CHRIST THE KING CHURCH: ONE PARISH WITH MANY LANGUAGES
The Editor's Notebook

New Year's Eve

By David Gorick, Editor

Feast of Christ the King because this is the culmination of all we have been taught about our relationship with God. This week, we acknowledge that Christ has accomplished his mission. He has come to earth and brought salvation to his people. The Good Shepherd has gathered in his flock and provided them with safety from the evil that surrounds them. Now he sits on his throne in heaven and gathers all of us around him not just for today, but forever.

We now look upon the image of the risen Christ, who rules heaven and earth. He is not a ruler to be feared or resented. He does not dominate with an iron fist. His rule is one of gentleness, love, and compassion. He has shown us the way to live, not just in this world, but in the world to come. We obey because we know that his way brings joy and everlasting life.

In these times of political turmoil, economic hardship, and social upheaval, we are understandably troubled with the responsibility of choosing leaders who can guide us through these difficult times. What a wonderful gift it is that when it comes to our spiritual well-being, we have no such quandary. It does not fall to us to elect our own leadership. Christ reigns as our king not because we chose him, but because he chose us. He came to us as a child, He suffered and died for us and he rose again to serve us as our eternal king. That is what we celebrate at the end of the church year. That is what we must not forget as we begin the cycle again with a new year that is a gift to us from our loving king.

Bishops to put together pastoral plan for marriage, family life ministry

By Carol Zimmermann

Catholic News Service

U.S. Catholic bishops acknowledged that Catholic families and married couples need more support from the church at large and hope to offer it by giving parishes plenty of resources through a pastoral plan for marriage and family life.

A proposal for such a plan was introduced to the bishops on the second day of their annual fall assembly in Baltimore on Nov. 14 and was approved by paper ballot with 232 votes in favor.

The pastoral plan was described by Bishop Richard J. Malone of Buffalo, New York, a member of the bishops’ Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, as a response to Pope Francis’ 2016 apostolic exhortation Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love).

Bishop Malone, who introduced the idea to the bishops, was filling in for Philadelphia Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, the committee’s chairman, who was in Rome for a preparatory meeting for the Synod of Bishops in 2018.

The bishop said he hoped the pastoral plan would encourage long-term implementation of the pope’s exhortation and also encourage a broader reading of it. Several bishops who spoke from the floor echoed this sentiment, emphasizing that the document was more than just one chapter referring to Chapter 8’s focus on the possibility of divorced and remarried Catholics receiving communion, which gained a lot of media attention.

Auxiliary Bishop Robert E. Barron of Los Angeles, founder of Word on Fire Catholic Ministries, said a pastoral plan focused on the exhortation lets the Catholic Church “seize control” of its message after the “blogosphere was forcing us to read it in another way.”

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, similarly noted that the exhortation’s Chapter 8 “got all the headlines” and he hoped a new plan based on the text would get more people to read the entire document and “read it slowly.”

A new pastoral plan for marriage and families would not be “the pastoral plan,” as in the be-all, end-all addressing every detail, but it should provide a framework to help parishes work in this area, Bishop Malone said.

Discussion from the floor about this plan was overwhelmingly positive.

Archbishop Paul D. Etienne of Anchorage, Alaska, said the church should look for ways to lift up marriage and thank couples for all they do. Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of San Francisco said the church should offer more than just marriage preparation programs and should provide something for couples after they are married.

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The annual diocesan “In God’s Service” program and Mass took place on Thursday, Nov. 9 at Columbus Christ the King Church. The fifth annual event was sponsored by the diocesan Vocations Office and Black Catholic Ministries of Columbus.

The program is designed for young men and women in high school. It began with a vocations prayer by Father Paul Noble, director of the Vocations Office, and a welcome by the host pastor, Father David Schalk. It was moderated by Rachelle Martin, Black Catholic Ministries executive director.

Each year, the program honors a priest, religious sister, or deacon for outstanding devotion to his or her call and service to God’s people. This year’s honoree was Father Denis Kigozi, pastor of Canal Winchester St. John XXIII Church.

The students heard from a sister and a priest sharing their personal stories. Sister Patricia Dual, OP, vocations minister for the Dominican Sisters of Peace, introduced Sister Patricia Rogers, OP, director of the Dominican Center for Women in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who told of how God called her while she was teaching at a Catholic high school in Chicago. Father Schalk said that when he was a senior at Pickerington High School, he realized during weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton Parish that he was being called to be a priest.

Father Kigozi told students that God would provide them with all the tools they need when he shows them their purpose. Sister Rogers encouraged students to strive “to be the best version of yourselves” and “stay awake to the ways God is directing your path.” Father Schalk emphasized the importance of quiet and meditative time for reflecting, talking, and praying to God to show us his plan is for our lives.

The students also had the opportunity to obtain vocations literature from the Office of Vocations, the Office of the Deaconate, the Dominican Sisters of Peace, and the Missionary Servants of the Word, and to interact with the program’s participants before the talks. Following the talks, Mass was celebrated, with Vernon Hairston leading the music and song, and students being altar servers, readers, and gift bearers. The program concluded with lunch and fellowship.

Photos/Black Catholic Ministries
The ones who won’t be home for the holidays

By Laura Kelly Fanucci
Catholic News Service

This season sparkles with joy. We open our homes to family and friends, greeting each other at wreath-decked doors under twinkling lights.

