



DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

# CATHOLIC **TIMES**

*A journal of Catholic life in Ohio*

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# WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

The Editor's Notebook*In it for the long haul*

By David Garick, Editor



My wife and I are something of a curiosity to many of our younger friends and acquaintances. We've been happily married for more than 35 years. It's hard for them to grasp the concept of a relationship that has endured longer than they have been alive. In many cases, they have no frame of reference. Often, their own parents are divorced. The idea of staying with one person forever seems daunting and unlikely.

I come from a generation in which a family that had been through divorce was called a "broken home." You don't hear that phrase any more. It is now the norm. Many couples just move in together without any commitment to marry at all. They may not even marry when children come along. Even if they do marry, the odds are very high that they will become dissatisfied and split up. The children then enter into a perplexing maze of parental and semi-parental relationships with stepparents and significant others. The nuclear family has become a nuclear wasteland.

This is not what marriage is all about. What I am about to say goes directly against everything that modern culture leads people to believe. It is not all about you! Marriage is not a way for you to satisfy some inner need. Your wedding is not some great pageant carried out to fulfill your opportunity to be the star of a "reality" event. Marriage is not for what you get out of it. It is not a role you play until you decide that you are not being "fulfilled," then cast it aside while you try another direction to make your life satisfying. The more you look into yourself to find happiness, the more frustrated and lonely you will become.

Marriage is the fundamental unit of civilization. Just as a great cathedral stands in glory because of the thousands of individual blocks on stone that form its foundation and walls, our society is strong because of the strength of each family that makes up the essential building block of our culture. Individually, we are frail and incomplete. We only reach the strength that God calls us to through liv-

ing out the vocation He has called us to, either in Holy Orders, consecrated life, or in the grand vocation of marriage, creating a new community in the image of God's covenant with His people

Joann Heaney-Hunter, associate professor of theology at St. John's University, puts it this way, "Couples live as communities when they recognize and heal the brokenness in their individual lives and in their life together. Brokenness is a part of everyone's life; a spouse is in a unique position to heal the pain that inevitably arises in relationship. Couples create sacramental communities when they build a life of sharing – with each other, with their families, with local communities, with the church. As couples grow in their love for each other, their communities of life and love enrich the larger communities in their lives."

God, in his wisdom, has created marriage as a great synergy. Through it, a man and a woman, along with any children that God grants to them, create a community, a society, in which the total spirituality is much greater than the sum of its parts. We accomplish that by placing our partner ahead of ourselves. Marriage works when every day, we set out to make things better for our family, not to meet our own internal desires.

That sounds like a sacrifice. Sacrifice is not something that is in vogue in modern society. But we are called to make our own relationships mirror Christ's relationship with His people. We know well the sacrifice He made out of love for us to bring us into eternal communion with Him. Every couple is called to sacrifice their individual desires out of love for each other, to build a permanent family relationship that glorifies God.

The great part is that, when you have done all that sacrificing, you find real happiness that totally eludes those who only seek their personal goals and needs.

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TIMES**

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**BISHOP CAMPBELL IN ROME**

Pope Benedict XVI greets Bishop Frederick F. Campbell during a Feb. 2 meeting with bishops from Ohio and Michigan, who were making their "ad limina" visits to the Vatican to report on the status of their dioceses CNS photo/L'Osservatore Romano

**INTRODUCTION OF STATE  
LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTIONS ON  
RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMENDED**

The Catholic Conference of Ohio commends the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio Senate for pursuing concurrent resolutions decrying the final rule of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on reproductive services. The Ohio House filed its resolution on Feb. 1. A similar resolution will be filed next week in the Senate.

In a recent statement, the HHS Department announced that most health insurance plans, including those offered by non-profit religious employers, will be required to cover the full range of preventive reproductive services. With few exceptions, health insurers will be forced to offer all federally ap-

The conference encourages all elected officials to communicate concern over this mandate.

**CELEBRATE  
MARRIAGE!**

By Stephanie L. Jenemann

Director, Diocesan Marriage &amp; Family Life Office

The observances of World Marriage Day on Feb. 12 and National Marriage Week from Feb. 7-14 provide opportunities to celebrate the institution and sacrament of marriage across the United States and in many nations of the world. It is fitting to honor husbands and wives who stand before their faith and secular communities as a reminder of the great beauty of the covenant of marriage. These celebrations also honor the sacrifices and rewards that are a vital part of a good marriage.

You may know that one of the pastoral priorities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops is to strengthen marriage as a Christian sacrament and a natural institution. A deep concern of the conference is the declining rate of marriage in society and the Catholic Church. The bishops call attention to the research supporting this finding: "A 2011 Pew Research Center study found that the marriage rate in the U.S. declined by five percent from 2009 to 2010. Only 51 percent of the nation's adults are married. In the Church, the rate of decline has been just as steep. According to the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA), since 1972, the number of marriages celebrated in the Catholic Church has fallen by nearly 60 percent."

Can the tide be changed? There is hope. As Church, we continue to champion, affirm, and support engaged and married couples. Our theology beautifully demonstrates how marriage, a partnership of love, is the foundation of the Church and

**A COMMITMENT TO MINISTRY**

*From Marriage: Love and Life in the Divine Plan.  
A Pastoral Letter of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.*

The Church is built on a foundation of marriage and family life, which it cherishes as the school of a deeper humanity and a cradle of the civilization of love. For this reason, both Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI have emphasized that pastoral ministry in service of marriage and family life should be an urgent priority for the Church.

We pledge to be a marriage-building Church, drawing strength from God's grace while using creatively the gifts and resources entrusted to us.

We call for a comprehensive and collaborative ministry to marriages. Because of the complexity and challenges we face in society today, our ministry must be one that

society. We continue to teach couples that their vocation of service shares in the mission of the Church and is sacred. Also, married couples' attention is directed to the beneficial teaching and resources that are developed for study and reflection.

I call your particular attention to the following resources available through the USCCB:

- ◆ *A large and varied collection of resources for couples who are planning for marriage and/or married can be found in English and Spanish at [www.ForYourMarriage.org](http://www.ForYourMarriage.org) and [www.portumatrimonio.org](http://www.portumatrimonio.org)*

◆ *Video and print materials and other educational and catechetical resources that explain why marriage is unique and can only be the union of one man and one woman can be found at [www.MarriageUniqueforaReason.org](http://www.MarriageUniqueforaReason.org). See also the recent open letter entitled "Marriage and Religious Freedom," signed by leaders of various faith communities: <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/marriage-promotion-and-defense-of-marriage/ecumenical-and-interreligious-activities.cfm>*

We encourage our marriage-building parishes to observe and celebrate World Marriage Day and National Marriage Week in simple or elaborate ways. They are fitting observances to honor husbands and wives who stand before their faith and secular communities as a reminder of the great beauty of the covenant of marriage. Whatever is done will bring the significance of the Sacrament of Marriage to center stage.

**MARITAL STATUS of U.S. adult Catholics:**

Source: Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, 2008

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**THE PERCENTAGE OF MARRIED ADULTS**  
has declined in all racial and ethnic groups.

Source: Pew Research Center

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**fullness of God's Revelation about the meaning and mystery of marriage**

◆ **Accompanies and assists** people at all stages of their journey: from the early years when young people begin to learn about committed relationships to the later years of married life, and even beyond them to grieving the loss of a spouse

◆ **Invites and includes** the gifts of many, beginning with married couples themselves and welcoming also the service and witness offered by ordained ministers and by women and men in consecrated life

◆ **Encourages and utilizes** many methods and approaches in order to serve individuals and couples whose circumstances in life, whose needs, and

whose preparation and readiness to receive the Church's ministry can vary widely

◆ **Celebrates and incorporates** the diversity of races, cultures, ethnicity, and heritage with which God enriches the world and the Church especially in our nation

Finally, we **acknowledge** with respect and gratitude all those who are working to defend, promote, strengthen, heal, and reconcile marriages, either through church ministries or in other professions and fields of endeavor.

We **pledge** our collaboration with all who seek to create a vibrant culture of marriage rooted in God's plan for the good of humanity.

## PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP

By Rick Jeric

### Song

Did you stop being so judgmental this past week? I did my best, but it is very difficult. There was definite progress, but, of course, I still fail. At least I am much more conscious and aware of how I react to the actions of others, and how mindlessly judgmental I can be. My hope is that I keep trying and improving and do not slide back into that consistent, negative attitude that makes me "better" than everyone else. Humility teaches us that we are going to be on the receiving end of things sometimes. It is up to us as individuals to be sensitive to the emotions of others and not react angrily, aggressively, or with violence. As we said last week, if we truly want to see the hearts and minds of our brothers and sisters changed, we must start with ourselves. Let us judge our own actions very critically, while we judge the actions of others with patience and great humility.

