

CATHOLIC

A journal of Catholic life in Ohio

MAY 8, 2016 THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD VOLUME 65:31



MAY, THE MONTH OF MARY

The Editor's Notebook

May: The Month of Our Lady

By David Garick, Editor

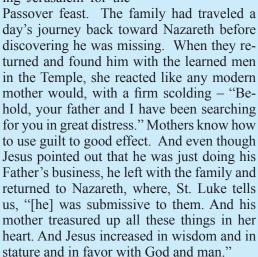
Winter is finally behind us. Actually, spring already is halfway over, but we are really feeling it now. The merry month of May is upon us in all its glory. Flowers are coming in bloom. The official frost-free date for central Ohio is only about a week away, which means temperature- sensitive plants will be transplanted into gardens very soon. Songbirds are singing like crazy in my backyard. It is a beautiful sound.

Many of our parishes and schools will be conducting May crownings of Our Lady around the diocese, and praying the rosary and other devotions to Mary will take on special meaning. It is very fitting that during this time, we also pause to celebrate Mother's Day. We do that in honor of all the mothers in our lives: our biological mothers, adoptive mothers, stepmothers, grandmothers, and even some others who may not have held the title of mother, but who filled that role of nurturing, care, counseling, and love in our lives. We also honor Mary, who is mother to us all.

Sometimes we get so caught up in Mary's incredible role as bearer of the Christ Child and Queen of Heaven that we lose touch with her humanity. A simple Jewish girl, living in the backwater of Galilee, she defied the conventions of her time in saying "Yes" to the call to bear the Son of God. She lived a simple, obscure life, raising her child with St. Joseph, who stood by her in this difficult undertaking. Young Jesus, though he was the Son of God, was also the human son of Mary, and she was the one who would have comforted him through all the travails of a human childhood. She would have been the one to teach him the faith of the Jewish people at her knee.

Scripture does not tell us much about Jesus' childhood, except for one special story of

when the 13-year-old Jesus became separated from the family while they were visiting Jerusalem for the



It is 17 more years before we hear of Jesus again, and Mary is there, being a mother. They had gone from Nazareth to a wedding in the nearby village of Cana. The wedding party was going well, but the family was about to be embarrassed by running out of wine. Mary did not ask Jesus to help them, did not even tell him to help them. She simply told him, "They have no wine." Her orders were understood. When Jesus declined to help, Mary did not respond to him; she just told the servants to "Do whatever he tells you." Even the Son of God cannot say "No" to his mother. And from that came Jesus' first miracle.

Mothers have a special influence on our lives, from our earliest days in the womb until long after we have become adults. They never cease to lovingly point us in the right direction. That applies to both our earthly mothers and our heavenly mother.



Trevi Fountain illuminated in remembrance of Christian martyrs



By Gaby Maniscalco

Catholic News Service

The Trevi Fountain, a Rome landmark, was lit up in red on Friday, April 29 in a graphic commemoration of the thousands of modern Christians martyred for their faith.

The event was sponsored by the Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need, which wanted to "draw attention to the dramatic issue of anti-Christian persecution."

The evening event also featured four guest speakers who shared the personal stories of Christians killed for their faith. After the speeches, the fountain was lit to represent the blood of the Christian martyrs. Throughout the night, images of Christians persecuted for their faith were projected onto the fountain.

The photos included the four Missionaries of Charity murdered in Aden, Yemen, in early March.

Pope Francis frequently mentions his belief that today, "perhaps more than in the early days" of Christianity, Christians are "persecuted, killed, chased out, robbed just because they are Christians."

In ecumenical gatherings, the pope has noted how the persecution unites Christians of all denominations. During a Feb. 29 audience with Patriarch Mathias of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church, the pope said, "Just as in the early church, the shedding of the blood of martyrs became the seed of new Christians. so today the blood of the many martyrs of all the churches has become the seed of Christian unity."



Front Page photo:
A statue of Mary and the child Jesus is seen in St. Peter's at the Vatican.
The statue of the Madonna della Sciara is from the Marian shrine of Mompileri in Mascalucia, Italy.
CNS photo/Paul Haring

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David Garick ~ Editor (dgarick@columbuscatholic.org)

Tim Puet ~ Reporter (tpuet@columbuscatholic.org)

Alexandra Keves~Graphic Design Manager (akeves@columbuscatholic.org)

Mailing Address: 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215

Editorial/Advertising: (614) 224-5195 FAX (614) 241-2518

Subscriptions (614) 224-6530 FAX (614) 241-2573

Bishop Frederick F. Campbell, D.D., PhD. ~ President & Publisher

(subscriptions @columbuscatholic.org)

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Honoring Our Blessed Mother Makes Every Day Mother's Day

By Joseph Pronechen

Commercially speaking, Mother's Day is celebrated on the second Sunday of May. But celebrating it does not have to be confined to a single day of the year. Every day can be Mother's Day if we honor our heavenly mother and, by extension, our earthly mothers.

"One of the things forgotten by a lot of Catholics is May is the month of Mary," said Helen Hull Hitchcock, founding director and president of Women for Faith & Family. "This entire month is named after Mary and is dedicated to Mary. The celebration of motherhood is also in this month, and that's for a very good reason. There's a strong connection between the two."

Most people are unaware of the religious connection, Hitchcock explains. In fact, while Mother's Day isn't a religious holiday *per se*, its origins were.

Since medieval times, May and devotion to Mary were connected, according to the University of Dayton's Marian Library. Some of the earliest traces go back to the 13th century in Spain. As this devotion spread and developed, Mary was honored with special devotions on every day in May, a custom originating in Italy in the 1780s, then extending as a Marian devotion far and wide by the next century, especially from 1830 on in Europe.

Meanwhile, it wasn't until the early 20th century that Mother's Day was celebrated in the United States. That first official celebration, in 1908, was a religious one. Anna Jarvis, the founder and promoter, wanted this official day in memory of her mother, whom she had taken care of for a number of years. Jarvis requested the celebration in the Methodist church in West Virginia where her mother had taught Sunday school for more than two decades. Jarvis then spent years promoting Mother's Day to honor mothers, but was appalled by its growing commercialization, which she never intended.

Father Michael Freihofer makes the connection between mothers and the Blessed Mother often in his homilies to parishioners and a large tourist population in Granby, Colorado, where he is pastor of a parish composed of three churches — St. Ann, St. Bernard, and Our Lady of the Snow.

"When I preach I say 'Every child deserves to feel God's love through



their biological father and the Blessed Mother's love through their biological mother," he said.

Father Brian McSweeney, pastor of Our Lady of Loretto Parish in Cold Spring, New York, makes the natural tie-in. He explained that the relationship builds out of the understanding of our own mother.

"When we can understand that honor and respect due to our own mother, by extension we should understand the love and respect we owe to our heavenly mother," he said. "If we love our earthly mothers, how much more should we honor our heavenly mother?"

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (963) notes, "She is 'clearly the mother of the members of Christ' ... since she has by her charity joined in bringing about the birth of believers in the Church, who are members of its head," quoting from Vatican II's Lumen Gentium (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church).

"Mary has truly become the Mother of all believers," Pope Benedict XVI wrote in his 2005 encyclical *Deus Caritas Est* (On Christian Love). "Men and women of every time and place have recourse to her motherly kindness and her virginal purity and grace, in all their needs and aspirations, their joys and sorrows, their moments of loneliness and their common endeavors. They constantly experience the gift of her goodness and

the unfailing love which she pours out from the depths of her heart."

So how can we confine honoring a mother like this to only a few days, or even a month?

Father McSweeney said we have a great model for honoring her as we come to understand how Christ honored his mother. "If it's good enough for Jesus," he said, "it should be good enough for us." It was none other than Jesus who gave Mary to John — and us — from the cross.

Pope John Paul II emphasized this truth in his 1987 encyclical *Redemptoris Mater* (On the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Life of the Pilgrim Church), when he wrote, "It is also true of every disciple of Christ, of every Christian. The Redeemer entrusts his mother to the disciple, and at the same time he gives her to him as his mother. Mary's motherhood, which becomes man's inheritance, is a gift: a gift which Christ himself makes personally to every individual."

Father Lance Harlow, pastor of St. Charles Church in Bellows Falls, Vermont, and author of *Echo of God* (EchoOfGod.com), pointed out that "By an extraordinary grace, she has become our mother and queen with an intimate knowledge of each of her children."

One big way we can honor our Blessed Mother that carries through the entire year is to spend time with her. "How do you know you love someone?" asked Father Freihofer. "You want to spend time with him or her. That fosters a sense of thanksgiving, because it's really hard to love what you don't know."

Father Freihofer said one important way to spend time with Mary is through Marian devotions, especially the rosary. "It honors her because she asks us to pray the rosary," he said. "Jesus in private revelations even asked us to pray the rosary."

St. Louis de Montfort teaches us that the best way to reach Jesus is through his mother, Father McSweeney noted. The more we honor her, the closer we come to her Son, so this should be part of our daily life on our spiritual journey.

To honor their heavenly mother daily, his parishioners pray the rosary before the morning Mass, and they attend a weekly Miraculous Medal novena.

For those who can't attend daily Mass,

Father McSweeney advises, "Every family should say the rosary every day. It's a great treasure out there that a lot of people don't take advantage of."

Then there's meditating by using a scriptural rosary or meditating on Scripture passages. Father Freihofer suggests asking the Holy Spirit to make us small and humble and then asking our Blessed Mother to hold our hand and take us to the foot of the cross to be cleansed by the precious blood of Jesus.

Reflecting on a connection with both mothers, Father Freihofer uses a personal example of how his mother, Carol, offered up her own sacrifices for her three children, as Mary does for her spiritual children.

Remembering these sacrifices mothers make, he advises, "We can thank our own mothers on Mother's Day by praying to the Blessed Mother to help them and return the favor to them. We can pray then for our own mothers to become more like the Blessed Mother."

Hitchcock noted that even women who don't have children of their own can relate to our Blessed Mother. For example, there are religious who dedicate their lives to caring for the people in the Church, and many Catholic women are deeply involved in the pro-life movement, caring in a motherly way for human life, whether children or an elderly relative or friend. She remembers all women in a Mother's Day prayer (see WF-F.org/Mothers.html).

If there's any doubt we should keep the honor of Mother's Day going all year long, both for our Blessed Mother and our natural mothers, Father Harlow offered us one more consideration connecting our two mothers.

"We must also remember that by baptism, our mothers were incorporated into the Kingdom of God and were anointed as 'priest, prophet and king,' thereby becoming princesses in the Kingdom," Father Harlow says. "As such, we should never forget the deference which we owe our mothers as 'princesses.'

"Mother's Day takes on a whole new dimension when we understand that Our Lady's intimate and royal dignity has been transferred to that of our own mothers — by nature and by grace."

This column originally was published in the National Catholic Register.

PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

Líft

Did you find the words of Pope Benedict to be a good meditation this past week? It was a nice, prayerful way to close what I hope was an interesting and educational look at the Jewish celebration of Passover, and Jesus' Last Supper. Pope Benedict always has been such a brilliant academic and intellectual, but his words also are



often very readable and understandable. When we take some time to open our minds to considering and learning about a certain aspect of our Catholic Faith, it is always good to get a very straightforward "summary" from someone with teaching authority. We know and try to appreciate how Jesus completely emptied Himself and totally gave Himself as a sacrifice for our sins . . . for my sins. He not only celebrated the rituals of Passover, but He became the new Passover. The old was brought into perfect focus and full meaning with the new – the death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. And we continue the new in the gift of the Eucharist.

Do you ever feel like you need a lift? At this time of year, we get a much-needed lift from the nice weather, blooming flowers, trees, etc. We get a lift from first Communions, Confirmations, weddings, and graduations. We also should get a huge spiritual lift from the Easter season, culminating with the solemnity of Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, and Corpus Christi. Yes, there is plenty happening to lift our spirits. This Sunday is the celebration of the Ascension of our Lord, since the obligation was moved from Thursday. Talk about a lift – that must have been something for the disciples to see and experience. That lift strengthens our faith to be sure that lesus awaits us in Heaven with the promise of eternal life. This Sunday is also Mother's Day. Talk about another lift! We have three mothers who should give us a huge lift as we consider them this Sunday, and really many more days, if not every day. Of course, we have our Mom. Living or not, she gave us a lift whenever we needed it. She still does today, either by way of her presence or by prayer. Our Mom brought us into this world, took care of us, taught us, loved us, and always will. We also have our Heavenly Mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary. She gives us a lift without fail, whenever we ask. She is the best intercessor we have between us and God. She guided us into this world, watched over us, gave our moms all the right words by which to teach us our Faith, and can never stop loving us. Finally, we have our Mother Church. The Body of Christ – Mother Church – lifts us up as the faithful who bond that Body together by our love and witness to the Eucharist. Our Mother Church protects us, teaches us with authority, and loves us all, no matter our faults and challenges.

Our practical challenge this week is to love and praise our mothers. Lift them up in prayer, just as they always gave us a lift, and continue to give us a lift. Spend time with your Mom, your grandmother, and your mother-in-law, whether it be in person or in prayer. Remind them of how much you love them. And do not forget your wife – the mother of your children. Find 15 minutes this week to pray a rosary to our Mother Mary. Tell her how much you love her. And be an especially loving example of a member of the Body of Christ – our Mother Church. Honor her by loving in thought, in word, and in action. God bless our mothers.

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

Four individuals, one foundation honored with Corcoran Awards

Four community leaders and a foundation were honored at St. Vincent Family Center's 2016 Corcoran Awards luncheon on Tuesday, April 26.

The honorees were Marilyn Tomasi, humanitarian and social impact; Denise Meine-Graham, education and behavioral health; Myron Goldsmith, young leadership; Angela Johnston, charity and social justice; and the Lbrands Foundation, community partner.

Tomasi is vice president of marketing and communications for the Mid-Ohio Foodbank. The center said she received the award because she "has a passion for people and making their lives better, whether it is making sure that no child goes hungry, or making many agencies and organizations better by offering her expertise and support." She is a former member of the boards of the St. Vincent center and The Catholic Foundation.

Following her son's suicide, Meine-Graham in Novemner 2015 created Franklin County LOSS, which supports loved ones at a suicide scene. More than 40 LOSS volunteers (at least one is a suicide survivor) respond in two-person teams when called by the county coroner, providing whatever is needed by those left behind. "Denise has been an active learner and has secured collaboaration with professionals, ... addressing this community shortfall in a powerful way," her award citation said.

Goldsmith, a Capital University student majoring in journalism, is a graduate of Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School. His work as an intern at the Run the Race Club on Columbus' west side led to an investigative reporting project in which he identified a loophole preventing children at certain underperforming schools from being eligible for Ohio's EdChoice school voucher program. He has been work-

ing to change the EdChoice legislation so that thousands of these students will become eligible to receive EdChoice vouchers.

Johnston is director of Latino ministry for the Diocese of Columbus. "With an unyielding spirit," her citation said, "Johnston has stood before government agencies on every level ... with the aim of shedding light on the plight of immigrants and proposing ways in which they can be better integrated into the fabric of our society. ... Johnston has given (Latino) men and women a sense of dignity and hope. She reveals to them the meaning of Christian charity."

Volunteers from the Lbrands companies, through their foundation, have helped the center for years in a variety of ways. Each year, they contribute hundreds of Christmas gifts to families served by the center and help process and organize distribution of the gifts. They also provide school supplies for children of those families, have painted and cleaned the center's walls and hallways, and were instrumental in creation of the new therapeutic school-age wing which has enabled the center to serve 44 percent more children.

The Corcoran Awards were established in 2007 to honor the late Msgr. Lawrence Corcoran, who helped establish several central Ohio social service agencies, including Maryhaven and the Diocesan Child Guidance Center, which merged with the St. Vincent Children's Center in 1996 to become St. Vincent Family Center.

St. Vincent, which describes its mission as "making good kids better," has been in the same Columbus location since 1875 and provides behavioral health prevention, intervention, and treatment services to children and families in Columbus and throughout Ohio.

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Martin de Porres Center Events

The Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus, will host a workshop from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 21 for high-school students, their parents, and teachers on the dangers of human trafficking.

This workshop has been developed by a Columbus detective to teach about the risks and the signs of this issue. Information, stories, and tips will be shared as a way to be aware and prepared.

Also on May 21, the center will host an introduction to centering prayer, presented by Adele Sheffieck, from 1 to 5 p.m.

This form of prayer prepares us to receive the gift of contemplative prayer, in which we experience God's presence with us. This method of prayer is both a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship. It is not meant to replace other kinds of prayer, but to add depth to all prayer and to facilitate the movement from more active modes of prayer into a receptive form of resting in God.

The center is an outreach ministry of the Dominican Sisters of Peace.

Call (614) 416-1910, email martindeporres@oppeace.org, or check our the center's website, www.martindeporrescenter.net, for more information.

A \$10 donation is suggested for either workshop.

The registration deadline is Wednesday, May 18.

Mother-Daughter Tea

Local author, speaker, and radio St. Joseph Church, 308 Elm St. host Elizabeth Ficocelli wlll speak at noon Saturday, May 14 at the annual mother-daughter tea of Sugar Grove

Her talk will be on "Spiritual Warfare in the Age of Mary," followed by a book signing.

Saint Paul the Apostle Catholic Parish

Facilities Manager

Saint Paul the Apostle Parish, a 4,200 family Catholic community and school, located in Westerville, Ohio (Columbus) is in search of a Facilities Manager. A member of the Parish Staff, reporting to the Parish Administrator, the Facilities Manager is responsible for the maintenance, cleaning, and ongoing operation of buildings, grounds equipment, machinery, and all parish facilities. This position is directly accountable for a maintenance team and cleaning crew of employees as well as planning, scheduling, and budgeting facility modifications. This position directs and manages these functions with managerial and technical expertise within the framework of a shared ministry in the Catholic tradition. This is a full time, salaried position with benefits.

The qualified individual will hold Bachelor's degree in Facilities Management or equivalent, have a minimum of three years previous facility management experience or equivalent combination of education and experience, have job related experience in maintenance trades, knowledge of and familiarity with electrical, plumbing, HVAC, and audio/visual equipment set-up and repair, be familiar with Catholic faith, liturgies, and tradition.

Compensation is commensurate with candidate's education and experience. Job offer is contingent on the successful passing of the mandatory background screening and completion of the VIRTUS "Protecting God's Children" course.

For more information, contact: Deacon Dean Racine, Director of Parish Administration, (614) 882-2109 Résumés may be sent with a cover letter to deanr@stpacc.org

Kelly McCracken Chosen First President of Franciscan Media

Kelly McCracken has been promoted to the position of president of Franciscan Media, publisher of St. Anthony Messenger magazine, Servant Books, and the AmericanCatholic.org website.

There had been no position of president until McCracken's appointment.

She in effect succeeds Tom Shumate, who had been chief operating officer, said Franciscan Father Dan Kroger, chief executive officer and publisher of Franciscan Media. Shumate will stay with the company on a contract basis to provide some accounting and transition service.

McCracken (pictured) had served for the past two years as director of strategy and operations for the company, leading Franciscan Media's marketing, sales, customer service, accounting, finance, human resources, information technology, and warehousing and distribution teams.

"We felt the title president was more specialized for what Kelly was doing -- strategic planning and implementa-



tion," Father Kroger told Catholic News Service.

McCracken Father Kroger will lead development of the long-term vision and strategic plans of Franciscan Media, which is run by the Cincinnati-based Franciscan Province

of St. John the Baptist.

"There is a tremendous thirst for guidance and inspiration in the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi, the 13th-century founder of the Franciscans. Our rapidly evolving media environment is causing all of us to develop new strategies to do this," Father Kroger said in a statement announcing Mc-Cracken's promotion, describing her as "especially well-suited to lead our strategic effort."

Before joining Franciscan Media in 2014, McCracken worked for Aileron in Tipp City, Ohio, for eight years as client relations director. Aileron is a nonprofit organization that helps private businesses implement management systems to grow and operate more efficiently.

30th Ordination Anniversaries

Father Daniel Millisor, pastor of Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, and Father James Colopy, retired and in residence at the church, are about to celebrate their 30th anniversary of ordination as priests of the Diocese of Columbus.

The two were college classmates at Ohio Dominican University and at Mundelein Seminary, near Chicago, and were ordained priests at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral by Bishop James Griffin on May 17, 1986. Other members of their class at Mundelein included Father Michael Watson, pastor of Delaware St. Mary Church; Bishop Robert Barron, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles; and Msgr. Michael Boland, president and chief executive officer of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

The Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish family will celebrate the double anniversaries with a reception after each of the Masses on Pentecost weekend. Mass times are 5 p.m. Saturday, May 14 and 8 and 9:30 a.m. and noon Sunday, May 15.

A celebration for guests, family, and friends will take place at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 14 in the parish life center of the church, 3730 Broadway.

Reservations may be made and tickets may be purchased by contacting the parish office at (614) 875-3322 or at info@ OurLadyOfPerpetualHelp.net.

www.columbuscatholic.org

IS ST. GEORGE A SAINT?; FREQUENCY OF ANOINTING



QUESTION & ANSWER by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE Catholic News Service

Q and I view that experience as a prime factor in my success in life. In 1966 when I was confirmed, I took George as my confirmation name. Shortly after that, my class was told that many saints never existed and that George was one of them.