But a small moment often catches in our throat. We set one less place for Thanksgiving dinner. Or we cross a name off this year's Christmas list.

Wherever we gather around holiday tables this year, there will be holes left by those who aren’t there. Relatives who have died. Loved ones lost to addiction. Babies who never got to be held. Families divided by divorce. Gaping holes left by grief.

Other changes are temporary but still weigh heavy on the heart. The kid not coming back from college this year. The family members deployed. The friends on the other side of the globe.

Holidays often set this truth in stark relief: Our families -- and our lives -- don’t always look the way we expected or planned.

I learned -- after infertility and miscarriage and child loss -- that smiling faces on Christmas cards don’t tell the whole story. Maybe the parents lost so many babies before they finally got to bring one home. Maybe they never wanted a huge brood, but the kids kept coming. Maybe their marriage is crumbling and no one knows.

Human nature is quick to judge what we see on the surface, quick to idealize others’ lives. But the truth runs deeper.

I look at my own family, and I ache for my children who aren’t here and my brother who’s long gone. I want to set three more places at our table, even as I delight in those around me.

But here’s a truth worth celebrating in a season of wonder: We keep going.

Suffering and grief are met by an even stronger force: that God made human hearts resilient. We do not have to despair when our reality does not match our hopes or others’ expectations. We can still embrace the good work of living out our callings.

Even amid the dreams that have died and the shadows of what might have been, we can still show up and choose joy.

Think about the holiest of families. Mary and Joseph could never have imagined how parenthood would begin for them.

But both embraced the life that God set before them, even with its suffering and heartache. They must have known great joy, too. Holiness was caught up in all of it.

So do not fear this year if your heart aches for the ones who aren’t here. You are not alone.

In a month that starts with All Saints and All Souls and ends in Thanksgiving, we can be grateful that our struggles are part of a greater mystery: The communion of saints in which the living and the dead are held together in the love of God.

Together we are only -- but always -- joined in this sacred wholeness: “We believe in the communion of all the faithful of Christ, those who are pilgrims on earth, the dead who are being purified, and the blessed in heaven, all together forming one church” (Pope Paul VI, “Credo of the People of God,” in the “Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 962”).

Look around the table at those here to celebrate with you. Remember those who are gone. When you find yourself holding them together -- the living and the dead, the lost and the found -- then you enter more deeply into this holy mystery.

Even in absence, we can love in the present tense.

Fanucci is a mother, writer, and director of a project on vocation at the Collegeville Institute in Collegeville, Minnesota. She is the author of several books, including “Everyday Sacrament: The Messy Grace of Parenting,” and blogs at www.motheringspirit.com.
About 65 seminarians from the Pontifical College Josephinum and young lay missionaries from NET Ministries gathered at the home of Sunbury St. John Neumann Church parishioners MaryBeth and Ryan Eberhard for a Thanksgiving party just before the holiday.

This is the second year the Eberhards have hosted the event. The couple also host two or more seminarians at least a month for a home-cooked meal.

“They love the atmosphere of a family meal because it gives them a chance for some fellowship outside of school and a touch of home that they miss, particularly those from outside the Columbus area,” MaryBeth Eberhard said. “It all began when we ‘adopted’ Michael Fulton, a seminarian from St. John Neumann, when his family moved to Colorado. He brought a friend, Seth Keller from Columbus St. Patrick Church, and it grew from there.”

About 25 seminarians showed up last year when the Eberhards hosted their first Thanksgiving dinner for them. “We have eight children, ages 15 to five, so we have a big house with plenty of room,” she said.

Friends of the couple donate food for the dinners. “This year, we had about 25 families donating 35 or 40 items,” Eberhard said. She said the Reser and Ritchie families of the parish were particularly helpful with doing dishes and cleanup.

“The Knights of Columbus from St. John Neumann donate turkeys, then we get the usual things like sweet potatoes, mashed potatoes, sausage and rice, corn chowder, and fruit trays. Our kids enjoy doing Jell-O molds, chocolate cakes, and cupcakes. We have a couple big freezers and St. John Neumann allows us to use its refrigeration equipment, so that’s a big help,” she said.

“Last year, there was a seminarian from Puerto Rico, and someone sent some paella, which is a rice and shrimp dish. They also sent a small ham, which is a tradition in Puerto Rico. He literally teared up.

“I have learned some of their other favorites, like who prefers canned cranberries over homemade and who loves pistachios. Chocolate milk is a particular favorite, because it’s available at the Josephinum and a lot of guys there must like it. We always have a fridge full of it whenever we have the seminarians over,” Eberhard said.

“We try through the year to bless them with little tokens that we are thinking of them, but this party is special for us and them.

“One of my favorite moments of the night was when a shy young seminarian, who had visited last year, quietly took a plastic take-home container from his coat pocket. He looked at me as though he wanted to ask if he could take home leftovers, and I smiled.

“Last year, we invited them all to take leftovers for themselves and other seminarians who were not able to make it. Once I said it was OK, it was like a door opened and others took their take-home containers out. Those that did not have containers looked sad, but a few people had generously dropped off Tupperware for them, so they too had leftovers to take home. The beautiful thing is that they did not think just of themselves, but of their classmates,” Eberhard said.