On Feb. 14, we traditionally celebrate St. Valentine's Day. Love is in the air, along with the scent of roses and chocolate. All the nice material things we share are wonderful. It is a great thing for us to have one day out of the year when we make a sincere effort to tell one another that we love them. Symbols of that love are to be shared, and are appreciated. Hugs and kisses abound, along with smiles and joy. Of course, we love God primarily and ultimately, and He loves us perfectly, eternally, and unconditionally. Do not ever think that we have no way of showing our love for God in a real, physical way. Each hug and kiss we give is received by God. He is truly present in all of us. This is a very real way to show our love for God. While it is nice to listen to words like this, and to say we believe that whatever we do to others, we do to Jesus, it is a very personal and practical way to prove our love for God. If we cannot truly love our spouse, our family, our friends, and even strangers, then how do we expect to tell God that we love Him? God loves us in return by never hesitating or ceasing to love us completely. That ultimate act of love – the Incarnation, Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus – is freely given to us every time we attend and participate in the Mass. Roses and chocolate are great, but the Body and Blood of our Lord in the Eucharist is living and eternal and stays with us always.

Did you ever sing a song to someone you love? If you are like me, you only sing to yourself, so as to escape embarrassment. I must admit that I have sung love songs to myself over the years, especially when I am thinking about my wife. And the lullabies of the past when my children were young are fond memories. God has a song for us, and it is called the "Song of Songs," or sometimes the "Song of Solomon," in the Old Testament of the Bible. This book, or really a poem, is very different and unlike much of the rest of the Bible. It is a beautiful love song, from one lover to another, and is especially nice when considered in the context of that time in history. Read it sometime soon. It is brief and easy to read. There are two wonderful things to experience. One is the genuine, heartfelt, beautiful, human love that Jesus has for His bride, the Church. The other is the inspired Word of God that reminds us so vividly of the real definition of human love that is manifested in marriage and family life.

Our practical challenge this week is to sing a song. Sing a song of true love with your words and actions, especially for your spouse, children, family, friends, and strangers. Sing with hugs, kisses, smiles, patience, kindness, and service. There is no greater way to show our love for God than to love one another. Be a stag, or be a gazelle, but leap at every chance to live and share God's love.

Jeric is director of development and planning for the Columbus Diocese



## DR. FRONING, PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR



Dr. Jacob Froning, principal of London St. Patrick School for the past 12 years, was honored by Bishop Frederick Campbell as diocesan principal of the year at the annual bishop's recognition luncheon for educators. Msgr. William Dunn, pastor of Logan St. John Church, chosen as pastor of the year, was unable to attend the event

Photo courtesy diocesan Schools Office

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## Pray the Rosary

## PRINCIPAL

Covington Latin School ([www.covingtonlatin.org](http://www.covingtonlatin.org)), a Catholic college preparatory school offering a curriculum tailored to the needs of academically advanced young men and women in the Greater Cincinnati area, is seeking a principal for the 2012-13 school year.

Students typically matriculate to Covington Latin following the sixth or seventh grade, and the school's accelerated program enables them to advance at a pace suited to their needs. Candidates must be a practicing Catholic, distinguished by loyalty to the Magisterium and enthusiastic about Catholic education and Catholic institutional identity, and must be eligible for Kentucky certification. Interested candidates should mail, fax, or email a letter of interest, a comprehensive resume or C-V, a recently prepared Baptismal Certificate, and a list of at least five references by March 12, 2012 to:

**Stephen Kopylak, SPHR, P.O.**  
Box 15550, Covington, KY 41015-0550, FAX 859/392-1538, or  
[skopylak@covingtondiocese.org](mailto:skopylak@covingtondiocese.org)

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## MARYHAVEN PRESIDENT NAMED CEO OF THE YEAR



**Paul H. Coleman, president and chief executive officer of Maryhaven, has been given the CEO Award for Distinguished Leadership by the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Authorities. Maryhaven is central Ohio's oldest and most comprehensive behavioral healthcare center specializing in treatment services for alcoholism and other drug addiction. It provided care to more than 6,700 patients last year. The award cited Coleman as "a tireless advocate and dedicated professional that shares the Association's commitment to assuring that residents of every Ohio community live healthier lives through access to quality mental health, alcohol and other drug prevention, treatment, and support services."**

Maryhaven was founded in 1953 by the Sisters of the Good Shepherd at the request of Bishop Michael Ready. Coleman is a graduate of Columbus Bishop Hartley High School and a member of Columbus St. Catharine Church, where he serves as a lector.

## HEAD OF SCHOOL POSITION

Mount Notre Dame High School in Cincinnati has provided a challenging, college-preparatory curriculum for young women for over 150 years. It offers a unique and complete college-preparatory experience rooted in Catholic values and characterized by superior academic quality. MND also offers vast extracurricular opportunities for its students that foster leadership, teamwork and a sense of responsibility to share their gifts with others. The result - bright, empowered young women who go on to excel in college, career and life.

Mount Notre Dame is searching for the position of Head of School. The Head of School reports to the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees and is responsible for promoting the mission of the school and developing and executing the strategies within the school's pillars of Academics, Physical/Social Development, Spirituality and Finances.

This position requires an exceptional leader and strategic thinker/planner with the ability to work with a diverse range of people at varying levels within the organization. Candidates must be a practicing Catholic with a passion for education and experience with strategic planning for a non-profit or educational organization, possess a Master's Degree, have administrative/leadership experience in education or a combination of education/business environments, and have prior profit and loss responsibility. A Master's Degree in Education or Educational Leadership along with secondary education administrative experience is preferred but not required.

Interested applicants are to submit a personal letter of recommendation and a resume with compensation requirements to:

[talentmatchhr@yahoo.com](mailto:talentmatchhr@yahoo.com)

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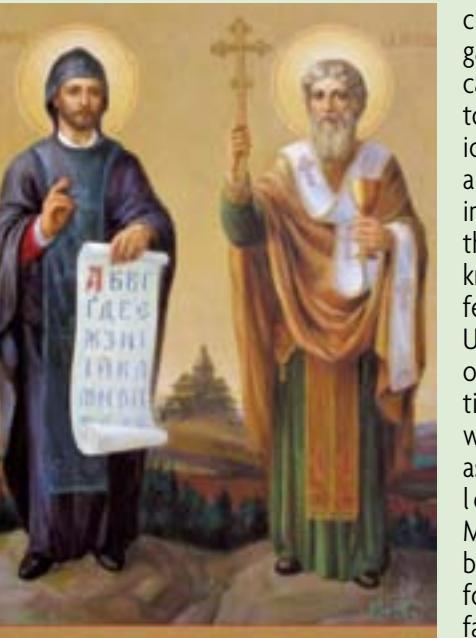
## THE OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP

### OUR LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS ON FEBRUARY 14

There is a disconnection between Valentine's Day celebrations in this country and the liturgical celebration on Feb. 14 of the obligatory memorial of Sts. Cyril and Methodius. Until the reforms of the Second Vatican Council, St. Valentine was listed among the saints we venerated on various days of the Roman liturgical calendar. Not much is known about St. Valentine, but he is listed among the martyrs during the Third Century under the persecution of Claudius II and was executed on Feb. 14. He is the patron saint of love, young people, and happy marriages. Legend has it that having befriended his jailer and his family, he sent a note to the jailer's daughter stating that he was her Valentine. From that legend, we have a whole commercial industry built upon this one day – Feb. 14.

The Second Vatican Council brought about several changes in the way we celebrate Mass. Many elements of our celebration were simplified and redundancy was minimized. The most notable change was the language we use. In this country, we began to use English instead of the traditional Latin we have used for centuries. This, of course, was not the first time the church used languages other than Latin and Greek for its liturgical celebrations. There were two brothers during the ninth century who went against the traditions of the Church -- both the Eastern Greek and the Western Latin.

Sts. Cyril and Methodius were sons of a high-ranking government offi-



cials. Cyril began by dedicating his life to academics, eventually becoming one of the better-known professors at the University of Constantinople and was known as "the Philosopher." Methodius began to follow in his father's footsteps, but decided to enter the monastery. Because they were of Slavic origin and they knew the language, they were pressed into service to go to the Slavic areas between the Greek Eastern Church and the Latin Western Church and bring the faith to these people.

As they began their missionary work, they began developing a special alphabet to capture the sounds of the Slavic people. This alphabet, based on the Greek alphabet, formed a Glagolitic script, which later became the Cyrillic alphabet used for learning and commerce in eastern Europe. The brothers used this script to translate the Scriptures, church liturgy, and other writing into the Slavic tongue. These Old Church Slavonic writings taught salvation through faith in Christ in words the people could understand. Christianity spread among the Slavic peoples as a consequence.

The two brothers worked tirelessly in this ministry, bringing the region to Christianity. They are saints in both the Orthodox Church and in the Roman Catholic Church for the ministry work they performed and for the way they brought the faith to the Slavic people through the ordinary language the people understood and used in daily life.

Ready juniors and seniors will walk the

## LOUD TALKING IN CHURCH



### QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE  
Catholic News Service

**Q.** I was raised a Catholic in the 1950s and '60s. I left the Church in the 1980s, but am now starting to attend once more. However, I am very distressed by the amount of noise in church, especially right after Mass. As soon as the priest processes out, our parish church sounds like a sports bar during the Super Bowl. I see children running between the pews, yelling to their friends, while their parents seem to pay no attention because they themselves are talking to their friends.

