MISSIONARIES OFFER COMFORT TO A HURTING WORLD
The Editor’s Notebook

Letters from the Missions

By David Garick, Editor

I’ve never been good about writing letters. You would think that someone who makes a living as a writer would have no problem sending letters to family and friends. But I’m just not good about doing it. I guess I never feel like I have anything to say. Why should anyone care about the things going on in my life? It makes me self-conscious.

You regular readers out there may be inclined to point out that I manage to come up with 500 words every week to fill this column. That’s true. However, I guess that comes easily to me because every week, I am inspired by the wonderful stories we have found about how Catholics in Ohio are living out their faith. It’s easy to write about other people.

That’s the case this week, too. In fact, this week we have some letters to share with you. These letters come from our missionaries. Most folks are not aware that the Diocese of Columbus has its own group of missionaries who are representing us in spreading the word of God across the world. Our missions director is Leandro Tapay. Please read his column on Page 3 for an overview and a list of our diocesan missionaries. Hang onto that list and pray for all of them. They are doing amazing things.

Then, beginning on Page 10, you will read about some of the wonderful things that our local missionaries and other missions we support are accomplishing in outposts around the world. The letters come from dedicated Passionists proclaiming the faith in communist Vietnam; from Comboni missionaries feeding children in Uganda; from the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth; with religious sisters working right here in Ohio as well as in Asia, Africa, and Central America; from the Conventual Franciscan Friars who serve at the National Shrine and Basilica of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey, but also doing amazing work in many third-world locations, including Zambia; from the Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, who provide education to poor children in India; and from many other missions that are bringing a wide range of help and faith to struggling people in third-world nations and people in poverty right here in America.

We may not be in a position to physically work in distant missions. For those who could, this month’s stories should provoke us to look hard at whether we are being called to follow in these missionaries’ footsteps, either as a temporary pilgrimage or as a permanent vocation. For the rest of us, these stories should motivate us to get involved in support of the work of our missionaries. They need our financial support, and they need our prayers and our encouragement as they face enormous challenges in bringing food, shelter, education, and, most importantly, the Gospel message to people seeking a light in a world filled with darkness and despair. That is the calling these missionaries have accepted from God … but it is our mission, too.

The government’s new religious freedom guidance: What does it mean?

By Michelle Bauman
Catholic News Agency

All eyes were on the Department of Health and Human Services on Oct. 6 as the Trump administration announced a major broadening of exemptions to the federal contraception mandate, prompting cheers from religious freedom proponents nationwide.

Less noticed was another critical development in the U.S. religious liberty landscape: Attorney General Jeff Sessions issued government-wide legal guidance outlining 20 principles of religious liberty that the Department of Justice says should govern all administrative agencies and executive departments in their work.

Sessions had been instructed to “issue guidance interpreting religious liberty protections in federal law” by an executive order signed by President Trump in May.

The 25-page document released by the attorney general will please many religious liberty advocates. Its bold language highlights the crucial role of religious freedom in American life. It could also have an impact on pending legal disputes across the country.

Early in the memo, the guidance asserts, “Religious liberty is not merely a right to personal religious beliefs or even to worship in a sacred place. It also encompasses religious observance and practice.” Religious freedom proponents have argued for this definition avidly in recent years amid fears that the idea was being eroded, especially as the phrase “freedom of worship” often replaced “freedom of religion” in the Obama administration.

The document goes on to state that religious liberty extends not only to persons, but also to organizations, and that religious freedom is not surrendered when an individual participates in the marketplace or interacts with government — two key points argued in the HHS mandate debate over the last six years.

This second point — that individuals do not have to remove themselves from civil society in order to retain their right to religious freedom — could also have implications in several high-profile lawsuits, largely revolving around the freedom of service providers such as florists, cake bakers, and photographers to decline serving same-sex weddings, based on their religious beliefs about marriage.

Six of the 20 religious liberty principles in Sessions’ document are dedicated to the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, known as RFRA.

Enacted in 1993, RFRA is one of the primary legislative pillars upon which religious freedom arguments have rested in the last two decades. It says that the federal government may not substantially burden the free exercise of religion, unless there is a compelling state interest in doing so and it is carried out in the least-restrictive manner possible.

See MANDATE, Page 4
Mission is at the heart of the Christian faith

By Leandro M. Tapay
Diocesan Missions Director

Oct. 22 is World Mission Sunday. In churches and chapels around the world, the holy Eucharist will be celebrated and prayers will be said for the worldwide mission of the Church.

The event is organized by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, one of the Vatican’s pontifical mission societies overseen by the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples.

The society is the Church’s central agency for encouraging prayer for the pastoral needs of more than 1,150 mission dioceses around the world.

The society does not deal in investments and has no permanent fund. Every year at the end of January, its general fund is emptied, with the money distributed among the world’s missions.

Most of us are not called to work directly in mission fields. But neither were Venerable Pauline Jaricot or St. Therese of Lisieux, whom the Church honors as co-patrons of the missions, along with St. Francis Xavier.

Pauline and Therese did not do the missions themselves, but their prayers and support were essential to allow mission work to go on.

Our prayers and donations to the missions are joined to the sacrifices of missionaries everywhere to fulfill Jesus’ call to His followers: “Go and teach all nations…” (Matthew 28:19-20).

It is hard to imagine the United States as a “mission territory.” That was what it was in the 1800s, when Pauline Jaricot started gathering small groups in her father’s mill in Lyon, France, to offer daily prayers and sacrificial giving of a penny a week – a great amount at that time – to support missionary work in North America and China.

Her efforts steadily grew to become the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, which continues to educate people on the global mission of the Church and asks for prayers and financial support for the missions around the world.

A century later, in the early 1920s, the United States was no longer a primary focus of missionary efforts. But there was concern that Catholics in the United States lacked the understanding of the Church’s global outreach and the work of missionaries.

They were more concerned about their parish or about their dioceses. They were very parochial.

In 1926, American Catholic leaders decided upon a way to combat this narrower view of the faith by designating the second-to-last Sunday in October every year as World Mission Sunday.

Every parish was asked to have a special Mass and collection for the missions, with the money going to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. Efforts were made to educate the people through homilies and literature to let them know what mission work is all about.

In the 1960s, the Second Vatican Council – echoing the missionary mandate in the words of Matthew 28:18 – emphasized that the Church is missionary by nature and that every baptized Catholic should be involved in its missionary work.

World Mission Sunday gathers us around the person of Jesus, the first and the greatest missionary, who continues to send us forth to proclaim the Gospel of the love of God the Father in the power of the Holy Spirit (Evangelii Nuntiandi).

World Mission Sunday invites us to reflect anew on the mission at the heart of the Christian faith.

The Church is missionary by nature; otherwise, she no longer would be the Church of Christ, but one group among many others that soon ends up serving its own purposes and then passing away (Pope Francis).

Let us be always mindful that God is a God of mission. God wills mission. God commands mission. God made mission possible through His Son. The spirit of Christ is the spirit of the missions. The closer we get to Him, the more intensely missionary we become.

World Mission Sunday 2017
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On Sunday, Oct. 22, we join with Catholic communities from around the world to celebrate World Mission Sunday, a Eucharistic celebration for all the missions of the world. Organized by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, it offers each of us the opportunity to demonstrate our solidarity in support of missions and the missionaries who serve them.

The proceeds of the special collection taken will be distributed – in the pope’s name – among the missions and missionaries worldwide. Our donations help fund missionary activities such as catechetical programs; seminaries; the work of religious communities; communication and transformation needs; and the construction of much needed chapels, churches, orphanages, and schools.

The needs of our missions grow every day. With the creation of new dioceses in third-world countries, vocations to the priesthood and religious life are increasing, thereby increasing the need for new seminaries and houses of formation. In some areas where the Church was once persecuted or suppressed, it is now welcomed, increasing the need for chapels and churches. The involvement and commitment of us all is needed to foster and support this important work.

Let us unite with Catholics across the globe to pray and offer sacrifices and gifts for the missionary work of the Church. Most grateful to you for your continuing generosity and support, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Rev. Frederick F. Campbell, DD, PhD
Bishop of Columbus

The Diocese of Columbus has eight people serving as missionaries around the world. Four are in foreign missions and four serve in the United States.

They are:
- Sister Beverly Hoffman, SCN, a Sister of Charity of Nazareth, serving in Belize.
- Brother Raymond Ronan, OFM Cap, a Capuchin Franciscan, serving in Papua New Guinea.
- Father Robert Schmidt, SJ, of the Jesuit order, serving in India.
- Sister Rebecca Spires, SNDdeN, a Sister of Notre Dame de Namur, serving in Brazil.
- Father David Glockner, with the Glenmary Home Missions, serving in Charleston, West Virginia.
- Brother David Henley, serving at Glenmary’s Cincinnati headquarters.
- Father Robert Goodyear, ST, of the Missionary Servants of the Holy Trinity, serving Native Americans and based in Philadelphia, Mississippi.
- Sister Maria Giovanni Paolo Orsini, SOLT, of the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity, serving in the Diocese of Pueblo, Colorado.

