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**MARION ST. MARY CHURCH:
A SPIRIT OF SERVICE**

The Editor's Notebook

The Christmas tree is gone... now what?

By David Garick, Editor



My wife and I just finished packing away the last of the Christmas decorations at our home. It's funny – the Christmas tree was only up for a few weeks, but the spot where it stood in the living room looks so empty now. I have to admit that I did have semi-serious thoughts of leaving it up year-round. That's only partly because I am too lazy to put it up and take it down. It's mostly because of the joy we get looking at it, with all the special ornaments and lights. The thought of leaving it up and changing the decorations to reflect the different seasons is tempting. But in the end, we packed it away, with the anticipation of its return next Advent.

I think we are able to do that because we have a better understanding of just what that tree represents and the place it has in our lives. The Christmas tree is a symbol of joy. It is a physical reminder of our excitement about the Incarnation: the very God who created the universe and each one of us coming into our world to share our humanity and to offer us a share in His divinity. That certainly is worthy of a celebration. This is not a one-time event just to be commemorated annually. The true gift of Christmas is a real relationship with Christ at a deep and personal level that each of us must nourish every day of our lives.

But what do we do when the annual celebration is over? Do we just take down the tree, pack away the lights, tinsel, and ornaments and forget about Christ, at least until we get another celebration at Easter? The joyful days of Christ-

mas have passed away; the bleak, gray, cold days of January are upon us. But our hearts can still be filled with joy. Christ is not Santa Claus, a being whom we only acknowledge by making our list of the gifts we want and perhaps thanking with a plate of milk and cookies on Christmas Eve. Christ comes to be with us every day of our lives and to share a relationship in which we dedicate our lives to him and share his love in our family and in our communities. We receive wonderful gifts, but we also accept great responsibility.

During these days of Ordinary Time in January, Scripture readings tell us of how He called His apostles to leave their former lives and to embark on exciting new lives loving Him, learning from Him, and making their world better because of Him. We are called to do the same. Every day, our lives will be different because of the time we spend with Him at Mass, in adoration, and in prayer. Every day our world will get better because of the way we act on his behalf in loving our neighbors and building stronger communities based on the message of the Gospel.

This week's *Catholic Times* provides some good examples of how that is happening at Marion St. Mary Church and at other ministries around the diocese. The Christmas tree is gone from the living room, but its message of joy, hope, and love shines on in our daily acts of love for Christ and for our neighbors.

RESPECT LIFE MASS, RALLY

Bishop Frederick Campbell will be the principal celebrant at the annual Respect Life Mass at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 23, at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St.

On this day, to mark the anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision that legalized abortion, the diocese will join with dioceses from around the nation in observing a day of prayer for the legal protection of unborn children.

The Roe v. Wade decision was issued on Jan. 22, 1973, but the Mass and many other pro-life events across the nation were moved to Jan. 23 this year because Jan. 22 is a Sunday.

Additional information about the day of prayer may be found at <http://uscgb.org/prayer-and-worship/resources/january-22-day-of-prayer.cfm>.

The Mass will be followed at noon by the 39th annual Rally for Life, sponsored by Greater Columbus Right to Life, on the west plaza of the Ohio statehouse.

The featured speaker will be state Rep. Cheryl Grossman, who represents the Ohio House district that includes Grove City, Hilliard, parts of Franklin County. She is assistant majority whip for the Ohio House and is a strong advocate for life who has served the public for nearly 20 years, including two years as president of City Council in Grove City and 12 years as that community's mayor.

Other speakers at the rally will include Mike Keebaugh, president of the Greater Columbus Right to Life board of trustees; Ruth Yorston, the organization's executive director, who will be calling in from Washington with a live report from the national March for Life; and Denise Salyers, who will share how abortion

affected her life.

This is an outdoor rally, so come dressed for the weather. People are welcomed and encouraged to bring handheld signs showing their support of life from conception until natural death. Signs on sticks, poles, or stakes are prohibited. Parking may be available in the underground garage at the Statehouse. There may also be some street meter parking available nearby, and the former City Center indoor garage also should have spaces available.

For more information, contact Greater Columbus Right to Life at (614) 445-8508.

Tens of thousands of people from across the nation are expected to gather for this year's March for Life in Washington. Its theme will be "Unite on the life principles to overturn Roe v. Wade and with love protect mothers and preborn children -- no exception, no compromise."

A noon rally on the National Mall will be followed by a march along Constitution Avenue to the Supreme Court.

The night before this year's rally, March for Life organizers are planning a mini-rally in Lafayette Park across from the White House. They are also sponsoring a youth rally that night at a Washington hotel.

A capacity crowd of about 20,000 pilgrims is expected to fill the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception for the annual National Prayer Vigil for Life, which begins with a Jan. 22 vigil Mass. Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, chairman of the Committee on Pro-Life Activities for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, will be the principal celebrant and homilist.

CATHOLIC WORKER PRAYER GROUP FORMED

Monica Siemer of Columbus St. Thomas Church has formed a new prayer group which hopes to combine spirituality and social activism in the tradition of Dorothy Day, founder of the Catholic Worker movement.

The Lamb Catholic Worker Charismatic Prayer Group had its first meeting on Monday, Jan. 2, at Columbus St. Thomas Church and plans to meet in the church's undercroft at 7 p.m. on the first and third Mondays of each month.

"I'm hoping to find a group of like-minded people who are interested in praying fervently, as the early Church did, in 100 percent obedience to the Holy Father, and who have a commitment to the ideals of non-violence, voluntary poverty, prayer, and hospitality for the homeless, exiled, hungry, and forsaken that were part of the lives of Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin," Siemer said.

She said anyone wishing to be part of the group should be committed to daily Mass attendance, daily recital of the rosary, weekly Eucharistic adoration, and monthly confession. Private prayer and meditation with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Scripture study, in addition to quiet centering

time, also are recommended practices for those who may be interested in the group.

Day and Maurin were social activists who in 1933 co-founded the Catholic Worker newspaper and the movement of the same name, which has spread to nearly 200 locations. It is a loosely structured organization which shares the founders' ideals and which in many areas operates hospital-ity houses for people in need.

"Our mission is the salvific work of God through the promptings and charisms of the Holy Spirit and intercession of Mary, in upholding each other's call to holiness and to community," says the mission statement of Siemer's group.

Siemer, a curriculum coach for the English as a Second Language program in Columbus city schools, said that if the group becomes large enough, she hopes to open a hospital-ity house for abused women and children, particularly those who are recent immigrants.

"Through my work with several immigrant communities, I have seen that abuse is a widespread problem that is largely kept hidden because people don't want to call attention to themselves and get law

enforcement involved," she said. "There is a great need for a shelter for these people. I'm prayerfully committed to doing what I can for them."

She said she knows of a group of several abandoned houses on the near east side of Columbus which would be an ideal location for a shelter and knows who owns the buildings, but has not been in touch with the owner because she has no money to offer him.

Siemer was involved with the Catholic Worker movement in Washington, D.C., while working there for several years. She recently visited there for the movement's celebration of its 30th anniversary in the nation's capital.

Accompanying her was Jotham Allwein (pictured above with Siemer), a second-year seminarian at the Pontifical College Josephinum. Allwein for several years has assisted his father, Gary Allwein, in the operation of Mustard Seed Catering, which provides food for special events and also serves hot meals once a month at the Open Shelter in Columbus. The elder Allwein was selected as Catholic Man of the Year for 2008 for his work with the poor.

"I've always had a strong



inclination to help the poor and underprivileged, based on what I've seen working with my dad. That's one reason I want to be a priest," Jotham Allwein said. "Columbus needs a shelter like the one we have in mind and a group of prayerful people to support it and to spread Christ's love, and I hope many lay faithful will be willing to help us out. I'll help when I can while in the seminary."

Siemer also comes from a family background of service to the church. Her mother, the late Dorothy Siemer, was a social worker and was director of the soup kitchen and food pantry at Columbus Holy Family Church for 10 years. She also worked with the Homeless Families Foundation. Her father, Tom Siemer, is a former defense contracts manager for North American Rockwell in Columbus who renounced his previous profession and became a strong advocate for antiwar and social justice activities.

Monica Siemer has been involved with charitable work at the Open Shelter, the Bishop Griffin Center, and Columbus St. Catharine and St. Thomas churches for several years. She said the idea for starting a prayer group first came to her a few years ago during a five-day silent retreat at the Children of Mary community in Licking County. It's something she has been working toward since then, with the assistance of her

spiritual director, Msgr. Marvin Mottet of Davenport, Iowa.

Msgr. Mottet, whom she first knew in Washington, has been involved in charismatic renewal and the Catholic Worker movement for more than 40 years and continues to be active in social justice work at age 81. "I believe that Monica's desire and passion to open a Catholic Worker house in Columbus is genuine and is from the Holy Spirit," he said. "I strongly recommend this prayerful ministry in support of the Catholic Worker community."

A Catholic Worker community which had formed a few years ago at Columbus St. James the Less Church is currently inactive, said one of the group's leaders, Frank Lesko, who now lives in North Carolina.

He said several of its members remain involved in efforts which the group started, including the community garden at St. James the Less and the English as a Second Language program at Columbus St. Matthias Church. St. James the Less is now using the house which has been the community's home for other parish needs.

More information about The Lamb Catholic Worker Charismatic Prayer Group is available by contacting Siemer at (614) 832-9525, going to www.lambcatholicworker-columbus.blogspot.com, or attending one of the group's Monday-evening meetings at St. Thomas Church.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT ~ Clergy Assignment



Rev. Vio Joseph, excardinated from the Prabhu Prakash Province of the Society of the Pallottine Fathers and Brothers, incardinated into the Diocese of Columbus, effective Jan. 10, and continuing in service at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Chillicothe.



Front Page photo:

Marion St. Mary Church is the only Catholic Church serving Marion County. Its history dates to its founding as a mission in 1844. The current church building in the city's downtown was completed in 1898.

Photo courtesy Myron Aho, St. Mary Church

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AUTHOR JOE PAPROCKI TO HEADLINE FREE RETREAT

Nationally known author and speaker Joe Paprocki will direct a winter retreat on Thursday, Feb. 9, in Hendricks Hall of Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church, 7179 Avery Road. Highlighting points from his new book, "Practice Makes Catholic," Paprocki will present five characteristics that can help us be more intentional in living and sharing the Catholic faith.

The day will begin with Mass at 9 a.m. and includes lunch. Paprocki is national consultant for faith formation at Loyola Press in Chicago and has more than 25 years of experience in pastoral ministry in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

The event is free, but registration by Wednesday, Feb. 1 is required. To attend, contact Ann Manning at (740) 369-8228 or email amanning@delawarestmary.org.



PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

Media



Did you occupy some specific time in prayer this past week? I know that many of us pray regularly, and some of us just cannot seem to find the time to spend a few minutes in prayer throughout each day. The point is that we can all pray more. If I pray regularly now, I can focus on getting out of a "stale rut" of repetitious and rote prayer. Maybe a fresh outlook? And if I cannot find the time, then make the time starting right now. I can take 30 to 60 minutes any number of times each day to shower, eat a meal, work out, read, play games, check email, surf the Internet, drive in the car to a location, and watch television. If I can spend that time on the likes of Charlie Sheen, Snooki, House, Big Bangs, Dexter, LeBron, Tebow, and those Desperate Housewives, then how is it that I struggle to spend five or 10 focused minutes in prayer? It is not easy. We would much rather be entertained and feel good, rather than block out all that nonsense and spend time in the "desert" with our God. That is why we are challenged to make the effort and establish that critical balance in our lives. No one is asking us to completely shut down all of our entertainment and recreation. God asks us for balance that includes living the Gospel and modeling the love of His Son. Take a minute and analyze a typical day. How much balance is there, and how much time is actually spent on modeling our Catholic Christian values?

As we reflect upon how we spend our valuable time, there is a real temptation to blame the shortcomings of our current culture and society on media, along with contemporary youth and their infatuations. It is too easy to look at video games, television, the Internet, and smart phones while connecting dots that suggest things would be different if we only demanded standards such as those that kept everything in check 50 years ago. I suggest that we do not allow ourselves to fall into that trap. Things change and evolve. Yes, some things also "devolve" and are clearly evil. But there is also merit in focusing on making an effort to use traditional means to evangelize our youth. We cannot sell ourselves short and assume that our kids and young adults only absorb certain forms of media, such as social media. Let me suggest four priorities that we can all use each day to lovingly guide our youth to a consistent and enthusiastic embracing of their Faith — and practicing the same. First, we use our mouths. Especially in the Church, oral tradition keeps it all personal and alive. Second, our example moves mountains. There is no greater influence on young people than the actions of their parents and those in respected authority. Third, the printed word must be available. What types of literature are readily available in our homes? Where is the family Bible? Fourth is television. You know what your kids watch. What are you watching? What do you watch together? While there may not be a lot of specific religious programming on television, it is impressive how much educational, historical, and even entertaining television is available and can be found, with a little effort.