Back in the '50s and '60s, you could hear a pin drop in church, and if it became necessary to speak, you always did so in a whisper. We were taught that this was God's house, and that we were there to pay honor and reverence. The way I see it is this: God gives us 168 hours a week; can't we devote just one of those hours to God alone while we are in his house? We would still have 167 other hours to socialize.

The Mass is the recreation of Christ's passion and crucifixion. I don't imagine that Mary and John walked away from Calvary discussing John's new haircut or how Mary's veil looked! (Martinsburg, Pa.)

## PROM FASHION SHOW

The Columbus Bishop Ready High School Mothers' Club is sponsoring its ninth annual prom fashion show and luncheon at 1 p.m. Sunday, March 4, at the River Club Restaurant at Confluence Park, 679 W. Spring St., Columbus.

For more information, call Michelle Kelly at (614) 276-7827 or visit the Bishop Ready web site at [www.brhs.org](http://www.brhs.org).

runway as models for casual and prom fashions. Admission is \$25 per person and the reservation deadline is Friday, Feb. 24.

Ready juniors and seniors will walk the

one another and catch up on one another's lives -- and it is often a sign of a parish's vitality that people genuinely enjoy socializing before and after the Sunday Eucharist.

So the question becomes how to combine that value of community with the reverence due to Christ present in the tabernacle and the respect owed to people who are still praying after Mass is over.

Certainly, a nod of recognition and a smile, and even a few whispered words of greeting are appropriate when filing out of pews, but an extended conversation at a normal decibel level is better left for the gathering area (the "lobby," for Catholics of my vintage), and some parishes make that preference explicit by signs or bulletin announcements.

That way, both quiet reverence and happy conversation have their proper settings (Newer parish churches are being built with larger gathering areas to accommodate those twin goals).

Although the instruction makes no specific reference to silence at the end of Mass, it would seem that a period of quiet at that time would allow gratitude to fill the soul for the special gift received.

The countervailing argument, of course, is that

prayer is not just vertical but horizontal -- i.e.,

it puts us in closer touch

not only with the Lord,

but with the community

of disciples who share our

faith in Jesus.

It's a natural instinct, and a good thing, for parishioners to want to welcome

lies," and how a "hassle-free homework" program in the first half-hour of the school day helps students who have homework problems or are having difficulties at home which may keep them from completing the work.

Schwab said the closest she came to seeing the president during her White House visit was watching him board a helicopter.

"Being in Washington is always extraordinary," she said. "It was truly outstanding to be honored for what we do, but it's not why we do it. We believe we are a second home for our children, and whatever they need, we find a way to get it. It's from the children that we get our strength and our drive and our desire to make things better for them."

Schwab has been principal at St. James the Less for eight years. Before that, she was a physical education teacher

vador. Closer to home, the students have partnered with the "Run the Race" after-school program on the city's west side and the A Kid Again program for children with life-threatening illnesses.

Schwab said the school isn't just a bilingual school, but a trilingual one because students also are learning American Sign Language, in addition to English or Spanish. The school has a large Latino population, as well as students from Vietnam, Cambodia, China, Russia, Kenya, Nigeria, and Ghana.

Its international nature has encouraged student to participate in wide-ranging service projects. Those programs in recent years have helped Japanese fishermen following that nation's devastating tsunami, as well as residents of India, Africa, Chile, Peru, and El Sal-



Columbus St. James the Less School principal Yvonne Schwab (left) with St. James faculty member Vicki Petrella at the White House entrance

at the school. She received a national distinguished principal award from the National Catholic Education Association in 2011.

Besides Schwab, the other honorees at the White House event included Father John P. Foley, SJ, who established Cristo Rey Jesuit High School

in Chicago in 1995; Father Charles Currie, SJ, president of the Association of Jesuit Colleges; and Father William Leahy, SJ, president of Boston College.

The panel discussion may be seen on YouTube by going to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DQG1r-bTNr0>.

*Blessings to All  
Married Couples  
from  
The Deacons and Their Wives  
in the Diocese of Columbus*



“... The love of man and woman is made holy in the  
Sacrament of marriage and  
becomes the mirror of God's everlasting love ...”

(from the Rite of Marriage)



**God our Father,**  
You have made Marriage a Holy Sacrament. Uniting man and  
woman in Marriage as a Calling from You that is both an act of  
holiness and an imitation of the Divine. Marriage is the one blessing,  
from You Father, that was not forfeited by original sin or washed  
away in the flood. May Your grace help us to be holy examples by  
what we say and do.

Father, You called all the baptized to put out into the deep, and to  
take the path that leads to holiness. Fill our children with Your Spirit  
of fortitude and prudence, so they discover the full truth about  
themselves and the vocation to which You have called them.  
Grant us, as parents, the courage and wisdom to assist our children  
in this search and to support and encourage them in answering  
Your Call! We ask this in the name of Your Son Jesus Christ.  
**Amen**

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## THE PREMARITAL SEX "TEST DRIVE"



**MAKING SENSE  
Out of Bioethics**  
Father Tad Pacholczyk

During a 2011 roundtable discussion on Fox News, guest commentator Jay Thomas argued that young people should not be too concerned when it comes to premarital sex, because nobody would choose to "buy a car without driving it first. You don't get married, and you don't learn about sex, by not having it." Any reasonable person would prefer to avoid someone who might be, in his words, "odd in the sack," much as any reasonable person would prefer to avoid getting a lemon when purchasing a new car. Mr. Thomas, therefore, could hardly envision anyone's committing to marriage without first "kicking the tires" a bit and going for a sex "test drive."

The test-drive analogy comes up short in a number of important ways, and premarital sex is not at all synonymous with a harmless "test drive." The context in which sex occurs is everything in terms of "getting it right." Separated from its proper context of marriage, it becomes a quick path to emotional and interpersonal wreckage. Since sex takes on its proper meaning only within marriage, it cannot be properly evaluated outside the marital commitment. It might be analogous to trying to evaluate the performance of a particular car before it has even been assembled or come off the assembly line.

The story is told of a famous but irresponsible race car driver who decided to borrow a friend's Camaro to take it for a test drive around the race-track. He quickly ran it to the edge of the speedometer, red-lining the engine at over 100 mph. He pushed it hard for several laps around the track, then finally pulled the vehicle off to the side. As he did so, the strained engine overheated, seized violently, and began to pour out smoke. He was used to expensive, high-performance racing machines, and the Camaro felt sluggish by comparison. He walked away from the vehicle, muttering under his breath, "I wonder what's the matter with that car?" Sex before marriage is a similar kind of "test drive" – clearly unreasonable and harmful.

A sexual "test drive" mentality is essentially exploitative in nature, reducing a potential spouse to someone who is easily replaced by a "better" model. When we take a car for a test drive and don't like it, we can just return the keys and move on to the next model. But people are not cars that we can just exploit and cast aside.

The notion of a sexual "test drive" as an entrée to matrimony trivializes and degrades the seri-

ous business that marriage really is. What sorts of things would a young man be expecting to discover with a sexual "test drive" anyway? What kinds of qualities would disqualify someone from becoming his wife? If he had lived in purity himself, and it were his first sexual experience fresh on the heels of his marriage vows, he would automatically suppose his wife to be wonderful, and no "comparisons" should even be necessary.

In the final analysis, who really wants to be sexually "compared" to others anyway? Predictably, partners can feel threatened if they think their spouse might be comparing them with previous partners. This provides a strong incentive to abstain from sex before marriage, to protect the emotional safety that spouses need to feel together in marriage. Every woman prefers to marry a man who has lived chastely. Similarly, every man, in his heart of hearts, wants to marry a virgin, rather than someone who has been "test-driven" by scores of other men.

As one happily married woman described it on her Internet posting: "I've only been with one guy; he was only with one girl - and it wasn't until our wedding night. Maybe we were both bad in bed. But, you know, neither one of us had any clue, because we'd never been with anyone else. I've never seen that as an issue."

Singer-actress Rebecca St. James, who also participated in the Fox News roundtable, echoed the same sentiments: "Can I just say married sex (and I've never been with anyone other than my husband) is wonderful. It's so cherishing and beautiful, and I'm so glad I don't have any memories with anyone else, and I'm glad my husband doesn't have anybody to compare me to. We only have each other."

Dating and marriage are about commitment and sacrificial love for another person, not comparison shopping for the best deal or test-driving the latest vehicle. Sex is a unique gift by which we hand ourselves over to another within marriage and cement the treasure of marital love in a permanent commitment to one another.

*Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, PhD. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did postdoctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, Mass., and serves as the director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org).*



## Finding the Love of God in the Beauty of the Sky



**Finding Faith in  
Everyday Life**  
Sarah Reinhard

My niece has a special appreciation for the sky. She gets it honestly, because her mother has the same appreciation.

Over the years, they have influenced me.

I always thought I had an appreciation of the sky—sunsets in particular—but until I started receiving the texts and pictures from them, I didn't realize how much I didn't see.

Sometimes, my niece will send me a little note from the bus. My phone will beep, and I'll open it to see something to the effect of "Look at the sky!" It's usually not hard—I just have to walk across the kitchen to the east-facing window.