Please be generous when the collection is taken on World Mission Sunday.

DIOCESE HAS EIGHT MEN AND WOMEN SERVING AS MISSIONARIES
Columbus St. Catharine Church, 500 S. Gould Road, in partnership with its SPICE (Special People in Catholic Education) ministry, will host a Mass of Inclusion for people with special needs on Sunday, Nov. 5 at 11 a.m., followed by a reception.

This Mass will honor the unique gifts of those with physical and cognitive disabilities, as well as their caretakers. To encourage an inclusive, welcoming environment, there will be American Sign Language interpretation, wheelchair accessibility, and low-gluten Eucharist available for those with dietary restrictions.

Additionally, the parish hopes the key roles of the Mass can be served by individuals with special needs. If there are individuals with special needs currently serving your parish as an altar server, Eucharistic minister, lector, or cantor, contact Marin Santorsola at marinq80@gmail.com or (614) 517-5941.

“The idea for this Mass came from a similar Mass the Archdiocese of Washington has each November at its cathedral,” Santorsola said. “It’s taken place there every year since 2010. There, it’s known as the White Mass. All participants in the Washington Mass are asked to wear white to symbolize the bonds of community we all share through the Sacrament of Baptism and to celebrate the gifts of people with special needs.”

The St. Catharine SPICE program recognizes that each child in the parish is a unique individual with different learning needs that provide diversity in the classroom environment. It supports serving the educational needs of all children. Working together with the support of the SPICE program, the parish community, pastor, administration, teachers, and parents can help provide understanding, information, creativity, and willingness to address special educational needs.

The SPICE program was established at St. Catharine in 1999 and has spread to other parishes and other dioceses. It is meant to provide financial assistance for classroom aides, specialized therapists, teacher and staff continuing education, classroom support material, software, and other programs that support the diversity of learning. It is not involved with setting curriculum or policies.

St. Therese Retreat Center, located at 5277 East Broad Street, Columbus, is looking for a qualified individual to join its staff to work 18-20 hours each week.

The individual should be able to work some hours on a weekend, primarily in the dining room. The ideal candidate should have an understanding of the Catholic perspective, be self-motivated, take initiative, and the ability to plan and meet deadlines.

The individual should be able to move tables and set up meeting rooms, perform some light janitorial services and housekeeping duties and assist as a server in the dining area, as needed. As a server, the individual will set tables, serve meals and clean the dining room after the meal. This position requires frequent movement about the facility to complete the essential job responsibilities.

A high school degree or G.E.D and a minimum of six months prior experience is preferred. Job offer is contingent on the successful passing of the mandatory background screening and completion of the VIRTUS “Protecting God’s Children” program.

Compensation is commensurate with candidate’s experience. Send cover letter, resume, and references by Monday, October 16, 2017 to:

Dominic Prunte, HR Director at dprunte@columbuscatholic.org
Columbus Bishop Hartley High School senior Claire Eschmeyer has been chosen as a semifinalist by the National Merit Scholarship Program. Hartley senior Carla Pena has been honored as a national Hispanic scholar by the program, and seniors Anna Nash, Chase Rawlins, and Madison Weldon have been selected as commended students.

Semifinalists continue for about 7,500 National Merit Scholarships, worth more than $32 million. Approximately 90 percent of the semifinalists are expected to attain finalist standing, and approximately half of the finalists will earn a National Merit Scholarship. About 1.6 million juniors in more than 22,000 high schools entered the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2015 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. The semifinalists represent less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors and include the highest scoring entrants in each state.

About 34,000 commended students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Commended students placed among the top five percent of those taking the qualifying test.

Columbus Bishop Hartley High School students recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program are (from left): Claire Eschmeyer, Madison Weldon, Chase Rawlins, Carla Pena, and Anna Nash. Eschmeyer has been selected as a semifinalist, Pena is a national Hispanic scholar, and the others have been recognized as commended students.

#### Six Watterson students receive merit scholarship honors

Six Columbus Bishop Watterson High School students were honored by the National Merit Scholarship Program as a result of their scores on the 2016 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Joshua Cho (fifth from left) was one of approximately 16,000 semifinalists, who are eligible to continue in the competition for about 7,500 National Merit Scholarships, worth more than $32 million, to be awarded in the spring. Selected as commended scholars for finishing among the top five percent of those taking the test were (from left) Jack Davidson, Patrick Mulligan, Nina Buoni, Noah Weaver, and John Stimpfl.

#### Four DeSales students honored

Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School senior Joseph Paugh (left) has qualified as a semifinalist in the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program. He is one of approximately 16,000 high school seniors who will have the opportunity to earn a National Merit Scholarship next spring. The program also honored (from left) Kyle Moon, Justin Braun, and Abigail Dop as commended students. All were recognized for the exceptional academic promise demonstrated by their performance on the PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test last October.
Leaving right after Communion; Responsibility to inform

**QUESTION & ANSWER**

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE

*Catholic News Service*

**Q.** I am surprised by the number of people who regularly leave church immediately after receiving the Eucharist. In the diary of St. Faustina, Jesus says how sad he is that people treat him as a dead object and busy themselves with other things.

It is distracting and disruptive of my own personal prayer when I see these people head directly to the exits. This is the closest and most holy time we have to spend with the Lord. Am I being overly sensitive about the actions of others? (Louisville, Kentucky)

**A.** St. Philip Neri, the 17th-century parish priest in 16th-century Italy, once noticed that a member of his congregation was regularly leaving Mass immediately after receiving Communion, and he decided that the man needed to be taught a lesson.

So the following Sunday, St. Philip assigned two Mass servers to accompany the man with lighted candles out of the church and down the street. The man, of course, returned demanding an explanation, which gave St. Philip a chance to explain the importance of taking time to thank God for the gift of the Eucharist.

It bothers me, as it does you, to see people rush out to their cars right after taking the host -- although I’ve never had the courage to use the same pedagogical technique as St. Philip Neri!

Your question makes me think of what Elizabeth said at Mary’s visitation; in shocked surprise, Elizabeth asked her cousin, “And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?” Even more, each of us should be struck with awe that God himself in the person of Jesus has deemed us worthy of a visit.

In *Inexstitabile Donum*, his 1980 instruction on the Eucharist, St. John Paul II reminded us that we should not “omit to make a proper thanksgiving after Communion” -- perhaps with some moments of silence “or also after the celebration, if possible, by staying behind to pray for a suitable time.”

**Q.** Is there anything that can be done at a local Catholic school about the parent of a student who has a violent and criminal background? My own child was just beginning her Catholic school education when I crossed paths with this dangerous individual.

Knowing his history, I informed the school principal. I was assured that this man would not be allowed to assist in any of the school children’s activities, but that his children were welcome to remain as students at the school. While I understand that his own actions should not reflect on his children, I wonder whether his violent potential should be at the expense of others.

I felt strongly enough that I withdrew my own daughter from this school and enrolled her in a different Catholic school, but my heart still goes out to the other innocent children and uninformed parents. While I know that this man is not a registered sex offender and I am not really sure what legal convictions he has had, I believe that he has been arrested for rape, disorderly conduct, abduction, felonious assault, menacing, intimidation and more -- for things that he has done from 15 years ago until the present day.

My moral compass is telling me that it is my duty to do more than I have done; am I right in this conviction, or should I drop the issue? (City of origin withheld)

**A.** I believe that you have done all that you needed to do by putting the school on notice. Certainly, the principal is as concerned for the students’ welfare as you are and would take all necessary precautions to keep the children out of harm’s way. And if the man’s arrest record is as extensive as you describe, I would think that the other school parents have surely been forewarned.

To be honest, that this individual is not a registered sex offender and that you are not certain about any convictions causes me to wonder whether your concerns may be founded in part on rumor and hearsay. But you were right to share your apprehensions with the school principal and, in so doing, have discharged your moral duty.

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 30 Columbia Circle Drive, Albany NY 12203.

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### North Columbus Serra youth luncheon

About 200 people attended the annual luncheon for eighth-grade and high-school boys presented by the Serra Club of North Columbus at the Jessing Center on the Pontifical College Josephinum campus. Father Dan Dury, pastor of Columbus St. Catharine Church, was the featured speaker.

He is pictured with (from left) Rosemary Finneran, club president; Frank Hartge, treasurer; Bill Messerly, past president; and Lou Schwartz, who with his wife, Jan, were co-chairs of the event.