Our teacher explained that George was a folklore hero -- a cultural myth much like Paul Bunyan, who existed only in storybooks. (Strangely, though, we were told that we could still pray to him.) I'm wondering whether there is any new thought on this and what the current state of sainthood is for good old St. George. (Owings Mills, Maryland)

A. Whoever told you that St. George never existed was wrong. He was born to a Christian family in Lydda in Palestine in the late third century and became an officer in the Roman army. When the emperor Diocletian decreed that every soldier should renounce Christianity and offer sacrifice to the Roman gods, George refused -- the result being that he was decapitated for professing his faith, most likely in the year 303 AD.

From that time on, Christians revered him as a martyr, and a basilica was later built in his honor in Lydda. That much is factual, but the legend of George as a dragon slayer, a story carried back to Europe by the Crusaders in the 12th century, seems to have little basis in fact.

The confusion over the status of George arises, in part, from a 1969 revision in the church's liturgical calendar, when it was decided that some names should be removed from the calendar of the saints and several others, including St. George, should have their feast day celebrations made optional.

That change was the logical consequence of the Second Vatican Council's determination in its decree on the liturgy that "lest the feasts of the saints take precedence over the feasts that commemorate the very mysteries of salvation, many of them should be left to be celebrated by a particular church or nation or religious community; only those should be extended to the universal church that commemorate saints who are truly of universal importance" (Sacrosanctum Concilium, No. 111).

On April 23, 2013, a month after his election as

pontiff, Pope Francis joined several cardinals in celebrating Mass in a Vatican chapel in honor of his patron saint on St. George's feast day. (The pope's baptismal name is Jorge.)

O. Is there a limit as to how often one can receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick? Our church now administers this sacrament monthly. My husband will be facing several procedures over the next few months. Is he allowed to receive this blessing each month there is a procedure, or only once a year? (Jeffersonville, Indiana)

A. In the 1960s, when the Second Vatican Council changed the preferred name from Extreme Unction to Anointing of the Sick, that change was meant to indicate a change in purpose -- or, rather, a return to this sacrament's original purpose. No longer was it to be administered only at the point of death, but to those whose illnesses, though serious, were not immediately life-threatening.

The frequency for receiving this sacrament is a matter of judgment, but some guidelines exist. In No. 998 of the church's *Code of Canon Law*, we read that the sacrament is intended for "the faithful who are dangerously ill."

However, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* clarifies that and expands on it in No. 1515: "It is fitting to receive the anointing of the sick just prior to a serious operation. The same holds for the elderly whose frailty becomes more pronounced." The rite of anointing itself says that "old people may be anointed if they are in weak condition, even though no dangerous illness is present."

It's important, I think, not to limit "illness" to the physical. Every priest I know would welcome to the sacrament those in the throes of psychological depression or struggling with an addiction.

Now as to your specific question: In offering the sacrament monthly, your parish is not suggesting that the same people receive it every month, but that there are probably new candidates each time. That could mean people newly diagnosed or whose situations have worsened or who are facing serious surgery.

I do not know what procedures your husband will undergo, but certainly if they involve serious risk, he could receive the sacrament each time. The *Code of Canon Law* encourages erring on the side of caution. In No. 1005, it says the sacrament is to be administered in a case of doubt whether the sick person is dangerously ill.

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

Suspects arrested in alleged plot against Vatican, Israeli embassy

By Junno Arocho Esteves

Catholic News Service

Italian authorities arrested six suspects who allegedly received orders from the Islamic State terrorist group to attack the Vatican and the Israeli embassy in Rome.

The arrests made in Lombardy and Piedmont April 28 were the result of a joint operation coordinated by the district attorney of Milan and the Italian anti-terrorism agency.

According to the Italian news agency ANSA, authorities arrested Abderrahim Moutaharrik and his wife, Salma Bencharki; Abderrahmane Khachia, and three people who have maintained contact with a couple that left Italy to join the Islamic State in Syria. All of the suspects are of Moroccan origin.

A warrant has been issued for the couple, Mohamed Korachi and his Italian wife, Alice Brignoli, who are believed to have left for Syria in 2015.

Authorities monitored a series of conversations between the suspects via WhatsApp. One of the messages sent to Moutaharrik said: "Dear brother Abderrahim, I send you ... the bomb poem ... listen to the sheik and strike," ANSA reported.

Milan prosecutor Maurizio Romanelli told reporters authorities believe the word "sheik" is a reference to Islamic State leader Abu-Bakir Al-Baghdadi. He also said the messages, intercepted in February and March 2016, mentioned a strike against the Israeli embassy as well as against Christian pilgrims in Rome for the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

"I swear I will be the first to attack them in this Italy of crusaders, I swear I'll attack it, in the Vatican God willing," a message from one of the arrested suspects stated, according to ANSA.

Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, expressed his confidence in the current security measures in place for the Holy Year.

"The preventative security measures in place to protect pilgrims during the jubilee year are serious and functioning properly, as everyone can see and have witnessed. Therefore, there appears to be no need to modify them," he told Catholic News Service April 29.

Bishop Ready Summer Sports Camps

Columbus Bishop Ready High School, 707 Salisbury Road, is offering sports camps this summer for students who will be in grades three through eight for the 2016-17 school year.

Dates are as follows: boys basketball, Monday to Thursday, June 20 to 23; girls basketball, Wednesday to Friday, July 6 to 8; boys soccer, Monday to Friday, July 11 to 15; volleyball and softball, Tuesday to Thursday, July 12 to 14; and football, Sunday to Wednesday, July 24 to 27.

The camps will be are run by Ready coaches and alumni. For more information, contact the school's athletic department at (614) 276-5263, extension 211, or download a brochure and registration form by going to the Ready website, www.brhs.org, then clicking "Athletics" and "Summer Camps."

Pray the Rosary





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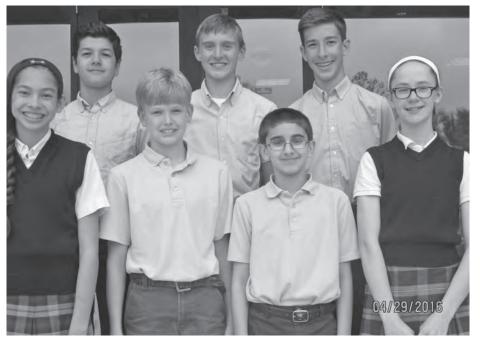
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St. Andrew Latin Exam Winners



Seventh- and eighth-grade students at Columbus St. Andrew School took the National Latin Exam in March. Seven students earned gold medals and 20 earned silver medals. Pictured are gold medal winners (from left) Anna Kessler, Matthew Stewart, Zach Kubatko, Michael Terveer, Nicholas Marzel, Ryan Gora, and Sinead Brady.

Photo courtesy St. Andrew School

Confirmation is a beginning, not an end, to life in the church

By Karen Osborne

Catholic News Service

If I had a nickel for every single time I've heard someone talk about the Sacrament of Confirmation as if it were the end of something, I'd be in the money. And now that it's after Easter and parishes everywhere are hosting confirmation Masses, everyone seems to have an opinion.

"After confirmation," I heard one teen say at a church luncheon, "I'm not going to go to church any longer. Mom can't make me."

"I'm so glad I'm done taking the kids to religious ed," said a parent.

Why do we talk about confirmation as if it's something that's completed, rather than as an experience that has just begun?

Granted, it's partially adults' fault because in some places, confirmation equals graduation. Confirmation prep can sometimes feel like school. Most parishes have classes with a teacher, reading, and homework. There are service-project internships. There's even an interview process with a priest or a member of the parish staff to make sure you're ready to receive the sacrament.

And, at the very end, you file into the church, wearing your Sunday best, waiting for your name to be called, just like a graduation. Gifts are given, families hug, moms cry.

Just like a graduation, after the lights dim and the families leave the auditorium, the graduates leave, never to return.

At graduations, that's a good thing. Confirmations? Not so much.

While there is, and should be, a celebratory feeling to both ceremonies, I think we've forgotten what they really mean. When you cross the stage or step forward to meet the bishop, you're not just saying you've done the work and deserve the piece of paper you're getting.

You're saying "Yes" to everything else that comes next: to the future, to your dreams, to building a community and a life.

You're saying "Yes" to a life that involves engagement with your faith and community in an active, enthusiastic, and exciting way. A graduation or a confirmation is not just an end, but a beginning.

Your life doesn't stop at graduation. It continues, and you use what you learned in school to help with your future job, your family life, and your dreams.

Confirmation is saying "Yes" to faith, to the future and being part

of the church. It's a statement not that you're released from going to Mass every week, but that you're willing, ready, and able to engage further in your faith -- to dive into service, to learn all the things they don't teach you in religious education, and to explore God's call at a truly adult level, to take ownership of your faith, just like you take ownership of your life at graduation.

This kind of graduation is all about looking out for people, for your friends and for the marginalized, for those who know exactly where they're going, as well as those who need a little help discovering that for themselves.

Confirmation is not leaving, it's arriving. It's a statement that you want God to walk with you wherever you may go. It's an acknowledgement that you're not done yet. It's a hope for the future. It's not just an achievement; it's a promise. The promise is that young people aren't leaving God behind when they start looking for new and beautiful horizons; it's that they're bringing him along.

So this spring, when you face the ceremonies that will take you from one stage in life to the next, remember that you're not done. Remember that the best is yet to come. Don't say "No" to that.

St. Charles Merit Finalists



Twelve members of the Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School Class of 2016 have been selected as National Merit Scholarship finalists. They are among about 14,500 students who have earned this distinction. More than 1.5 million students from 22,000 high schools took the test. The finalists are eligible to earn one of about 7,400 National Merit Scholarships totaling more than \$32 million. Finalists from St. Charles are (from left): first row, Vincent DiCocco, Timothy Clayton, and John Roach; second row, Jeffrey "Will" Stiltner, Jr., Brendan Kopf, Samuel Sullivan, and James Darnell; third row, Marcus Galeano, Andrew Bidstrup, Joseph Churilla, Ryan Hamilton, and Aaron Roe.

Photo courtesy St. Charles Preparatory School



Safety forces are honored with Blue Coat Award

Knights of Columbus Council 11187 of Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton Parish paid tribute to area safety forces at its annual Blue Coat Award dinner. Every year, a Pickerington police officer, a Fairfield County sheriff's deputy, and a Violet Township firefighter are presented with the award to recognize excellence in service and dedication to public safety. This year's honorees are (from left): Police Officer Nick Baehr, Firefighter Jason Belleau, and Sheriff's Deputy Gerald Seipel.

Photo courtesy St. Elizabeth Seton Parish



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'A word to fiancés': the Francis effect on wedding planning

It had been a long Thursday, and Brooke Paris couldn't wait to take off her heels, peel off her contacts, and wipe off her makeup. She changed into her pajamas, climbed into bed, and opened her MacBook to the pope's new apostolic exhortation.

Amoris Laetitia was released two weeks after Brooke's high-school sweetheart, Timothy Foley, had dropped on bended knee in Mary's Garden, the grounds behind the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. As he proposed, the sunset lit the flowering crabapple trees with a soft glow, and a fountain trickled behind them. It was the most easy, joyful "Yes" of her life – and it was rooted in a relationship that felt ordained by God.