If you are skeptical, let me cite some data. A study by the Catholic Press association, published in August 2011, found that Catholics between the ages of 18 and 30 absorb their religious or spiritual information in the following ways: Twenty-two percent of them read a printed copy of their diocesan newspaper in the past three months. Four percent more said they read it online. One-third said they prefer printed content, one-third online, and one-third no preference. While none of this data is startling, it does tell us that, when it comes to religious and spiritual content, these young Catholics are no more likely than older Catholics to have used online media. Our practical challenge is to do four things this week and beyond with conviction: Speak your Faith, live it, read it, and view it. Most important, share it, especially with our media-savvy youth.

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

Engineering Healthier Lives



Columbus Bishop Hartley High School students who are involved in the TEAMS Competition (technological and engineering aptitude in math and science) will be tested on challenges facing the medical and health care industries. This year's theme, "Engineering Healthier Lives," will address research on the design of medical devices.

How can prostheses and medical devices be designed to be long-lasting and provide full functionality to patients? To help answer the question, Hartley invited guest speakers from Hanger Inc. and the Veterans Administration to come in and speak with its engineer-

ing team and with students from its advanced placement biology class and physiology class.

Speakers included Craig Jackman, who is a clinical specialist with Hanger Inc., a Columbus-based prosthetics and orthotics company; Patrick Beatty, a prosthetist-orthotist with the Department of Veterans Affairs in Columbus; and Jason Madedonia, an orthotist-prosthetist practice manager with Hanger Inc.

Pictured are (from left): first row, Hartley sophomores Nathan Jula and Nicole Weldon and teacher Ann Hawk; second row, Jackman, Beatty, and Madedonia

Photo courtesy Bishop Hartley High School

St. Michael Registration

Worthington St. Michael School, 64 E. Selby Blvd., will conduct registration for grades kindergarten through eighth for the 2012-13 school year from Monday, Jan. 30, through Friday, Feb. 3. The school will offer five-day-a-week kindergarten classes in both the half-day and full-day formats.

Applicants must present a parish affiliation form, signed by the pastor, along

with copies of the prospective student's birth and baptismal certificates, Social Security number, and immunization dates. Only the date of baptism is needed for children baptized at St. Michael's. There is a \$150 non-refundable fee, \$100 of which will go toward next year's tuition fees.

For more information, call the school office at (614) 885-3149.

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ST. NICHOLAS COLLECTION AT ST. MICHAEL



Students of Worthington St. Michael School collected more than 600 hats, gloves, earmuffs, and scarves to help those less fortunate stay warm during the winter. Each class carried its own box of items to "St. Nicholas," offering holiday songs and prayers. The items were distributed to the St. Francis Center in McArthur, West Portsmouth Our Lady of Sorrows Church, and some area families. Pictured is "St. Nicholas," portrayed by Steve Lazaroff, father of second-grade teacher Leslie Anderson, surrounded by eighth-grade students who portrayed his Santa Belles. They are (from left): first row, Sarah Bender, Hanna Dondero, Haley Hoying, Michelle Miller, Samantha Cygnor, and Alexandra Proca; second row, Paige Anderson, Adelaide Penzone, Morgan Hull, Genevieve Penzone, Abbey Fresco, Deidre Saia, Madison Gdovin, and Kaelin Kelly

Photo courtesy St. Michael School

St. Matthew Support Groups

Gahanna St. Matthew Church, 807 Havens Corners Road, will be offering three programs from February to May to aid people in pain. All three — DivorceCare, GriefShare, and DivorceCare for Kids, have a one-time charge of \$25, including a workbook,

DivorceCare is a friendly, caring group which wants to help walk alongside recently divorced people and help them through one of life's most difficult experiences. It will meet on Sundays from Feb. 12 through May 13 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the church's St. Cecilia Room. For more information, contact Mike Workman at (614) 269-7098 or Loretta Seipel 614-575-1507 or at lseipel1947@yahoo.com.

GriefShare, a bereavement support group, will meet from 1 to 2:30 p.m. on Mondays from Feb. 13 to May 14 in the St. Cecilia Room. Contact Mary Lager at mary0613@hotmail.com for more information or to register.

DivorceCare for Kids (DC4K) is designed to help children heal from the pain caused by a separation or divorce by providing a safe and neutral place for them to recognize and learn to share their feelings. This group will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Thursdays from Feb. 2 to May 3 in the church's Spirit Room. For more information, contact Michele Melaragno at (614) 442-7650, extension 3, or at michele.melaragno@yahoo.com.

Preparing for College and the Admissions Process

Keith Gehres of The Ohio State University's admissions office will speak at Columbus St. Andrew Church on Tuesday, Jan. 24, about "Preparing for College and the Admissions Process."

The talk is scheduled for 7 to 8 p.m. in Msgr. Nugent Parish Hall,

4081 Reed Road. Gehres will speak about how the college admissions process has become increasingly competitive.

As a result, preparation for college and getting into a college starts well before high school.

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THE OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP

ANNIVERSARIES, GIVING THANKS TO GOD



There are certain events that happen in our lives that require us to stop and think of their importance, how they have led us to our current station in life, and how they will influence our future. Births, weddings, and deaths are the most common events that we remember on a year-to-year basis. Priests celebrate the date of their ordination, and Religious celebrate the anniversary of their vows.

There are other events that may happen with less frequency that are equally important to the human life cycle; class and family reunions, for example. No matter the occasion, the memories and reflections that are shared on these days should renew our spirit and bring us closer together as one human family.

Our birth is something we probably do not remember, yet every year, we celebrate the day we were born. It is easy to get lost in the celebration and not take time to realize that on our birthday, we should give thanks and praise to God for the life he has given us.

The same goes for weddings. We celebrate the day we made a commitment not only to our spouse, but to God and the entire Christian community as we live our promises from year to year. We should also stop to give thanks to God for allowing us to serve him in this special way.

On the anniversary of a loved one's death, we honor the life they led and the people they were. This is seen in our annual celebration of the Solemnity of All Saints, followed by the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day). Just as the Mass for All Saints

gives thanks for our ancestors in faith, the anniversary of the death of a loved one, remembered on All Souls' Day, allows us to give thanks for our interaction with them while they lived.

Each year, the diocese is blessed with the opportunity to recognize significant parish anniversaries. We have had the opportunity to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the first recognized Mass in central Ohio, the 175th anniversary of Holy Cross Church (the first Catholic church in Columbus), and the 100th anniversary of St. Ladislav Church (one of the few remaining ethnic parishes of the diocese). In May and June of each year, the diocese recognizes and celebrates those who have reached significant anniversaries for marriages, ordinations, and religious professions.

There is even a special ritual for celebrating parish anniversaries. Each parish may celebrate the anniversary of the dedication of the parish when the altar was covered with the Oil of Chrism and the wall of the worshiping space was sprinkled with Holy Water. The Preface for the anniversary of the dedication reminds us that within the church building, God never ceases to show favor to us, the community. We are on a pilgrimage to be with him, and during our journey, we cause the Church to be spread throughout the world. Ultimately, the prayer calls us to strive to reach the perfection of Christ and join the saints in the heavenly city of Jerusalem, the vision of God's peace.

Much joy is gained in the recognition of these events in our lives. The Church shares in that joy by honoring special events with celebrations of praise and thanksgiving to God. We should strive to join the Church and give honor and thanks to God on the anniversaries of the events that are important to our human existence.

CATHEDRALS, MONEY, AND THE HOMELESS; PETS IN HEAVEN



QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. To our delight, our 13-year-old daughter reads newspapers. Sometimes this prompts her to ask religious questions, and today's was a tough one: "The paper says there is a lot of poverty and that the bishops are asking Catholics to help the poor. But it also says, on another page, that a diocese in California wants to spend \$57 million to buy a glass church. With so many poor people in the country, how can that be right?" Can you help us to give her an answer? (Turnersville, N.J.)

A. The recent purchase by the Catholic Church of the former Crystal Cathedral has fanned the flames of a simmering debate. Whenever the church buys or builds a new facility, the perennial biblical question is "Why could this money not have been spent on the poor?"

The answer is not a simple one. The church has multiple goals, the overall one being to put people in touch with God so that they can live out the Gospel and progress on the path to heaven.

Certainly, part of the mission is to provide dignified and inspiring places of worship that can help lift minds and hearts to God. Just as surely, the church needs to reach out with compassion to those who are vulnerable -- especially the poor, the sick, and the homeless.

That is why Catholic hospitals serve nearly one-sixth

of all patients in America and why Catholic Charities is America's largest private provider of services to the poor, with a network of hundreds of food pantries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, etc.

As to the matter of the Crystal Cathedral, those closest to the situation seem to agree with the recent *USA Today* headline that called the church's purchase a "sweet deal." The Diocese of Orange has grown rapidly and includes more than 1.2 million Catholics.

To meet expanding needs, the diocese was planning to build a new cathedral, as well as administrative offices for its many projects and programs. The availability of the Crystal Cathedral offered the opportunity for a ready-made 2,800-seat worship space, as well as 31 acres of property for office space and a relocated parish school, at a price less than one-third of what construction costs would have been.

As to opening churches at night to house the homeless, worship spaces are not always ideally suited, and alternate Catholic facilities might more readily provide sleeping accommodations, kitchens, showers, and bathrooms. But neither a cathedral nor any Catholic church can ignore the needs of its neighborhood for human services.

A good example is the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Wichita, Kan., which last year, dur-

ing the worst of the winter's cold, housed 120 homeless men in its gymnasium, with evening meals provided by several parishes throughout the diocese.

Q. Will our cat and dog be with me and my family in heaven? Every day I say the rosary to ask God to help me, but then sometimes I can't go to sleep at night worrying about what will happen to our pets when they die. I have no one to talk to but you, so I'm hoping you can answer me. (Flemington, N.J.)

A. I suppose the traditional philosophical position would be that only human beings have immortal souls. On the other hand, the revered British author C.S. Lewis once said that, since the loyalty of pets often exceeds human fidelity, dogs and cats may well find their way to heaven with their masters.

Left to a plebiscite, the vote is split. A few years back, ABC News did a poll and found that 43 percent of Americans think that dogs and cats go to heaven (that figure goes up to 47 percent among pet owners), 40 percent said "No," and the rest were reserving judgment.

The most honest answer is that we do not know. What our faith does tell us, though, is that the joys of heaven are beyond compare, beyond our poor power even to imagine them. So it's safe to say that if in heaven you need your pets to be happy, they'll be right there with you.

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

Many Options Available for Natural Family Planning

Natural Family Planning (NFP) is a name given to many different methods used to achieve or avoid pregnancy, all of which rely upon observation of naturally occurring signs of fertility in a woman's menstrual cycle. Different models of NFP may include charting of sensation and physical aspects of a woman's cervical discharges, body temperature, cervical position, hormone levels, and other signs of fertility. Some NFP methods are taught individually. Others are taught in classes, through online webinars, or home study. The diocesan Marriage and Family Life Office encourages couples to learn about the NFP methods that are available to them, consider which model best fits their personal lifestyle, then seek instruction from a qualified teacher or organization that meets the standards of the Natural Family Planning program of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Couples who enjoy the interaction of small-group classes might opt for attending a diocesan NFP workshop offered by the Marriage and Family Life Office at different host parishes throughout the year. Diocesan NFP workshops consist of a series of two-hour classes spread over several months to allow couples time to become comfortable and confident in using NFP. Diocesan-trained NFP instructors use PowerPoint presentations, sample fertility charts, and private personal chart review to teach couples how to recognize the signs of fertility and to use that self-knowledge for family planning.

Catholic teaching on human sexuality, conjugal love, and responsible parenting are also presented in diocesan NFP workshops, typically by a priest, deacon, or lay scholar.

Diocesan NFP workshops are taught by parish-sponsored individuals or couples who have completed local training provided by the Marriage and Family Life Office in cooperation with the NFP Teacher Training Institute of the Diocese of Cleveland. Three teacher-candidates from the class of 2010 recently completed their certification: Jeff and Angie Allen (Delaware St. Mary), Natalie Heskamp (Columbus St. Catharine), and Jacob and Christina Tawney (Delaware St. Mary). This year's teacher-candidates, Steve and Nicole Tankovich (Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center) and Joe and Natalie Pardi (Columbus St. Andrew) are eager to share their knowledge of NFP in the coming year through teaching practicum workshops at their parishes.