Father Dury invited the boys to consider seriously what God is calling them to do with their lives. He said that if they take the time to discern their true vocation, they will find happiness. He also said at least one of them is being called to the priesthood.

He talked of the struggles of St. John Vianney on his journey to priesthood, shared his own vocation discernment experience, and inspired listeners with the story of Blessed Stanley Rother, an Oklahoma priest who was martyred for the faith in Guatemala and recently was beatified. Father Dury spoke of the blessings that come to priests through their work for God, citing instances such as his being able to baptize his dying grandfather and his giving of absolution to a homeless person in Denver who lay in the road after being hit by a car.

The Serra Club of North Columbus began the luncheon for boys in 2000 and started a similar event for girls two years later. The date for that luncheon will be announced soon.

Photo courtesy Serra Club of North Columbus

### St. Pius X Girl Scouts attend national convention

Melanie Magin, a freshman at Columbus Bishop Hartley High School, and Rayna Rodenkirchen, a seventh-grader at Reynoldsburg St. Pius X School, both members of St. Pius X Church, were selected as two of 150 Girl Scouts from across Ohio to participate in the 2017 Girl Scout National Convention earlier this month in Columbus. This event gave Girl Scouts a firsthand experience with civic engagement and a unique exposure to the Girl Scout federated model.

Girls identified issues in their local and global communities, learned skills for action, and advocated for themselves and others locally and globally, advancing diversity in a multicultural world.

The event included a Saturday evening Mass at the Greater Columbus Convention Center, celebrated by Father Stephen Hayes, OP, of Columbus St. Patrick Church. Magin is a member of Girl Scout Troop 1187 and Rodenkirchen is a member of Troop 561.
Hurricane Harvey brought widespread devastation to the eastern part of Texas in late August and early September, but in the midst of tragedy, it also has created a bond between students at Newark Catholic High School and Newark St. Francis de Sales School and their counterparts in a Texas elementary school.

The Ohio students collected school supplies, dishcloths, towels, first-aid items, and cash donations for St. Catherine of Siena School in Port Arthur, Texas. In addition, the students put together individual “goody bags” filled with treats for all of the Texas school’s 170 students. The paper bags were individually decorated, and each contained a letter from a Newark Catholic student.

“We don’t know them (the Texas students), but that doesn’t matter. They will like to receive a letter, even if they are in kindergarten and need someone to read it to them. It’s about making their day happier. I hope my letter makes them smile,” said Newark Catholic senior Jacob Koch.

The idea for getting the items together began with Newark Catholic teachers Lauren Bogner, Devani Adam, and Meredith McDonald as they watched news reports about the hurricane’s impact. They traced the path of the storm to find Catholic schools which were affected, and began sending emails to schools in the Beaumont, Texas area, expecting not to hear back from any of them for a few days.

Twenty minutes after sending an email to St. Catherine of Siena School, they received a response from its principal, Haidee Todora. She sent pictures of the damage caused by several inches of water in the classrooms. Books, desks, and lockers all were destroyed. Her response was shared with Newark Catholic principal Beth Hill, and plans to get help to the Texas school were formed.

When the teachers saw what the school needed, they realized it would be better to ship the items to Texas and changed their original plan of making the 18-hour drive to Port Arthur. Pictures of the damage at St. Catherine School were shown to Newark Catholic students and teachers at an all-school assembly, and the collection of items began.

“This is not a competition to see which class can collect the most,” said Newark Catholic teacher Don Schaefer. “It’s about doing the right thing and giving from the heart. I know you (Newark Catholic students) are some of the most generous people I have ever met. You know what it means to help those in need, and they (the Texas students) are counting on us to be like Christ in them.”

It took a week to collect money and supplies, followed by the packing of bags for each student and boxes for each teacher in Port Arthur. Many students helped sort, label, and package during study halls and after school. The packages were taken to the local United Parcel Service store and sent on a Friday.

After what seemed like an interminable wait, the Newark students heard from Todora. “Wow! Words cannot express our feelings,” she wrote. “You have no idea how special you have made us feel.” Adding to the excitement, students at Newark Catholic were able to connect with eighth-graders at St. Catherine as they opened their bags and read their letters.

“Being able to actually see the St. Catherine students open their letters was rewarding,” said Newark Catholic student Calbe Bemiller. “The joy and excitement on their faces was something that I will never forget.” Some day, the Newark teachers who put the project together hope to visit Port Arthur and meet their new school family at St. Catherine of Siena.

Newark Catholic students with “goody bags” they packed for St. Catherine of Siena school in Port Arthur, Texas. Photo courtesy Newark Catholic High School

Hurricane creates bond between Newark, Texas schools

Notre Dame professor to speak on “The Last Lecture”

If you had one last time to address a group of students or friends, what would you say? What would you want to be your legacy?

The Notre Dame Club of Columbus and Central Ohio has invited Edward Hums, professor of business at the University of Notre Dame, to speak at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 18 at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School on the topic “Giving the Last Lecture.” The program is free and open to the public.

The talk will be a shortened version of the “last lecture” presented by Hums at the university in 2010 by invitation of the university’s student government. It is modeled after the “last lecture” given by Dr. Randy Pausch at Carnegie-Mellon University in 2006 several months before he died. It asks the speaker to answer one question in the form of an engaging public lecture: “If this were your last time to address a group of students, what would you say?” Pausch spoke in his lecture about how to enable your own dreams and to help others achieve their dreams.

Hums has been at Notre Dame for more than 40 years. He has received awards including the Frank O’Malley Award for excellence in undergraduate teaching, the highest individual teaching award given at the university. In 2006, he was profiled in Businessweek as one of America’s favorite business professors.

The presentation is part of the Hesburgh lecture series sponsored by the Notre Dame Club of Columbus. Named after the late past president of Notre Dame, Father Theodore Hesburgh, CSC, the program brings distinguished Notre Dame faculty to cities across the nation to interact with alumni and the communities in which they live.

Coffee, soft drinks, and cookies will be served. The formal presentation will last about one hour. For more information, contact Pat Whitehead at ndjpw@columbus.rr.com or (614) 766-5948.
Family Rosary Day 2017

Catholics from across the Diocese of Columbus came to St. Joseph Cathedral on Sunday, Oct. 8 for the annual Family Rosary Day celebration. Bishop Frederick Campbell presided at the liturgy, which included the crowing of a statue of the Blessed Mother by Emma Magee of Columbus St. Catharine Church, recital of the rosary in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese, led by priests of the diocese, and the Litany to the Blessed Virgin.

CT photos by Ken Snow

Blessing of the Animals

Columbus St. Christopher Church honored the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi on Wednesday, Oct. 4. More than 150 people turned out, along with their dogs, cats, rabbits, hamsters, turtles, and other pets for a special blessing from Father David Poliafico, the parish’s pastor.

CT photo by Ken Snow

Read the Bible

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Proudly Serving the Catholic Diocese since 1936
 Silence can be the most blessed thing we do

Have you ever wondered why you are not always aware of what you are praying, or, for that matter, even speaking? Have you found yourself so wrapped up in life that even the words of God seem to pass through your mind? Many people, myself included, fall into this category. I find it necessary sometimes to concentrate on the task at hand rather than allow myself to become engulfed in the specifics of prayer.

I am always enamored and brought aback, albeit reluctantly, by what God presents before me. He brings me choices instead of answers. He allows me to make mistakes and to learn from them. He teaches us that through the silence of prayer, that through the contemplation of our own hearts, we can begin to realize the awesome power and gift He has so gently placed before every one of us.

Some say there is a special glow that is possessed when we hear the words of the Gospel, that through this special moment, a lifetime of promise is rendered. When we hear Jesus’ message and act on it, we set the stage for a better life and an awesome experience for the person or persons we touch. It is not by circumstance that you may have been at a particular place at a particular time. Our Savior tells us that only in community with family and friends do we receive the necessary tools and talents we need for the many tasks at hand.

Jesus believed that even with the simplest of intentions, we could reach out to others—not through the ambient noise from a crowd, but from the silence of a prayer innocently said and lovingly worded. I am among many people who believe the most powerful evangelization is made and hoped for out of a pure heart. Just being there for someone is a wonderful example of how to keep God’s word alive and fresh for every person we meet.

What we intend through the silence of our hearts is often the most blessed thing we can do for one another, and this brings true meaning to every duty we perform. When we hear Jesus’ message and act on it, we set the stage for a better life and an awesome experience for the person or persons we touch. It or agree with, it would be a very dull world. We never would learn the awesome power of friendship and the joy that comes from helping someone, not for sheer notoriety but for the simple pleasure of a smile and a warm embrace. That is how I measure success. There is a saying from St. Francis that I have read from many sources. He says to “remember that when you leave this earth, you can take nothing that you have received—only what you have given: a full heart enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice, and courage.”