And yet, again and again, the effort I make to walk 20 feet and stand in the shadow of the sunrise never fails to remind me of many things.

First and foremost, I am reminded of God. Especially this time of year, when the air is still and

oh-so-cold, there is something warming about the explosion of pinks and oranges in the morning. The days are getting longer, little by little, and they are doing it gloriously, loudly.

I am also reminded of the special relationship I have with this niece. Years ago, when she lived far away and I visited her family, she insisted that I sleep in her bed. I was the guest, you see, and she would have it no other way, even at age eight. Recently, she was confirmed, and I served as a sponsor for her. We are now intertwined, a part of each other's lives, in a way

we weren't before.

Those early-morning glimpses of the sky also remind me that the day is new, fresh, ahead of me. They serve as a beautiful bookend ... I know there will be a sunset that will probably take my breath away, if only I pay attention.

How often I forget to pay attention! How often I walk around with my eyes closed to the everyday beauty and the commonplace miracle of life all around me.

In this, the longest short month of the year, I am going to try to foster gratitude for these moments of beauty in the sky and all around me. Maybe it will take my mind off the humdrum monotony of February winter in Ohio!

*Sarah Reinhard is a member of Plain City St. Joseph and writes from her home in central Ohio. She can be found online at SnoringScholar.com.*

## Do Whatever He Tells You

**By Diana Marie Winkler**

How many times have we read those words in John 2:5 or heard them at Mass?

Jesus' mother, Mary, is instructing the servants at the wedding feast in Cana. Jesus' first miracle is about to take place.

If they would have ignored what she said, it would have been just another wedding feast, but with embarrassing results. But they listened and acted on it. It turned out to be the wedding feast to beat all wedding feasts, and, as the saying goes, "the rest is history."

How about us? How do we view the words "Do whatever He tells you?" Jump in there any time. No takers? OK, I'll bare my soul a little.

The Lord has dealt with my impatience from time to time. I have, in the past, acted like a two-year-old badly in need of a nap when I felt the Lord was dragging His feet to answer a prayer request. I knew he wanted me to wait before forging ahead, but I, in the past, also being a little

nosy, just had to jump the gun (It's why Luke 10:39). How is this done? When attending Mass, truly take it in. See Jesus up at the altar. Listen for a special message in the homily. I carry a small notebook and a pen to jot down notes for further reflection. Go to Adoration, and, in the silence, listen and just be. Keep in His Word. It's about starting a friendship and relationship with Him. Get to know Him intimately. Let Him be your Counselor, Healer, Lover, Friend, Supporter, Shepherd, Deliverer, and Redeemer. If you can do only one thing, then give Him your all. You know what you need, but don't make Him be the one you run to just when you need a quick fix.

Thankfully, as I have gotten older and a little wiser, I have found the choices in life become easier when I do whatever He tells me. Doing so has resulted in my share of seeing His miracles, of watching a plan fall into place, in His timing, with rewarding results.

How do we know if we are sure of doing what He says? We do what Mary, Martha's sister, did. We sit at His feet

## PRAYER MEETING

The diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal is sponsoring a citywide charismatic prayer meeting from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 18, at Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road.

Pope Benedict XVI announced that the period from October 2012 through November 2013 will be a Year of Faith. This year, the local charismatic renewal organization will be focusing on personal holiness so participants can better respond to the pope's call. The theme for the meeting will be "Personal Holiness: Exercising Your Faith."

Mass will be at 9 a.m., followed by the prayer meeting at 9:45 and fellowship at noon. For more information, call the renewal office at (614) 237-7080.

How do we know if we are sure of doing what He says? We do what Mary, Martha's sister, did. We sit at His feet

*Diana Marie Winkler is a member of Columbus Immaculate Conception Church.*



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The annual World Marriage Day celebration sponsored by the diocesan Marriage and Family Life Office will take place this Sunday, Feb. 12, from 3 to 5 p.m. at Columbus St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd.

The theme of the event will be "The Lasting Promise: Nurturing Active, Lifelong Love." Westerville St. Paul Church parishioners Tony and Donna Bonina will be presenting a program based on the book, "The Power of Commitment," by Scott M. Stanley.

The book describes a spiritual approach to commitment: handling the pressures of everyday life; moving through the pain of unfulfilled hopes; overcoming attractions that might endanger a marriage; transforming "me versus you" thinking to "we" and "us"; and capturing the beauty of lifelong devotion and teamwork to build a lasting vision for the future.

The observance of World Marriage Day supports the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' National Pastoral Initiative for Marriage and provides an opportunity to recognize married couples at every stage of marriage and to celebrate the sacramental relationship of marriage.

The Marriage and Family Life Office has sent every parish in the Diocese of Columbus a copy of the "Marriage-Building Parish Assessment and Resource Guide" released by the National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministries.

St. Elizabeth Church has shown its support of marriage enrichment programs by hosting the diocesan World Marriage Day program for many years. Some other diocesan parishes with active marriage-enrichment ministries are Powell St. Joan of Arc, Lancaster St. Mary, Sunbury St. John Neumann, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Plain City St. Joseph, Columbus St. Peter, and Marion St. Mary.

**St. Joan of Arc** has hosted a special Mass for married couples on the Friday closest to Valentine's Day for the past four years. Jeff Watson, an organizer of the Mass, said the number of people attending has increased each year. About 90 couples were at the Mass last year.

Watson anticipates that the crowd will be bigger this year because the Mass will be followed by a dance from 8 to 11 p.m. in the parish hall, featuring music by the Rick Brunet-Big Band and a catered meal. The event will benefit the parish youth ministry.

"The purpose of this evening is to celebrate and show gratitude to God for our spouses and for the gift of love," Watson said. "We plan to make it as easy as possible for couples to enjoy a night out because we will provide babysitting for the Mass and the dance."

Watson said he proposed the idea after he came to Powell from a parish in the Chicago area which has a similar Mass. "We got a great response right away," he said. "And the help provided by so many people

# Marriage A lifelong commitment

BY TIM PUET, Catholic Times Reporter

is one big reason it's grown every year." For the first three years, many couples attending the Mass went to a chosen restaurant afterward. This is the first year the dinner after Mass will be at the parish.

Parish youth ministry director Michael Barone said the Mass and dance will provide an example to parish young people of the real meaning of marriage. "Couples will be going to Mass and renewing their vows, and their children will see how much the parents love another.

Afterward, it will be the young people's turn to serve dinner to their parents, who will be getting a chance to enjoy themselves," he said.

"The idea is to give the parents a nice break and show the children some of the sacrifices involved when parents bring children into their lives. Seeing many happily married couples together also will provide a different look at marriage than the negative view you often see in popular culture."

**St. John Neumann** again is having a World Marriage Day Mass and dinner-dance. Sue Endres, chair for the event, said it's scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 11, and has been on the parish calendar for the past dozen years or so. It begins with Mass at 4 p.m. at the church, then moves to the nearby Autumn Lakes Lodge for the rest of the evening. One highlight of this year's program will be recognition of eight couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary.

Amy Merry of the parish marriage

Couples celebrate Valentine's Day at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church's annual dinner-dance Photo/St. John Neumann Church

ministry said that group is sponsoring three workshops on significant marriage-related issues. The first one, on conflict resolution, took place in the fall. Others are planned on managing finances and couple prayer.

The ministry also sponsored its first mini-retreat for couples in November. It took place for four hours on a Sunday afternoon, was titled "Making Time for Your Marriage," and was presented by Dave and Kim Lauzau of the outreach branch of Worldwide Marriage Encounter Columbus. In Lent, the ministry will introduce a 40-day prayer challenge for married couples, with husbands and wives promising to set aside

time to pray together each day.

For the past several weeks, the parish also has been conducting a series of Friday-evening talks for all parishioners on Pope John Paul II's theology of the body and what it says about the relationship of man, woman, and God. The final two parts of the series are scheduled for Feb. 10 and 17.

Merry said that next year, the marriage ministry will present programs based on a DVD series titled "Six Dates for Catholic Couples." The parish also hosts natural family planning classes on a regular basis and is continuing its marriage mentoring program, which pairs engaged couples on a one-on-one basis with

married couples for periodic discussions during a six-month period as part of marriage preparation.

Karen Cook of **Our Lady of Perpetual Help** said the parish again is sponsoring a retreat titled "Living in Love," based on the theology of the body and designed by Father Charles Gallagher, SJ, who founded Worldwide Marriage Encounter. It's scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, March 24 and 25, at the church.

"It's open to couples of all faiths and costs \$130," Cook said. "Couples spend the day together Saturday, which includes a 'date night' dinner, and it concludes at 3 p.m. Sunday. Last year, we had this for the first time and it drew 29 couples.

"It's common that for programs like this, the husbands are a little unsure and the wives have to kind of drag them into it. Last year, we had a couple of husbands who told me they ended up texting each other back and forth about how awesome it was and how it was the best \$130 they'd ever spent.

"Anyone who's married knows that even though you're in love, it's easy to forget to affirm that love because of all the things like children, money, and other commitments that are part of married life. This program is designed to show that in spite of all these distractions, you can still live in love."