Jimmy and Lauren Davis, a Dayton-area couple who learned NFP in a diocesan NFP workshop while living in Columbus, see a need for NFP classes available to those who live too far to drive to traditional classes. They trained to become certified teachers and now offer NFP classes via online webinars. Although based upon compatible materials, Online NFP is a ministry of the Davis' Christian Center for Youth and Family Health and is not associated with the Diocese of Columbus.

Spanish-language NFP instruction is



Creighton teacher-trainees who have completed the NFP program hosted by Delaware St. Mary Church are (from left) Joy Dorsten, Nicole Snyder, Lisa Brindley, Amy Madden, Kathy Rivet (educator), Faith D'Andrea, Teresa McKenna (educator), Anne Marie St. Germain (educator), and Amanda Dunlevy. The educators are associated with the Marguerite D'Youville Fertility Care Services Center in Manchester, N.H.

Erick Carrero, Spanish language NFP trainer, teaches a Natural Family Planning class at Columbus Christ the King Church that was funded in part by the Catholic Foundation through the Catholic Latino Ministry Office



come to Columbus via a pilot program supported by a grant from The Catholic Foundation and coordinated by the diocesan offices of Latino Ministry and Marriage and Family Life. Two bilingual teachers drove from Cincinnati-based Couple to Couple League International to present three monthly sessions hosted by Columbus Christ the King Church.

Couples who prefer to meet privately for instruction or have medical issues which impact their fertility may want to consider learning the Creighton model of NFP. The Creighton model uses a specific coding system taught by allied health professionals who meet individually with client couples. This one-on-one approach allows instruction to be tailored to the couple's schedule and health care needs. The Creighton model is medically standardized so a couple's chart can be used for family planning and as a diagnostic tool by trained physicians. Creighton-trained doctors treat reproductive and gynecological disorders through the use of technology that respects the dignity of women and marriage. Creighton NFP instruction is

available in the Diocese of Columbus through the Caritas FertilityCare Center in Columbus and the FertilityCare Center of Tuscarawas County in Dover.

The Creighton model will become more available as six teacher-trainees recently completed an intensive week-long educational program hosted by Delaware St. Mary Church, with the support of Sunbury St. John Neumann and New Philadelphia Sacred Heart. Amy Madden (St. Mary), Faith D'Andrea (Westerville St. Paul), Lisa Brindley (Sacred Heart), Joy Dorsten (St. John Neumann), Amanda Dunlevy (Columbus St. Patrick), Nicole Snyder (Columbus Christ the King) will now intern under supervision, then return for a second phase of training in the spring.

While most couples prefer to meet face-to-face with an NFP teacher, that option is not always available or convenient. Many international NFP provider organizations offer education to couples via mail correspondence, Internet-based instruction, or webi-

See NFP, Page 19

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Gift to Holy Family Soup Kitchen



Sophomore service team members Midori Marang and Vincent Darling help fill a school bus with food during Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School's annual canned food drive for St. Stephen's Community House. Approximately 25,000 food items were donated at school and at a basketball game

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School

Aquinas Convocation

Sister Patricia Connick, OP, will be the keynote speaker for Ohio Dominican University's 2012 Aquinas Convocation at 11 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 26, in the Matesich Theater at Erskine Hall, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus.



She will speak on the topic: "Converging Theology and Science to Transform the Modern World." Immediately following the lecture, Bishop Frederick Campbell will celebrate Mass at Christ the King Chapel in Sansbury Hall.

Sister Patricia, an ODU graduate, taught chemistry at the university from 1984-88, 1993-2002, and 2003-08. She was chair of the university's division of natural sciences from 1998-2001, and the division of mathematics, computer and natural sciences from 2005-08. In that capacity, she worked closely

with the education division to develop teaching licensure programs in the sciences, and developed methods for incorporating computer technology into laboratory experiments.

She currently serves as assistant principal for the Dominican Academy, a private, all-female Catholic college preparatory school managed by the Dominican Sisters of Peace and lay staff, located on the Upper East Side in New York City.

Registration for the event is required by Friday, Jan. 20. To register, contact Ann Dysart at (614) 251-4575 or by e-mail at dysarta@ohiodominican.edu.

The convocation is sponsored by ODU's Center for Dominican Studies in honor of the Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas, observed this year on Saturday, Jan. 28.

Father F. Richard Snoke's homily at the funeral Mass for Father John Thomas Shonebarger on Tuesday, Jan. 10, at Lancaster St. Mary Church:

"Last evening here at the wake service, we talked about how Father Tom lived the paschal mystery – the life, death, and the resurrection of Jesus. The people that came to the visitation shared with the family and yours truly how Father Tom made a difference in their lives, because Tom knew Jesus.

"Jesus became alive in their lives in baptism, marriage, RCIA, family gatherings, parish events. My challenge to you is that you mirror Jesus in your lives as Father Tom did, in how you live and act and treat others. Take time to be the best image of Christ that you can become. Let the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit lead you down the path of life.

"Father Tom's journey began Sept. 16, 1936, at his baptism here at St. Mary's six days after his birth. It continued with 12 years' education through St. Mary's, Lancaster. He entered the abbey of Gethsemani in 1962, taking the religious name Brother Anthony. There he grew in his spiritual life. Among other things, he played the organ at 3 in the morning as the monks chanted the Divine Office, and he was secretary to Thomas Merton.

"After 12 years at the abbey, God moved Father Tom to leave the abbey and study for the priesthood for the Diocese of Columbus at St. Mary of the West, Norwood, Ohio. He was ordained a priest on Aug. 23, 1969, 33 years after his birth.

"We just heard from the Book of Wisdom that the souls of the just are in the hand of God and no torment shall touch them. Father Tom's journey in this life is over. He has been proved as gold in the furnace. Father Tom trusted God, and now he is at peace. Father Tom believed that the Lord is his shepherd, and he followed him up and down the paths of life at the abbey, at St. Mary Seminary, the many different assignments he had – vocation director, the diaconate program, parish priest, associate pastor, and pastor.

"As we heard from Romans chapter 14 and the verses following, no one lives for oneself or dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die with the Lord. So then, if we live or die, we are the Lord's.

"Last evening, there were many com-

ments of how Father Tom in his different assignments made it better than it was. Father Tom let the Lord direct and guide him throughout his life, and that was his gift to each of us. Let the Lord lead us up and down the valleys of life. Let the Lord be our good shepherd, so we, like him, can be made good shepherds.

"Six years ago, I got a call from his sister Rita asking if I had Father Tom's power of attorney, for he was in a coma at Riverside. After scratching my head a little bit, I remembered years ago on Kilbarger's golf course, Tom talked about me possibly being his power of attorney. That was all. He never told me he did it.

"For these past six years, helping Father Tom and watching him accepting the many changes in his life due to sickness has been an inspiration in my life. Our Gospel story just proclaimed unless a grain of wheat falls to the earth and dies, it remains a grain of wheat, and if it dies, it produces much fruit. Little by little, Father Tom was losing this earthly life. He was gaining eternal life. He was that seed and we are that seed of peace. Throughout life, we need to die to the things of this life and rise to God's life.

"We need to realize, as Father Tom did, that we become the bread. We become the bread that feeds others. Our love, our care and concern help others to rise and die with the Lord.

"I am a better person because Father Tom mirrored to me to accept whatever God has in mind for me, and that's so for all of you.

"I often think of Jesus kneeling in prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane, praying 'Not my will but your will, Father.' Alongside Jesus was Father Tom praying 'Not my will, but your will, Father.'

"May God continue to bless us with memories of how Father Tom lived the paschal mystery, taking care of all those that God sent to him.

"For we can join in all the funny stories, but we just want to focus on Jesus and what he did in the life of Father Tom. Because of Jesus and his life, all the Church in the Diocese of Columbus is better because of him. May God bless each and every one of you."



Resolve to write in the New Year

Benjamin Franklin was 27 when he dipped his pen in red ink, drew a seven-column, 13-row chart, and resolved to master all the moral virtues.

It was Sunday and the first day of July. The last of the 13 British colonies to be founded, Georgia, was being settled, and each colony was working out its own system of self-government.

Young Franklin was ready to look within and devise his own self-governance. He broke down his day – eight hours of work, seven hours of sleep, a two-hour lunch break – and dedicated one week to each of the 13 virtues he had identified, beginning with temperance.

"I was surprised to find myself so much fuller of faults than I had imagined," he wrote in his autobiography, "but I had the satisfaction of seeing them diminish."

It is an impulse that returns each January: to systematically detect and diminish one's faults, day by day, row by row, like yanking weeds or drilling cavities.

This month, we adjust to a new year and celebrate the patron saint of writers, St. Francis de Sales, and whether the prospect of 2012 has you feeling ambitious or overwhelmed, I can think of no better response than writing.

Pulitzer Prize-winning author and historian David



Twenty Something

Christina Capecci

McCullough owes part of his career to the fact that founding fathers like Franklin wrote prolifically.

"The loss of people writing – writing a composition, a letter, or a report – is not just the loss for the record," he told Time magazine last year. "It's the loss of the process of working your thoughts out on paper, of having an idea that you would never have had if you weren't [writing] ... People [I research] were writing letters every day. That was calisthenics for the brain."

McCullough uses a 60-year-old Royal typewriter to pound out his thoughts on the page. "I've written everything I've ever had published on it," he said. "It's a superb example of American manufacturing."

But writing is not just an intellectual exercise. It can also be a religious one.

I recently interviewed Mitch Albom, author of "Tuesdays With Morrie," the best-selling memoir in history. The Detroit journalist told me that writing is an

inherently spiritual endeavor. "You need to be infused with a certain spirit in order to be able to create," he said, "and I believe all our talents come from God."

We write to make sense of our lives and our world, to examine who we have been and who we hope to become.

That's what Anne Bradstreet did. Among the British colonists settling in America, she was the first to have a book of poetry published. She chronicled her first impressions, having found "a new world and new manners, at which [her] heart rose." She wrote about her pregnancy, her granddaughter's death, and the burning of her home. In a poem honoring Queen Elizabeth, written 13 years after Bradstreet had arrived in Massachusetts, she wrote of "terra incognita" – Latin for "unknown territory," "unexplored land."

Stepping into 2012 with our private struggles and secret hopes, our Catholic faith and our piecemeal education, each of us faces *terra incognita*, and we owe it to ourselves to process it on paper. Every journey requires a journal.

Christina Capecci is an award-winning writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn. She can be reached at www.ReadChristina.com.



Holy Spirit's Book Fair

Columbus Holy Spirit School recently hosted its annual book fair. For the first time, the event also was opened to Holy Spirit parishioners, who purchased books for themselves and to be donated to the school and classroom libraries. Parishioners and school families joined together at the book fair for refreshments and fellowship following each of the parish's three Sunday Masses

Photo courtesy Holy Spirit School

MARION ST. MARY: 'EVERYONE PITCHES IN'

BY TIM PUET
Reporter, Catholic Times

Father Michael Nimocks says what he will remember most about his nine years as pastor of Marion St. Mary Church is the strong cooperation among parish organizations.

"I plan to retire this summer, and although I'll stay in close touch with everyone, I'll really miss the way everyone here comes together in a caring, very generous way whenever there's a need to be filled," he said. "It's impressive the way groups are ready to go beyond their individual specialties and everyone pitches in to help out with things that benefit the parish and the community."

He said some examples of that response include the services performed by several organizations at funeral Masses, the parish's work with Marion's neighborhood supper program, and its support for a new building for the parish St. Vincent de Paul Society.