But since that idyllic moment last month, the soon-to-be college graduate had managed to squeeze in just enough wedding-related activity to make her dizzy. She'd bought *The Southern Weddings Planner*, ordered sample wedding invitations, and conducted a midnight Google into pricing of a couple reception venues. She had doubled over from the sticker shock.

So she took a deep breath and began scrolling through Pope Francis' 264-page document. Within five minutes, Brooke found herself in Chapter Six, in a section titled "Preparing Engaged Couples for Marriage," arrested by these words: "Here let me say a word to fiancés. Have the courage to be different. Don't let yourselves get swallowed up by a society of consumption and empty appearances. What is



Twenty Something Christina Capecchi

important is the love you share, strengthened and sanctified by grace. You are capable of opting for a more modest and simple celebration in which love takes precedence over everything else."

"I knew immediately that that was what I was supposed to find at that time," said Brooke, 21, a Virginia native preparing to complete her bachelor's in theology and religious studies from The Catholic University of America. "It was a great reminder that it doesn't matter if my venue is as lavish as my Pinterest boards. There are ways I can save money and still make my reception a celebration of the love Timmy and I share."

The timing of Pope Francis' just-launched reflection to inspire their brand-new engagement was not lost on Brooke. "I think God gives you tools to live out your vocation," she said.

Brooke is drawing a double value from *Amoris Laetitia* – for her own 2017 nuptials and for the clients she hopes to one day serve in her dream job as a Catholic wedding planner. She envisions a service

that combines planning of the liturgy, planning the reception, and preparing for marriage. And she has a clear-cut approach in mind: She'll begin by helping couples plan a liturgy that reflects their unique relationship and God's vision for marriage, then she'll help plan a reception that echoes that liturgy. It's an approach that reminds couples that the liturgy is the pinnacle of their wedding day, not a pit stop to the party.

Brooke nearly bursts with giddiness to consider the rich possibilities of a distinctly Catholic reception. It may mean framing verses from the readings at your wedding Mass and using them as table centerpieces. It could mean asking reception-goers to sign a Bible versus a guestbook, or inviting them to write prayer intentions and place them in a jar. It might mean saluting the longest-married couples in the room. It could mean having the groom and bride wash each other's feet as a symbolic act of service, rather than challenging him to remove her garter. It definitely informs the way you handle mealtime, toasts, dancing, and alcohol.

Brooke has the courage to be different, and this wedding season she's encouraging other engaged Catholics to do the same, to heed the Holy Father and let love take precedence over everything else.

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota, and the editor of SisterStory.org.

Pope says pastors must 'serve, not use' laypeople

By Cindy Wooden/Catholic News Service

Clericalism is a danger to the Catholic Church, not only because on a practical level it undermines the role of laity in society, but because theologically, it "tends to diminish and undervalue the baptismal grace" of all believers, whether they are lay or clergy, Pope Francis said.

"No one is baptized a priest or bishop," the pope said in a letter to Cardinal Marc Ouellet, prefect of the Congregation for Bishops and president of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America. The fundamental consecration of all Christians occurs at baptism and is what unites all Christians in the call to holiness and witness.

The topic of the March discussion, he said, was the public role of the laity in the life of the people of Latin America. In the letter, Pope Francis said that in lay Catholics' work for the good of society and for justice, "it is not the pastor who must tell the layperson what to do and say, he already knows this and better than we do."

"It is illogical and even impossible to think that we, as pastors, should have a monopoly on the solutions for the multiple challenges that contemporary life presents," he said. "On the contrary, we must stand alongside our people, accompany them in their search and stimulate their imagination in responding to current problems."

Pastors are not conceding anything to the laity by recognizing their role and potential in bringing the Gospel to the world; the laity are just as much members of "holy, faithful people of God" as the clergy, the pope said. "We are called to serve them, not use them."

Pope Francis insisted that the discussion on the role of the laity must not fall into the trap of thinking "the committed layperson is one who works for the church or is involved in matters of the parish or diocese" -- creating a "lay elite" -- but must recognize that most Catholic laypeople live their Christian commitment in their homes, neighborhoods, cities, and nations.

"The faith we have received is a gift that came to us, in many cases, from our mothers and grandmothers. They were the living memory of Jesus Christ within our homes. It was in the silence of family life that most of us learned to pray, to love and to live the faith," the pope wrote. Ignoring the role the laity always have played in passing on the faith is dangerous, he said.

In societies where "the disposable culture is established, leaving little space for hope," the pope wrote, committed Catholic laity and their families "seek not only to survive, but among the contradictions and injustices, they seek the Lord and desire to give witness to him."

"What does it mean for us pastors that the laity are working in public life?" the pope asked. "It means we must try to encourage, accompany and stimulate all the attempts and efforts that they already are making to keep alive hope and faith."

Pastors must be close to their people, he said, "opening doors, working with them, dreaming with them, reflecting and, especially, praying with them."

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High-school seniors at Chillicothe St. Peter Church prepare to crown a statue of the Virgin Mary during the parish's annual May crowning ceremony. Photo courtesy St. Peter Church

Hermes, the messenger of the gods. The

Roman Maia was associated with growth

and the spring. As the Romans adopted

many elements of Greek culture, they

combined the two goddesses, who gave

The first day of May was a particular day

of celebration in many of the pagan cul-

tures of northern Europe because (as in

Ohio today) it was felt that by then, there

was unlikely to be any more frost for sev-

eral months and spring had truly arrived.

As Europe became more Christian, the

pagan holidays lost their religious charac-

ter and May 1 – May Day – changed into

their name to the fifth month of the year.

BY TIM PUET

Reporter, Catholic Times

"The month of May is almost here, a month which the piety of the faithful has long dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God. Our heart rejoices at the thought of the moving tribute of faith and love which will soon be paid to the Oueen of Heaven in every corner of the earth. For this is the month during which Christians, in their churches and their homes, offer the Virgin Mother more fervent and loving acts of homage and veneration; and it is the month in which a greater abundance of God's merciful gifts comes down to us from our Mother's throne."

Pope Paul VI wrote those words 52 years ago to begin his encyclical Mense Maio, which was released on April 29, 1965. The document was unusually short for an encyclical – about 1,750 words – but contained both a powerful plea for peace and a rallying cry to those taking part in the final session of the Second Vatican Council "to combine their efforts so that the seeds sown during the Council may bear tangible, salutary fruit."

As Paul VI and many other popes before and after him have noted, the month of May is the month of Mary. That seems natural, since there is only one letter of difference between the two words.

However, the name for the fifth month of the year doesn't come from the mother of Jesus, but from one of two goddesses – one Roman, one Greek - both known as Maia. The Greek Maia was the mother of where it is one of several days on which St. Walburga, credited with bringing Christianity to that nation, is celebrated. Secular versions of May Day, observed in Europe and America, may be best known for their traditions of dancing around the maypole and crowning a May queen.

a popular secular event. A significant cel-

ebration of May Day occurs in Germany,

Communist parties adopted May Day as a workers' celebration. For many years, it was the day the former Soviet Union paraded its military might in Moscow's Red Square. This led in 1955 to Pope Pius XII creating the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker on May 1, honoring a man of peace in response to the Soviets' threats of war.

Special devotions to Mary in May appear to have begun in Europe sometime in the 13th century, with King Alfonso X of Castile being one of the first to make note of them though his Cantigas de Santa Maria (Canticles of Holy Mary).

Marian devotion spread from town to town in Italy throughout the 18th century, with the Jesuit order expanding it throughout Europe in the 19th century. The practice of a May crowning of a statue of the Blessed Virgin has roots in the May queens of secular celebrations, but also can be traced to the coronation of a Marian icon in the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome by Pope Clement VIII. who was pope from 1592-1605.

He added two crowns to the icon, known as Salus Populi Romani (Protectress of Gardens."

the Roman People). The crowns eventu- Pope Francis recently said that he prays renewed popularity in the United States spiring essay on why this would be an Gregory XVI in 1838 in a rite that was to become the standard practice for crowning. Pius XII crowned the image a third sary of the declaration of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception.

More recently, Pope Benedict XVI venerated the image on various occasions. Pope Francis also made this icon one of his first places of pilgrimage the day after his election to the papacy.

The three popes of the 21st century all have made their devotion to Mary and to the rosary widely known. Pope St. John Paul II believed Our Lady of Fatima saved his life when he was shot in 1981, and placed one of the four bullets that hit him in the Fatima statue's crown.

He prayed all the mysteries of the rosary every day, and instituted the five luminous mysteries in 2002. He also wrote the apostolic letter Rosarium Virginis Mariae describing the rosary as his favorite prayer, saying "The simple prayer of the rosary marks the rhythm of human life."

Father Donald Calloway. MIC, writing last year in the National Catholic Register, noted that Benedict XVI, "probably one of the greatest minds that has held the office of St. Peter, ... also prayed the rosary every day, at least one set of mysteries, many times walking through the Vatican

ally were lost, but were replaced by Pope three rosaries daily. In 2012, he said this devotion was inspired when in 2005, while he was archbishop of Buenos Aires, Argentina, he attended a recitation of the time in 1954 to mark the 100th anniver-rosary that was being led by John Paul. "He was in front of everybody, on his knees," Pope Francis said. "His witness struck me. ... I understood the presence of Mary in the life of the pope. That testimony did not get forgotten."

CATHOLICS HONOR MARY THROUGHOUT MAY

October, like May, also is considered a Marian month. One reason for this is that the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is on Oct. 7. That celebration originally was known as the Feast of Our Lady of Victory, declared by Pope St. Pius V to celebrate the victory on Oct. 7, 1571 by Christian European states over the Ottoman Turks in the naval Battle of Lepanto, described as "the battle that saved the Christian West" and the last great battle between ships powered by oarsmen.

October also was the month for the last of six apparitions of Our Lady to three peasant children in Fatima, Portugal in 1917. The first was on May 13, 1917, and the subsequent appearances occurred on the 13th of each successive month. Each drew larger crowds, with the final apparition on Oct. 13, 1917, attracting 70,000 persons who witnessed the "miracle of the sun," during which the sun seemed to dance across the sky moments after a torrential rain had suddenly stopped.

The May crowning tradition has attained

after declining somewhat in the 1970s and 1980s. Its climax is the placing of a service very special." crown of flowers on a statue of the Virgin Mary, but it can take many forms.

on the parish, it can take place after a Sunday Mass or separately, and can involve students in high school, the Parish School of Religion or elementary school, or the whole parish.

Sister Marie Shields, SNDdeN, pastoral associate at Columbus St. Matthias Church for the past 25 years, provides this description of the May crowning at

"The schoolchildren process around church, led by the processional cross carried by an eighth-grader, reciting the rosary. Each eighth-grader has a flower to place in front of the statue of Mary. Four eighth-grade boys have the honor of carrying the lovely lady's statue, and consider this a great honor. The first communicants line the aisle to show their love.