The program also includes an eight-session follow-up designed to help couples bring the lessons they learned from the weekend into their daily lives and to train them as mentors to engaged couples.

**Plain City St. Joseph** is presenting a program titled the Date Night Challenge at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11. The two-hour event is sponsored by Focus on the Family. "It's an evening of fun, laughter, and entertainment featuring comedian Jeff Allen, singer-songwriter Michael O'Brien, and bestselling authors Dr. Greg and Erin Smalley," said the church's pastor, Father Patrick Toner. "To find out what the challenge is all about, you'll have to come see for yourself."

The parish also will have couples renewing their marriage vows at this weekend's Masses and will recognize a Couple of the Year, as it has



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for several years. In May, it will sponsor an evening of reflection for couples, with Deacon Tony Bonacci and his wife, Elaine, and deacon candidate Doug Saunders.

**Columbus St. Peter** will have a renewal of marriage vows at its 9:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, Feb. 12, followed by a reception which will include a wedding cake.

The ministry sponsored a morning-long program on various aspects of marriage last year on the Saturday following World Marriage Day. Gini Peloquin of the parish marriage ministry said participants in the ministry recently met with the marriage and family office's director, Stephanie Jenemann, to discuss ways to become more active in the coming year.

Father Michael Nimocks, pastor of **Marion St. Mary**, again plans to bring a large contingent of couples from his parish to the diocese's annual program in June for couples celebrating milestones (25th, 50th, etc.) anniversaries. Last year, 26 couples from the parish were recognized.

"I bring a group, many others drive themselves to the event, and those who can't be there are sent certificates from the bishop, and I put all of their names in the parish bulletin" Father Nimocks said. "The important thing is that they're honored for their hard work, communication, love, and forgiveness. It's a way of blowing the horn to younger couples and showing that a long, loving marriage is possible."

The parish also will have couples renewing their marriage vows at this weekend's Masses and will recognize a Couple of the Year, as it has

## Marriage Encounter: A chance to make good marriages better

By Mike and Kim Roberts

Worldwide Marriage Encounter's mission of renewal in the Church and change in the world is to assist couples and priests to live fully intimate and responsible relationships by providing them with a Catholic "experience" and ongoing community support.

The weekend was brought to the United States and Canada in 1971 and is offered in more than 90 nations. About 600 weekends were presented in 2010 to about 10,300 couples in the United States. In the Columbus area, there were five weekends in 2011, with 94 couples attending.

We are parishioners at New Albany's Church of the Resurrection, have been married since 1994, and are the area leaders for the Columbus Worldwide Marriage Encounter community.

What is a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend? It is a positive and personal experience, offering married

couples an opportunity to learn a technique of loving communication they can use for the rest of their lives. It is a chance to look deeply into their relationship with each other and with God.

The emphasis of the weekend is on communication between husbands and wives. It provides time for couples to be together, away from the distractions of everyday life, while encouraging them to focus on each other and their relationship. It is not a marriage clinic, group sensitivity training, or a substitute for counseling. It is a unique approach aimed at revitalizing marriage. It truly is a marriage enrichment program.

Marriage Encounter is not for troubled marriages so much as it is to make good marriages even better. Worldwide Marriage Encounter is unique in that a series of presentations is given by a team of Catholic couples and a priest. Did you know priests and religious can attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend, too? By doing

so, a priest will enrich his relationship with his own spouse, the Church.

In February 2008, we attended a weekend after hearing about it, talking about it, and worrying about it for six or eight months before dealing with babysitting and weather issues that almost kept us from going. We did go, and it literally changed our lives. We came out of the weekend with a renewed love for each other and for our marriage sacrament. We learned a new way to communicate that we use to this day as a way to maintain the new closeness we found on the weekend. Our marriage, before the weekend, was OK. It was acceptable by society's standards, and no one could see the distance that had grown between us, but we could sure feel it. When we left our weekend, and ever since, we were able to relate to each other differently, discuss our differences in a more loving, understanding way, and carry the torch of what a Catholic marriage

should be — setting an example for our son, his friends, our family, and others.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter has resulted in a positive effect on us and on many local marriages. We would like to invite all married couples and priests to consider attending a weekend. The next weekend in the Columbus area is Friday to Sunday, May 18 to 20, at Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center, 2734 Seminary Road S.E., Newark. We also offer weekends at the Worthington Holiday Inn and at St. Therese's Shrine and Retreat Center in Columbus. The weekends begin at 7 p.m. Friday and go through 4 p.m. Sunday.

## Retrouvaille helps hurting couples strengthen their marriages

When Jeff and Janisse Williams married, they dreamed of a life blessed with children, grandchildren, good jobs, family vacations, and everything that comes with a happy, healthy marriage. For the most part, that dream came true. There were, however, many difficult days along the way.

When they came to the point that they needed help to recover what they once had, they found Retrouvaille on the Internet. It was just what they needed, and they signed up to attend a weekend.

Retrouvaille is a Catholic-based pro-

gram designed to help hurting couples learn to communicate clearly with each other — a skill often lost between married couples as their lives become busier and busier with work, children, and going separate ways with differing interests and hobbies.

Once you finish the post-sessions, you are encouraged to attend CORE (Continuing Our Retrouvaille Experience) once a month. CORE meetings give you a chance to fellowship with other Retrouvaille couples. As a bonus to improving your marriage, you also make many new friends.

Retrouvaille had its start in Canada in the 1970s, quickly spread into the United States, and is now offered all over the world. Retrouvaille Columbus has three weekends per year, and each weekend is followed up with 12 post-sessions to complete the program.

Retrouvaille is not a cure-all, and additional counseling is sometimes needed, depending on the situation. Jeff and Janisse found many tools through the program that helped significantly in improving their marriage. They have

stayed involved with the program and are now the coordinators for the Columbus group. They are weekend presenters and have also been finance couple and CORE coordinators. Retrouvaille is non-profit, and all involved are volunteers.

Retrouvaille Columbus conducted a weekend in January of this year and has two more weekends scheduled, in May and October.

For more information, go to [retrouvaille.org](http://retrouvaille.org) or email [wlisboa@columbus.rr.com](mailto:wlisboa@columbus.rr.com).

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**Upcoming Weekends**

Dates	Location
Mar 9-Mar 11, 2012	St. Therese's Retreat Center - Columbus, OH
Apr 27-Apr 29, 2012	St. Peter & Paul Retreat Center - Heath, OH
Jun 8-Jun 10, 2012	St. Peter & Paul Retreat Center - Heath, OH
Sep 14-Sep 16, 2012	St. Peter & Paul Retreat Center - Heath, OH
Oct 19-Oct 21, 2012	St. Therese's Retreat Center - Columbus, OH

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United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Find support and enrichment for your marriage at the United States Catholic Bishops' website links:  
[www.ForYourMarriage.org](http://www.ForYourMarriage.org)  
[www.portummatrimonio.org](http://www.portummatrimonio.org)

**Marriage and Family Life Office**  
Diocese of Columbus  
[www.FamilyLife.coldioc.org](http://www.FamilyLife.coldioc.org)

## RELIGIOUS LEADERS JOIN TOGETHER IN SUPPORT OF MARRIAGE, RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

**OPEN LETTER IS A "SIGN OF HOPE" AND "COMPELLING ARGUMENT"**

to officiate same-sex "weddings."

The leaders wrote: "We believe the most urgent peril is this: forcing or pressuring both individuals and religious organizations—throughout their operations, well beyond religious ceremonies—to treat same-sex sexual conduct as the moral equivalent of marital sexual conduct. There is no doubt that the many people and groups whose moral and religious convictions forbid same-sex sexual conduct will resist the compulsion of the law, and church-state conflicts will result." They added that "these conflicts bear serious consequences."

"They will arise in a broad range of legal contexts, because altering the civil definition of 'marriage' does not change one law, but hundreds, even thousands, at once. By a single stroke, every law where rights depend on marital status—such as employment discrimination, employment benefits, adoption, education, healthcare, elder care, housing, property, and taxation—will change so that same-sex sexual relationships must be treated as if they were marriage. That requirement, in turn, will apply to religious people and groups in the ordinary course of their many private or public occupations and ministries—including running schools, hospitals, nursing homes and other housing facilities, providing adoption and counseling services, and many others," they said.

"Marriage and religious liberty are at a crisis point in the United States," he said. "This letter is a sign of hope. Not only are tens of millions of believing citizens represented in the letter's signatories, but the letter itself testifies to the growing and shared awareness of just how important marriage and religious freedom are to the well-being of our country. The letter makes a compelling argument that needs to be heard by all of us, especially those in positions of authority: anyone truly concerned with religious freedom must also be a defender of marriage's perennial definition."

In the letter, the leaders counter a common claim that the principal threat to religious freedom is the possibility of ministers being forced

## "EMPTY BOWLS" FUND RAISING

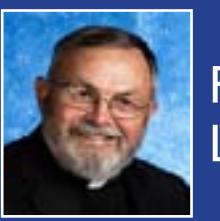
Students at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, will be conducting their annual Empty Bowls fund raising event for the Mid-Ohio FoodBank at 5:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10.