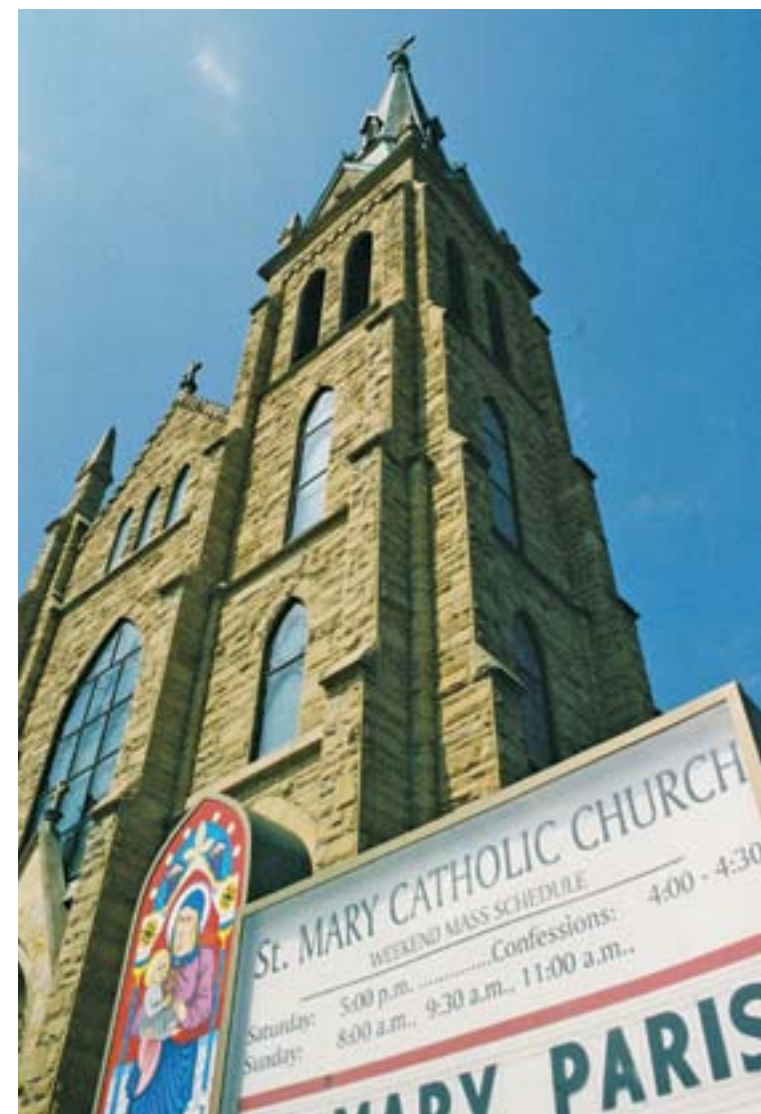
"We stop everything to take care of the family whenever someone from our parish passes away," said parish administrator Mike Nicolosi. "It really starts beforehand with Father and Sister JoAn (Brodman, OSF, pastoral minister) consoling people when someone is ill and in the final stages of life. Once someone dies, the local Knights of Columbus council, our parish bereavement committee, and our memorial choir all get involved.

"The K of C made a commitment some time ago that whenever a parishioner dies, the Knights will provide the funeral luncheon and supply their hall for free. That's something very few Knights councils do," Nicolosi said. "The funeral choir sings at the funeral Masses, and the bereavement committee helps prepare the Mass, sees and responds to other needs a grieving family may have, and sponsors a memorial Mass every November for the families of those who

died in the past year. With all of that, you've got maybe 30 or more people involved from all over the parish. It's one of many ways we try to respond to others' needs."

The neighborhood supper program was founded 26 years ago by St. Mary parishioner Mark Oliver and is a weekly ecumenical outreach involving seven churches in Marion, each of which is responsible for organizing, preparing, and serving a supper on a particular Tuesday at 5:15 p.m. at St. Paul Episcopal Church. St. Mary's has been in charge of the event on the third Tuesday of the month for many years.

Parish secretary Dolores Zentkovich, who has worked for St. Mary's for 22 years, said about 90 parishioners from a wide range of organizations contribute to the program, either as coordinators who plan and prepare the meal, as dessert suppliers, or as setup and cleanup personnel. Those organizations include the parish



pastoral council, spiritual enrichment committee, bereavement committee, LifeTeen, and RCIA groups.

Also helping every month with the cleanup is Boy Scout Troop 50, led by scoutmaster Stephanie Langley. Both Troop 50 and Cub Scout Pack 50 are multiple winners of the diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting's Bishop's Troop and Bishop's Pack awards for their promotion of the many religious awards programs offered for Catholic Scouts.

In addition, Troop 50 for the past four years has been diocesan winner of the Gold Medallion Award, which is established to recognize outstanding Catholic Scouting units in each of the 15 episcopal regions of the United States.

Parishioners Judy and Michael Bowe, who are leaders of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, said Marion is no different than the rest of the nation in the way

it's being affected by economic difficulties. They say the society is helping about 15 families a day, compared with three or four not too long ago, and that it responded to approximately 11,000 requests in 2011.

"We couldn't have done it without our new building," Judy Bowe said. "We took over the old Moose bingo hall about a block north of the church in July 2008 and renovated it. The parish paid for it all through a campaign that raised \$300,000. We needed the space so we could combine a small clothing store in one location with the small pantry we had in the Commons (a former convent which serves as office and meeting space). Getting the new building tripled our space. Its layout was perfect for us, and so was the timing, as the need for assistance has grown so much since

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Above: Marion St. Mary Church staff members include (from left) Lori Stevenson, Dolores Zentkovich, Glenna Celestino, Father Michael Nimocks, Bob Rush, Mike Nicolosi, Elizabeth Iacobucci, Sister Joan Brodman, OSF, and Chantelle Blackburn. Right: The St. Mary School staff and students for 2011-12 stand on the steps of St. Mary Church

CT photo by Tim Puet (above); photo courtesy St. Mary Church (right); CT file photo by Ken Snow (below)

we moved everything there."

Bowe said nearly 200 parishioners volunteer at the building, where a clothing center and a food pantry operate from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Tuesday through Saturday. The pantry is a choice pantry, which means food is stocked according to the basic food groups. Clients are encouraged to choose items from each group rather than being handed a box of items which may not be adequate for their needs.

Another area of major growth for the parish in recent years has been its Hispanic ministry, led by Chantelle Blackburn. She said about 100 Latino families are registered in the parish and 100 to 150 people usually attend a Mass celebrated in Spanish on the first and third Sundays of the month at 4 p.m.

"We've had a significant Hispanic population here for about 10 years," she said. "The Hispanic ministry's goal is to provide spiritual formation while at the same time serving the temporal needs of the Latino community. Besides the Masses, we have preparation for first Communions, confirmations, and baptisms, and I work with the LifeTeen program. We also have a regular prayer group and are starting an adult faith formation class, and I conduct informal classes in conversational English and

Spanish every week.

"Recently, we've been having more weddings in Spanish and more of the *quinceanera* celebrations for 15-year-old girls. The rule for them is you have to be confirmed before you have a *quinceanera* Mass. Those are generally in the spring and summer, then we have our events for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe and preparations for Christmas in December. I also work at locating community resources, aiding people with medical appointments, and helping mothers obtain prenatal care and WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) assistance and health care for their babies."

St. Mary's has about 1,200 families and has been the only Catholic Church in Marion County since LaRue St. Joseph Church was closed a few years ago.

"Our population has stayed pretty steady," Father Nimocks said. "We're about 50 miles from Columbus, so we haven't been very affected by the growth there. It's obvious from what the St. Vincent de Paul Society is doing that unemployment is more than it was, but we do have some big employers, such as the Whirlpool dryer plant, government, a hospital, the Frontier phone company, and two large prisons, which both were run by



the state until one was recently privatized.

"Demographically, we have a large population of seniors. We also have many younger families, with nearly 50 baptisms last year, and the Latino population is pretty young as a whole. Because of our location a little outside a metropolitan area, what's happened is that there's a generation where many people grew up and stayed here through grade and high school, then moved or didn't come back, so the numbers are a little smaller in that group."

The city of Marion was founded in 1822, and the parish traces its history to its founding as a mission in 1844. The current church building, completed in 1898, is the third to serve the parish. It has undergone several renovations, most recently in 1998 under Father James Klima, Father Nimocks' predecessor as pastor. "We're in the midst of spending about \$235,000 on capital improvements such as a new roof and steps, and steeple repair," Father Nimocks said. "That money has come from various donations to the parish and from what we've saved over the years, so we haven't needed to conduct any additional fund

Marion St. Mary School, built in 1905, with an addition in 1927

raising to pay for this."

St. Mary School was established in 1875. The current school building was completed 30 years later, with an addition in 1927. It included a high school until 1957, when Marion Catholic High School opened.

The grade school has about 150 students in preschool through sixth grades. Its principal, Bob Rush, is a veteran of 45 years in education, including 12 at St. Mary's.

"Our mission is to provide foundations in faith and academics that will enable our students to become individuals who value and live their faith and will be lifelong learners and problem solvers," Rush said. "We do this through meeting our accreditation goals and teaching respect, compassion,

and critical thinking skills in every part of the curriculum. It's part of a commitment to continuous improvement, with the expectation that students and faculty live and practice Catholic values and beliefs."

Students conduct several service projects in the course of a year, including a monthly visit by the sixth-graders to the Sterling House nursing home. Besides taking part in regular school Masses and other religious activities, students this fall took a field trip to the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey.

Marion is probably best-known nationally as being the place where President War-

See ST. MARY, Page 12



Members of the fourth-degree Knights of Columbus lead the procession that is part of the celebration of the Feast of the Assumption at Marion St. Mary Church Photo courtesy St. Mary Church (above); CT file photo by Ken Snow (right)

ST. MARY, continued from Page 11

ren Harding lived. His home and memorial continue to bring visitors to the city from across the nation. For the past 80 years, Scouts from Troop 50 and other units around the area have honored the late president in the fall by marching from downtown Marion to the memorial for a wreath-laying ceremony. In addition, the Harding sites and other nearby historic areas are part of a Hometown History on Wheels program the Ohio Historical Society conducts at the school. Marion Catholic has 72 students in grades seven to 12. For several years, it has maintained a 100 percent rate of both graduation from the school and acceptance to colleges and other institutions of higher education. Graduating students annually qualify for more than \$75,000 per student in scholarships.

All of its students take part in community service. A student-teacher ratio of 10-to-1 gives teachers the chance to provide the individual attention that may be missing in a larger school. It also allows teachers to better know their students, their students, and their learning styles.

High school students from Marion Catholic and the county's five public school districts take part in the parish's Life-Teen program under youth minister Lori Stevenson. Life-Teen activities take place from 6 to 8 p.m. on the first three Sundays of each month and include one social, one cat-

echetical, and one issue night monthly. In addition, young people serve as lectors, Eucharistic ministers, and greeters at the 11 a.m. Mass on the third Sunday of each month.

The parish also has a group known as The EDGE for sixth- and seventh-grade students and a separate youth group for those in third through sixth grades. Its religious education director, Glenna Celestino, said the Parish School of Religion program serves about 100 students in preschool and the elementary grades, with 12 adults and many teens serving as volunteers. LifeTeen's Oneight program is used to prepare eighth-graders in both the parochial school and PSR classes for confirmation.

"Having the teens involved in PSR is very important because they really have something to offer, and we can learn from them," she said. "Their faith is strong, and they're longing to be touched and to touch others, to be tapped into and listened to. If we respond to them now, they'll stay strong at a time when many of them determine what their faith lives will be for the rest of their life."

Celestino also said the parish has 11 candidates or catechumens taking part in this year's RCIA program, which is based on Mary Birmingham's "Faith, Life and Creed" series.

Parish music activities are directed by Elizabeth Iacobucci and include a choir which sings for the 11 a.m. Sunday Mass, a handbell choir which plays



The current church building, constructed of Berea sandstone and built in the Victorian Gothic style, is the third to serve Marion St. Mary Church. It was dedicated in 1898, seven years after construction began. CT file photo/Ken Snow

once a month, the memorial choir, and cantors for the 5 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. Sunday Masses. Iacobucci also plays the parish organ, which was installed as part of a 1975 renovation. Doing so "is always a pleasure," she said. "We have a real pipe organ. The acoustics in the church are wonderful. They allow the sound to bounce around, enhancing the beauty of the tone."

Spiritual activities at the parish include 24-hour weekly Eucharistic adoration from 9 a.m. Friday to 9 a.m. Sunday, a telephone prayer line (740-389-1018), a Scripture reflections meeting on Wednesday evenings, and four prison ministry weekends - two at each of the city's large prisons. They are sponsored by separate branches of the Kairos prison ministry, which combined involve about 60 men.

During Lent, the parish has weekly fish fries and soup suppers. Its biggest social event of the year is the celebration of the Feast of the Assumption on the Saturday and Sunday closest to the feast. It begins with a Mass, a potluck, and entertainment on Saturday. Events on Sunday include a Mass, a procession, and a dinner prepared

by Nicolosi, who spent most of his life in the restaurant business and whose skills as a cook were praised by many of the parishioners interviewed for this story.

Like many older county-seat parishes, St. Mary's has a cemetery. About 60 people are buried there each year. The chairman of the cemetery committee, David Hartline (father of *Catholic Times* columnist David Hartline) said parishioners have done an outstanding job in maintaining the cemetery in the past several years. He and other volunteers have repaved the roadway, cleared out old trees, refurbished a large crucifix, and recently added a columbarium for cremated remains.