This message, traded with an ounce of compassion, makes all of us feel blessed to have what we have. May the wind be forever at our backs, may we come to realize the value and wisdom of listening, and may His peace be with you always.

**Joseph Thomas, a member of Gahanna St. Matthew Church, is a freelance writer and is active in many diocesan and church activities.**

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**Headed to the Circleville Pumpkin Show Next Week?**

Join us for daily mass
**October 18-20 at 12 p.m.**
**October 21 at 5 p.m.**

St. Joseph Parish  
134 W Mound St  
Circleville, OH 43113  
Fr. Ted Machnik  
740-477-2549

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**Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School recently hosted a day of activities built around the theme of “honoring those who have served.” The day began with the dedication of a wall of honor across from the school's main office. The wall consists of seven panels with the names of all St. Charles alumni who are known to have served or who are serving in all five branches of the military, or as firefighters, in emergency medical service, or in law enforcement. About 80 of the men the wall honors were represented onstage at the dedication program. That evening, Maj. Dan Rooney (right), an Air Force fighter pilot and founder of the Folds of Freedom Foundation, spoke at a reception and dinner for more than 650 guests, sharing his story of service and generosity on behalf of others. Rooney also spoke at the wall dedication. Pictured with him are St. Charles graduate Robert Walter and his wife, Peggy, initiators and major supporters of the school’s “An Evening With …” talks. Rooney’s talk was the most recent in this continuing series. The dinner raised more than $675,000 for the St. Charles Endowment Fund, all of which will go toward financial aid for qualified students and families.**

Photo courtesy St. Charles Preparatory School
MISSIONARIES FULFILL CHRIST’S COMMAND TO ‘GO TEACH ALL NATIONS’

BY TIM PUET, Catholic Times Reporter

Matthew 28:19, also see Mark 16:15.

All the Apostles followed that command, scattering to all parts of the world as they knew it. They were the first Catholic missionaries; countless others have followed them for the past 2,000 years and continue to preach Jesus’ message in more than 1,100 mission dioceses on every continent except Antarctica.

Representatives of 38 mission organizations, including some from what’s considered mission territory in the United States, spoke throughout the Diocese of Columbus this year as part of the annual Missionary Cooperation Plan sponsored by the diocesan Missions Office. They were selected from among more than 500 mission societies, religious orders, dioceses, and lay missionary groups who applied to come to the Diocese of Columbus to share stories from the pulpits of its parishes.

Here are some of those stories:

Passionist Mission in Vietnam
Father Jefferson Folse, CB, is an 84-year-old Australian native who will celebrate his 60th anniversary as a member of the Passionist Order in August. He served in Papua New Guinea from 1961-76, establishing the Catholic Church in three places among people living in Stone Age conditions. Since 2003, he has led his order in Vietnam. His efforts and the work of two fellow missionaries have resulted in the ordination of five indigenous priests, with 36 other men in seminary studies preparing for ordination.

The biggest obstacles he faces involve cultural differences. “Less than a quarter of Vietnamese have any religious affiliation, though seven percent are Catholic and nine percent Buddhist, alongside other smaller groups,” he said. “But the old ancestral reverence for spirits is still strong everywhere, and the word of Confucius still enters arguments. Modern secular culture is growing, with its disregard for moral principles, while the Communists talk Marxism.

“How can I, a missionary, support young Vietnamese Passions facing a cultural challenge? How can they spread God’s kingdom in a culture that is not interested? Many in the church turn inwards. We must look outwards. We stand with the poor as Jesus did. Secular Vietnam has its own philosophers. We do not argue with their ideas, but we do share the aca-

Fathers and Sisters of Charity have been profiled in the Catholic Times over the years.

demic principles or Marxist or neo-cap-

It always amazes me to have conversation with such a mixture of religious, of whom 390 are priests, working in the poorest nations and in conflict zones, of its other challenging missions are in Africa, Guyana, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Tajikistan, Tanzania, and Ukraine. The order also has a contemplative branch, whose monks devote themselves to tertiary prayer for the salvation of souls.

Conventual Franciscan Friars
The Conventual Franciscan Friars have a history going back more than 800 years to their founding by St. Francis of Assisi.

Easter Vigil Baptism with Comboni priest
Adorer Sisters’ school in Moshi, Tanzania

The Institute of the Incarnate Word, founded in Argentina in 1984, has 823 religious, of whom 390 are priests, working in 85 dioceses in 37 nations. It has five seminaries, including one in Maryland. It is committed to the evangelical mission of the Incarnate Word, working concretely to extend the presence of Christ in families, education, the media, and all other aspects of society. Its mission is to be obedient to the will of the Holy Spirit, even in the most difficult situations and under the most adverse conditions.

Its apostolic works and activities include door-to-door missions; caring for the dis-

abled, the sick, and the elderly; providing homes for orphans and abandoned children; offering pastoral formation of missionaries; and building and managing schools and other educational institutions. Much of the order’s work is among the world’s most neglected populations in the poorest nations and in conflict zones, including the Gaza Strip and Iraq. Some of its other challenging missions are in Argentina, Ecuador, Guyana, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Tajikistan, Tanzania, and Ukraine.
MISSIONARIES, continued from Page 11

They are familiar to many Catholics in the Diocese of Columbus because they serve as priests at the National Shrine and Basilica of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey, their provincial headquarters for the Midwest and the Southwest.

The province provides support for Franciscans from around the world. Friars from India live in Carey and are able to celebrate Mass in the Syro-Malabar rite of the Catholic Church, which is rooted in India and is celebrated occasionally in the Columbus diocese, because they were ordained in that rite.

Conventional Franciscans come to central Ohio nearly every year to appeal on behalf of their missions. One of them is Father Andrew Mukosa, who spoke this summer at Newark St. Francis de Sales and Blessed Sacrament churches.

He is in charge of a school in Kitwe, Zambia, and sends some of its graduates to study at St. Mary of the Woods College in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Brother Dennis Moses, OFM Conv, the Carey province’s archivist, said that of every dollar Father Mukosa raises in mission appeals, 25 cents goes to Zambia, 19 cents each to Central America and India, 13 cents to training friars in Third World nations, and 8 cents each to a commission that coordinates mission efforts among friars in the province, to a lay mission group, and to administrative costs.

Brother Moses notes that the growth in the number of mission priests serving their own nations means “The missions today don’t need our friars coming to their country to help, but they are in real need of the money we send them.”

Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Sister Merrita Mary, FHF, of the Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, writes this about her congregation:

“A French missionary, Father Louis Savinien Dupuis, founded our order in India in 1884. The basic vision of our founder was to promote the education of poor girls. Following his vision faithfully, our sisters continue to dedicate themselves to those marginalized and most in need.

“As in many parts of the world, especially our mission areas in India, people are financially poor and as a result are uneducated. Very few of the children get formal education, because of their parents finding it difficult to pay the school fees and daily needs. Therefore, a few years ago, our sisters started our mission, with primary schools and free boarding in different parts of India.

“Our project for this year is helping the poor girls in the state of Bihar in northern India. Right now, we have a school for girls who stay in three mission centers, which accommodate more than 100 students in each. These mission centers serve 25 poor villages in the neighborhood of our convent in Bihar. We sisters cover all their expenses, including education, food, clothing, and medical facilities. The goal of this project is to provide basic education for these young girls so they can have a better future."

Pallottine Fathers and Brothers

The Pallottine fathers and brothers were founded by St. Vincent Pallotti in 1835. They have about 1,600 priests and 2,400 brothers who serve in more than 40 nations worldwide.

In India, they have nearly 120 candidates studying for the priesthood, and are able to support them thanks to the generosity of people in the United States and other nations who help provide meals, lodging, textbooks, and other basic necessities.

The Pallottines recently opened a mission for the people of Arunachal Pradesh in northeast India. This is a very remote and impoverished part of the nation, with few roads and modern conveniences. Their presence among these rural people is much appreciated, especially in the area of education.

One of the major undertakings of the Pallottine mission in Lusaka, Zambia, is the building of a new school for orphans. Donations have resulted in the purchase of a new bus to replace a Jeep which had become worn out because of constant use.

The orphans and others served by the mission are trying to become more self-sufficient by making bricks for the new building and by growing many crops and raising cattle, chickens, and other animals for the mission’s use. Any surplus products are sold at a farmer’s market.

The missionaries say they aren’t looking for a handout as much as they are for a help-out to keep the mission strong and viable.