“The reason we open our home in this way is to model a willingness to welcome all as Christ, as well as to open our children’s eyes to the reality that God has a calling for them and they need to keep their hearts and minds ready for that calling. “Having priests, seminarians, sisters, and missionaries as part of your everyday life makes this a choice as ‘normal’ as that of being a teacher, doctor, electrician or entrepreneur. Not only that, it gives me the opportunity to mother all these young people that come through our door,” she said.
Father Patrick Peyton and road to sainthood; Pray for Judas Iscariot?

QUESTION & ANSWER
by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

A friend told me recently that the cause of Father Patrick Peyton had been sent to the Vatican for sainthood. Do you know how it stands and when he might be declared a saint? (I hope and pray that it will be in my lifetime.) Also, what are the stages for someone to be declared a saint? (Albany, New York)

A. Father Patrick Peyton’s cause for canonization rests right now with the Vatican’s Congregation for Saints’ Causes. In April 2015, the posittio, or official position paper, was presented formally to that congregation. That document, a 1,300-page report that studied his life and ministry for signs of heroic virtue and sanctity, had been prepared over four years, gathering testimonials from 35 different dioceses around the world.

The congregation is now in the process of reviewing that documentation. Following a favorable review, the cause would then be presented to the Holy Father and, with the pontiff’s approval, Father Peyton would be declared “Venerable.” Then, evidence of miracles attributed to his intercession would be studied and subjected to rigorous medical scrutiny; one documented miracle would be needed for beatification and another one for canonization.

Father Peyton, hailed throughout the world as the “Rosary Priest,” died in 1992 at age 83. He promoted family prayer and coined the oft-heard slogan, “The family that prays together stays together.” He organized rosary crusades in 40 nations that drew 28 million people and was a pioneer in using modern media to advance religious values, producing 600 radio and television programs using Hollywood stars and other celebrities.

There is no way to forecast exactly when his canonization might take place, but I, too, would feel a personal thrill in witnessing it. I was honored when Father Peyton invited me to write the foreword for one of his final books, and once, when he was then in his late 70s and in failing health, I ran into him in Rome.

He asked about my mother, whom he had known when he first began the Family Rosary organization in the 1940s. I told him that she was, in fact, visiting me that very week in Rome. Though I pleaded with him not to, he insisted on climbing the steep set of stairs to my apartment to see my mother and give her a blessing. I will always remember “Father Pat” not only as a very holy man, but a kind man as well.

Q. Does it make sense to pray for salvation for Judas Iscariot, the apostle who betrayed Jesus? It seems that throughout the history of Christianity, he has been vilified and no one has mentioned that, hopefully, he could have been forgiven for his sin. (Petersburg, Indiana)

A. It does no harm to pray for the salvation of Judas, and I admire your compassion. The church has never said definitively that any particular person is now in hell. It is possible, I suppose, that Judas repented for his sin and, in the silence of his heart, sought God’s forgiveness.

Matthew’s Gospel (27:3-5) says, in fact, that following the betrayal, Judas “deeply regretted what he had done” and returned the 30 pieces of silver to the chief priests, saying “I have sinned in betraying innocent blood.” Of course, he then “went off and hanged himself,” but even that does not translate automatically to the loss of eternal salvation.

(Note that the church now offers a funeral Mass for a suicide victim -- on the possibility that the person’s desperate state of mind may have precluded full responsibility.)

The problem, though, with Judas is that Jesus did say of him (both in Matthew 26:24 and Mark 14:21) that “it would be better for that man if he had never been born” -- which suggests to me that Judas never did achieve eternal happiness. I believe, though, that prayers are never wasted -- and if the Lord cannot apply your prayers to Judas Iscariot, he will surely find someone else (who will be grateful for your efforts.)

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

By Rick Jeric

Theology of abundance

Happy Thanksgiving! I hope we are all enjoying plenty of family, friends, and the accompanying blessings. I am so blessed, and have an endless list of people and things for which I am eternally grateful. Thank God for my family and the grace to get through the challenges of life. And we are most thankful for the Eucharist, which itself means thanksgiving. Especially at this time of year, we hear a lot about wealth, bounty, and abundance. This is not just about “stuff.” This is about life. Life includes gifts and what we do with them. There is a real theology of abundance that did not come from me, but from the deepest roots of our Catholic Faith. Many have written and preached on this subject. I recently attended a presentation by Archbishop Joseph Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky. My thoughts are a product of his talk, along with others. I certainly want to credit those who have shared their wisdom.

I want to begin with the overarching spirituality, mindset, and theology. We can go through life with a theology of scarcity or a theology of abundance. I will promote abundance. A theology of scarcity tells us that there is only so much out there at our disposal, so we had better be sure to get our fair share. I have a responsibility to take care of myself and my family. So I will work hard for what is mine, and everyone else needs to do the same. A theology of abundance fills us with an attitude of gratitude. I am grateful for all my gifts, which belong to God and not to me. Can I share my gifts and my abundance? Put another way, how do I want to be remembered? My virtues cannot help but be absorbed by others. That should be a good thing. But when I am gone, will my “résumé virtues” be a good reflection of my life, or will my “eulogy virtues” be more accurate? Résumé virtues promote ourselves and show how wonderful we are for a career or new position. Eulogy virtues tell how we will be remembered. We carry those virtues with us into eternity. They are to be admired.