Hartline also plans to install software which will allow visitors to instantly see where anyone is buried in the cemetery, which he said has 2,000 to 3,000 grave sites. He said most of the money for cemetery upkeep is raised through an annual appeal, with other funding sources including burial fees from funerals and a monthly collection which is part of the envelope packet sent to parishioners.

"If the parish was a business, it would be known as a vertically integrated parish," said parishioner and businessman Dan Burkhart. "That's because besides the church itself, we have a grade school, a high school, a cemetery, and the St. Vincent de Paul pantry and clothing store. That makes the parish similar to a business which has a supply chain producing different products, but with a common owner. Most parishes don't have this many separate operations."

Burkhart also is chairman of the parish's Catholic foundation awareness committee, which may be the only group of its kind in the diocese.

"My job is to educate people about what The Catholic Foundation does," he said. "I want to show them how their gifts to the Foundation can be a continuing source of assistance to the parish and the diocese, and how you don't have to be wealthy to provide a gift of long-lasting impact. There are many parishes with endowments in the Foundation, but I think St. Mary's is among the top five. Most of that money has come in the 10 years or so since Father Nimocks started the awareness committee."

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Sixth-graders of Columbus St. Agatha School, with social studies teacher Nick Moore, visited Rabbi Michael Ungar of Congregation Tifereth Israel. Members of the class was introduced to some of the history, culture, and practices of the Jewish faith and discovered some similarities to their own Catholic tradition. Photo courtesy St. Agatha School

COLUMBUS SAINT MARY TO HONOR FORMER PRINCIPAL AND DEDICATED PARISHIONERS

Kathy McClernon, former principal of Columbus St. Mary School, and St. Mary Church parishioners Jim and Roseanne Hanson will be honored for their dedication and contributions to the school and the parish at the seventh annual St. Mary's gala and silent auction event on Saturday, Jan. 28, in the Columbus Athenaeum, 32 N. 4th St.

Proceeds from the gala assist in school operations and provide need-based scholarships. Money raised at the pre-

vious six events has allowed the school to provide more than \$175,000 in tuition assistance to families.

Chuck Stricker, WBNS-TV anchor and reporter, will be master of ceremonies. The event will open with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres and the start of the silent auction at 6 p.m., with dinner at 7:30.

Tickets for the gala are \$100 each or \$750 for a table of 10. Each ticket includes admission, dinner, and dessert, as well as the opportunity to participate in the auction. Tickets may be purchased through the parish office at (614) 445-9668. Additional information is available on the school website, www.stmarygv.com.

As the apostles gathered in prayer with Mary in the Cenacle on the day of Pentecost, Columbus Holy Name Church invites all laypeople and clergy to gather at St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus, for a prayer cenacle of the Marian Movement on Tuesday, Jan. 31.
Father Francis Geremia, CS, who is responsible for the Marian Movement of Priests in the U.S. and Canada, will preside. The event will begin with Mass at 6:30 p.m. In addition, a separate cenacle for priests will take place with Father Geremia from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the same day.
For more information, contact Father Antonio Carvalho at Holy Name at (614) 262-0390.

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Annual FINANCIAL Report



My Dear Friends in Christ,

I am pleased to present to you the financial reports of the Diocese of Columbus for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011.

As Bishop, I have a responsibility to provide all Catholics in the Diocese of Columbus with an annual view of our

financial position and activity. Our auditors have examined our records in detail and the results of their work follows.

2011, was a year of positive financial progress. The stock market, continued its upward movement. Our investment and endowment accounts both showed gains for the year. Although we have not recouped all that was lost in the 2008/2009 downturn, we believe we are well positioned to take advantage of forward momentum in the markets, while being better protected from any downturns.

Offsetting these financial gains was an increase in need. So many of those we serve have been impacted by the economic change of the last three years. Yet the generous stewardship of the faithful, giving their time, talent and treasure, provides a constant ray of hope. I continue to pray for those who have been negatively impacted by the changes in the economy, and for those who so selflessly serve them.

As we look to the future, we can only continue the good works of the Church with the assistance of those in the community, like yourselves, who possess the talents required to meet the challenges that will present themselves.

I am grateful for the generosity of all those who support the work of the Church, and I greatly appreciate as well the many volunteers and committee members, both at the parish and diocesan levels, who assist in this work.

With every best wish, I remain,
Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Frederick F. Campbell, D.D., Ph.D.
Bishop of Columbus

DIOCESAN ORGANIZATION FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR FYE JUNE 30, 2011 & 2010

The financial statements entitled Catholic Diocese of Columbus – Diocesan Organization, represent the combined financial position and activity for the Chancery, the Diocesan Offices and funds managed at a diocesan level (i.e. Parish Aid, Self Insurance and Varia Trust Funds). The information presented was extracted from audited financial statements. These statements do not include the financial position or activity of our parishes or schools, or agencies that are governed by their own boards, as each reports their financial information separately to their communities.

The financial statements for the Diocesan Organization are audited by the independent CPA firm of Schneider Downs & Co., Inc. The audit was conducted according to auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2010 and June 30, 2009, the auditors provided an unqualified opinion.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011, our financial position and results were positively impacted by three significant factors. The first factor was improvement in the status of our funding for pension benefits. In accordance with Financial Accounting Standard Board requirements for “Employers’ Accounting for Defined Benefit Pension and Other Postretirement

Plans”, we are required to recognize the difference between the projected benefit obligation and the fair market value of assets for our defined benefit plans. When measured in this way, the funding status of our plans as of June 30, 2011, was an underfunding of \$39.3 million, as compared to an underfunding of \$51.7 million at June 30, 2010. This decrease in our liability is primarily due to a positive investment return on plan assets. This change has been recognized as an increase in net assets in the Statement of Activity. It should be noted that our actuaries, Mercer LLC, have concluded that when using the actuarial value of assets and a long-term return assumption (instead of fair market value and the current discount rate), the plans are sufficiently funded to meet future benefit obligations.

The second positive impact on Net Assets occurred due to the positive investment return on our endowments and our internally managed investments. The market impact resulted in an \$11.0 million increase in net assets in the Statement of Activity.

The final positive impact on Net Assets was an overall reduction in Operating Expenses. A decrease in our Insurance Reserves, resulted in a corresponding decrease in overall insurance expenses. This reduction followed an extensive analytical review of our self insured offerings.

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS - DIOCESAN ORGANIZATION

Combined Statements of Financial Position
June 30, 2011 and 2010

<u>ASSETS</u>	<u>As of 6/30/2011</u>	<u>As of 6/30/2010</u>
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 8,376,725	\$ 11,107,355
Accounts Receivable, net	2,214,847	2,199,954
Pledges Receivable, net	1,704,878	1,651,281
Inventory	1,128,686	1,215,228
Prepaid Expenses	594,760	243,539
Loans and advances receivable, net	32,409,034	29,629,681
Investment - custodial	29,348	25,413
Property and equipment, net	25,191,851	24,953,089
Beneficial Interest in perpetual trusts	34,563,813	29,994,517
Investments	64,063,218	56,261,338
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 170,277,160	\$ 157,281,395
<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
Accounts Payable	\$ 913,060	\$ 849,056
Agency Funds	28,774	54,182
Deposits Payable	51,901,265	48,444,902
Accrued Expenses	1,205,250	1,047,936
Deferred Revenue	198,130	275,483
Retired Priests Accrued Costs	9,683,225	10,703,624
Liability for Pension Benefits	39,290,823	51,706,132
Self Insurance Reserve	1,573,000	1,390,000
Amount Due - Custodial	29,348	25,413
TOTAL LIABILITIES	104,822,875	114,496,728
Net Assets	65,454,285	42,784,667
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 170,277,160	\$ 157,281,395

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS - DIOCESAN ORGANIZATION

Combined Statements of Activities
For the years ended June 30, 2011 and 2010

<u>REVENUES:</u>	<u>Year Ended 6/30/2011</u>	<u>Year Ended 6/30/2010</u>
Bishop's Annual Appeal, net	\$ 5,280,594	\$ 5,207,077
Investment income, net	3,298,260	3,573,109
Realized/unrealized gain (loss) on investments	3,087,241	3,328,713
Change in FMV of Beneficial Interests	6,129,773	3,190,303
Operating revenue	2,531,557	2,391,469
Diocesan Assessment	3,137,039	3,281,637
Other revenue	694,546	461,559
Contributions	1,628,280	928,944
Gifts, bequests and collections	8,986	4,239
Total Revenues, Gifts, Grants and Support	25,796,276	22,367,050
<u>EXPENSES:</u>		
Operating Expenses	11,435,588	14,488,604
Net periodic pension cost	8,089,869	8,839,791
Diocesan support	3,574,147	3,735,112
Interest	532,232	577,563
Total Expenses	23,631,836	27,641,070
Change in Net Assets prior to pension-related changes other than periodic pension cost	2,164,440	(5,274,020)
Pension-related changes other than periodic pension cost	20,505,178	(4,088,833)
Changes In Net Assets	22,669,618	(9,362,853)
<u>NET ASSETS</u>		
Beginning of year	42,784,667	52,147,520
End of year	\$ 65,454,285	\$ 42,784,667

DIOCESAN HIGH SCHOOLS FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR FYE JUNE 30, 2011 & 2010

The financial statements entitled Catholic Diocese of Columbus – High Schools, represent the combined financial position and activity for the 11 Diocesan high schools.

The financial statements for the High Schools are reviewed by the independent CPA firm of Schneider Downs & Co., Inc. The review was conducted according to Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Financially, the year was challenging for our high schools. Overall, enrollment decreased 2.5% from the prior year. This decrease mirrored the decrease from 2008-2009 to 2009-2010. Our ability to increase tuition to offset rising costs continued to be tempered by the reality of the economic challenges being faced by our families.

Even with these challenges, our net assets for the high schools increased \$4.4 million dollars. Tuition income increased 4.4%, offsetting a 3.1% increase in salaries and a 9.1% increase in benefit costs. Other positive impacts included: a partial restoration of the state funds reduction which occurred in 2008-2009; a significant improvement in investment return on our endowments; and an improvement in our fundraising efforts.

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS - HIGH SCHOOLS		
Combined Statements of Financial Position June 30, 2011 and 2010		
	<u>As of</u> <u>6/30/2011</u>	<u>As of</u> <u>6/30/2010</u>
ASSETS		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 15,173,984	\$ 13,425,107
Accounts Receivable, net	458,496	382,649
Accounts Receivable - Foundation	-	141,225
Pledges Receivable, net	1,506,218	2,200,091
Prepaid Expenses	-	10,537
Leaseholds and equipment (net of accumulated depreciation)	36,106,531	36,531,456
Beneficial Interest in perpetual trust	18,694,390	15,808,852
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 71,939,619	\$ 68,499,917
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$ 1,070,448	\$ 624,634
Accrued Liabilities	2,507,178	2,534,815
Deferred Revenue	15,000	39,322
Prepaid Tuition & Fees	5,351,442	4,761,717
Notes Payable - related party	7,007,348	8,946,459
TOTAL LIABILITIES	15,951,416	16,906,947
Net Assets	55,988,203	51,592,970
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 71,939,619	\$ 68,499,917

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS - HIGH SCHOOLS

Combined Statements of Activities
For the year ended June 30, 2011 and 2010

	Year Ended 6/30/2011	Year Ended 6/30/2010
REVENUES AND SUPPORT		
Tuition	\$ 28,298,270	\$ 27,093,941
Diocese Support Rent	8,525,688	8,525,688
Extracurricular activities and cafeteria	7,475,088	7,423,416
Contributions & grants	3,645,611	3,578,707
State reimbursement	1,414,762	1,289,945
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	2,663,981	1,223,842
Parish Support	1,231,836	1,183,533
Other school income	432,116	517,564
Fundraising, net	1,077,478	708,562
Gift and grants - Diocese	622,287	800,325
Investment income, net	325,184	287,909
Interest income	122,542	697
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	55,834,843	52,634,129

EXPENSES

Salaries	20,577,490	19,967,258
Extracurricular activities and cafeteria	8,295,890	8,210,637
Rent expense	8,525,688	8,525,688
Benefits	5,989,382	5,487,718
Depreciation and amortization	2,795,322	2,622,287
Utilities	1,423,869	1,392,543
Maintenance	827,397	814,816
Other expenses	730,249	549,579
Departmental costs	640,545	541,706
Office supplies	495,632	509,133
Interest	360,913	410,228
Insurance	293,004	301,803
Bad debt expense	408,530	395,932
Central administration fees	75,699	73,068
Total Expenses	51,439,610	49,802,396
Change in Net Assets	4,395,233	2,831,733
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	51,592,970	48,761,237
Net Assets at End of Year	\$ 55,988,203	\$ 51,592,970



DIOCESAN PARISHES FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR FYE JUNE 30, 2011 & 2010

The financial statement entitled Catholic Diocese of Columbus – Parishes, represents the consolidation of the cash receipts and disbursements for the parishes and associated elementary schools of the Catholic Diocese of Columbus. This statement was compiled from the unaudited financial reports submitted by those organizations.

