady Cries Murder" include (from left): background, Nathan Kuhr, JeanLuc Paul, Nathaniel Thomas, Marcus Galeano, Maggie McCann (Columbus Academy),

Nick Martin, Camron Alten-Dunkle; foreground, Liza Goedde (Bishop Watterson), Carrick Reider, Anthony Miller, Bemnet Negatu, Ada Cleary (Columbus School for Girls), Tim Clayton, and Natalie Belford (Grove City). Photo/St. Charles Preparatory

NEWS IN PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



Pope Francis arrives to pray at a cross on the border with El Paso, Texas, before celebrating Mass at the fairgrounds in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, on Feb. 17.
CNS photo/Paul Haring



Family members follow the casket of the late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia to a hearse waiting outside the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington after his Feb. 20 funeral Mass.
CNS photo/Tyler Orsburn



A record crowd of 540 middle-school students and adult leaders attended the annual Bosco Bash, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at Columbus St. Cecilia Church. The event is named in honor of St. John Bosco, the patron saint of youth. "Unbreakable" was the theme for the day, which featured Christian rapper Righteous B (Bob Lesnefsky), who used stories and music to talk about God's unbreakable bond of unconditional love for us. The Station 14 band provided praise and worship music. The event is planned by parish youth ministers, led by Holly Monnier, youth ministry coordinator at Columbus St. Peter Church. The Diocesan Youth Council helped plan and lead activities, and Father Leo Connolly celebrated the closing Mass for the event. Photo courtesy diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry

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 Or Beth Sheumaker at: sheumaker06@sbcglobal.net

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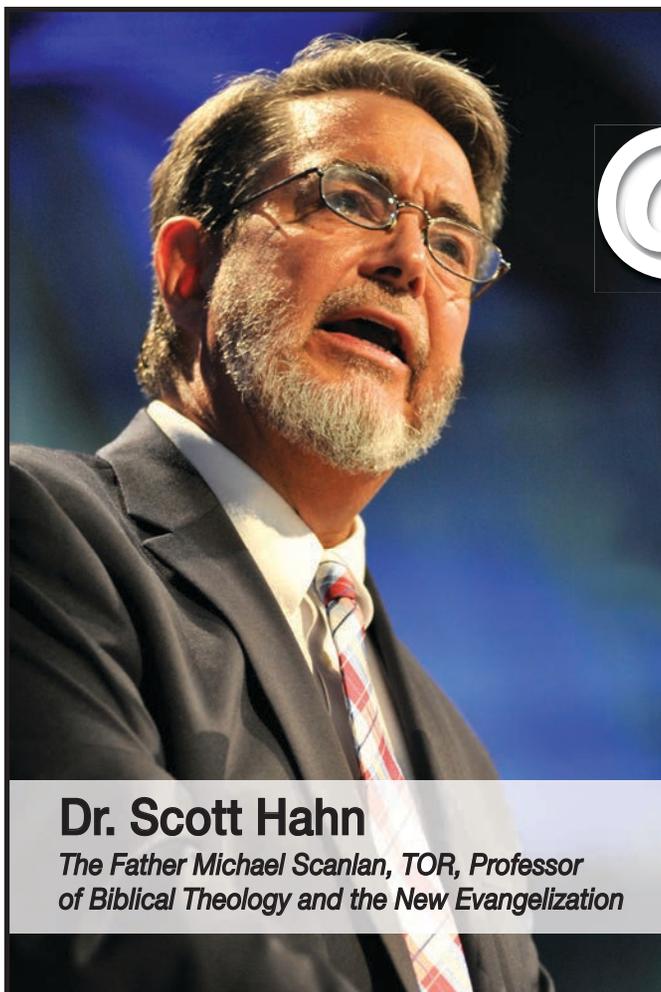
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