Diocese of Moshi, Tanzania

The Diocese of Moshi in northeast Tanzania is literally within the shadow of Mt. Kilimanjaro, which is within diocesan boundaries and at 19,341 feet is the highest mountain in Africa. The diocese is a primarily Catholic area, with nearly 705,000 Catholics among its population of 1.2 million.

Three-fourths of those people depend on farming and keeping livestock. Coffee is the dominant cash crop, followed by wheat, sugar, and sunflowers. For many years, the diocese enjoyed relative food security, but climate change and weather that seemingly has become more unpredictable has resulted in a decline in the price of coffee, with the greatest effects being felt by women, orphans, and the disabled. As in much of Africa, the spread of HIV infection and AIDS also is affecting the area.

The diocese is a major provider of education in its region, operating 11 primary schools, 32 secondary schools, 15 vocational training centers, and six institutions of higher learning.

The diocese is in the midst of a major building project – St. Pamachius Inclusive Secondary School, named for a Roman of the fourth and early fifth centuries who was a senator for most of his life and used his wealth for the care of the sick and the needy. The school will be the first secondary school in Tanzania specifically designed to serve children with a variety of disabilities.

“We who have no physical disabilities owe a lot to the disabled children,” says Father Jerome Silayo and Father Wilibald Maningi of the diocese. “Their condition is not their choice, but our choice can change their condition. Surely we can do it if we want to.”

Adorer Sisters of Tanzania

The Adorer Missionary Sisters of the Poor serve in the Moshi Diocese and are one of the world’s newest religious orders, having been founded on Jan. 6, 2013, by Sister Mary Jennifer Wandia, AMSP. “Our first mission is to adore Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament and to promote Eucharistic adoration. Our second mission is to be missionaries, always making an option to serve the poor,” she said.

Her order has 11 members serving and educating children. Tanzania has about 3.5 million children who are orphans because of AIDS. Sister Mary Jennifer said her diocese has about 220,000 orphans, 700 of whom are in the parish she serves. After the order’s convention opened in 2013, it started a school with 29 orphans. Now it has 193 students in preschool through third grade. A fourth-grade class will be added in January. Besides the sisters, it has five lay teachers and eight support staff.

She said her biggest challenge comes from serving young people aged 13 and 14 who have failed the national seventh-grade examination and are looking for work because they cannot continue their education. “At age 13, how prepared is that child for life?” she asks. “Tanzania has a population of 50 million, and 47 percent of them are children 17 and younger.”

To help some of those teens, her order has opened a high school, which is educating 61 students and will serve more. Besides teaching the children, the sisters are challenged by a lack of conveniently located water. Efforts to drill for water have been fruitless, but the sisters are not giving up. Part of the money
MISSIONARIES, continued from Page 12

they raised while visiting the Diocese of Columbus is being used for a pump which will allow them to obtain water from a nearby lake.

Marymatha Province Vincentians

The Marymatha Province of the Vincentian Congregation of the Catholic Church’s Syro-Malabar rite has 293 priests and 181 other professed religious and seminarians, working mainly in India, where most Syro-Malabar Catholics reside. The province also has missionaries in Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, and Peru.

Even as it sends missionaries elsewhere, it recognizes that India is very much a missionary nation in its own right, with a large Catholic population of 28 million that represents just 2.3 percent of the people of the mostly Hindu nation. The Catholic Church has long been present in India since the arrival of St. Thomas the Apostle there 2,000 years ago.

Retreats, or popular missions, as they are known in India, are the Vincentians’ principal form of preaching the Catholic faith. The congregation was founded in 1904 by Father Varkey Kattarath, with St. Vincent de Paul as its patron. Following St. Vincent’s example, the congregation serves the poor and teaches the principles of the faith to people in ways best suited to the times and places it serves.

The province has 28 retreat centers and seven prayer centers, where residential retreats take place every one or two weeks for laity, priests, and religious.

Its social and charitable activities include orphanages, cancer care centers, village development programs, vocational training centers, hospices, and welfare institutions. It also provides the staff for colleges and elementary and secondary schools. All these institutions are named “De Paul” to show the continuing impact of the example provided by the congregation’s patron.

SOLT

The Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT) was founded in 1958 by Father James Flanagan in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, New Mexico. It has missions in 12 nations, where its priests and sisters live as disciples of Jesus through Mary on ecclesial family teams in areas of deepest apostolic need.

Some of those areas are in the United States. One of them is La Jara, in Conejos County in southwest Colorado — a town of 800 in a county of 8,000, in a part of Colorado that’s a long way from the bright lights of Denver and Boulder or the affluent ski resorts of Aspen and Vail.

SOLT serves this rural farming and ranching community through five small mission churches it describes as “geographically scattered, economically challenging, and strategically critical, with great people, rooted and lively in their faith.” One of the sisters serving those churches is Sister Maria Giovannini Paolo Orsini of the Diocese of Columbus.

Each year, parishioners conduct a fiesta celebration honoring Our Lady of the Valley. At that time, everything in town comes to a stop for a procession through the streets with the Blessed Sacrament and a statue of Mary. Police patrol cars lead the way, and cars passing through come to a reverent halt to honor God’s presence in the Eucharist.

SOLT serves in places which bishops discern to have the greatest need in a diocese. It is involved in rehabilitation centers for drug addicts, as well as orphanages, education, evangelization, and health care in many isolated, depressed areas, bringing a message of hope through Jesus and Mary.

Oblates of St. Francis de Sales

The Oblates of St. Francis de Sales were founded in France in 1875 by Blessed Louis Brisson, who wanted to improve the working conditions of middle-class girls and to ensure their protection and the promotion of their faith.

Working with young people has been part of their mission ever since. For example, in the west African republic of Benin, once known as the kingdom of Dahomey, they support education for girls from primary school to the university level. The cost is about $1,000 per student per year.

In the community of Baka, they are building a 100-bed hostel which will serve as a safe place for young girls and boys to live and go to school. These children come from very poor families, and the hostel is giving them a hope to better themselves that would not exist otherwise. It also is providing them with a place to play sports and receive spiritual guidance. Land has been purchased, and construction will begin once the Oblates raise $3 million to cover the estimated cost.

For 30 years, the Oblates also have operated the Our Lady of Refuge Shelter for homeless boys in Parakou, Benin’s third-largest city and a center of its drug culture. The shelter has been described as a “beacon of hope” and is home to 20 young men who have been given a second life beyond the slums and hard drugs that had been part of their everyday existence.

The Oblates are training 10 seminarians in Benin, South Africa, and Namibia, at a cost of $5,000 per student, to serve in some of the congregation’s many missions around the world — possibly even in Ohio, where they operate Toledo St. Francis de Sales High School and serve two Toledo parishes.

Franciscan Missions

Serving the poor on six continents, the Franciscan Missions have more than 5,400 missionaries and 800 missions.

One of them is Father Teofil Czarniak, OFM, who is now provincial minister of the Franciscans’ Assumption Province, based in Franklin, Wisconsin, after spending five years in Africa. He writes this story of his first days there:

“Two weeks after I arrived in Mwanza, Tanzania, I began seeing the symptoms of malaria. Late in the day, I was experiencing fatigue and I had a terrible headache like I never had before. … By the next morning, I thought I was dying. … By the time we arrived at the mission, I was very ill. After nearly two days, I awoke and began to feel better. That was my first experience with malaria,” which he contracted five more times in Africa.

“You cannot fear malaria. You need to trust in God and, if possible, prevent or avoid exposure to mosquitoes. Malaria is the biggest killer in Africa. It takes the lives of mostly children. The children are more likely to die of the disease because they are malnourished or their immune system is weaker. …

“So many families have lost one or two children to this disease. For us, it is truly sad because we know we could save many of them, but you cannot save all of them. As missionaries, we do what we can.”
The Lord will provide a banquet for all peoples

Isaiah 25:6-10a; Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20; Matthew 22:1-14

The idea of the Lord (of hosts) providing a banquet “for all peoples” is stunning, because it is not found anywhere else in the Old Testament. The idea of “the gods” is quite common. If the Lord is throwing the banquet, we would expect nothing but the best meats and wines, and that’s what is promised in Sunday’s first reading. Isaiah certainly would have known of other gods celebrating their annual accessions to thrones among the Canaanites. The Lord, as the only God, would have thrown the banquet for all peoples, unlike the Canaanite gods, who hosted other gods in their mythology.

Because Mount Zion had come to be associated solely with the worship of the Lord as Israel’s God, picturing the Lord throwing a banquet (for all peoples) began another trend in Israel, even if short-lived, of a universal outreach to all the nations. There came a point during the Exile, especially in chapters 40-56 of Isaiah, wherein the prophet envisioned all peoples enjoying the friendship of the Lord. All nations would come streaming to worship the Lord on Mount Zion, bringing with them tribute to offer to God’s chosen people, Israel.