For the fiscal year, Offertory rose slightly as compared to the prior year. Fund drive income increased 30% due to an increase in the number of major fund drives being conducted across the Diocese. School income rose 4%. Other Parish Income increased significantly due to construction loans made to the parishes from the Parish Aid Fund (under cash accounting, loans are recorded as income).

From an expense standpoint, parish salaries and benefits rose 1%, while school salaries and benefits rose 2%. Parish operating expenses rose 1%, while capital expenditures increased 60%.

For those interested in the financial results for a particular parish, please contact that parish directly.

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS - PARISHES

Combined Statements of Activities
For the years ended June 30, 2011 and 2010

	Year Ended 6/30/2011	Year Ended 6/30/2010
RECEIPTS:		
Offertory	\$ 49,610,237	\$ 49,032,187
Fund Drives	8,426,835	6,450,661
Gifts & Bequests	2,307,120	2,729,530
Diocesan Support	2,332,227	2,590,811
Other Parish Income	14,112,956	6,058,204
Religious Education Income	2,165,398	2,134,696
School Income	39,460,161	37,786,236
Total Receipts	118,414,934	106,782,325
DISBURSEMENTS:		
Parish Salary & Benefits	19,961,346	19,741,207
Parish Operating Expenses	18,847,373	18,553,881
Diocesan Assessment	3,098,352	3,261,815
Capital Expenditures	15,264,146	9,501,847
Debt Principal & Interest Payments	3,269,224	3,173,663
Religious Education Salary & Benefits	3,832,039	3,836,679
Other Religious Education Costs	1,962,531	1,964,016
School Salary & Benefits	40,526,315	39,634,376
Other School Costs	5,926,445	5,857,885
Total Disbursements	112,687,771	105,525,369
Excess Receipts over Disbursements	\$ 5,727,163	\$ 1,256,956

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle B)

Mark's story of the calling of the disciples



Father
Lawrence L. Hummer

Jonah 3:1-5,10
I Corinthians 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20

In contrast with the account of the calling of the first disciples of Jesus in last week's reading from the Gospel of John (the last of the written Gospels), today we have the same account from the Gospel of Mark (the first of the written Gospels).

Mark clears the stage of John the Baptist by having him arrested before Jesus begins his public ministry by calling four disciples.

Jesus had gone to John in Judea for baptism, then spent 40 days in the wilderness before coming to Galilee to begin proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." This seems to be Mark's summary of what Jesus preached during his ministry.

The eschatological (end-time) nature of Mark's preaching is captured in the expression that the kingdom is "at hand." The Greek word conveys the idea that it remains near, tantalizingly close, as though one could almost reach out and touch it.

In many ways, it is a maddening expression because the kingdom remains always in that period of suspended animation; so near, but so far at the same time. Many within the Church (and without) have mistakenly assumed that the kingdom is here or there over the centuries. The proclamation of the kingdom in Mark always remains "at hand," which keeps those who seek it on their toes.

Those who seek the kingdom are called to repentance and belief, in that order. This might seem odd, inas-

much as we might think that faith comes first, and then repentance. However, at least in this summary of Jesus' preaching, repentance comes first.

"Repent" translates the Greek verb *metanoete*, which means to change one's mind, or to repent. To "believe in the gospel" could stand on its own as belief in the "good news," which is the meaning of the word "gospel." It could also refer either to the gospel "of the kingdom" (which is an alternate reading in some ancient manuscripts) or perhaps to the gospel of "Jesus Christ, the Son of God," the words which began the Gospel according to Mark.

There is no prior information about Jesus' origins in Mark. His appearance at the Sea of Galilee is immediate, and it is there that he calls his first four disciples. Simon and his brother Andrew were fishermen. Jesus addresses them simply and directly: "Come behind me and I will make you fishers of men (or *of people*, as in the New Revised Standard Version)." They left their nets and followed him. He then calls James and his brother John, who leave their father in the boat with the hired hands, and they follow him.

To follow along behind a teacher was to become his student. The most striking feature of this call is that they left everything to follow Jesus, not only their livelihood, but even their family (in the case of James and John).

Some point to details such as mending the nets and Zebedee being left in the boat with the hired hands as indicators of an eyewitness account. It may just be a description of typical fishermen at work when the call comes.

Finally, in the second reading, Paul and the early Christians were convinced the world "in its present form is passing away," Paul argues that we need to make adjustments in how we live life. Married people should give up the marriage bed; those weeping should stop; those rejoicing should stop rejoicing, and so on. Whether the world is passing away or in a constant state of becoming, the Christian must act like a pilgrim while in it.

Father Lawrence Hummer, pastor at Chillicothe St. Mary, can be reached at hummerl@stmarychillicothe.com.

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
2 Samuel 5:1-7,10
Psalm 89:20-22,25-26
Mark 3:22-30

TUESDAY
2 Samuel 6:12b-15,17-19
Psalm 24:7-10
Mark 3:31-35

WEDNESDAY
Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22
Psalm 117:1-2
Mark 16:15-18

THURSDAY
2 Timothy 1:1-8 or Titus 1:1-5
Psalm 96:1-3,7-8a,10
Mark 4:21-25

FRIDAY
2 Samuel 11:1-4a,5-10a,13-17
Psalm 51:3-7,10-11
Mark 4:26-34

SATURDAY
2 Samuel 12:1-7a,10-17
Psalm 51:12-17
Mark 4:35-41

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF JANUARY 22, 2012

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

Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 7:30 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus. Check local cable system for WWHO's 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 Kenton Immaculate Conception Church at 10 a.m. on Time Warner Cable Channel 6 (Hardin County).

Mass from Portsmouth St. Mary Church at noon on Time Warner Channel 24 in Scioto County.

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); Noon, St. Gabriel Radio (820 AM), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

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

Converts and the symphony of truth

Why do adults become Catholics?

There are as many reasons for "converting" as there are converts. Evelyn Waugh became a Catholic with, by his own admission, "little emotion but clear conviction" -- this was the truth; one ought to adhere to it. Cardinal Avery Dulles wrote that his journey into the Catholic Church began when, as an unbelieving Harvard undergraduate detached from his family's staunch Presbyterianism, he noticed a leaf shimmering with raindrops while taking a walk along the Charles River in Cambridge, Mass. Such beauty could not be accidental, he thought—there must be a Creator. Thomas Merton found Catholicism aesthetically, as well as intellectually, attractive; once the former Columbia free-thinker and dabbler in communism and Hinduism found his way into a Trappist monastery and became a priest, he explained the Mass to his unconverted friend, poet Robert Lax, by analogy to a ballet. Until his death in 2007, Cardinal Jean-Marie Lustiger insisted that his conversion to Catholicism was not a rejection of, but a fulfillment of, the Judaism into which he was born. The cardinal could often be found at Holocaust memorial services reciting the names of the martyrs, including "Gisèle Lustiger, *ma maman*" ("my mother").

Two of the great 19th-century converts were geniuses of the English language: theologian John Henry Newman and poet Gerard Manley Hopkins. This tradition of literary converts continued in the 20th century and included Waugh, Graham Greene, Edith Sitwell, Ronald Knox, and Walker Percy. Their heritage lives today at Our Savior's Church on Park Avenue in New York, where convert author, wit, raconteur, and amateur pu-



THE CATHOLIC
DIFFERENCE
George Weigel

gillist George William Rutler presides as pastor.

In early American Catholicism, the fifth archbishop of Baltimore (and de facto primate of the United States), Samuel Eccleston, was a convert from Anglicanism, as was the first native-born American saint and the precursor of the Catholic school system, Elizabeth Anne Seton. Mother Seton's portrait in the offices of the archbishop of New York is somewhat incongruous, as the young widow Seton, with her children, was run out of New York by her unforgiving Anglican in-laws when she became a Catholic. On his deathbed, another great 19th-century convert, Henry Edward Manning of England, who might have become the Anglican archbishop of Canterbury but became the Catholic archbishop of Westminster instead, took his long-deceased wife's prayer book from beneath his pillow and gave it to a friend, saying that it had been his spiritual inspiration throughout his life.

If there is a thread running through these diverse personalities, it may be this: that men and women of intellect, culture, and accomplishment have found in Catholicism what Blessed John Paul II called the "symphony of truth." That rich and complex symphony, and the harmonies it offers, is an attractive, com-

elling, and persuasive alternative to the fragmentation of modern and post-modern intellectual and cultural life, where little fits together and much is cacophony. Catholicism, however, is not an accidental assembly of random truth-claims; the Creed is not an arbitrary catalogue of propositions and neither is the Catechism of the Catholic Church. It all fits together, and, in proposing that symphonic harmony, Catholicism helps fit all the aspects of our lives together, as it orders our loves and loyalties in the right direction.

You don't have to be an intellectual to appreciate this "symphony of truth," however. For Catholicism is, first of all, an encounter with a person, Jesus Christ, who is "the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6). And to meet that person is to meet the truth that makes all the other truths of our lives make sense. Indeed, the embrace of Catholic truth in full, as lives like Blessed John Henry Newman's demonstrate, opens one up to the broadest possible range of intellectual encounters.

Viewed from outside, Catholicism can seem closed and unwelcoming. As Evelyn Waugh noted, though, it all seems so much more spacious and open from the inside. The Gothic, with its soaring vaults and buttresses and its luminous stained glass, is not a classic Catholic architectural form by accident. The full beauty of the light, however, washes over you when you come in.

George Weigel is Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C. Weigel's column is distributed by the Denver Catholic Register, the official newspaper of the Archdiocese of Denver. Phone: 303-715-3215.

BUS TRIP PLANNED TO ANNUAL NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC CONGRESS IN INDIANAPOLIS

Black Catholics from the Diocese of Columbus are planning to attend the annual National Black Catholic Congress (NBCC) this summer in Indianapolis.

The congress takes place every five years and draws thousands of African American Catholics from the U.S., Canada, and the Caribbean. The delegates will form a plan of action to educate and inform Catholics in parishes around the nation about the needs and issues of black Catholics.

The program will include glorious Eucharistic celebrations with dozens of concelebrants, superb music, inspirational dance, homilies, and stimulating workshops. There also will be professional

development workshops in which parish and diocesan staff members from predominantly African American parishes will share their strengths and refresh their work.

The diocesan Black Catholic Ministries office will host a bus trip to the congress at a cost of \$500 per person. The cost will include conference registration, round-trip bus transportation from Columbus to Indianapolis, and accommodations for three nights (July 19-21) at the Marriott Hotel.

If you are interested in attending the congress, contact Lillian Jackson at the Black Catholic Ministries office at (614) 228-0024 or email blkcatholicministries@sbcglobal.net.

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Sunday, January 29, 1:30-7 PM

• Spaghetti (all you can eat) • Meatballs • Salad • Roll • Dessert • Beverage

\$8.00-Adults, \$6.00-Children (5-12) & Seniors (65+)
Children 5 or under FREE

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Pray for our dead

BALISH, JoAnne, 69, Jan. 16
St. Vincent de Paul Church, Mount Vernon

BISHOP, Robert J., 80, Jan. 8
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

CAMPBELL, John M., 67, Jan. 11
St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury

CUTARELLI, Marjorie, 83, Jan. 7
St. Mary Church, Marion

DUBER, Roma, 92, Jan. 10
St. Mary Church, Delaware

EBERLY, William M., 60, Jan. 9
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

FLEWELLEN, Elizabeth, 92, Jan. 4
St. Dominic Church, Columbus

FOLEY, William L. Jr., 79, formerly of Columbus, Jan. 13
St. Theresa Church, Douglasville, Ga.

FOSTER, Mary L., 91, Jan. 13
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

FOUT, Mary, 95, Jan. 1
Immaculate Conception Church, Kenton

GRENNELL, Raymond A., 74, Jan. 8
St. Christopher Church, Columbus

Sister Mary Carlton Ott, PCPA

Funeral Mass for Sister Mary Carlton Ott, PCPA, 94, who died Saturday, Dec. 17, at the Mohun Health Care Center, was held at the center on Wednesday, Dec. 21. Burial was at Greenlawn Cemetery, Portsmouth.

She was born Lillian Ott on April 15, 1917, to Lawrence and Amelia Ott in Peru, Ohio, where she attended St. Alphonsus Church and School. After graduating from Norwalk St. Paul High School, she became a member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame on Jan. 29, 1937.