"Our principal, Mr. Dan Kinley, is very particular about each part of this Marian service. The traditional hymns to Mary are sung throughout the service.

"Readings from Scripture, instruction on many of the ways of honoring Mary, a litany in her honor, and a recital of Mary's Magnificat all lead up to the crowning of the Blessed Mother with beautiful roses by an eighth-grade girl who wrote an in-

honor. We consider this traditional May

Besides being a Marian month, May also is the month for first Communions In the Diocese of Columbus, depending at most parishes in the diocese. Many parishes also honor graduates of various levels of education with special Masses in either May or June. The Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center, which serves The Ohio State University, will have its annual baccalaureate Mass and reception honoring 2016 OSU graduates at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, May 7. Graduates will wear their caps and gowns and receive a special blessing and gift to commemorate their time spent in the campus ministry community.

> Marian-related May activities at diocesan parishes include:

> Chillicothe St. Peter - Sunday, May 15, May crowning in courtyard grotto, led by graduating high-school students, following 11:30 a.m. Baccalaureate Mass.

> Columbus Immaculate Conception - Sunday, May 8, May crowning after 11:30 a.m. Mass.

> Columbus St. Andrew – Sunday, May 8, May crowning after noon Mass.

Columbus St. Matthias – May crowning occurred Tuesday, May 3, with participation by all St. Matthias School students and their families.

Columbus St. Patrick - Sunday, May 8, May crowning and procession, with special participation by those who have received first Communion the previous Dominican Sisters of the Immaculate Conception for parish American Heritage Girls troop, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Columbus St. Philip – Sunday, May 22, annual mother-daughter breakfast at TAT Restaurant, following 9 a.m. Mass.

Danville St. Luke - May crowning by Parish School of Religion children was on doors if weather permits, 1:15 p.m. Wednesday, May 4, followed by closing program for school year.

Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare - Monday and Tuesday, May 16 and 17, May crownings, living rosary, and procession, serving as closing liturgy for four sets of PSR

Left: Baccalaureate service at Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center. Right: Kenton Immaculate Conception May crowning.



Shaidyn Huahes (left) and her sister, Destiney, at Kenton Immaculate Conception after crowning Mary. Photo courtesy Immaculate Conception Church

classes, with crownings performed by second-graders and other first communicants, and by eighth-grade Confirmation students, 4:30, 6, and 7:30 p.m. Monday and 4:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Gahanna St. Matthew - Monday, May 9, May crowning for all St. Matthew School students and parishioers, 10 a.m.; Thursday, May 12, Marian consecration ceremony with parish Militia Immaculata chapter for all parishioners and other interested people, 6 p.m. Those taking part in a Marian consecration program scheduled to end on Friday, May 13, the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, are asked to contact Jeff Bernard at (614) 725-9787.

Granville St. Edward - Saturday and day and their families, after noon Mass; Sunday, May 7 and 8, May crownings at Monday, May 9, Marian night with the the beginning of Masses, 5 p.m. Saturday and 8:15 and 10:45 p.m. Sunday.

> Kenton Immaculate Conception – May crowning with PSR students took place Wednesday, April 27.

> Lancaster St. Mary - Thursday, May 12, May crowning in conjunction with Grandparents Day at parish school, out-

> Powell St. Joan of Arc – Eight separate May crownings for sets of PSR classes. preceded by a procession to the church, occurred Sunday, May 1. Monday, May 2, and Wednesday, May 4.

> **Revnoldsburg St. Pius X** – Sunday, May 8, living rosary, 1:15 p.m., rosary garden.

West Jefferson Sts. Simon and Jude -Sunday, May 8, May crowning, outdoors Photos/Newman Center, Immaculate Conception Church if weather permits, after 8 a,m. Mass.





NEW PLAY STRUCTURE BLESSED AT WORTHINGTON ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL



A new play structure for the playground at Worthington St. Michael School was dedicated Friday, April 29. Father Anthony Dinovo, pastor of St. Michael Church, is seen in the center photo blessing the structure, where children began playing (right photo) as soon as the ceremony ended. In the left photo are Sister John Paul, OP, the school's principal, with Home and School Association playground committee members, students, and a sign noting that a \$22,000 grant from The Catholic Foundation helped pay for the GameTime structure, along with donations from students' families and parishioners. Planning for the project began in September 2014, after it was determined the playground's old

equipment was becoming unsafe. The new unit was purchased at the end of last year. Assembly by about 30 volunteers, with a supervisor from GameTime, took place from April 22-27. The unit has seven decks, three roofs, a bridge, a double and a single slide, a rock climbing wall, double and single trapeze bars, cargo netting, a twister, a sprout climber, and various other climbers.

CT photos by Tim Puet



All Catholics have role in renewing marriage, family life, cardinal says

By Mark Zimmermann

Catholic News Service

Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl said Pope Francis' new apostolic exhortation encourages a renewal of marriage and family life through a "pastoral accompaniment" on the part of the church and its members, bringing God's love and mercy to individuals and families in all stages of life, especially when they are facing difficulties.

"For the Holy Father, the pastoral mission of the church, focused on the lived expression of mercy and love, is expressed in these four principal activities: listening, accompanying, discerning, and evangelizing," the cardinal told an audience on Wednesday, April 27 at The Catholic University of America.

In *Amoris Laetitia* ("The Joy of Love"), Pope Francis "also draws attention to stages of life where this pastoral accompaniment of families is especially important: in preparing for marriage, in the first years after marriage, during times of crisis, in cases of marital breakdown, and when families are touched by death," the cardinal told about 150 people.

Cardinal Wuerl's address on the document was part of a special presentation to a class on the virtues taught by John Garvey, university president.

The cardinal, who as archbishop of Washington serves as the university's chancellor, also occasionally gives talks in classes in his role as CUA's William Cardinal Baum professor of theology, a position named for the Washington archbishop from 1973 to 1980, who was a noted theologian and ecumenist.

Cardinal Wuerl noted that listening, accompanying, and helping in the discernment of people who might feel themselves apart from the church is an evangelizing outreach for all Catholics.

"Such an effort can take place among friends, co-workers, even among family members," he said.

"As in most efforts to evangelize, to bring another closer to Christ, the very activity itself brings the evangelizer that much closer to the Lord."

In his talk, Cardinal Wuerl emphasized how the document was a "consensus exhortation" reflecting the agreement of the world's bishops who worked together with Pope Francis in two synods in 2014 and 2015 that examined challenges facing married couples and fam-



ilies in today's world.

The cardinal, who participated in both synods, noted that last fall's gathering "affirmed that there is a difference between the teaching on the indissolubility of marriage (that is, that marriage endures until death), a doctrine of the church, and the pastoral judgment concerning individuals' relationships to the sacraments. The two realities are greatly related, but they are not the same thing."

Providing an overview of the document, Cardinal Wuerl noted that for Pope Francis, the starting point for strengthening and renewing marriage and family life is God's love.

The pope "reminds us of the vocation of the human family, which is revealed in the infinite love of the Lord who was made incarnate in a human family. So great is God's love for us that when he chose to become one of us, the context was a family," the cardinal said.

Another key point of the pope's document, he added, is that renewing marriage and families is the work of the whole church and of every family.

"Without claiming to present an entire pastoral plan, our Holy Father calls for family apostolates that would offer more adequate catechesis and formation, that would be directed not only to engaged and married couples and their children, but also a renewed catechesis on the importance of families and marriage (directed) to priests, deacons, seminarians, consecrated religious, catechists, teachers, social workers, medical professionals, and other pastoral workers," he said.

Underscoring how Pope Francis' exhortation is in continuity with Catholic teaching and reaffirms church doctrine

regarding marriage, the cardinal said, "The teaching on marriage and human love of Blessed Paul VI, St. John Paul II, and Benedict XVI is featured prominently in the document. Particularly notable is the rich use of John Paul II's catechesis on the body and on human love."

He said the exhortation includes several citations from the teachings of Pope St. John Paul II, the Second Vatican Council, St. Thomas Aquinas, and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

"While we can refer to *Amoris Laetitia* as a consensus document, we might also name it a continuity exhortation," he said.

Cardinal Wuerl also emphasized that many consider the heart of the document to be its pastoral implications for married couples and families and for the priests and others who serve them.

The tone of the document reflects

Pope Francis' approach to his ministry, the cardinal said.

"Pope Francis approaches his teaching ministry first and foremost as a pastor of souls," Washington's archbishop said.

"Indeed, in many places in the document, one hears the voice of a pastor speaking directly to members of his flock, sharing his own experience and wisdom formed from many years of service to God's people."

Cardinal Wuerl noted that the document also underscores how the church's pastoral ministry to families is helping them discern their situation, and "a key part of discerning is the formation of conscience. ... One aspect of this formation is presenting the teaching of the church in all its fullness and without compromise, though in language which is welcoming, rather than defensive. But it is families themselves who must be invited to understand how to apply and begin to live out this teaching in the particularity of their own situations."

The cardinal then addressed a point that has dominated media coverage of the exhortation: the question of whether the document points to an opening for some divorced and remarried people to receive Communion.

"Those in irregular situations, such as the divorced and civilly remarried, should be invited to deeper inclusion in the life of the church, but the Holy Father is clear that he is in no way changing the church's doctrine, nor making general changes to its sacramental practice or canon law," Cardinal Wuerl said.



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St. Matthew Parishioner

The Ascension of the Lord (Cycle C)

The risen Jesus' final appearance is not very dramatic



Father Lawrence L. Hummer

Acts 1:11; Ephesians 1:17-23 or Hebrews 9:24-28;10:19-23; Luke 24:46-53

In many dioceses across the U.S. (Columbus included), the Feast of the Ascension replaces the Seventh Sunday of Easter. This is probably because of the realization that most people do not attend weekday Masses here. The feast is too important, to lose so it is moved to this Sunday.

The traditional account of the Ascension is found in the first reading, which is from the beginning of the Acts of the Apostles. Luke begins here "book two" of his two-volume work. The Gospel was Volume I. Luke says Jesus appeared to the apostles "during forty days." He likes everything neat and in round numbers. By using the number 40, he picks a number rich in meaning for those familiar with the Scriptures.

The apostles still are slow in understanding about the kingdom, as they ask whether he is going to "restore the kingdom to Israel." His answer ("It is not for you to know times and seasons") directs them away from talk of the kingdom to the work of the Holy Spirit in spreading the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

The two men dressed in white are there to spur them to action: "Why are you standing there looking at the sky?" They also are there to remind them that Jesus will return in much the same way "as you have seen him going into heaven." The Ascension marks the dramatic moment when appearances of the risen Jesus ceased. From then on, Christians had to encounter the Lord through

the Spirit in the Word and, as Christian theology developed, in the sacraments.