Let us use St. Matthew as an example. When Levi the tax collector was called by Jesus, he had a transformation and change of heart, becoming Matthew. The epitaph on Levi’s tombstone might have read “He was great at collecting from others.” The epitaph on Matthew’s tombstone might read, “He inspired others to share.” And to take a quote from the 10th chapter of Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus said, “I came so they may have life, and have it more abundantly.” A theology of abundance wants everyone to succeed. We cheer for others and share in their success. This is a real gift and charism. Yes, we all have this capability. We live mutually to build up one another and thereby build up the Body of Christ. We are saved by Jesus, not alone, but together. To argue that we are to live for prosperity can be dangerous. I do not share and give to others so that God will bless me. Abundance demands the right motivation. I share and give to others because I want to, not because I need to, and my heart expands with rewards, not riches. What is God calling me to do in thanksgiving? We hold one another up in prayer. We remain open to God’s call and His abundant blessings. Our vocation this holiday season, and forever, is to be humble, to listen to others and their prayers, and to be joyful. Live a life filled with a theology of abundance.

National STEM Day at Bishop Flaget

Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School celebrated National STEM Day with a design challenge for the whole school. The students were told that Father Sean Dooley of Chillicothe St. Peter Church, a regular visitor to the school, had lost his Lego blocks in a gutter during recent rains and needed to be able to retrieve them from the sewer. He needed the students to design something which would help him lower a bucket into the sewer to retrieve the blocks. Students were divided into groups, and each group had to design something which could be hooked to a bucket to retrieve items from a body of water. The groups were given 100 paper clips for use in a chain, then had 15 minutes to determine the strongest design for the chain and connection to the bucket. All students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade were involved in the activity. In the right photo, science teacher Danielle McDaniel (center) helps eighth-graders Abby Wiley (left) and Carmen Corcoran test the amount of weight their chain will hold. In the left photo, Wyatt Dawson (top) and Maddux Diehl get a thumbs up from Father Dooley.

Photo courtesy Bishop Flaget School

Lancaster St. Mary science lab blessed

Lancaster St. Mary School’s science lab has been blessed by Father Craig Eilerman, pastor of St. Mary Church, and dedicated to St. Albert the Great, patron of scientists.

“The Church has always been about supporting the natural sciences,” said Brian McCauley, the church’s religious education director. “This is evident in the number of lay and religious Catholic scientists who have made landmark discoveries in their fields, but also in the large number of Catholics who carry on the daily work of scientific inquiry because they are aware that in studying creation through the natural sciences, they are coming to better know the creator.”

Famous Catholic scientists include geneticist Gregor Mendel, microbiologist Louis Pasteur, and Father Georges Lemaitre, father of the big bang theory.

Following the dedication, a plaque was unveiled in the lab showing many of the images associated with St. Albert and his contributions to science. The dedication plaque was provided by St. Mary Church.

Father Eilerman is pictured with Anita Yaple (left), seventh- and eighth-grade science teacher, and Jodi Funk, sixth-grade science teacher. Photo/St. Mary School
Manuela Lue completes rosary mission

Nine years ago, former Columbus resident Manuela Lue set a goal of placing rosaries in the hands of all the students of the 130 Catholic schools in her homeland of Belize, the former British Honduras in Central America. She reached that goal in October at St. Viator Vocational High School in the community of Chunox.

Lue, her aunt Thomasita Azevedo, and others have distributed more than 40,000 rosaries to students since 2008. At each school they visited, they gave all teachers and principals a packet filled with rosaries, rosary-making activities, and leaflets with stories about the lives of the saints, the rosary, and the scapular of Mount Carmel.

Each principal also received a large rosary made by Azevedo, and each student was given a Divine Mercy poster to take home. The visits usually ended with prayers with the students for their families, for the benefactors of the rosary mission, and for each school and community in Belize.

During school visits, Lue and her team also took the opportunity to learn about the needs of the schools and their students, and to form networks which have provided scholarships to needy students with high academic potential.

Lue’s involvement with the rosary began when Irene Cassady of Columbus taught her how to make rosaries. The idea for the rosary mission came to her in 2002 while she was attending Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Columbus Immaculate Conception Church. The benefactors whose donations have helped provide rosaries for her work include many Columbus residents, some of whom have visited her on missionary trips to assist with her work.

“Students see the rosary as a sacred object which helps us to receive God’s graces,” Lue said. “They better understand the Blessed Mother’s role in interceding for us. The rosary sessions enlightened the teachers with how to better motivate the students and provided a deeper insight into how to pray.

“The objective was to touch the hearts of all the participants in the rosary sessions, and the students asked several questions about their faith. They were engaged in the sessions and happy that a team of visitors came from outside their school to teach them. This brought a fresh perspective to the students and they enjoyed the activities during the rosary sessions.

“Overall, the sessions were fruitful and helped the participants to grow in their faith. Words cannot describe the amazing nine-year journey that took the rosary team to every nook and cranny of Belize to teach the rosary in the Catholic schools.”

Anyone interested in learning about Lue’s mission may reach her at her new email address, mcjlue74@gmail.com.