She served in the Diocese of Toledo, with her service including five years of teaching at Ladyfield School in Toledo, where she also worked as sacristan for

HORN, Monabel "Monie," 84, Jan. 12
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

HOWARD, Jeremy G., 52, Jan. 11
St. Matthew Church, Gahanna

JASZEK, John J., 75, Jan. 11
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

LEITENBERGER, Margaret "Peg," 72, Jan. 9
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

MAKUH, John J. II, 61, Jan. 11
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

MUSSIO, Roseann, 80, Jan. 13
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

POSEY, Jesse J. Jr., 62, Jan. 9
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

RUNDAG, Karen S., 68, Jan. 15
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, Columbus

SCRANTON, Mary, 83, Jan. 8
St. Mary Church, Marion

SIEMER, James L., 74, Jan. 11
St. Stephen Church, Columbus

WALTERS, Mary E., formerly of Columbus, 56, Jan. 8
St. Stephen Church, Winter Springs, Fla.

many years and played the organ for Mass each morning.

She transferred to the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration at St. Joseph Monastery in Portsmouth in 1961. After a year of discernment, she professed her solemn vows with the cloistered order of nuns on Oct. 24, 1962. She remained at the monastery for 40 years until moving in 2002 to the Mohun center, where she prayed, visited the sick, and was known as "the light of the fourth floor."

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Father Carlton Ott, a priest of the Diocese of Toledo, Charles, Melvin, and Lawrence; and sisters, Sister Virgin (Blanche), SSND, and Ruth. She is survived by a brother, Paul.

Roger M. Scherer

Funeral Mass for Roger M. Scherer, 65, who died Monday, Jan. 9, was held Saturday, Jan. 14, at Newark St. Francis de Sales Church. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Newark.

He was born March 5, 1946, in Portsmouth to John and Ruth (Seyfried) Scherer.

He was a graduate of Portsmouth Notre Dame High School, served with the Army in Vietnam, and was employed at Dow Chemical's Licking River film center. At his parish, he organized Lenten soup suppers, was a Eucharistic minister, and participated in the Fruit of the Vine Prayer Group. He also coached

several Little League teams.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, James; and sister, Sandra. Survivors include his wife, Linda (Hamilton); sons, Roger (Candace) and Brandon (Laura); daughter, Michelle (Jon) Jump; brothers, Father Gary Scherer, CPpS, of St. John the Baptist Church in Whiting, Ind.; Ray (Pat), Joe (Carol), David (Alice), Dean, Rick, Danny (Debbie), and Mark; and sisters, Carol (Tom) Peckham, Donna (Art) Pickelheimer, Sue (Randy) Burnside, Diane (Greg) Lodwick, Lynn (Kurt) Webb, and Ann Barlett; and six grandchildren.

Looking for a sign language Knight

Knights of Columbus Council 10941 of the Church of the Resurrection in New Albany is looking for a Knight who knows sign language.


The council has membership candidates who are deaf, and, without a Knight helping them take part

in their first-degree ceremony, the candidates won't be able to fully participate in it.

If you are a Knight, can sign, or know of a Knight who can, contact Bill Pederson at umpireswp@wowway.com or (614) 475-9234.


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Spanish classes for adults to be held at 2 locations

Spanish classes for adults will be conducted on Wednesday evenings for the next three months, beginning Jan. 25, at Columbus Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., and the Pregnancy Decision Health Center, 665 E. Dublin-Granville Road.

The classes will be from 6 to 7 p.m. for beginners and 7:10 to 8:10 p.m. for intermediate-level students.

For more information and to reserve a spot, contact Tim at columbusspanishclass@gmail.com.

H A P P E N I N G S

JANUARY

CLASSIFIED

St. Anthony School
20s Group Meeting at Columbus St. Patrick
PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Sunday, January 29
9am-1pm (during Open House)
Pancakes (all you can eat), sausage, hash browns and drink. Adults: \$7.00; Seniors & kids under 12: \$5.50
Hosted by: St. Anthony Athletic Commission

SPAGHETTI DINNER
Holy Spirit Catholic Church
4383 E. Broad St. - Church Hall
Sunday, Jan. 29, 2012 ~ 12pm - 3pm
Adults \$7; Children (10 and under) \$5; \$25 family max.
Delicious Italian-style dinner includes spaghetti with homemade sauce, meatballs, green beans, salad, roll and dessert.
Available for dine-in and take-away.
Sponsored by Holy Spirit School Board

St. Michael Church
5750 N. High St., Worthington
SPAGHETTI DINNER
Sunday, January 29, 1:30 - 7 PM
**Spaghetti (all you can eat) • Meatballs
Salad • Roll • Dessert • Beverage**
\$8.00—Adults, \$6.00—Children (6-12) & Seniors (65+) Children 5 or under **FREE**
Handicap seating
Sponsored by St. Michael Council #11445 KofC Proceeds support Seminarians at the Josephinum
DRIVE THRU (3:30-7 pm) & Carry out available

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 Deacon Steve DeMers at 614-224-6530 or 800-511-0584.

'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@colsdioec.org

19, THURSDAY

20s Group Meeting at Columbus St. Patrick
7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Weekly meeting of parish's new 20s Group. All young adults invited. Begins with Holy Hour, followed at 8 by program. **614-406-9516**

20, FRIDAY

Theology of the Body Talk at St. John Neumann
7 p.m., Upper social hall, St. John Neumann Church, 9633 East State Route 37, Sunbury. First of four talks by Catholic writer and educator Jake Tawney on how we can see our lives through the lens of Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body. Subject: "God Fashioned the Lens: God's Relationship With Us As It Was Meant to Be." For anyone 17 and older. **740-965-1358**

Evening of Prayer for Christian Unity
7:30 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Prayer service for Christian unity, preceded by potluck dinner at 6:30. **614-792-8655**
Christian Unity Talk at Newman Center
7:30 p.m., St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave., Columbus. Father Thomas Ryan, CSP, director of the Paulist North American Office for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations, speaks on "The Call to Unity Among the Followers of Jesus: What Can I Do?" **614-291-4674**

20-21, FRIDAY-SATURDAY

Adoration at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
From end of 9 a.m. Mass Friday to 3 p.m., Saturday, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. 30 hours of Eucharistic adoration in protest of U.S. Supreme Court Roe v. Wade decision, ending with Holy Hour at 2 p.m. Saturday. **614-861-1242**

21, SATURDAY

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. **614-565-8654**
Workshop on Meditation and Yoga at Newman Center
10 a.m. to noon, St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave., Columbus. Father Thomas Ryan, CSP, director of the Paulist North American Office for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations, leads a workshop on meditation and yoga as prayer. **614-291-4674**

Catholic Social Services Spirit of Hope Ball
6:30 p.m. to midnight, Renaissance Hotel, 50 N. 3rd St., Columbus. Catholic Social Services Spirit of Hope Ball, with cocktails, live and silent auctions, dinner, and entertainment by The Conspiracy band. Black tie optional. **614-221-5891**

22, SUNDAY

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education
10 to 11:15 a.m., St. Christopher Parish Center, 1420 Grandview Ave., Columbus. "The Real Mary, Jesus' Most Faithful Disciple," with Deacon Gregg Eiden. **614-488-9971**

Open House at Bishop Watterson
1 to 3 p.m., Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road, Columbus. Open house for prospective students and their parents. **614-268-8671, extension 229**
Open House at St. Timothy
1:15 p.m., St. Timothy School, 1070 Thomas Lane, Columbus. Open house for parents of prospective kindergarten and new students and their parents. **614-451-0739**

St. Catherine of Bologna Secular Franciscans
2:30 to 5 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave., Columbus. Rosary, Liturgy of the Hours, followed by general meeting, ongoing formation, and social. **614-276-1953**

Scout Day With the Bishop
3 p.m., Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany. Annual Scout Day with the Bishop program, with Bishop Frederick Campbell honoring diocesan Scouts who have received religious awards.

Cathedral Organ Recital
3 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Craig Cramer, organ professor at the University of Notre Dame, presents the third of six recitals featuring the complete organ works of Dieterich Buxtehude. **614-241-2526**
'A Voice for Life' at Church of the Resurrection
5 to 7 p.m., Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany. Documentary "A Voice for Life," featuring abortion survivor Melissa Ohden, followed by talks by area pro-life supporters. Sponsored by parish Respect Life committee and Knights of Columbus Council 10941. **614-939-4909**

Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. **706-761-4054**

23, MONDAY

Respect Life Mass and Rally for Life
10:30 a.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bishop Frederick Campbell celebrates Mass in observance of the day of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through abortion, and of prayer for full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life, followed at noon by the annual Rally for Life at the Statehouse, sponsored by Greater Columbus Right to Life, to express support for pro-life activities on the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision.

Bethesda Post-Abortion Healing Ministry
6:30 p.m., support group meeting, 2744 Dover Road, (Christ the King Church campus), Columbus. **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., Columbus. Bible study of Sunday Scripture readings. **614-459-2766**

24, TUESDAY

Bishop Campbell Celebrates Mass at DeSales
9:45 a.m., St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, Columbus. Bishop Frederick Campbell celebrates Mass on the Feast of St. Francis DeSales. **614-267-7808**

Christian Unity Service at Cathedral
7 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bishop Frederick Campbell leads Vespers service for Christian unity, which will be attended by leaders and worshippers from several other Christian churches and other ecumenical organizations. **740-928-3266**
Prayer Group Meeting at St. Mark
7 p.m., St. Raymond Room, St. Mark Center, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Light of Life Prayer Group meeting. **740-653-4919**

'Landings' Meeting at Newman Center
7 p.m., St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave., Columbus. Third meeting of eight-week "Landings" program for returning and inactive Catholics. **614-291-4674, extension 100**

'Catholicism' Series at St. Pius X
7 to 8:30 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Video of "Happy Are We: The Teachings

of Jesus," Part 2 of Father Robert Barron's "Catholicism" series, followed by discussion. **614-866-2859**

College Preparation Talk at St. Andrew
7 to 8 p.m., Msgr. Nugent Hall, St. Andrew Church, 4081 Reed Road, Columbus. Talk by Keith Gehres, assistant director, outreach and recruitment undergraduate admissions and first-year experience, The Ohio State University, on "Preparing for College and the Admissions Process."

25, WEDNESDAY

Spanish Class for Adults
Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus, and Pregnancy Decision Health Center, 665 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Worthington. First of weekly one-hour Spanish classes for adults scheduled each Wednesday through April 25. Beginners, 6 to 7 p.m.; intermediate, 7:10 to 8:10 p.m. Email Tim at columbusspanishclass@gmail.com.

Charismatic Mass at St. Thomas
7:30 p.m., St. Thomas Church, 2692 E. 5th Ave., Columbus. Mass celebrated by Father Dean Mathewson, sponsored by diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Preceded by rosary at 6 p.m. and praise and worship at 6:30. **614-237-7080**

26, THURSDAY

Aquinas Day Convocation, Mass at Ohio Dominican
10:30 a.m., Matesich Theater, Erskine Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Aquinas Day convocation, sponsored by Center for Dominican Studies, with Sister Patricia Connick, OP. Topic: "Converging Theology and Science to Transform the Modern World." Followed by Mass at noon celebrated by Bishop Frederick Campbell. **614-251-4722**

Josephinum Rector Speaks on New Evangelization
6:30 p.m., Jessing Center, Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. Father James Wehner, STD, Josephinum rector-president, discusses his new book, "The Evangelization Equation: The Who, What and How." **614-885-5585**

20s Group Meeting at Columbus St. Patrick
7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Weekly meeting of parish's new 20s Group. All young adults invited. Begins with Holy Hour, followed at 8 by program. **614-406-9516**

'Courage' Support Group Meeting
7:30 p.m., A Catholic organization providing support for individuals with same-sex attractions. Mary Louise **614-436-8676**

27, FRIDAY

Theology of the Body Talk at St. John Neumann
7 p.m., Upper social hall, St. John Neumann Church, 9633 East State Route 37, Sunbury. Second of four talks by Catholic writer and educator Jake Tawney on how we can see our lives through the lens of Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body. Subject: "Peering Through the Lens: Seeing Ourselves as Gift to One Another." For anyone 17 and older. **740-965-1358**
'Clergy Who Cook' at Josephinum
7 to 10 p.m., Jessing Center, Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. "Clergy Who Cook" fund raiser for seminarians. **614-985-2234**

28, SATURDAY

Light of Life Prayer Group Morning of Reflection
8:30 a.m., St. Mark Center, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Light of Life Prayer Group sponsors morning of reflection with Thom and Lorna Lusk. Subject: "How to Focus on Jesus in 2012." Lunch provided. **740-654-6928**



ST. LEO CHURCH

Organ Rededication



A three-and-a-half-year renovation project for the organ at Columbus St. Leo Church has been completed, with rededication of the organ scheduled to take place at 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 29.