The Gospel reading is the ending of Luke's Gospel. In the preceding verses, Luke had written, "Jesus said to them '... that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures"

It is here that Sunday's Gospel begins. We can see that Luke was concluding the Gospel by reviewing all that Jesus had said about the Scriptures which helped to explain his own identity. It was also a brief introduction to the words that will follow in his Acts of the Apostles. The Ascension is not very dramatic. Luke merely notes that from Bethany, Jesus "was carried up into heaven." The only real difference between this Ascension and that of Acts is that Acts adds a cloud as the vehicle for his ascent and does not mention Bethany.

The Ephesians reading is part of a nine-verse prayer, which is broken down into three sentences in English translation. The Greek original is one very long sentence. Paul asks God to bless the Ephesian community with wisdom. This wisdom will help them recognize the hope for the future with which Christians always live. We also recognize God's action in Christ's rising. The Ascension is not just about Christ entering into heaven, but his installation as head of his body, the church. From then on, the church begins.

The Hebrews reading is an alternate choice for this feast, and in it the author writes not only about what Christ did, but that he will appear a second time to bring salvation to those who eagerly await him. He further invites his fellow believers to "hold unwaveringly to our confession that gives us hope, for he who made the promise is trustworthy." This is our ongoing task in the church, to live in hope of our salvation in Christ.

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

13 St. Anthony Students Are Baptized

Columbus St. Anthony School welcomed 13 of its students into the Catholic Church during the Easter season. Their baptism into the faith helps them live the life encouraged by Pope Francis, who has said, "God has no difficulty in being understood by children, and children have no trouble in understanding God." The students, pictured with Father Thomas Petry, St. Anthony Church pastor, are (from left): first row, Mara Woodruff, Ella Harmon, Olivia Strickland, Julien McElroy, and Orianna Strickland; second row, Theaddus Kyeremeh, Majid Strickland, Stephanie Mbugua, Madison McLellan, Elaina Hartsough, and Nina McElroy; third row, Momodou Conde and Joey Harrington.





The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY Acts 19:1-8 Psalm 68:2-3b,4-5acd,6-7b John 16:29-33

> TUESDAY Acts 20:17-27 Psalm 68:10-11,20-21 John 17:1-11a

WEDNESDAY Acts 20:28-38 Psalm 68:29-30,33-36b John 17:11b-19

THURSDAY Acts 22:30;23:6-11 Psalm 16:1-2a,5,7-11 John 17:20-26

FRIDAY Acts 25:13b-21 Psalm 103:1-2,11-12,19-20b John 21:15-19

> SATURDAY Acts 1:15-17,20-26 Psalm 113:1-8 John 15:9-17

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF MAY 8, 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

The Choice Is Ours to Make

Next Sunday, we will celebrate the Feast of the Ascension. Most of you will remember that until recently, what was known as Ascension Thursday was a holy day of obligation. The feast in most dioceses of the United States, including the Diocese of Columbus, has been moved to Sunday, although Jesus ascended into heaven on the 40th day after his resurrection, and that day was a Thursday.

No matter when it is celebrated, the Feast of the Ascension should remind us that eventually, all of what we were told about our faith will come true. We either will rise with Jesus or we will not. The choice, by the way we live and act, is ours to make.

We do many things because deep down, we know them to be true. For example, we need to study in order to do well at school, and we need to work hard and plan our careers; otherwise, we always will be spinning our wheels in life.

We should do the same with our faith life by understanding and studying the Catholic faith, going to Mass and taking part in the sacraments, and aiding those whom we know to be in need, through the work of our hands and the help of our wallets.

When the apostles saw Jesus taken from them and whisked into heaven 40 days after he rose from the dead, they knew everything he told them was true. This is why they literally went to the ends of the earth to spread the Good News.

We often shake our head at "doubting Thomas." Yet he traveled farther than any of the apostles and was martyred in southern India. Keep in mind that he traveled thousands of miles from Jerusalem by either walking or taking perilous ship journeys. If only we would follow our own mistakes and doubting with that kind of perseverance and courage.

How many of us keep saying to ourselves and in our prayers that we have to become more involved in our faith through studying it, helping those in need, and being better husbands, wives, brothers, sisters. etc.? I remember hearing a homily many years ago that still reverberates in my mind. The priest said that one of the saddest things for a priest to deal with is hearing the

dying words of someone talking about what could have been. These people ask why they hadn't taken their faith more seriously, why they hadn't spent more time with their family, and why they made selfish decisions that cost their family time and money.

It doesn't have to be that way. We all know family and friends who have been spinning their wheels for years, whether it is because of addic-



THE TIDE IS TURNING TOWARD CATHOLICISM

David Hartline

tions, poor decisions, stubbornness, or other reasons. All too often, we don't feel it is our place to say anything to them. Yet had such a person slammed one of our favorite sports teams, bands, actors, or actresses, that would be something different.

Later this month, we celebrate the Feast of St. Joan of Arc. We probably all know the story of how she was burned at the stake for her faith. But how many of us know that shortly before her death in 1431, she wanted to organize a crusade to wipe out the army of Jan Huss, a radical Czech dissenter who didn't believe in the Eucharist? Imagine if St. Joan of Arc were living today and was seeing the world we live in and how our faith is mocked. She wouldn't have enough soldiers to deal with all of the ways the faith is scorned today.

This isn't 1431 and we can't use violence. However, something is askew when our faith is mocked and we do nothing, while at the same time. we become violent or indignant when our favorite sports team, band, actor, or actress is criticized.

Think about it: Except for John (who was exiled to the isle of Patmos, where he wrote the Book of Revelation), all the apostles were martyred and died excruciating deaths at the hands of their torturers. Why? They knew that everything Jesus said came to be true. Hopefully, none of us will have to experience what they did, but will we take our faith seriously, even though we have been blessed with so much? This choice is ours to make.

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

Bishop Watterson High School

Principal Position

Bishop Watterson High School, located at 99 East Cooke Road in Columbus, Ohio, is seeking an individual to serve as its Principal beginning July 1, 2016 for school year 2016-2017. The Principal will be the chief academic officer of the school and be responsible for the leadership of all aspects of the educational program. The Principal will be a key member of the leadership team and will collaborate with other members of that team under the direction of the Superintendent of Schools. The Principal will be responsible for supervising the daily operation of the school and all interactions with teachers, students, and their parents or guardians.

The candidate must be a practicing Catholic and support the mission of the Church. They must demonstrate a commitment to the mission of the school and possess a Master's in education or a related field. Preferably, the applicant will have three years of experience teaching in a secondary school, have been a secondary school administrator, possess successful leadership and management skills, and excellent verbal and written communication skills.

Job offer is contingent on the successful passing of the mandatory background screening, completion of the VIRTUS "Protecting God's Children" course and reference checks. Salary is commensurate with experience and benefits are according to Diocesan policy.

Interested candidates should complete our on-line administrator application and contact the HR Assistant for School Personnel, Jeanne Gissel at jgissel@cdeducation.org for any questions. In addition to filling out the application, candidates must send the following by Friday, May 27, 2016: cover letter of interest, resume, educational philosophy, transcripts, a letter from your pastor that you are an active participating Catholic, and five letters of recommendation. Please send to:

Dominic Prunte, Diocesan HR Director at dprunte@columbuscatholic.org

Irish priest's step toward sainthood

By Sarah Mac Donald

Catholic News Service

An Irish priest approved for the next step to sainthood was described as a holy man with special powers of healing.

Senior figures in the Irish Catholic Church and the Church of Ireland welcomed Pope Francis signing a decree recognizing a miracle attributed to Jesuit Father John Sullivan, clearing the way for his beatification. Father Sullivan was raised as an Anglican.

"He was not a medical expert or a faith healer, but a man who through his own prayer and personal holiness was able to transmit to those he encountered something of the healing power and the good news of Jesus Christ," said Dublin Archbishop Diarmuid Martin. The archbishop said the Jesuit's Anglican heritage had enriched his faith.

The son of a Protestant lord chancellor of Ireland, Sir Edward Sullivan, Father Sullivan was baptized into the Church of Ireland tradition of his father and was educated at the Protestant Portora Royal School in County Fermanagh and at Trinity College in Dublin.

Jesuit Father Barney McGuckian said Father Sullivan's beatification would be "a very ecumenical event." He paid tribute to Portora college as "the first Irish Protestant school to produce a Catholic saint"

In 1896 at age 35, Father Sullivan was received into the Catholic Church, the tradition of his mother, at the Jesuit church on Farm Street, London. He joined the Jesuits in 1900 and was ordained in 1907.

Pray for our dead

BLUE, James A., 66, April 28 St. Mary Church, Marion

BOWES, Patrick T., 62, April 22 St. Mary Church, Lancaster

BOYER, Alveda B., 92, April 28 St. Mary Church, Lancaster

BRINGARDNER, Thomas A., 90, April 27 St. Catharine Church, Columbus

CATTO, Wayne W., 74, April 29 St. Thomas Church, Columbus

CORSON, Petra J., 87, April 26 Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

CURRY, G. Craig, 78, May 1
Our Lady of Peace Church, Columbus

HAUBERT, William J. III, 70, April 28 St. Mary Church, Marion

JIMENEZ, Marilyn A., April 23 St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin MASYS, Rhodena, 66, April 25 St. Catharine Church, Columbus

MILLER, Carl L., 73, April 25 St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

MITCHELL, Kathleen, 75, April 29 Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

QUINN, Jacqueline, 70, April 27 St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury

RICKLIC, Norma, 83, April 17 Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

SAPP, Jean E., 76, April 26 St. Mary Magdalene Church, Columbus

SINACOLA, Frank J., 89, April 26 St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

TOBIN, Lucille J., 95, April 24 St. Mary Church, Lancaster

WEIDEMAN, Barbara A., 89, April 25 St. Anthony Church, Columbus

Mary Ann Heise

Funeral Mass for Mary Ann Heise, 91, who died Tuesday, April 26, was held Saturday, April 30 at Columbus Christ the King Church. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She attended Columbus St. Mary of the Springs Academy, High School, and College, graduating from the college (now Ohio Dominican University) in 1946, and was an educator for 30 years, teaching at Columbus Bishop Hartley High School during the 1960s and at several Columbus public schools.

She was a past president of the St. Mary of the Springs College Alumni Association and was a Dominican Associate.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Page Heise. Survivors include sons, John (Paula), Thomas, James, and Robert; daughters, Mary Elizabeth (Eddie) Davis, Mary Margaret (Ed) Kempner, Mary Ellen (William) Bettac, Mary Kay Walters, and Mary Jean Kerns (Tom Schwarzbach); 17 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchild.

Father Patrick L. Sheridan

Funeral Mass for Father Patrick L. Sheridan, 70, who died Thursday, April 28, at the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus, was held Wednesday, May 4, at Bellefontaine St. Patrick Church. Burial was at Calvary Cemetery, Bellefontaine.

He was born May 11, 1945, in Columbus to the late Leo and Margaret (Carroll) Sheridan, attended Columbus St. John the Evangelist and St. Thomas schools, and graduated from Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School. He received a bachelor's degree from John Carroll University in 1967 and served in the Army in Vietnam, receiving the Silver Star medal for valor.