Lectors, acolytes ordained at Josephinum

Eight seminarians from the Diocese of Columbus were among 18 Pontifical College Josephinum students recently installed as lectors or acolytes. Bishop Terry LaValley of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, New York, was principal celebrant of the installation Mass in St. Turibius Chapel. Seminarians installed as lectors typically are first-year theologians and are commissioned to proclaim the Word of God in the liturgical assembly and to catechize the faithful. Acolytes, traditionally second-year theologians, are entrusted with the duties of attending to the altar, assisting the deacon and priest at Mass, and distributing holy Communion as an extraordinary minister. Picture are (from left), first row: Columbus seminarians Pushkar Baum (acolyte) and Michael Fulton (acolyte); Bishop LaValley; Msgr. Christopher Schreck, Josephinum rector-president; and seminarian Andrew Wisniewski (lector); second row, seminarians Seth Keller (acolyte), Frank Brown (acolyte), Gordon Mott (acolyte), Eugene Joseph (lector), and Jacob Stinnett (lector).
St. Catherine of Siena provides unexpected inspiration

Have you ever had a saint burst into your life and you’re not sure why? St. Catherine of Siena has been pursuing me recently, so I became inspired to look more closely at her life and teachings.

I am a convert who has been Catholic for 32 years, and I continue to be amazed at the lives of the saints and how we can develop such personal relationships with them. The saints watch over us and assist us when we call on them. They are our heavenly friends, who teach us and intercede for us at different times in our lives and stand alongside us on our march toward heaven.

St. Catherine of Siena is a doctor of the Church, canonized in 1461, and is a patroness of Italy and Europe. She was a third-order Dominican who lived to the age of 33. She was a spiritual guide to many, and, in the words of Pope Benedict XVI, “guided people from every walk of life: nobles and politicians, artists and ordinary people, consecrated men and women and religious, including Pope Gregory XI, who was living at Avignon in that period and whom she energetically and effectively urged to return to Rome.”

She had a profound “mystical marriage” to Christ, whom she loved with intimate faithfulness. She is one of a small group of saints who Pope Benedict identified as having an extraordinary devotion to the holy Eucharist.

I feel connected to St. Catherine in many ways; I admire her directness and the poignant simplicity in her words, inspired by her love of Christ and her understanding of the spiritual life: “If you are what you should be, you will set the world on fire.”

It’s funny how sentiments from centuries ago resonate in our times: “Proclaim the truth and do not be silent through fear.”

Her words inspire me to deeper reflection with Lectio Divina: “All the way to heaven is heaven, because Jesus said, ‘I am the way.’”

Just as our friendships with certain people seem to start almost naturally and it can feel like we’ve known them forever, our friendships with saints can happen in the same way.

During this month of All Saints, St. Catherine nudged me along as she became our Walking With Purpose table name. I discovered she was the saint in a small image I had in my kitchen (who I mistakenly thought was St. Teresa of Avila until a friend cleared that up). St. Catherine’s reflections jumped off the page as I was preparing SoulCore Rosary meditations for All Souls Day. And I am blessed to lead SoulCore at where else but St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church.

I continue to pray for this amazing saint’s intercession to help me stay centered on Christ, to be courageous in speaking the truth and guiding others to Christ with humility. May we all open our hearts to this saint, friend, and “coach” as we seek to discern and live out the mission Christ has in mind for each of us.

Lori Crock is a wife, mother, Plain City St. Joseph Church parishioner, strength and movement coach, and owner of MoveStrong Kettlebells in Dublin. Lori is online at movestrongkbs.com and holyandhealthycatholic.com.
Above: Columbus Christ the King Church parishioners (from left): first row, Paul Glauder, Lisette Catholic Times/ November 26, 2017 CT photos by Tim Puet

Columbus' east side is "one lot of them don't have any pact on me and on many other English communities have homilies. "I was surprised attitude and Father Schalk's parishioners' welcoming at- Christ the King because of she visited several area par- total attendance of about 500 and 10 a.m. Sunday have a day. He said Masses in Eng-Saturday and 12:30 p.m. Sun- now attending Masses he cel- grown steadily ever since, attending Masses in Spanish. Latino community in 2001, his entire 37-year diaconal served at Christ the King for moved into the area. as more Latino families have place in the last 15 years or so the 71 years since its found- guages." It's an appropriate descrip- added to the language mix at many diocesan parishes regardless verse, because he speaks perfect Spanish," she said. "The way the Latino and English communities have been able to work together in the parish has made a big imp- on this area, because he speaks perfect Spanish," said Mendoza. "A lot of them don't have any other family members nearby. They come to Christ the King, and the people here become their family." "The communities have integrated in many ways," said Father Schalk, who has spent most of his nine years as a priest at Christ the King, coming to the parish as a pa- nashal care in 2010 and be- coming the pasto following the year. "Some examples of this are our recent bilingual Mass on All Souls Day, the bilingual ser- vice we have on Holy Thursday, the annual Servers of Christ the King hon- oring parishioners, our winter fiesta in February, and the parish picic in July. "We come together when we celebrate the Day of the Dead," Father Schalk said. "We are a culture that takes time respecting cultural dif- ferences when necessary," he said. "The Latino and Anglo Catholic cultures have dif- ferent expectations and dif- ferent ways we express our relationship to the world, but the great things about the uni- vernal nature of the Catholic Church." The All Souls Day celebra- tion provided an example of blending the two cultures. "We want to follow the Latino tradition of the Day of the Dead by setting up remembrance alters dis- playing candles, flowers, plus- tos, and other items to honor loved ones who have died," said Father Schalk. In addition, a remembrance book was available for people to inscribe the names of the dead – a custom which has become widespread in many diocesan parishes regardless of their ethnic makeup. French recently has been added to the language mix at Christ the King. A Mass in French is celebrated once a month on a Sunday afternoon at the parish by Father Frit-