Those attending the event are invited to stay afterward and stop in the gymnasium for the Stallions' basketball game against Columbus Bishop Ready. Free soup and bread will be served,

vist us at [www.ctonline.com](http://www.ctonline.com)

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle B)

## Clarifying the Scriptural view of leprosy



Father  
Lawrence L. Hummer

**Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46**  
**I Corinthians 10:31-11:1**  
**Mark 1:40-45**

In nomadic cultures, when disease hits, it can be disastrous for the whole camp. Some skin infections of various kinds could also be contagious. It was better for the whole group if the one who showed up with various types of skin rashes and the like were isolated, lest the problem prove to afflict everyone in the camp.

Here, we should note what we have known for some time. The “leprosy” described in these passages is not the leprosy that we know by its technical name as Hansen’s disease in modern medicine. Hansen was a Norwegian researcher who isolated the leprosy pathogen in 1868.

The “leprosy” mentioned was any of a number of skin ailments expressed by the Hebrew word *tzaraat*, which was translated into Greek as *lepra*. The Latin translations also used *lepra*, and that’s how people have thought of these ailments as leprosy for centuries. We should understand it to mean curable skin diseases, or, in some cases, simply rashes. To label them as leprosy in the modern medical sense is simply wrong.

The New Revised Standard Version adds a footnote to explain this, but continues to use the word “leprous” to describe it. The New American Bible Revised Edition (NABRE), published on March 9, 2011, keeps “leprosy” and uses a footnote to explain it.

Today, we go to a doctor, rather than a priest, when these skin ailments arise, and usually through the wonders of modern medicine, we find some balm or other that works, or not. The specific issues contained in our passage seem to be eczema, psoriasis, and a

skin affliction called “leucoderma” in which the skin turns white as snow.

If a priest declared such a person to be unclean, then he was to be segregated until such time as he was cured, when he could be restored to the communal life. Until that happened, he himself had to warn everyone that he was unclean to prevent anyone from approaching or touching him.

The story is included in the readings because it provides background for Sunday’s Gospel, which tells of Jesus healing a leper. The New Testament has the same problem when it comes to describing the man Jesus encounters. The man is called a *lepros* in Greek, which is simply translated into English as “leper.” Again, Hansen’s disease does not appear in the Holy Land, so whatever the man was afflicted by, it was not what we generally understand leprosy to be today.

That we’re dealing with the same issue as in Leviticus is plain to see, from the reference Jesus makes to the same Leviticus passage requiring the man to show himself to the priest. So, whatever his affliction was, Jesus took it to be a similar case to that found in Leviticus.

Noteworthy in this Gospel is that Jesus touched the man while he was still technically “unclean,” which was supposed to be avoided at all costs. Jesus ignored that tradition to heal the man, which he regarded as far more important. The skin affliction was healed instantly and completely.

Jesus’ motive for healing him was that he was moved to the core of his being, which is a bit stronger than saying he did it out of pity. There is even a touch of anger (in some ancient Greek texts), probably because the man was placed in an “outsider” role in the community.

The closest modern parallel would seem to be the way people often recoil from AIDS patients as though they have the plague. Jesus insisted on the importance of his healing touch for the outsider. We who act in his name should do no less.

Father Lawrence Hummer, pastor at Chillicothe St. Mary, can be reached at [hummerl@stmarychillicothe.com](mailto:hummerl@stmarychillicothe.com).

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### The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY

James 1:1-11  
Psalm 119:67-68,71-72,75-76  
Mark 8:11-13

TUESDAY

James 1:12-18  
Psalm 94:12-15,18-19  
Mark 8:14-21

WEDNESDAY

James 1:19-27  
Psalm 15:2-5  
Mark 8:22-26

THURSDAY

James 2:1-9  
Psalm 34:2-7  
Mark 8:27-33

FRIDAY

James 2:14-24,26  
Psalm 112:1-6  
Mark 8:34-9:1

SATURDAY

James 3:1-10  
Psalm 12:2-5,7-8  
Mark 9:2-13

### DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 12, 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](http://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-Lifey (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](http://www.stgabrielradio.com).

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

# Vatican III? Where?



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE  
George Weigel

There are many good arguments against quickly convening a Third Vatican Council—a notion beloved of Catholics who occupy the portside cabins on the Barque of Peter.

The most obvious is that Catholicism has barely begun to digest the teaching of Vatican II on the nature of the Church, the universal call to holiness, and the reform of the episcopate, the priesthood, consecrated life, and the lay vocation in the world. Until the dramatic change in Catholic self-understanding that Vatican II mandated is fully internalized and implemented—until the Church understands itself as a mission, not as an institution that has a mission (as one among many things it does)—there seems little sense in convening Vatican III.

One might also argue that another ecumenical council would be a distraction from the evangelical mission to which Vatican II called the Church, and especially the Church’s bishops. As it is, bishops spend far too much of their time in meetings. Would the preaching of the Gospel, which, according to Vatican II, is the first responsibility of bishops, be advanced by gathering the entire world episcopate into a global mega-meeting for three or four months of the year, over a period of years?

Then there’s the question of resources. Any Vatican III would cost vast sums of money. Would such an expenditure be the best use of the Church’s resources? (As Father John O’Malley reports in “What Happened at Vatican II?”, one of the reasons Pope Paul VI was determined to conclude Vatican II in December 1965

was that the Council was simply costing too much.)

These are all good reasons why a general council would be a bad idea for the foreseeable future. But there’s another issue here, one that raises an intriguing question about any future council, no matter when it’s convened: Where could Vatican III (or Lateran VI, or Trent II, or Lyons III, or whatever-the-future-council-is-called) possibly be held?

Vatican I (1869-70) met in one transept of St. Peter’s because there were only 737 bishops attending. About 2,800 bishops participated in the four sessions of Vatican II, which met in the fall months of 1962, 1963, 1964, and 1965, although at any one session, there were between 2,000 and 2,500 bishops present—and they filled the entire vast nave of St. Peter’s, seated on bleachers built high above the basilica’s marble floor. Add the ecumenical observers, the Council *periti* (advisers), and other functionaries with access to the Council *aula* (as the reconfigured basilica was called), and St. Peter’s was packed full.

But today? At the end of 2009, the last year for which complete Church statistics are available, there

were 5,065 Catholic bishops in the world. A general or “ecumenical” council is, by definition, one in which all bishops have the right to participate (Canon 339). Where would this throng of more than 5,000 bishops, literally twice the size of the episcopate that attended the most jam-packed session of Vatican II, meet? It certainly couldn’t meet at St. Peter’s or at any of the other Roman basilicas. Indeed, is there a Catholic church in the world that could readily accommodate more than 5,000 bishops, their advisers, the ecumenical observers, and all the others who would rightly claim at least some place in a council hall?

One wag to whom I mentioned this conundrum spoke of a future council as “Metroplex I,” with the Council Fathers, the observers, the advisers, the translators, and all the rest of the apparatus meeting in Cowboys Stadium, graciously donated for the occasion by Jerry Jones. Bad jokes aside, however, the fact that the world episcopate has doubled in number over the past 50 years raises important questions for the future. How can this large a body function as the episcopal “college” of Vatican II’s Dogmatic Constitution on the Church? Is it possible to imagine a “virtual council,” or some other technological mechanism that would allow the world episcopate to meet as a whole?

There’s far more, literally, to any future council than typically meets the eye.

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

## Catholic Men’s Conference

Scott Hahn of Franciscan University of Steubenville, a former Protestant pastor who is one of the nation’s most popular speakers on Scripture and the Catholic faith, will be in Columbus Saturday, March 3, for a talk at the 15th annual Catholic Men’s Conference sponsored by the diocesan Catholic Men’s Ministry.

Other speakers will be street corner evangelist Richard Lane, Msgr. Eugene Morris of the Pontifical College Josephinum, and Father David Schalk, pastor of Columbus Christ the King Church. Bishop Frederick Campbell will be the celebrant and homilist for the conference Mass. The theme of

the event, which will begin at 8 a.m. in the Lausche Building of the State Fairgrounds, is “A Call to Action: Be a New Man in Christ.”

Hahn was born in 1957, has been married to Kimberly Hahn since 1979, and has six children and five grandchildren. He has delivered hundreds of talks nationally and internationally on a variety of faith-based topics.

He is a professor of theology and Scripture at Franciscan University, where he has taught since 1990, and is the founder and president of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology.

In 2005, he was appointed as the Pope Benedict XVI chair of Biblical theology and liturgical proclamation at St. Vincent Seminary, Latrobe, Pa.

Registration is \$27 (\$10 for students, free for priests, deacons and seminarians), with a box lunch included. Checks should be made payable to Catholic Men’s Ministry and mailed to Scott Williamson, 5107 Canterbury Drive, Powell, Ohio 43065. For additional information, go to [columbuscatholicmen.com](http://columbuscatholicmen.com) or call (614) 798-1792.



Join Fr. Klinger on a first class, fully escorted tour

## ITALIAN TREASURES

This June 18-28 tour of Italy offers overnights in ROME, LUCCA, FLORENCE, VENICE, ASSI

Food and wine connoisseurs will enjoy savoring the local cuisine and sampling local wines at Verazzano Castle in the Chianti region.