The program will begin with Father Donald Franks celebrating Mass, the blessing of the organ, and a program of selections by Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral music director Paul Thornock. He will play works by Dieterich Buxtehude, Johann Gottfried Walther, Felix Mendelssohn, and Louis Vierne, and four Renaissance dances from a Suzanne VanSoldt manuscript.

This will be the second rededication of the 87-year-old organ. A contract was signed on Sept. 9, 1925, with the Tellers-Kent Organ Co. of Erie, Pa., to install a German-Romanic organ at St. Leo's. The contract, signed by Father Bernard Vogel, shows a price of \$11,700, with the balance

of \$8,000 coming due on completion and acceptance of the organ, to be paid in two payments one year and two years apart.

The Bunn-Minnick Co. was awarded a contract to refurbish the organ in July 1982, and it was rededicated for the first time on March 27, 1983.

In 2008, Mike Wolfe took on the arduous task of refurbishing the organ himself, with Thornock providing much guidance and direction. Wolfe has been mainly responsible for keeping the church at 221 Hanford St. in active and frequent use after St. Leo Parish ended its existence on June 30, 1999. Tim Smith later took over direction of the project and was followed by the Peebles-Herzog Co.

Gary Gurcich and the Roberts Electric Co. provided help and guidance with the electrical aspects, and Andrew McGregor spent countless hours rewiring the intricate

details of the inner organ.

John Hoffman, a parishioner who was involved with the 1983 refurbishing, greatly desired to add to the organ. After he died, his family donated an organ he had built in his home, and much of it is now located in the attic above the church sanctuary as an addition to the organ.

The cost of the latest renovation totaled nearly \$140,000, but it has been estimated to be worth well over a half-million dollars. Wolf's dedication, knowledge, devotion, and foresight made the savings possible. Because of this, many others were willing to step forward and provide help with what was needed to accomplish the task.

Thornock, a native of Washington state,

earned a bachelor of music degree from the University of Puget Sound, where he studied organ with Edward Hansen and conducting with Paul Schultz. He earned the master of music in organ performance and literature degree at the University of Notre Dame as a student of Craig Cramer. While at Notre Dame, he was graduate assistant organist to the late Gail Walton at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. He is completing his doctoral studies at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

For information regarding the concert, contact Lori Mitchell, president of the St. Leo Preservation Society, at lmitch9@columbus.rr.com or call her at (614) 444-8353.

BOOK REVIEW



By Mark Zimmermann
Catholic News Service

In his new book, "Seek First the Kingdom," Washington Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl calls on Catholics to seek God's kingdom and then reflect it in their everyday lives.

When Catholics deepen their own faith, their hearts are transformed, and when they share it with others, they can change their community, their nation, and their world, the cardinal wrote in his book, which is subtitled "Challenging the Culture by Living Our Faith."

"To be in the kingdom is to be with Christ always, and to be for Christ always, in season and out of season, in private and in public, on the job and on our days off," he wrote in the book, which was published in November by Our Sunday Visitor.

At a time when many people only know kingdoms from history, fairy tales, and royal weddings, Cardinal Wuerl points out

how God's kingdom "forms the heart of the Gospel." As Pope Benedict XVI has noted, the phrase "the kingdom of God" appears 122 times in the New Testament, including in 90 quotes from Jesus in the Gospels.

Cardinal Wuerl's new book emphasizes the importance of Catholics taking up Pope Benedict's call for the new evangelization, to learn their faith, to live it and share it with others, especially family members, friends, neighbors, and co-workers who may have drifted away from the faith or never heard the good news of Jesus. The book also encourages Catholics to reflect their faith at home, in the workplace, in their community, and in the public square.

In his book, Cardinal Wuerl noted that, in the face of the world's secularism, materialism, and individualism that distract people from Christ and from true happiness, Pope Benedict has called on Catholics to be engaged in the work of the new evangelization, "to re-propose the perennial truth

of Christ's Gospel."

The book also traces how religious freedom was a cornerstone of the Maryland colony from its establishment in the mid-1600s. That fragile right was undermined decades later when Maryland Catholics by law could not worship in public. The right of religious freedom enshrined in the First Amendment to the Constitution in 1791 has in recent times faced erosion. In the book, the cardinal warned that silence allowed historical evils like slavery and genocide to occur, and he urges people not to remain silent in the face of contemporary evils like abortion. Catholic voters and Catholic public officials have a responsibility to have correctly formed consciences and to know and follow church teaching on, for example, the dignity of all human life from conception to natural death, the cardinal wrote. The church's teaching, he writes, provides a moral framework to guide people in facing the challenging issues of today.

Seek First the Kingdom

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD IN PHOTOS



A woman prays during a church service to mark the second anniversary of the 2010 earthquake in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on Jan. 12. The quake claimed the lives of an estimated 316,000 people, destroyed hundreds of schools, crippled infrastructure, and left 1.5 million people homeless
CNS photo/Swoan Parker, Reuters



The shrine of Our Lady of Charity of El Cobre in Santiago de Cuba is seen on Jan. 7. Pope Benedict XVI will pray at the shrine on March 27 during his visit to Mexico and Cuba from March 23 to 28
CNS photo/Marc Frank, Reuters



Sisters of the Holy Cross lead the Human Trafficking Awareness Day prayer service, which included the story of St. Josephine Bakhita, at the Church of Our Lady of Loretto in Notre Dame, Ind., on Jan. 11. Pictured are (from left) Sisters Semerita Mbambu, Rose Kyomukama, Manorma Kerketta, Jui Clara Corraya, and Comfort Arthur. The prayer service was sponsored by the Coalition for Corporate Responsibility for Indiana and Michigan, a group of 11 orders of Catholic women religious, as part of its Super Bowl 2012 Anti-Trafficking Initiative
CNS photo/Sister Margaret Ann Nowacki, CSC

DOMINICAN SISTERS OF PEACE COMMEMORATE 2011 JUBILEES

Three of these sisters celebrated milestone golden jubilees, or 50 years of religious life

With the closing of 2011, the Dominican Sisters of Peace commemorated 63 sisters who celebrated jubilees, or milestone anniversaries of profession, during the year. Included in that group were 16 sisters with ties to the Columbus area.

A former Columbus-area teacher, Dominican Sister of Peace Marguerite Chandler, this year celebrates 50 years in religious life. Locally, she ministered in various capacities at Columbus diocesan schools including Lancaster St. Mary School, Columbus Bishop Watterson High School, Newark Catholic High School, and Ohio Dominican University. In addition to teaching, she also served as facility coordinator at Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center in Newark. Currently, Sister Marguerite ministers at the Crown Point Ecology Center in (Bath, Ohio, as office manager, educator, and spiritual director. She also serves on the Dominican Sisters of Peace Eco-Justice Committee as its chair.

A former Akron Dominican, Sister Maria Ciriello, now serves as director of founded ministries for the Dominican Sisters of Peace, where she oversees the congregation's sponsored institutions from her home base in Columbus. She previously had a long, successful ministry in education, first as a teacher and principal, and later as an educator of educators.

Sister Mary Ignatius Rozario is celebrating 50 years of religious life this year. She has ministered in a variety of capacities, principally in religious education and pastoral care with parishes in Louisiana, California, and Mississippi. Sister Ignatius embraces her new identity as a Dominican Sister of Peace; having moved to the Columbus Motherhouse.

Four sisters celebrated 70 years of religious life.

Sister Malya Carusi was an elementary school teacher for more than 30 years, mostly in



Sister Marguerite Chandler

Ohio, but also in Michigan, New York, and New Mexico. In Columbus, she has also ministered as a nurse's aide at the Mohun Health Care Center, as an aide for the elderly at Hartley Community, and in pastoral ministry at Holy Name Church.

Sister Fara Impastato relocated from her native New Orleans to Columbus after Hurricane Katrina forced evacuation. She now lives at the Mohun center, where she embraces a ministry of prayer.

Born in Zanesville, Sister Rita Agnes Masse spent 30 years teaching elementary and high school mathematics, mainly in the Columbus, Pittsburgh, and Steubenville dioceses. She served for 11 years as archivist in the Columbus diocesan Chancery. She is engaged in prayer ministry at the Mohun center.

An Akron native, Sister Camilla Smith, initially was an elementary and secondary teacher of home economics in the dioceses of Columbus and Steubenville. Later, she ministered for 33 years at Ohio Dominican College, supervising the college dining room and later serving as dean of resident students, dean of women, and faculty member. She served again in administrative responsibilities at the Mohun center and as director of religious education at Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. In 1992, Sister



Sister Maria Ciriello

Camilla was a founding staff member at Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center in Blacklick. Since 2004, she has been in a ministry of prayer and presence, both at the Columbus Motherhouse and in the Mohun center.

Four sisters celebrated 65 years of religious life.

Originally from Steubenville, Sister Mary Lawrence Caniff taught in elementary schools for 41 years, mostly in Ohio and Pennsylvania. She became assistant director of the Mohun center in 1995 and moved to supportive services at the center in 1999.

Sister Mary Lois Schmeltzer comes from Somerset and was professed in 1946. She taught music and choir in elementary schools in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York before becoming a principal in 1967 in Steubenville. She was religious education director at Marietta St. Mary Church from 1986 until 1995, when she became manager of Nazareth Towers in Columbus. Since 2003, she has been "actively retired" at the Columbus Motherhouse.

Sister Mary Michael Spangler was professed in 1946. Her first teaching and administrative experiences were in elementary education in the Columbus and Steubenville dioceses. She taught at Ohio Dominican University for 40 years. She has published five books on logic and the art of teaching, among other subjects. She is engaged



Sister Ignatius Rozario

in a ministry of prayer and family service at the Columbus Motherhouse.

Born in McKeesport, Pa., Sister Mary Ronald Sunic taught in elementary schools in the dioceses of Pittsburgh, Santa Fe, N.M., New York, Steubenville, and Columbus. Since retiring, she has been in active service and prayer at the Columbus Motherhouse and is presently a volunteer at the Mohun center.

Five sisters celebrated 60 years of religious life.

Raised in Columbus St. Thomas Church, Sister Clara Bauman had been a teacher and administrator of elementary schools in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New Mexico for more than 36 years. Since 2001, she has been serving part-time as pastoral minister at Columbus St. James the Less Church.

Sister Johanna Eberly, a Columbus native and member of St. Catharine Church, was professed in 1951. In her early days, she taught elementary school in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York City for 21 years. She also was principal for more than 21 years, serving at St. Gabriel and St. Philip in Columbus and at Somersrt Holy Trinity. In 1987, she was named administrator at Co-shocton Sacred Heart Church and served there for 10 years. In 1997, she became director of resident life at the Mohun center. Since retiring in 2000, she has been engaged actively in volunteer ministry at the Co-

lumbus Motherhouse.

Sister Mary Edmund Gibson this year celebrated 60 years as a Dominican sister, first as a vowed member of the St. Mary Dominican Sisters in New Orleans, and, since her congregation merged with six others in 2009, today as a Dominican Sister of Peace. She currently lives at the Motherhouse in Columbus, where she loves doing a variety of services, such as cantoring and welcoming visitors.

Sister Laurene Hagman was professed in 1951 and hails from Columbus St. Catharine Church. She taught elementary school for seven years in Columbus, Lancaster, and Steubenville. She then taught at the high-school level from 1958 to 1977 at Bishop Watterson High School and St. Mary of the Springs Academy in Columbus and at Northwest Catholic High School in West Hartford, Conn. She also served as a missionary in Chimbote, Peru, from 1999 to 2002. Since that time, she has been a volunteer in the communications office for the Dominican Sisters of Peace.

Born in Worcester, Mass., Sister Matilda Vaitekaitis made her profession of vows in Nashville in 1951. Her variety of ministries included being a teacher for 20 years. She has administrative experience at Immaculate Conception Residence for the Elderly and the Heart of Ohio Hospice, also in Columbus. Her pastoral experience includes chaplaincy roles at Good Samaritan Hospital, the Central Ohio Psychiatric Hospital, and Mount Carmel Hospice. In addition, she has served as a Montessori teacher's aide at the former St. Mary of the Springs Montessori School and part-time staff member at the Spirituality Network. Her full-time ministry is prayer and volunteer service at the Columbus Motherhouse. She continues a ministry of making beautiful cards decorated with dried flower arrangements, having created thousands over the years.