BY TIM PUET
Zettler Times

Father David Schalk says Christ the King Church on Columbus’ east side is “one parish that speaks many lan- guages.” It’s an appropriate descrip- tion for the parish, which has seen many changes in the last 15 years or so as more Latino families have moved into the area.

Mendoza, who has served at Christ the King for his entire 37-year diaconal career, said the parish started attending Masses in Spanish in the Latino community in 2001, with about 25 people initially attending Masses in Spanish.

Father Schalk, the parish’s pastor, said that number has grown steadily ever since, with more than 1,000 people now attending Masses he celebr- ates in Spanish at 6 p.m. Saturday and 12:30 p.m. Sun- day. He said Masses in Eng- lish now take place on Friday and 8 and 10 a.m. Sunday. There are a total attendance of about 500 people.

"The parish has evolved into a multicultural mecca," said Jeff Corbin, a parishioner for 50 years. Parishioner Litire Mendoza, who came to Co- lumbus from California, said she visited several area par- ishes and found a home at Christ the King because of "parishioners’ welcoming at- titude and Father Schalk’s manner. I was surprised he’s from this area, because he speaks perfect Spanish," she said. "The way the Latino and English communities have been able to work together in the parish has made a big imp- act on this area, because he speaks perfect Spanish," said Mendoza. "A lot of them don’t have any

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Children at play at All Saints Elementary School on the Columbus Christ the King Church campus. The school has a diverse population of 355 students. Photo courtesy All Saints School
Two centers dedicated at Bishop Ready

Columbus Bishop Ready High School’s newly renovated and expanded Gus Flichia Guidance Center and the new Sharon and Mike Curtin Communication Center were dedicated at a blessing ceremony led by Deacon Joseph Knapke, a Ready faculty member.

Flichia, a 1968 Ready graduate, made possible the expansion of the school’s former guidance center to incorporate a work-study area and a tutoring area for students. Flichia, who is dyslexic, recalls that dyslexia was rarely diagnosed in the 1960s and learning was a difficult challenge.

After serving with the Navy in Vietnam, he went on to own a distribution company. He said he made the donation to show his gratitude to God and to help others find and achieve success and receive help in attaining their goals.

The Curtins are parents of Ready graduates and have been involved with the school in many ways. Mike Curtin is a former editor and executive with The Columbus Dispatch and a former state representative. Sharon Curtin is a former director of religious education and is a substitute teacher and campus ministry volunteer at Bishop Ready.

School principal Celene Seamen said it will enable students to learn film and sound editing, broadcast journalism, animation, robotics, software design, how to write code, and other subjects. There is also an area for 3-D printers.

The dedications follow last year’s renovations and dedications of the Wiser Business Innovation Center and the Cacchio Library.

Other Ready graduates have instituted a Knight for the Future annual event, spearheaded by Hank Martensen and Don Bradley and aided this year by Jamie McAllister and Mike Mentel. Its next project is to create an environment for students interested in medical fields.

“In addition to the current curriculum of biology, anatomy and physiology, chemistry, health, and physics, we will add an opportunity for our students to get realistic practice … including monitoring blood pressure and using stethoscopes, getting certified in CPR and first aid, and using 3-D images to simulate surgeries and medical procedures,” Seamen said.

“Students will hear from professionals in the field, including our own alums, as we partner with medical personnel to provide insight into the wide and growing field of medical studies.”

Above: From left, Columbus Bishop Ready High School senior Kelly Huber; Michelle Kelly, the school’s development director; Celene Seamen, principal; Rose Flichia and her son Gus; and Ready senior Jordan Gantz. Below: From left, Ready principal Celene Seamen, Sharon and Mike Curtin, and school development director Michelle Kelly. Photos courtesy Bishop Ready High School
The Feast of Christ the King (Cycle A)

**Judgment is based on response to the neighbor**

Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17; 1 Corinthians 15:20-26,28; Matthew 25:31-46

Ezekiel generally prophesied just before and while the Babylonian Exile was happening (586 BC). Ezekiel was actually exiled to Babylon in 597 BC during an earlier assault against Judah. Like others, Ezekiel explained the Exile as punishment by the Lord for sins committed by people, and largely blamed the “shepherds of Judah” (their kings) for the disaster which occurred. Many of the rabbis considered Ezekiel to have been a collective work and many modern scholars agree with that assessment. The work makes use of early apocalyptic imagery, suggesting that the origins of apocalyptic as a style of writing trace their early beginnings to this work.

Ezekiel 34 is addressed to “the shepherds of Israel,” a common title for kings. They are accused of having cared for themselves, rather than their flocks (the people of Israel). The Lord promises to tend the sheep instead of the shepherds: “I myself will look after and feed you, or thirsty and we gave you drink?” When did we see you stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill in prison and visit you?” The King answers, “When you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did it for me.” Their genuine kindness is so much a part of their lives that they cannot distinguish between who they aided.