History buffs will delight in seeing Italy’s ancient sights, including the Roman Forum and Colosseum.

Art fans will enjoy Michelangelo’s famous works, the Sistine Chapel, the celebrated David sculpture, cathedrals in Florence, Orvieto and Venice, and shopping for local goods.

For pricing and information contact: Lisa Janszen at Polaris Traveler Inc. • 614.371.7281 • [travellinglisa@aol.com](mailto:travellinglisa@aol.com)

# Pray for our dead

BROWN, Mary L., 86, Feb. 1  
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

CONNERS, Sheila M., 81, Feb. 2  
St. Mary Church, Delaware

DAMRON, Lacey, 88, Feb. 4  
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, Columbus

DeVAULT, Ty A., 48, Feb. 3  
Holy Cross Church, Columbus

DOHERTY, Dot, 82, Jan. 31  
St. Paul Church, Westerville

EAL, Joseph, 84, Feb. 2  
Sacred Heart Church, Columbus

FLYNN, Kevin J., 48, Feb. 2  
Church of the Ascension, Johnstown

HOLMES, John E., 80, Jan. 29  
Holy Family Church, Columbus

LARRIMER, Sara A., 73, Feb. 6  
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

LUSIGNOLO, Mario, 90, Jan. 31  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

MANCINI, Amedeo, 97, Dec. 18  
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

MELFI, Patricia A., 82, Feb. 4  
St. Stephen Church, Columbus

MOEHRMAN, Lucille, 86, Feb. 5  
St. Aloysius Church, Columbus

PLACENTI, Evelyn, 89, Feb. 3  
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

RYAN, Mary C., 79, Feb. 2  
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

SANSOTTA, Joseph A., 80, Jan. 31  
St. Mary Church, Marion

SKIDMORE, Joann M., 79, Feb. 3  
St. Peter Church, Columbus

SMITH, Frances L., 80, Feb. 4  
St. Dominic Church, Columbus

TYSON, Lorna "Jane," 67, Jan. 29  
St. Rose Church, New Lexington

VANCE, Ashley, 24, Jan. 31  
St. Mary Church, Marion

YEAMANS, William C., 80, Jan. 30  
St. Matthias Church, Columbus

## RETREAT CENTER EVENTS

A couples retreat is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, Feb. 24 and 25, at Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center, 2734 Seminary Road S.E., Newark. The presenters will be Deacon Jim Sturgeon of Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains and New Boston St. Monica churches and his wife, Mary. The theme will be "Heart and Soul."

The retreat will begin at 7:30 p.m. Friday and conclude with a candlelight dinner on Saturday evening. One night's lodging and three meals on Saturday are included in the \$120 price.

The center also will host a Lenten morning of reflection from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 3. It will begin with a continental breakfast, followed by a presentation by Sister

Janice Bachman, OP, designed to allow people to tend to their hearts and spirit with love and compassion.

For information, call the center at 740.928.4246, or email [information@sts peterandpaulretreatcenter.org](mailto:information@sts peterandpaulretreatcenter.org).



In the marriage case styled GRIMM - HERTRICH, 201/11, the Tribunal of the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio, is currently unaware of the present address of MR JOSEPH ADRAIN HERTRICH. The Tribunal herewith informs him of the case and invites him to contact REV DENNIS STEVENSON, JCL, Presiding and sole Judge, no later than 27 FEBRUARY 2012. Phone: 614-241-2500. Anyone who knows of the whereabouts of MR JOSEPH ADRAIN HERTRICH is hereby asked to make this Citation known to him or to inform the Tribunal of his current address. Given this 1st day of FEBRUARY 2012. REV DENNIS STEVENSON, JCL, Presiding Judge.

## "BID YOUR HEART OUT"

Randy Arnett of Southern Ohio Medical Center in Portsmouth presents a check to Patty Tennant, development director of Portsmouth Notre Dame elementary and junior-senior high schools, to be used for the schools' annual "Bid Your Heart Out" auction and dinner on Saturday, Feb. 18. The center has been a major sponsor for each of the seven years of the event

Photo courtesy  
Notre Dame Schools



## HAPPENINGS

### CLASSIFIED

#### GRANVILLE ST. EDWARD CHURCH

785 Newark Rd., Granville

**Spaghetti Dinner - Saturday Feb 11, 4 - 7 pm**  
Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

**Famously good sauce prepared by our own Joe Valente**  
\$6.50 for adults, \$4.00 for ages 4-12, \$5.50 for seniors, or \$18.00 per family.

**Includes a salad, bread, drink, and dessert.**  
Carry-out will be available!

### FEBRUARY

9, THURSDAY

**Retreat with Joe Paprocki at St. Brigid of Kildare**  
9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Hendricks Hall, St. Brigid of Kildare Church, 7179 Avery Road, Dublin. Retreat with author and speaker Joe Paprocki on five characteristics that can help us be more intentional in living and sharing our Catholic faith.

740-369-8228

**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

10, FRIDAY

**Catholic Men's Luncheon Club**  
12:15 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Catholic Men's Luncheon Club meeting, with Bishop Frederick Campbell presenting diocesan Catholic Man of the Year award to Toni Wagner of Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton Parish. Details at [www.columbuscatholicmen.com](http://www.columbuscatholicmen.com).

614-565-8654

**Black Catholic History Fair at de Porres Center**

10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus. Black Catholic history collectors and memorabilia fair sponsored by diocesan Black Catholic Ministries.

2 p.m., "Be Harriet Tubman," a presentation by Dr. Annette E. Jefferson of the Ohio Humanities Council.

614-228-0024

**Empty Bowls Fund Raiser at DeSales**

5:30 p.m., St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road,

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.

614-268-4166

**Feast Day Mass and Valentine Potluck at St. Agnes**

4:30 p.m., St. Agnes Church, 2364 W. Mound St., Columbus. Mass for the Feast of St. Agnes, followed by Valentine potluck.

614-276-5413

12, SUNDAY

**'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 [tputet@colsdic.org](mailto:tputet@colsdic.org)

614-488-9971

**College Goal Sunday at Ohio Dominican**

2 p.m., Erskine Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. College Goal Sunday, a statewide event designed to help with completion of the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form for prospective college students.

614-251-4778

**World Marriage Day Program at St. Elizabeth**

3 to 5 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. World Marriage Day program on "The

614-406-9516

**7, THURSDAY**

**Dominican Life of the Mind Lecture**

7 p.m., Colonial Room, Sansbury Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Dominican Life of the Mind lecture with Sister Margaret Mayce, OP, representative for the Dominican Leadership Conference at the United Nations, speaking on "Eradicating Poverty: What Is Our Role?"

614-251-4722

**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.

614-252-5926, extension 1

**16, THURSDAY**

**Black History Month Program at St. Dominic**

Following 11 a.m. Mass, St. Dominic Church, 453 N. 20th St., Columbus. Black History Month program honoring elder members of the parish.

614-252-4913

**19, SUNDAY**

**St. Christopher Adult Religious Education**

10 to 11:15 a.m., St. Christopher Parish Center, 1420 Grandview Ave., Columbus. "Frederick Ozanam and the St. Vincent de Paul Society" with Maureen Meek of Worthington St. Michael Church.

614-866-2859

**17, FRIDAY-SUNDAY**

**'Alice in Wonderland' at Bishop Ready**  
7 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Bishop Hartley High School, 1285 Zettler Road, Columbus. School drama department presents musical "Alice in Wonderland."

614-237-5421, extension 242

**17-19, FRIDAY-SUNDAY**

**'Alice in Wonderland' at Bishop Ready**  
7 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Bishop Ready High School, 707 Salisbury Road, Columbus. School drama department presents musical "Alice in Wonderland."

614-276-5263

**18, 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

**Charismatic Prayer Meeting at Church of Our Lady**

9 a.m., Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Citywide charismatic prayer meeting sponsored by diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal Mass at 9, followed by prayer meeting at 9:45 and fellowship at noon. Theme: "Personal Holiness: Exercising Your Faith."

614-237-7080

**Calix Society Meeting at Columbus St. Patrick**

6:30 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Monthly meeting of the Calix Society, an association of Catholic alcoholics affiliated with Alcoholics Anonymous. Business meeting followed by 7 p.m. Mass and full meeting after Mass.

614-406-2939

**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

**St. Brendan School Dinner and Auction**

5:30 p.m., St. Brendan School, 4475 Dublin Road, Hilliard. Ninth annual dinner and auction to benefit the school and faith formation students through building renovations and more. Sponsored by parish Home and School Association.

614-876-6132 or 614-527-8847

**St. Joseph Cathedral Mardi Gras Gala**

6 p.m., Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 E. Broad St., Columbus. Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral Mardi Gras gala to support the Clara Hudak Scholarship Fund, providing support for students to attend Catholic schools.

614-203-2222

**Portsmouth Notre Dame Schools "Bid Your Heart Out"**

6:30 p.m., Friends Community Center, Southern Ohio Medical Center, 1202 18th St., Portsmouth. Portsmouth Notre Dame Schools' seventh annual "Bid Your Heart Out" auction, dinner, and dance.