He was a real estate agent and a member of the Knights of Columbus for many years before beginning studies for the priesthood at the Athenaeum of Ohio/Mount St. Mary's Seminary of the West in Cincinnati, from which he received a master's degree in divinity.

He was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati by Archbishop Daniel Pilarczyk on May 16, 1998, at Cincinnati St. Peter in Chains Cathedral. He served as parochial vicar at parishes in Anderson Township and Mason, then was pastor at Bellefontaine St. Patrick Church from July 7, 2003-Dec. 31, 2015. He also was administrator of Russells Point St. Mary of the Woods Church from July 2011-July 2014.

Earlier this year, he was appointed chaplain and assistant director for campus ministry at Ohio Dominican University.

He is survived by a sister, Margaret.

Send obituaries to: tpuet@columbuscatholic.org



It can be difficult for Catholics to find a Mass when traveling or when it is not practical to attend their regular parishes.

The website www.Mass Times.org makes it much easier to search for a Mass by presenting all the possibilities in a geographical area on one page. It includes Mass schedules for 117,000 churches in 201 nations or territories.

The service also is available by phone.

HAPPENINGS

CLASSIFIED

St. Matthew Garage Sale

Help St. Matthew's begin a great fund-raising tradition! Join us on Saturday, May, 14th from 9am - 3pm for our Community Garage Sale to support our S.P.I.C.E. Program

Come to sell, swap, trade, buy, and enjoy lunch. Bring your table andsale items. The table FEE is \$25. (All proceeds after the fee belongs to the seller.)

REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SCHOOL AND PARISH OFFICES AND ONLINE.

Register early, spaces are limited.

MAY

5. THURSDAY

Cenacle at Holy Name

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

6 to 7 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Holy Hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by meeting of parish Holy Name and Junior Holy Name societies, with refreshments. 614-221-4323

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

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

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

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

'Happenings' submissions

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

Items not received before this deadline may not be published.

Listings cannot be taken by phone.

Mail to: The Catholic Times

Happenings,

197 East Gay St., Columbus, OH 43215

Fax to: 614-241-2518
E-mail as text to tpuet@colsdioc.org

6, FRIDAY

St. Cecilia Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

St. Cecilia Church, 434 Norton Road, Columbus. Begins after 8:15 a.m. Mass; continues to 5 p.m. Saturday.

Monthly Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Begins after 9 a.m. Mass; continues through 6 p.m. Holy Hour.

Catholic Men's Luncheon Club

12:15 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Catholic Men's Luncheon Club meeting. Talk by Father Paul Noble, diocesan vocations director.

St. John Chrysostom First Friday Sale

4 to 6 p.m., St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church, 5858 Cleveland Ave., Columbus. First Friday sale of pirogi, stuffed cabbage, noodles, baked goods.

Transitional Deacon Ordination at Cathedral

7 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Mass of ordination of seminarian Daniel Olvera as a transitional deacon by Bishop Frederick Campbell, followed by reception. Eucharistic Vigil at Holy Cross

Holy Cross Church, 205 S. 5th St., Columbus. 7:30 p.m. Mass, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with various prayers, ending with Benediction at 11:30.

All-Night Exposition at Our Lady of Victory

Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8 p.m. until Mass at 8 a.m. Saturday.

7. SATURDAY

Mary's Little Children Prayer Group

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. 8:30 a.m., confessions, 9 a.m., Mass, followed by Fatima prayers and Rosary (Shepherds of Christ format); 10 a.m., meeting. 614-861-4888

Lay Missionaries of Charity Day of Prayer

9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Monthly day of prayer for Columbus chapter of Lay Missionaries of Charity. 614-372-5249

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.

First Saturday Mass at Holy Family

9 a.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. First Saturday Mass for world peace and in reparation for blasphemies against the Virgin Mary, as requested by Our Lady of Fatima.

614-221-1890

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

Spring Commencement at Ohio Dominican

11 a.m., Alumni Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. University's spring commencement exercises. Speaker: David C. Bianconi, founder, Progressive Medical Inc. Preceded by baccalaureate service at 9 a.m. Baccalaureate Mass at Newman Center

5:30 p.m., St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave., Columbus. Baccalaureate Mass and reception honoring 2016 graduates of The Ohio State University.

Filipino Mass at Holy Cross

7:30 p.m., Holy Cross Church, 204 S. 5th St., Columbus. Mass in the Tagalog language for members of the Filipino Catholic community. 614-224-3416

8, SUNDAY

Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic Meeting

1:30 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Meeting of St. Catherine of Siena chapter, Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic.

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

9, MONDAY

Bethesda Post-Abortion Healing Ministry

6:30 p.m., support group meeting, 2744 Dover Road, Columbus (Christ the King convent, first building west of the church). 614-718-0277, 614-309-2651, 614-309-0157

Our Lady of Peace Men's Bible Study 7 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd.,

7 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvc Columbus. Bible study of Sunday Scripture readings.

9-14, MONDAY-SATURDAY

Dominican Sisters of Peace Mission Immersion

6 p.m. Monday to noon Saturday, Dominican Sisters of Peace Lake House, 7400 Wengert Road, Blacklick. Dominican Sisters of Peace mission immersion experience for single Catholic women ages 18 to 45. Participants will live and pray with the sisters and go out each day on mission to one of the sites they serve. Room and board provided.

614-216-7688

10. TUESDAY

Serra Club Day of Reflection at Josephinum

9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. Serra Club of North Columbus annual day of reflection, led by Father Michael Mary Dosch, OP, pastor, Columbus St. Patrick Church. Lunch will be served. Reservations required.

Calix Society Meeting

6 p.m., Panera restaurant, 4519 N. High St., Columbus. Monthly meeting of the Calix Society, an association of Catholic alcoholics. Preceded by 5:30 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Peace Church, across street from meeting site.

Holy Hour at Columbus St. Francis of Assisi

St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave., Columbus. Monthly Holy Hour following 6 p.m. Mass. 614-299-5781 EnCourage Ministry Monthly Meeting

6:30 p.m., EnCourage, an approved diocesan ministry dedicated to families and friends of persons who experience same-sex attraction. EnCourage respects the dignity of every person, promotes the truth of God's plan for each of us, and focuses on sharing our love. Confidentiality is maintained. Call for site.

614-296-7404

Relevant Young Adult Ministry

7 to 8:30 p.m., Wyandotte Winery, 4640 Wyandotte Drive, Columbus. Monthly meeting of Relevant ministry for people 21 to 35, sponsored by New Albany Church of the Resurrection. Cost \$5. Light appetizers; wine extra.

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.

Notre Dame Folk Choir Concert 740-654-6928

7:30 p.m., Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany. Concert by University of Notre Dame folk choir. 614-855-1400

11, WEDNESDAY

Turning Leaves and Tea Leaves

2 to 3:30 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus. Turning Leaves and Tea Leaves book club with Dominican Sisters Marialein Anzenberger and Colleen Gallagher.

614-416-1910

Delaware St. Mary Theology on Tap

7 p.m., Restoration Brewery, 25 N. Sandusky St., Delaware. Meeting of Delaware St. Mary Church Theology on Tap discussion and social group for young Catholics. Speaker: Father Joshua Wagner, pastor of Columbus St. Dominic and Holy Rosary-St. John churches.

Festival of Pentecost Hymns at St. Francis de Sales

7 p.m., St. Francis de Sales Church, 40 Granville St., Newark. "Come Holy Ghost: A Festival of Hymns for Pentecost" with the parish choir, commentary by parish music director Christopher Urbiel, and organ music by Craig Jaynes, music director, Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne Church. 740-345-9874

Rededication of Kenton Immaculate Conception Church

7 p.m., Immaculate Conception Church, 215 E. North St., Kenton. Rededication Mass to mark church building's 150th anniversary, with Bishop Frederick Campbell as principal celebrant and priests who formerly served the parish.

419-675-1162

12, THURSDAY

Women to Women Listening Circle at Corpus Christi

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Women to Women program for women of all ages and life circumstances. Begins with soup lunch until noon, followed by listening circle. No child care available on-site.

614-512-3731

Regional Cenacle at Holy Name

5:30 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Mass, followed by regional Cenacle of the Marian Movement of Priests.

614-262-0390

Theology on Tap Meeting

7 to 9 p.m., Jubilee Museum and Catholic Cultural Center, 57 S. Grubb St., Columbus. Theology on Tap discussion and social group for young Catholics tours museum, which holds the nation's largest collection of diversified Catholic artwork. BYOB and an appetizer to share. RSVP to cbustheologyontap@gmail.com or Columbus Theology on Tap Facebook page.

Catechism Uncorked in Delaware

7 p.m., Amato's Woodfired Pizza, 6 S. Sandusky St., Delaware. Catechism Uncorked social for 36- to 64-year-olds, sponsored by Delaware St. Mary Church adult faith formation program, featuring social time, questions for speaker Father David Sizemore, pastor of Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, and food for purchase.

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

14, SATURDAY

614-855-1400

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.

Mother-Daughter Tea at Sugar Grove

Noon, St. Joseph Church, 308 Elm St., Sugar Grove. annual parish mother-daughter tea with local author, speaker, and radio host Elizabeth Ficocelli discussing "Spiritual Warfare in the Age of Mary." 740-746-8302

Catholic Record Society Meeting

12:30 p.m., Mozart's Restaurant, 4784 N. High St., Columbus. Catholic Record Society annual luncheon. Speaker: Timothy M. Walter, Catholic Press Association executive director. \$25; reservations required. 614-268-4166



BOOK REVIEW

"PLAYING BALL"

Collection explores 'playing ball' from Catholic viewpoints

By Allan F. Wright

Catholic News Service

"Youth Sport and Spirituality: Catholic Perspectives," edited by Patrick Kelly, SJ. University of Notre Dame Press (Notre Dame, Indiana, 2015). 308 pages, \$37.

In an age when an increasing number of Americans find themselves on ball fields on Sunday mornings either watching or participating in the ritual of sports, rather than in the pews, Jesuit Father Patrick Kelly offers a muchneeded perspective to place sport in its proper context.

Youth Sport and Spirituality examines sports from various lens and perspectives dating back to Homer's *Iliad*, when the categories of play, sport, and war were used to describe different levels of this human endeavor called athletics that is now a multibillion-dol-

lar enterprise.

In addition to the historical perspective, the reader will find commentary from scholars in several disciplines including theology, philosophy, and psychology that are helpful to coach and parent alike.

These scholars put forth their observations and commentary on how sports can foster and impact the personal growth of young people in both positive and negative ways.

At times their scholarly commentaries are at odds with one another, so readers have to do some reflection themselves and grapple with the questions raised, especially regarding the training and upbringing of young people.

The second part of Father Kelly's book includes essays written by athletic directors, coaches, and experts in the field who work specifically with coaches in youth athletics.