The ones on his left fail to recognize when they failed to minister to the King’s needs, and the King answers, “What you did not do for these least ones, you did not do for me.” Nearly everything Jesus said ends with the judgment of the neighbor. It is a powerful gospel. The entire judgment is based on how we dealt with the neighbor in life. It is a powerful gospel. They are called “righteous,” but they protest: “Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and we gave you drink?” When did we see you stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill in prison and visit you?” The King answers, “When you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did it for me.” Their genuine kindness is so much a part of their lives that they cannot distinguish between who they aided.

The Weekday Bible Readings

**MONDAY**
- Daniel 11:1-6,18-20
- Daniel 3:52-56 (Ps)

**TUESDAY**
- Daniel 2:31-45
- Daniel 3:57-61 (Ps)
- Luke 21:5-11

**WEDNESDAY**
- Daniel 5:1-6,13-14,16-17,23-28
- Daniel 3:62-67 (Ps)

**THURSDAY**
- Romans 10:9-11
- Psalm 19:8-11
- Matthew 4:18-22

**FRIDAY**
- Daniel 7:2-14
- Daniel 3:75-81 (Ps)

**SATURDAY**
- Daniel 7:15-27
- Daniel 3:82-87 (Ps)

**DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 26, 2017**

**SUNDAY MASS**
- 10:30 a.m. Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.
- Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 7:30 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus.
- and 10:30 a.m. on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18, Zanesville.
- Mass from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 6:30 a.m. on ION TV (AT&T U-verse Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirecTV Channel 305).
- Mass from Massillon St. Mary Church at 10:30 a.m. on WLIB radio (AM 1060, FM 94.5 and 89.5), Canton, heard in Tuscarawas, Holmes, and Coshocton counties.

**DAILY MASS**
- 8 a.m., Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Spectrum Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or WOW Channel 378).
- Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight.
- Mass from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 6:30 a.m. on ION TV (AT&T U-verse Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirecTV Channel 305).
- Mass from Massillon St. Mary Church at 10:30 a.m. on WLIB radio (AM 1060, FM 94.5 and 89.5), Canton, heard in Tuscarawas, Holmes, and Coshocton counties.
- Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight.
- Mass from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 6:30 a.m. on ION TV (AT&T U-verse Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirecTV Channel 305).

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

In the marriage case styled **DAVID ELIOT JAMISON – JANET LEDALE YOUNG**, a reporter turned back to that section of the program that generated so much attention, a reporter turned back to that section of the exhortation, asking the bishop in a news conference if couples living in adultery could receive Communion.

“I’m not going to answer that here,” the bishop said, re-emphasizing that the aim of the pastoral plan was to provide married couples with resources they would need to strengthen their marriages and families.

After Bishop Malone had stressed before the body of bishops that the program would focus on the entirety of **Amoris Laetitia**, not one part that generated so much attention, a reporter turned back to that section of the exhortation, asking the bishop in a news conference if couples living in adultery could receive Communion.

“I’m not going to answer that here,” the bishop said, re-emphasizing that the aim of the pastoral plan was to provide married couples with resources they would need to strengthen their marriages and families.

They should know about marriage before they come to church to set up their wedding, he said, emphasizing that catechism needs to start much earlier.
A museum for which to be thankful

By Carol Zimmermann
Catholic News Service

On Sept. 29, 1952, the publication of the complete Revised Standard Version of the Bible was celebrated at the National Guard Armory in Washington, and the principal speaker was the U.S. Secretary of State, Dean Acheson. The son of the Episcopal bishop of Connecticut, Acheson movingly described the ways in which the King James Bible, which the new RSV was to supplant, had once shaped American culture and our national life:

“In the earliest days in the Northeast, the Book was all. The settlers came here to live their own reading of it. It was the spiritual guide, the moral and legal code, the political system, the sustenance of life, whether that meant endurance of hardship, the endless struggle against nature, battle with enemies, or the inevitable processes of life and death. And it meant to those who cast the mold of this country something very specific and very clear. It meant that the purpose of man’s journey through this life was to learn and identify his life and effort with the purpose and will of God,” he said.

That biblical vision helped form the bedrock convictions of the American idea: that government stood under the judgment of divine and natural law; that government was limited in its reach into human affairs, especially the realm of conscience; that national greatness was measured by fidelity to the moral truths taught by revelation and inscribed in the world by a demanding yet merciful God; that only a virtuous people could be truly free.

“But this … did not exhaust the teachings of this Bible,” Secretary Acheson continued. “For it taught also that the fear of God was the love of God and that the love of God was the love of man and the service of man.”

At this perilous moment in our national history, when contempt and hatred seem far more characteristic of our civic life than charity and solidarity, it’s worth pondering how far we have come, and why. To claim that “the Book is all” today would be risible. On the contrary: As Cardinal Donald Wuerl, archbishop of Washington, remarked at a pre-opening celebration of the splendid new Museum of the Bible in the nation’s capital, the Bible has been systematically “bleached out” of our national life over the past several decades. And that bleaching has not produced a more tolerant people, but a far more intolerant civic life, of which the recent awfulness in Charlottesville, Virginia, may stand as a vile symbol.