At the same time, there developed within Israel hopes for an end-time banquet which the Lord would provide, and this became the backdrop for many of the descriptions of end-time banquets spoken of by Jesus.

Not only would the Lord throw the banquet, but the Lord also would “destroy the veil that veils all people.” This veil is thought to be the veil of mourning that people wore while they were mourning the death of loved ones. In the events which led up to the Babylonian destruction of the Holy Land, many people lost their lives and there was total destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple within. This caused the great mourning which the prophet here sees ending. Sunday’s reading generated hope among the survivors that the Lord once again would restore Israel’s cause for joy, and because the prophet said it, it was as good as done.

Sunday’s parable of the king who gave a wedding banquet for his son described how it is with the kingdom of heaven. Generally, prophets are rejected in their own time and place. Look at what happened in this country when Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. came with a prophetic message of equality for all and an end to racial discrimination. Many people hated him and still do, because they could not bear to hear that they might be wrong in how they treated blacks in the U.S., or the many others they despise. Many still demonstrate their ignorance and bigotry without apology.

In the parable, servants of the king were sent to summon invited guests, all of whom refused to come. More servants were sent and more invitees made excuses for why they couldn’t come. Then they began to mistreat and kill the king’s messengers. The king grew angry and burned the city. Some commentators actually suggested that this detail was a reference to the Romans’ destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD. The servants then went to the highways to invite anyone in who was there, “bad and good alike.” When one person came in without a proper garment, the king lost his temper again and threw him out. The idea behind this is that if one accepts the invitation, wearing the proper clothing is required, likely meant to symbolize proper behavior.

It is an interesting question whether the parable is created to illustrate the saying “Many are called but few are chosen.” Given the many differences with Luke’s version of the great banquet, that is certainly possible, because the early church collected words and sayings of Jesus first, before they later came to be included in the various Gospels. In any case, we live with the hope that we will be among those chosen.

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

Ohio Dominican to host preview day on Nov. 4

Ohio Dominican University will host a preview day from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 4 in the Bishop Griffin Center on ODU’s campus, 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Interested high school students and their families may register for the free event by visiting ohio dominican.edu/preview.

During preview day, students can take a tour of campus, explore available majors, discuss available financial aid options, enjoy a complimentary meal, learn about student clubs and honors programs, meet with professors in their field of interest, and talk with current students about why they chose to attend ODU.

Students who are not able to attend preview day are invited to schedule a private visit to campus at ohio dominican.edu/visit or by calling ODU’s office of undergraduate admission at (614) 251-4500.

Ohio Dominican University will host a preview day on Nov. 4.

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The Catechism of the Catholic Church at 25

John Paul II called the Extraordinary Synod of 1985 to assess what had gone right and what had gone wrong in two decades of implementing the Second Vatican Council. In Vaticanese, it was styled “extraordinary” because it fell outside the normal sequence of synods. But Synod 1985 was extraordinary in the ordinary sense of the word, too.

It occasioned an almighty row over a book-length interview, The Ratzinger Report, that pretty well set the terms of debate in the Synod hall. It was the Synod that came up with an interpretive key that linked the 16 documents of Vatican II, through the image of the Church as a communio, a communion of disciples in mission; thus Synod 1985 accelerated the Church’s transition to the Church of the New Evangelization. And it gave us the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

At a press conference shortly after the Synod, Bishop James Malone of Youngstown, the president of the U.S. bishops’ conference, was asked about the new catechism the Synod fathers recommended. Don’t worry, Bishop Malone replied, you’ll never live to see it. The bishop was, of course, wrong about that, and John Paul II promulgated the Catechism of the Catholic Church on Oct. 11, 1992.

For those expecting a Q&A format like the old Baltimore Catechism, the Catechism of the Catholic Church was a surprise. While divided into 2,865 bite-size sections, the Catechism is a discursive exposition of Catholic faith in full. Its structure, which mirrors the Catechism of the Council of Trent, reaches back to the early Church and the patristic catechumenate. Thus the Catechism’s four parts reflect the four pillars of Christian initiation: the “Profession of Faith” (the Creed); the “Celebration of the Christian Mystery” (the Sacraments); “Life in Christ” (Christian Morality); and “Christian Prayer.”

Each of these four parts is then subdivided. Part One begins with a reflection on revelation and our response to it before examining the twelve articles of the Apostles’ Creed, the baptismal creed of the ancient Roman Church. Part Two is structured around the seven sacraments. Part Three vastly enriches the Tridentine pattern by beginning with the Beatitudes and our vocation to beatitude or happiness, which sets the framework for the exposition of the Ten Commandments. Part Four begins with a meditation on Jesus and the Samaritan woman, explaining the Lord’s “thirst” for souls as the beginning of prayer, before illustrating Christian prayer through the seven petitions of the Lord’s Prayer.

Thus Parts One and Two of the Catechism illuminate God’s action in seeking us out — the Catechism’s very first section speaks of the divine invitation to communion, while the sacraments are described at the beginning of Part Two as the extension of Christ’s earthly life in us: as Pope Leo the Great put it, “what was visible in our Savior has passed over into his mysteries.” Parts Three and Four then outline our response to God’s action through the moral life and prayer. Part Three is a rebuff to those rigorists and laxists who continue to misconstrue Christian morality as a form of legalism: the moral law is important, the Catechism insists, because these are the guideposts provided by revelation and reason for the pilgrimage to beatitude and happiness, the goals of the moral life. Part Four speaks forcefully of “the battle of prayer,” the fight “against ourselves and against the wiles of the tempter who does all he can to turn man away from prayer, away from union with God.”

The Catechism of the Catholic Church has made a considerable difference over the past 25 years, because it was one crucial answer to the question posed to me in 1996 by a great first-generation Christian, Cardinal Francis Arinze of Nigeria. Speaking of one problem Synod 1985 was called to address, the cardinal asked, “How can (anyone) join a group of permanently confused people who don’t know where they’re going?” And while there’s still considerable work to be done to deepen the reform and renewal of catechetics, the mere fact of the Catechism helped end the silly season in religious education while establishing a compelling, and in many cases quite beautifully written, benchmark and pattern for the future.

If you’ve not read it, this silver jubilee is a good occasion to do so. Then share the Catechism with a friend.

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

‘An Eagle’s Flight’ is men’s retreat theme

The Catholic Laymen’s Retreat League is sponsoring a retreat for men from Friday to Sunday, Nov. 3 to 5, at St. Therese’s Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. It will be led by Father John D. Corbett, OP, a Columbus native who now is on the faculty of the Dominican House of Studies in Washington. The theme will be “An Eagle’s Flight: Following Jesus in the Gospel of John.”

“The Gospels are filled with stories about people like you, people who discovered, often to their astonishment, new and unsuspected directions for their lives when they opened themselves to Christ’s friendship. Openness to God’s love, to see clearly how our past and future fit his plan for our happiness, forms the meaning and measure of a well-made retreat,” Father Corbett said.

“Most people don’t have a clear-cut set of reasons for making a retreat, for opening themselves to God’s friendship. Nathaniel, for example, found himself nagged by his friends to come and meet Jesus of Nazareth. He came, apparently, to scoff in amusement. Matthew was startled to be called in the midst of his moneymaking affairs. The young apostles, swept away by their love for him, went to the ends of the earth to spread the Good News of that boundless happiness.

“At the very outset of this retreat, then, you, too, may have your motives unclear and unsettled. No matter; it is God’s motives that count. He is determined to embrace your mind and will. He has brought you to this retreat so that you, like these others, can rise to a new level of happiness in his loving friendship. Your union with Jesus on this retreat is meant to be a step in your journey with him, your friend.”

A contribution of $150 will cover the cost of the retreat. However, the retreat league takes up the offering in unmarked envelopes, depending on the generosity of those men who can take up the slack for those who may not at this time be able to afford the suggested donation. For reservations or more information, contact Dave Mignerey at (614) 392-0146, Gary Hasson at (614) 216-4500, or Mark Hasson at (614) 425-5422.

Adopt A Family

St. Vincent Family Center is looking for individuals and families to take part in its annual Adopt A Family program, helping other families in some of central Ohio’s most impoverished neighborhoods.

Each holiday season, many of those families are unable to provide their little ones with the gifts and memories that make this time of year special. The generosity of people who “adopt” these families ensures that these children will experience the joy and magic of the holiday that they wouldn’t otherwise have.

If you would like to take part in the program, contact the St. Vincent Center’s Debra Huff at dhuff@svfc.org or (614) 252-0731, extension 1132. Specify your preference of family size and you’ll be appropriately matched with a family. Each family will provide a wish list of items their children may need or want, and you get to shop for their holiday gifts.