740-353-2354

**Mardi Gras Party at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal**

7 to 11 p.m., Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Mardi Gras party with music, games, king cake, door prizes, and beads. Non-alcoholic beverages and snacks available; BYOB. 614-861-1242

Holy Rosary/St. John Mardi Gras

**'Landings' Meeting at Newman Center**

7 p.m., St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave., Columbus. Sixth 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



HARTLEY THEATER

## "INTO THE WOODS"

The Columbus Bishop Hartley High School drama department will present "Into the Woods" at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 16 to Saturday, Feb. 18 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19.

Performances will be at the Shedd Theater of the Columbus Performing Arts Center, 549 Franklin Ave.

An ambivalent Cinderella? A blood-thirsty Little Red Riding Hood? A Prince Charming with a roving eye? A witch

who raps? They're all among the cock-eyed characters in James Lapine and Stephen Sondheim's fractured fairy tale "Into the Woods."

When a baker (AJ Hoy) and his wife (Brooke Nerdeman) learn they've been cursed with childlessness by the Witch (Helen Casebolt) next door, they embark on a quest for the special objects required to break the spell – swindling, lying to, and stealing from Cinderella

(Elizabeth Maloof), Little Red (Emma Miller), Rapunzel (Crestina Dinucci) and Jack, the one who climbed the beanstalk (Aaron Wells).

Everyone's wish is granted at the end of Act One, but the consequences of their actions return to haunt them later, with disastrous results. What begins as a lively, irreverent fantasy becomes a moving lesson about community responsibility and the stories we tell our children.

Tickets are \$10 at the door; or you may call the Hartley advancement office at (614) 237-5421, extension 242, starting Monday, Feb. 13, to reserve tickets.

**Cast members pictured are (foreground)**  
**Helen Casebolt and (background, from left) Brooke Nerdeman, AJ Hoy, Aaron Wells, Elizabeth Maloof, and Emma Miller**

Photo courtesy Bishop Hartley High School

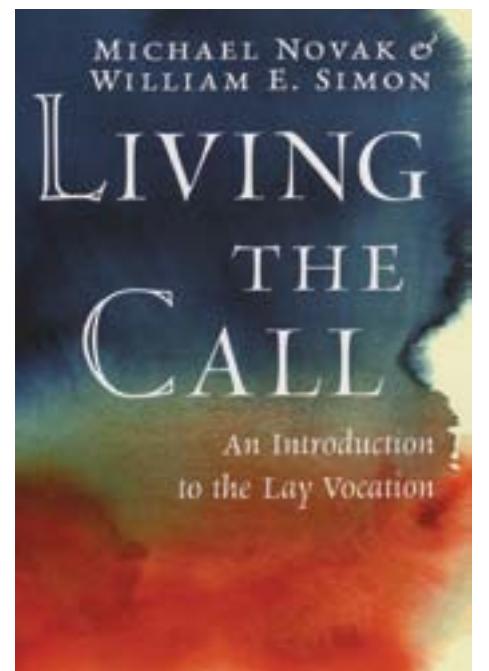
## "Living the Call: An Introduction to the Lay Vocation"

Authors offer encouragement to recognize, pursue lay vocations

191 pp.; \$21.95.

**Reviewed by Brian T. Olszewski**  
*Catholic News Service*

*"Living the Call: An Introduction to the Lay Vocation"* By Michael Novak and William E. Simon Jr.  
*Encounter Books (New York, 2011).*



"Lay vocation" is often mistaken as a term whose roots stem from the writings of the bishops of the Second Vatican Council. While the council fathers certainly addressed it in various documents, they did so in the context of where the lay vocation begins: baptism.

Recognizing the baptismal root of the lay vocation, Michael Novak and William E. Simon make "Living the Call" a source of encouragement for laypeople to recognize and pursue their vocations in the Catholic Church. In the first part of the book, they feature nine people who are engaged in a variety of ministries, from youth ministry to hospital ministry. The stories are engaging and might evoke an "I could do that" response from readers - a welcome response for Novak and Simon.

The stories are of the "feel-good" variety, with the subjects talking about where they were in their lives and how they got to the vocation they are now living. Readers should beware that the stories lack the grit, heartache, pain, turmoil, and frustra-

tion those in lay ministry can encounter in trying to live their vocations. Those stories might frighten some who are discerning their vocations, but they should be noted in the discernment process.

This section includes a chapter on "parish" ministry, which includes opportunities ranging from worship director to parish council member. While the authors emphasize that training for these and other ministries might be required, they do not note that some of these (e.g., worship director, operations director, youth minister) can be -- and should be -- paid positions. A chapter on "lay" ministry includes a list of organizations (e.g., Jesuit Volunteer Corps, National Catholic Educational Association) to which people can commit their time and talent.

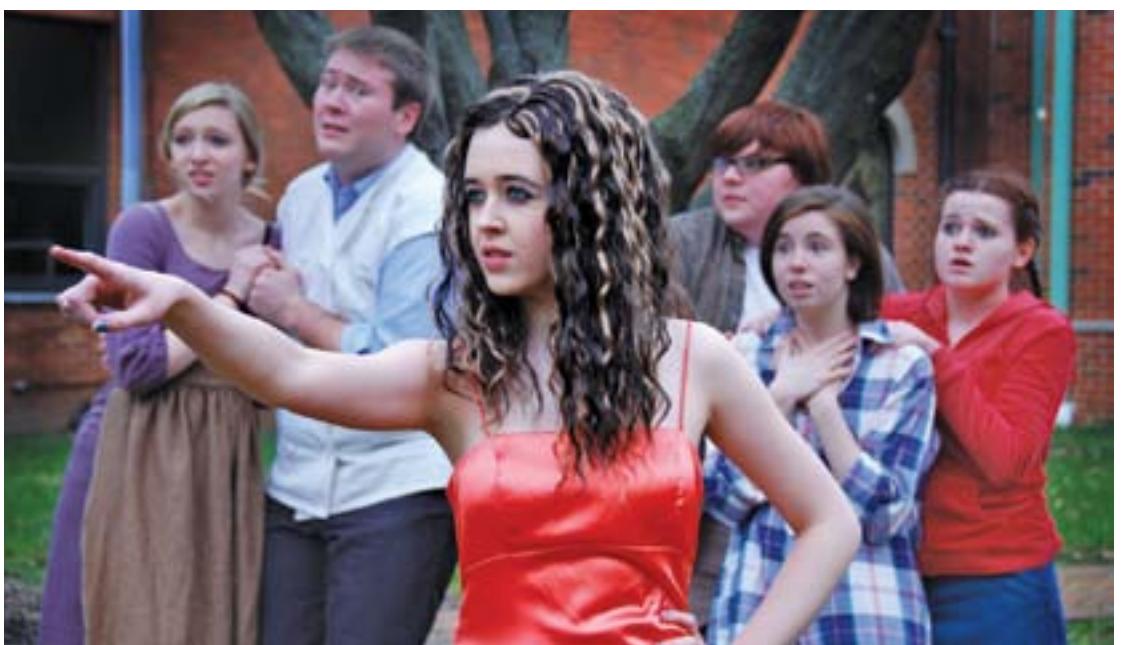
The second half of "Living the Call" offers guidance for those discerning their vocation. It is comprised of chapters that offer retreat-type reflections. One chapter provides quotations from Thomas Merton, Thomas a Kempis, and St. Therese of Lisieux. Readers are told, "The idea is to read each of them. Pause. Read again. Let them soak in. That is how spiritual read-

ing is best done."

Recognizing the number of married people who might be discerning how to answer a vocational call, in addition to sacramental marriage, the authors devote one of their longer chapters to marriage and the single life, using those pages as an opportunity to expound on the theology of marriage: "Marriage is a great teacher of self-purification, of other-centeredness, of delicacy of perception, and especially of attentiveness to those easily missed little signals that light our path toward the real. Marriage is a great purifier of the soul."

Novak and Simon have provided a good overview for the layperson "just wondering" about doing more with his or her baptismal commitment, about living it on a deeper level.

While not everyone who seeks that deeper level will be starting at the same place, this book provides enough basics for those just starting this process. Once they have begun, the prayer, sacraments, and readings the authors recommend, along with the guidance of a qualified spiritual director, will take them the rest of the way.



## News in photos from around the world

People in support of traditional marriage gather in front of the Maryland State Capitol on Jan. 30 in Annapolis, Md., during a rally to protest Gov. Martin J. O'Malley's stance on same-sex marriage. O'Malley, a Catholic, is sponsoring legislation to legalize same-sex marriage. CNS photo/Peter Lockley



Missionaries of Charity nuns throw snowballs in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican on Feb. 4. A rare snowfall blanketed the Eternal City with more than three inches of snow overnight. CNS photo/Paul Haring



Choir members sing during the annual Black History Month Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York on Feb. 5. The Mass, sponsored by the Archdiocese of New York's Office of Black Ministry, also was celebrated in observance of the National Day of Prayer for the African-American and African Family. CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz



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