An aspect of this book that is valu-

able for the Catholic and the religious believer is the integration of the transcendent within the context of sports.

Youth are fully engaged by successful coaches who inspire young people and increase the athletes' desire to give 100 percent for the coach and the team.

How do the disciplines involved in sports translate into the spiritual life, and is there mutual ground for sports and spirituality to co-exist so they can truly feed off each other, rather than compete against one other in our often sports-crazed society?

In Chapter 5, Clark Power examines the coach-minister model of moral and spiritual development through the "Play Like a Champion Today" educational program in which "the child-centered approach to coaching differs in important ways from the traditional character-education approach espoused by most coach education programs today."

He emphasizes that children are not "mini-adults" and need the care of coaches to "establish a nurturing environment that meets the children's needs."

Without this environment in sports, coaches are too often driven by their

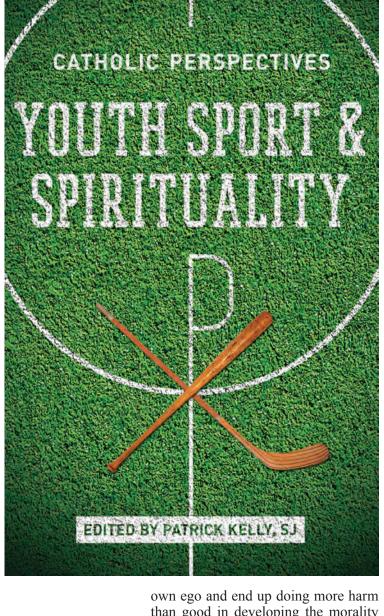
own ego and end up doing more harm than good in developing the morality and spirituality of the child entrusted to them by God.

Opportunities abound for Catholic schools, institutions. and individuals to "seek that which is above" through participation in athletics. Father Kelly's thoughtful analysis and perspective makes coaches, athletes, and parents alike co-creators in the development of youth through the participation of sports.

In addition to Power and Father Kelly, contributors to this book include Daniel A. Dombrowski, Nicole M. LaVoi, Mike McNamee, David Light Shields, Brenda Light Bredemeier, Richard R. Gaillardetz, Kristin Komyatte Sheehan, Dobie Moser, Jim Yerkovich, Sherri Retif, James Charles Naggi, and Edward Hastings.

Wright teaches a course on spirituality and sports at Seton Hall University in South Orange, New Jersey.





Mapping with the stars: Nuns instrumental in Vatican celestial survey

By Carol Glatz

Catholic News Service

Of the many momentous or menial tasks women religious perform, one of the better-kept secrets has been the role of four Sisters of the Holy Child Mary who were part of a global effort to make a complete map and catalog of the starry skies.

Until recently, they were nameless nuns whose image has long been preserved in a black-and-white photograph that showed them wearing impeccably ironed habits and leaning over special microscopes and a ledger.

But now their identities have been pulled out of obscurity by Jesuit Father Sabino Maffeo, assistant to the director of the Vatican Observatory. He stumbled onto their names as he was going through the observatory archives, "putting papers in order," he told Catholic News Service.

Sisters Emilia Ponzoni, Regina Colombo, Concetta Finardi, and Luigia Panceri, all born in the late 1800s and from the northern Lombardy region near Milan, helped map and catalog nearly half a million stars for the Vatican's part in an international survey of the night sky.

Top astronomers from around the world met in Paris in 1887 and again in 1889 to coordinate the creation of a photographic "celestial map" (*Carte du Ciel*) and an "astrographic" catalog pinpointing the stars' positions.

An Italian astronomer and meteorologist, Barnabite Father Francesco Denza, easily convinced Pope Leo XIII to let the Holy See take part in the initiative, which assigned participating ob-



servatories a specific slice of the sky to photograph, map, and catalog.

Father Maffeo, an expert in the observatory's history and its archivist, said Pope Leo saw the Vatican's participation as a way to show the world that "the church supported science" and "was not just concerned with theology and religion."

The Vatican was one of about 18 observatories that spent the next several decades taking thousands of glass-plate photographs with their telescopes and cataloging data for the massive project.

But the project at the Vatican Observatory began to suffer after Father Denza died in 1894.

When Pope Pius X found out the new director wasn't up to the job, he called on Archbishop Pietro Maffi of Pisa to reorganize the observatory and search for the best replacement.

In 1906, the archbishop found his man at Georgetown University in Washington -- Jesuit Father John Hagen, who had been heading the observatory there since 1888 and was renowned for his research on "variable" stars, which have fluctuating brightness.

Though he had extensive experience in astronomy, Father Hagen never did the kind of measurements and numbercrunching required for the astrographic catalog, Father Maffeo said.

"So he went to Europe to see how they did it and saw that in some observatories, there were women who read the (star) positions and wrote them in a book with precise coordinates," the 93-year-old Jesuit priest said.

The astronomers told Father Hagen that once the young women "were shown how to do it, they were very diligent," Father Maffeo said. At the Royal Observatory in Greenwich, for example, they even were referred to as "lady computers" because of the skill needed to calculate the coordinates according to set formulae.

When Father Hagen wondered where he might be able to hire young women for the Vatican, "he immediately thought -- nuns," and contacted the Sisters of the Holy Child Mary, who were located nearby, Father Maffeo said. Coincidentally, Mary is often symbolized in Catholic Church tradition by a star.

In a letter dated July 13, 1909, to the sisters' superior general, Mother Angela Ghezzi, Archbishop Maffi said the Vatican Observatory "needs two sisters with normal vision, patience and a predisposition for methodical and mechanical work."

Father Maffeo said the sisters' general council was not enthused "about wasting two nuns on a job that had nothing to do with charity." However, he said Mother Ghezzi was "used to seeing God's will in every request," and she

let two sisters go to the observatory.

Work for the sisters began in 1910, but soon required a third and later a fourth nun to join the team. Two would sit in front of a microscope mounted on an inclined plane with a light shining under the plate-glass photograph of one section of the night sky.

The plates were overlaid with numbered grids. The sisters would measure and read out loud each star's location on two axes, and another would register the coordinates in a ledger. They would also check enlarged versions of the images on paper.

The Vatican was one of about 10 observatories to complete its assigned slice of the sky. From 1910 to 1921, the nuns surveyed the brightness and positions of 481,215 stars off of hundreds of glass plates.

Their painstaking work did not go unnoticed at the time. Pope Benedict XV received them in a private audience in 1920 and gave them a gold chalice, Father Maffeo said. Pope Pius XI also received the "measuring nuns" eight years later, awarding them a silver medal.

The Vatican's astrographic catalog, which totaled 10 volumes, gave special mention to the sisters, noting their "alacrity and diligence," uninterrupted labors and "zeal greater than any eulogy" could express at a task "so foreign to their mission."

The international project to catalog star positions and build a celestial map ended in 1966 and recorded nearly five million stars. The catalog consists of more than 200 volumes produced by 20 observatories, and the unfinished map is made up of hundreds of sheets of paper -- all work culled from more than 22,000 glass photographic plates of the sky.

Father Maffeo said, "Never before had there been a presentation of the stars as vast as this."

While the project was quickly eclipsed by huge technological developments in surveying stars, modern-day scientists eventually discovered that comparing the star positions recorded a century earlier with current satellite positions provided valuable information about star motions for millions of stars.

The project showed that even in a new era of satellites and software, quaint glass-plate photographs and "lady computers" weren't wholly obsolete.



Father Daniel Berrigan, advocate for justice, peace, poor, dies at 94

By Catholic News Service

Jesuit Father Daniel Berrigan, an early critic of U.S. military intervention in Vietnam who for years challenged the country's reliance on military might, died on Saturday, April 30. He was 94.

The author of several books of poetry and one of the first Catholic priests to receive a federal sentence for peace activism, Father Berrigan (*pictured*) protested government policies in word and in deeds, which garnered several stays in jail and in federal prison.

Father Berrigan died in the company of family. In a statement issued shortly after the priest's death, the family said, "It was a sacrament to be with Dan and feel his spirit move out of his body and into each of us and in the world."

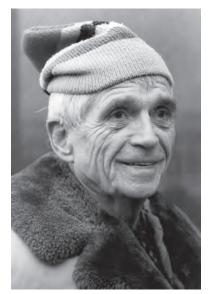
"Dan taught us that every person is a miracle, every person has a story, every person is worthy of respect," the statement said. "And we are so aware of all he did and all he was and all he created in almost 95 years of life lived with enthusiasm, commitment, seriousness and almost holy humor."

The "heavy burden" of peacemaking will continue among many people, the family added, saying, "We can all move forward Dan Berrigan's work for humanity."

A funeral Mass was planned for Friday, May 6 at St. Francis Xavier Church in New York. Family members and others were to gather prior to the Mass for a peace witness, followed by a march to the church.

Father Berrigan, a poet whose works inspired people to reflect and act on behalf of justice and peace, began speaking against U.S. military involvement in February 1965 at a rally in a Protestant church in New York City.

"To men of conscience, such works cry out to heaven for redress. They also sow into man's future a poison which



the unborn will be condemned to breathe -- hatreds, divisions, world poverty, hopelessness. In such an atmosphere, the world comes ever closer to the actuality of hell," Father Berrigan told the crowd.

He told various groups and retreats he led over the years that Catholics are called to live a life of nonviolence as expressed in the Gospel and to protest injustices when

they are encountered.

Father Berrigan, with others, gave birth to the Plowshares movement to oppose nuclear weapons. On Sept. 9, 1980, Father Berrigan, his brother Philip, and six other demonstrators were arrested after entering the General Electric missile plant in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, battering interconti-

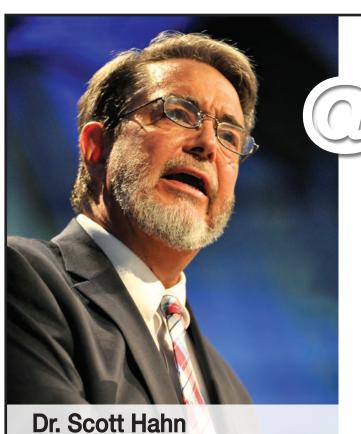
nental ballistic missile nose cones with hammers, and pouring blood over classified defense plans.

Father Berrigan's views at times led him into conflict with other opponents of U.S. involvement in Vietnam and raised the ire of some leaders in the Catholic Church.

Father Berrigan was born in Virginia, Minnesota, on May 9, 1921, the fifth of six sons of Thomas Berrigan, a second-generation Irish-American who was working there as a railroad engineer, and Frieda (Fromhart) Berrigan, who was of German descent.

Attracted to the priesthood from his earliest years, he sent inquiries to religious orders when he was a senior in high school. In 1939, he began the Jesuit training program.

After his novitiate, he studied philosophy at Woodstock College in Maryland, taught for four years at St. Peter's Prep in Jersey City, New Jersey, studied theology for three years at Weston College in Massachusetts, and was ordained on June 19, 1952.



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