All gifts will be collected at the St. Vincent Center, 1490 E. Main St., Columbus, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7 to Saturday, Dec. 9.
Pray for our dead

ANDERSON, Lois, 86, of Westerville, Sept. 29
St. Christopher Church, Rocky River

BELL, Robert W., 88, Sept. 29
St. Bernadette Church, Lancaster

CALEL, Rigoberto I., 23, Sept. 4
St. Joseph Church, Dover

CIASTKO, Josephine (Meneses), 79, Oct. 5
St. Michael Church, Worthington

CLOUSE, Raymond, 87, Oct. 5
St. Elizabeth Church, Columbus

DILLON, Richard E., 88, Oct. 6
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

DOUGHTY, John L., 79, Oct. 6
St. Francis of Assisi Church, Columbus

DRATH, Margaret A. (Walker), 84, Oct. 3
St. Anthony Church, Columbus

FANCELLI, Emma, 88, Oct. 4
St. Anthony Church, Columbus

FATSEAS, Connie E. (Acre), 67, formerly of
Columbus, Oct. 2
St. Pius X Church, Sycamore

FREY, Mara B. (Cassidy), 87, Oct. 5
St. Mary Church, Delaware

HUTSON, Mary L. (Echenrode), 96, Oct. 5
Our Lady of Peace Church, Columbus

KRANNITZ, James J., 87, Oct. 6
St. John Church, Logan

LEVY, Arthur, 96, Oct. 1
St. Michael Church, Worthington

LIEB, Rose A., 87, Oct. 5
St. Mary Church, Columbus

MAGALSKI, Mira (Radivich), 70, Oct. 6
St. Peter Church, Columbus

MARAZSKY, Stanley, 85, Oct. 1
St. Joseph Church, Dover

MIDDLETON, Lucile (Groulx), 93, Oct. 4
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

MONACO, John, 85, Sept. 19
St. Joseph Church, Dover

PRINDLE, Joan O. (Luznar), 93, Oct. 5
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

REMPE, Heidi B., 51, Oct. 6
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

SCHMITZ, Mary C. (Krueger), 80, Oct. 3
St. James the Less Church, Columbus

SICA, Oscar C., 28, Sept. 4
St. Joseph Church, Dover

TUREL, Mary S. (Satkowski), 92, Oct. 4
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

VOIT, Erwin R., 93, Oct. 3
St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury

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I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete. David Garick, Editor.

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Zaleski St. Sylvester Church will celebrate its 150th anniversary at a Mass at 11 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 5, followed by an open house in the parish hall. The church is the only Catholic church in Vinton County. An invitation to take part in this joyous occasion is extended to parishioners old and new, past and present, as well as former parish priests, members of the four-church consortium which includes St. Sylvester – the others are Chillicothe St. Peter, Waverly St. Mary, and Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne — and all Catholics in the diocese.
HAPPENINGS

CLASSIFIED

CRAFTYPALOOZA
Oct. 21 from 9 AM - 3 PM.
80 booths of handmadearts and crafts.
St Timothy School
1070 Thomas Lane, Columbus, OH 43220

All fund-raising events (festivals, bazaars, spaghetti dinners, fish fries, bake sales, pizza/sub sales, candy sales, etc.) will be placed in the “Fund-Raising Guide.”
An entry into the Guide will be $18.50 for the first six lines, and $2.65 for each additional line.
For more information, call David Garick at 614-224-5195.

October

12, THURSDAY
Cenacle at Holy Name
6 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayers in the Cenacle format of the Marian Movement of Priests.
Theology on Tap Meeting
7 p.m., El Vaquero restaurant, 3230 Olentangy River Road, Columbus. Theology on Tap discussion and social group for young Catholics, with Christian counselor and life coach Pam Heil speaking on “Answering the Vocation to Love.” RSVP to cbustheologyontap@gmail.com or Columbus Theology on Tap Facebook page.

13, FRIDAY
St. Joseph Montessori School Open House
9 to 10:30 a.m., St. Joseph Montessori School, 933 Hamlet St., Columbus. Open house at school, which provides a Montessori education for students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade.
Fatima Procession from St. Catharine to Christ the King
7 p.m., St. Catharine Church, 500 S. Gould Road, Columbus. Candlelight procession from church to Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus, where the rosary will be recited in English and Spanish to honor the 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima’s final apparition.
Transportation back to St. Catharine will be available.

14, SATURDAY
Sacred Heart Congress at St. Matthew
8 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livington Ave., Columbus. Sixth annual Sacred Heart Congress, with Mass celebrated by Father Stash Daley at 11:30 a.m. and talks by Sister Joseph Andrew Bogdanowicz, OP, and Father John Paul Mary, MFWA. RSVP to www.sacredheartcolumbus.org.
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.
Natural Family Planning Class in Spanish
9 to 11 a.m., Latino Center, Santa Cruz/Holy Name Parish, 143 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. First of two classes in consecutive weeks in Spanish on Natural Family Planning, featuring the Family of the Americas Foundation’s instructions on the ovulation method.
Sidewalk Prayers in Delaware
9 a.m., sidewalk in front of 152 W. Central Ave., Delaware. Greater Columbus Right to Life sidewalk prayers at site of former Planned Parenthood office.
Rosary Rallies throughout Diocese
The America Needs Fatima organization is sponsoring rosary rallies at several locations throughout the diocese at noon. Sites include the Ohio Statehouse; the public squares in Surbur, Mount Gilead, and New Lexington; the bandstand in downtown Lancaster; the Ross County Courthouse in Chillicothe; the Delaware St. Mary Church courtyard; and the assisted living portion of the Villas at St. Therese, 25 Noel Bixby Road, Columbus.
Food Drive for Griffin Center, Food Bank at Braking Point
1 to 4 p.m., Braking Point Recovery Center, 4040 E. Broad St., Columbus. Food drive collecting nonperishable Thanksgiving items for Bishop Griffin Center in east Columbus and cash donations for Mid-Ohio Foodbank. Pictures with the Batmobile (donation of one food item) or Batman (two), or time inside bounce houses (three) will be available.

12-14, THURSDAY-SATURDAY
Three Bags Full Consignment Sale
10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday (selected items half-price Friday night and Saturday). Highpoint Nazarene Church, 795 Pollock Road, Delaware. Three Bags Full consignment sale of children’s items. Unsold and unCLAIMED items are donated to Catholic and pro-life charities.

15, SUNDAY
Catholic Singles Fellowship at Gallant Woods Farm
10:45 a.m., St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware. Parish Catholic singles fellowship attends Mass, followed by lunch and a trip to Gallant Woods Farm, 2150 Butter-milk Hill Road, Delaware.
Blessing of St. Gerard Majella at Holy Family
After 11 a.m. Mass, Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Blessing of St. Gerard Majella, patron of expectant mothers, for all women who are pregnant or wish to become pregnant.
Angelic Warfare Confraternity at Columbus St. Patrick
Following noon Mass, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Monthly meeting of Angelic Warfare Confraternity, with talk on charity-related issues followed by Holy Hour.
St. Padre Pio Secular Franciscans
1:30 to 5 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 720 Hamlet St., Columbus. Fellowship and ongoing formation followed by adoration and prayer, Liturgy of the Hours, and initial formation with visitors.
Polish Mass at Holy Family
2 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Monthly Mass in Polish.
Catholic Music Series
3 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Organ concert with Nicole Simental, cathedral’s principal organist.
Mozart ‘Requiem’ at Washington Court House
3 p.m., St. Colman of Cloyne Church, 219 S. North St., Washington Court House. Parish’s “Concerts in a Country Church” series presents Mozart’s “Requiem,” with parish choir, a quartet of professional soloists, and chamber orchestra. Seating limited to 200.
Taize Evening Prayer at Corpus Christi
4 to 5 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Evening Prayer in the style and spirit of the Taize monastic community, with song, silence, and reflection.
Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King
5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching.
Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish.

16, WEDNESDAY
Abortion Recovery Network Group
9:30 a.m., Westerville Area Resource Ministry, 150 Heath Road Drive, Westerville. Abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program and wants to stay connected.

17, THURSDAY
Rosary for Life at St. Joan of Arc
Following 6:15 p.m. Mass, St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Recital of Rosary for Life, sponsored by church’s respect life committee.
Pro-Life Legislation Overview
6:30 p.m., Greater Columbus Right to Life, 665 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus. Program providing overview of pro-life laws and legislation in Ohio.

Classified

Notice
Notices for items of Catholic interest must be received by at least 12 days before expected publication date. We will print them as space permits.
Listings cannot be taken by phone.
Mail to Catholic Times Happenings, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215
Fax to 614-214-2518
E-mail as text to tpue@columbuscatholic.org

‘Happenings’ submissions

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Items not received before this deadline may not be published.
Listings cannot be taken by phone.
Mail to Catholic Times Happenings, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215
Fax to 614-224-2518
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Sister from Bolivar is a pioneer for her congregation in U.S.

BY TIM PUET
Reporter, Catholic Times

For most American Catholics, the word “missionary” brings to mind someone from the United States who has gone to a foreign land. But this country also is considered mission territory by members of religious orders who have come here from elsewhere, such as the missionary sisters from India, Mexico, and Poland who are serving parishes in Chillicothe and Columbus.

Franciscan University of Steubenville has become a center of activity for several missionary orders, including the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus, who were founded in Spain in 1998 and have established a house of formation, at the former location of Steubenville’s St. Pius X Church, for women discerning the call to religious life.

One of that order’s pioneers in the United States is Sister Maria Ecclesiae Kline, who pronounced her final vows as a member of the congregation on Saturday, Sept. 9 in Steubenville. She was one of the featured speakers this past Wednesday, Oct. 11, at the annual Marian Dinner for women discerning their vocations, sponsored by the vocations office of the Diocese of Columbus.

In Steubenville, she is helping other young women undergoing the discernment process. Ten young women — six who have professed first or final vows, three postulants, and one candidate — live at the formation house.

They are ministering at Franciscan and in parishes in Steubenville and surrounding communities to establish themselves as a familiar presence, particularly at Steubenville’s Bishop John King Mussio Elementary School, where they are teaching religion classes and presenting a program known as DOYMAR, a Spanish acronym whose words translate in English to Prayerful and Marian-Apostolic Disciples of Redemption.

DOYMAR is a prayer movement to help young people know, love, and serve the Lord as a group and to spread the order’s message of bringing Christ’s love to the world through service and through devotion to his Sacred Heart and the Virgin Mary. DOYMAR includes a lay association which has branches for children aged seven to 10, teens aged 11 to 15, young people aged 15 to 24, and women 24 and older.

“The order’s long-term dream is to have a school in the United States to join the eight schools we now operate — four in Spain, two in Peru, and one each in Guatemala and El Salvador,” Sister Maria Ecclesiae said. “Having a formation house in the United States allows us to consider that possibility if we have enough vocations.”

Sister Maria Ecclesiae was born Emily Jean Kline to Mark and Georgiana Kline of Bolivar and has an older and a younger brother and two younger sisters. She graduated from Dover St. Joseph School and New Philadelphia Tuscawas Central Catholic High School and is a 2009 graduate of Franciscan.

“I come from a very Catholic family,” she said. “We grew up listening to Mother Angelica, and I think I first verbalized the thought of becoming a sister when I was about seven. The love my parents showed for each other and to me impelled me to ask the Lord to have the same kind of loving relationship with him. My older brother also provided me with a role model in learning how to pray.

“Franciscan was a natural choice for college because it’s so strongly Catholic and was close to home. I studied catechetics and theology and had a minor in Spanish. During a retreat in my senior year, it became clear that I was being called to religious life.

“One day after the retreat, I was praying in the Christ the King Chapel at school and asked ‘Lord, why did you want me to learn Spanish if I’m just going to enter a convent and speak English for the rest of my life?’ As it turned out, the Lord had a prompt answer to that question,” she said.

“As I was continuing to pray, two sisters — members of the congregation I’m now part of — knelt next to me and began praying in Spanish. The next day, I met them at a vocations fair. This was the first time anyone from the congregation had set foot in the United States. They had come to Franciscan because of its reputation as a place where seeds for many religious vocations are planted.” Sister Ingrid de Maria Saenz, who was born in Colombia and grew up in Florida, was familiar with the university and had encouraged the order to visit.

“I believe the Lord had sent them to come find me, “Sister Maria Ecclesiae said. “As I talked to them and learned more about the order’s charism, it was like they were going through a checklist of everything I felt strongly about — total consecration to God, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, union with Our Lady, a combination of contemplative prayer and missionary activity, especially service through educating young people.

“I fell in love with their work immediately. I wanted to visit their convent in Spain and didn’t have any money, but my parents paid for a plane ticket. I talked with Mother Maria de Jesus Velarde, the foundress of the order, who wanted me to come back, teach in their school in Madrid, and live in the sisters’ guesthouse while discerning my vocation.

“I knew the Lord wanted me to give up everything and follow him. When I left for Spain, I had no idea when I would come back. I arrived there in August 2009 and entered the congregation on April 1, 2010,” she said.

She spent her first months in Spain as a postulant, a year as a pre-novice, and two years as a novice before making her first vows on Aug. 28, 2013, and her final vows last month.

Sister Maria Ecclesiae received English at the Colegio Veracruz in Madrid — a school founded by the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus in 1994 for students from age one through the Spanish equivalent of the senior year in high school.

In 2010, a year after the vocations fair which led Sister Maria Ecclesiae to joining the congregation, Mother Maria de Jesus came to the United States to talk with Father Michael Scanlan, TOR, former president of Franciscan University, and Bishop R. Daniel Conlon, who was bishop of Steubenville at the time, about establishing a novitiate in Steubenville.

The novitiate was founded in 2011. Sister Maria Ecclesiae returned to Steubenville in 2014, the same year in which the congregation acquired the former St. Pius X Church property, where construction of the formation house began a year later.

The congregation of the Daughters of Holy Mary consists of 600 sisters in nine nations. It was led by Mother Maria de Jesus from its founding until she was succeeded as general superior by Mother Maria del Mar Merino in 2011. The foundress remains active in the order’s life.

“The Lord chose Mother Velarde to begin the congregation and to show us what a Daughter of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus should be,” Sister Maria Ecclesiae said. “She is my role model for being a sister. And at age 92, she continues to provide inspiration every day for all of the sisters.”

“One of the lessons I’m constantly learning from her life and my own is that because of our three vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, especially obedience, everything we do is united to Christ’s redemptive sacrifice,” she said. “It doesn’t matter what you do, whether it’s teaching philosophy, pulling weeds, or even something as simple as drinking a cup of water. It all connects to Jesus and the cross, which is the heart of religious life.”

Asked what she would tell a young woman who is sensing a call to religious life but is uncertain about it, Sister Maria Ecclesiae said, “Thank the Lord for the sense of restlessness about whether he is calling you. It is an immense grace to discover that he wants you to belong entirely to him.

“God is a gentleman who extends an invitation. He wants you to know him and fall in love with him. If you’re sensing a call, prayer, the Sacraments, and spiritual direction are essential. Above all, don’t be afraid. Christ takes nothing away and gives everything, as Pope Benedict XVI says.”
Sisters attend Serra luau

More than 70 sisters enjoyed an afternoon of food and entertainment at the annual Serra Club of North Columbus luncheon for religious sisters of the Diocese of Columbus. The event at the Martin de Porres Center had a luau theme this year. Sisters in attendance included (from left): Sister Eileen Fitzsimmons, O Carm, Sister Philomena Schill, O Carm, and Sister Winifred Jordan, O Carm, all of whom serve at Mother Angeline McCrory Manor. Laypersons pictured are (from left) Ardith Mers, Chuck Mers, and Trudy Ohm.

Photo courtesy Serra Club of North Columbus

Prayer for Missionaries

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Lord, sent by the Father, You are the first Missionary.

We thank You for calling us to participate in Your mission, which is the holiest duty of the Church.

We thank you for our Baptism, in which You made us partakers of Your own Divine Life.

We thank you for the Eucharist, in Which You give Yourself as food to nourish and sustain us.

We thank you for the gift of Confirmation, in which You empowered us to become committed witnesses to Your love and to your truth.

Help us, Lord, to be missionaries wherever we are.

Teach us to see You in our brothers and sisters – regardless of race or language.

Help us to live our lives in such a way that our actions and words proclaim You as Christ, the Lord.

Bless in a special way those missionaries who have given their lives to You, to serve You in difficult and often dangerous situations.

Keep them safe, holy, and enthusiastic as they spread the Gospel even to the ends of the earth. Amen.

One “Our Father”, one “Hail Mary,” and one Glory Be.”

St. Therese of the Child Jesus, pray for us.
St. Francis Xavier, pray for us.

Diocese of Columbus Missions Office
197 E. Gay St., Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 228-8603
www.columbuscatholic.org
PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY ON OCTOBER 22ND

Diocese of Columbus Missions Office
Leandro M. Tapay, Director
197 E. Gay St., Columbus, OH 43215
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2017 WORLD MISSION SUNDAY APPEAL

SUMMARY OF 2016 RECEIPTS

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