At Thanksgiving 2017, too many voices in America seem to suggest that some of us must hate others of us if America is to flourish, even survive. But the great Dean Acheson had an answer for that essentially totalitarian claim, too: “In order to love our country we do not have to hate anyone. There is enough to inspire love here. … Out of many, (Americans) are one. (Ours) is a unity (amidst a) great and vigorous diversity based on respect for man, the individual … And this, indeed, is the source of our strength, and of the lasting power of our society. For the solidarity which is built, not upon servility, but upon the common loyalty of free men, is resilient and enduring.”

We may, and should, hope that Secretary Acheson’s confidence in the resilience of America has not been falsified by the secularist “bleaching” of which Cardinal Wuerl spoke. That hope has been strengthened by the opening of the Museum of the Bible on Nov. 17. Three blocks from the U.S. Capitol, we now have a striking witness, in architecture, art, and artifact, to the enduring power of the Word of God. The museum is thoroughly ecumenical and interreligious. All of the people of the Book, be they Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant, or Jewish, will find much to learn there, in a series of both classic and interactive displays that nourish the mind and soul. Anyone who cares about the Bible owes the donors who made this striking facility possible, and the men and women who designed it with evident care an enormous vote of thanks.

For if it succeeds in its mission, the Museum of the Bible will help reverse the bleaching out from our culture of what is arguably its deepest, noblest, and most important wellspring: the Word of God, molding the lives of the readers of the Book.

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

Supreme Court to hear case on free speech and crisis pregnancy centers

By Carol Zimmermann
Catholic News Service

The Supreme Court has decided to hear a case examining freedom of speech at crisis pregnancy centers.

The case, accepted on Nov. 13, will consider if a California law that went into effect in 2016 violates the Constitution by requiring the state’s 200 crisis pregnancy centers to inform their clients, in specific detail, about the availability of free or low-cost abortion and contraceptive services and provide a referral number for them.

The law in question, called the Reproductive FACT Act, says centers must post such notices in areas where they will be clearly seen on paper that is “at least 8.5 inches by 11 inches and written in no less than 22-point type.” Centers also are required to disclose in their advertisements if they have medical personnel on staff. Some centers provide counseling and offer supplies of diapers, formula, clothes and baby items. Centers that fail to comply are subject to fines of $500 for a first offense and $1,000 for subsequent offenses.

Three pregnancy centers challenged the law in court, saying it infringed on their First Amendment rights to freedom of speech and free exercise of religion.

The pregnancy center law was upheld last October by a panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit that said the state could regulate professional speech because of its interest in safeguarding public health and to ensure that “citizens have access to and adequate information about constitutionally protected medical services like abortion.”

It also said the required signs were simply to inform clients of the existence of these services and did not encourage or suggest that clients should use them. This October, a California Superior Court judge granted a permanent injunction against the state attorney general preventing him from enforcing the Reproductive FACT Act.

“Compelled speech must be subject to reasonable limitation,” ruled Riverside County Superior Court Judge Gloria Trask in the Oct. 30 decision that provided injunctive relief statewide and prevented the law from being enforced.

“The statute compels the clinic to speak words with which it profoundly disagrees when the state has numerous alternative methods of publishing its message. … In this case, however virtuous the state’s ends, they do not justify its means,” the judge said.

“We are thrilled with Judge Trask’s ruling, which is a huge victory for free speech,” said Scott Scharpen, founder and president of the Scharpen Foundation, which operates the Go Mobile for Life pregnancy clinic. “The whole notion of being compelled to share information with our patients about abortion availability, which is contrary to our mission and purpose, is fundamentally wrong.”

Ned Dolejsi, executive director of the California Catholic Conference, similarly told Catholic San Francisco, the archdiocesan newspaper, that he applauded the judge’s ruling. He said the state’s Catholic bishops oppose the legislation for pregnancy centers, which he described as “a pure and simple violation of free speech and a violation of religious liberty.”

The case before the Supreme Court is called National Institute of Family and Life Advocates v. Becerra. It will be the first abortion-related case heard by the court with President Donald Trump’s
**FREE SPEECH, continued from Page 15**

Apple-toe court brief filed by the National Association of Evangelicals, the Christian Legal Society and the National Legal Foundation said that “abortion remains one of the most contentious issues of our public life” and that when courts appear to “be taking sides” on the issue, it requires the Supreme Court to step in to “assure uniform standards are applied on both sides of this issue.”

Another friend of the court brief filed by Carenet, an affiliation organization for pregnancy resource centers, said it was “deeply concerned about California’s decision to force pregnancy resource centers in California to become spokespersons for the abortion industry.”

California’s attorney general, Xavier Becerra, who will represent the state in the oral arguments, said in a statement that “information is power” and that “all women should have access to the information they need when making personal healthcare decisions.”

Alliance Defending Freedom will represent the National Institute of Family and Life Advocates, a national nonprofit organization providing legal counsel, education and training for pro-life pregnancy centers. Thomas Glessner, the group’s president, said in a statement that the case could have broad implications particularly on “similar unconstitutional laws in Illinois and Hawaii.”

**Bishop Ready sponsors basketball tournament**

The Columbus Bishop Ready High School athletics department is sponsoring its second annual boys basketball holiday classic for sixth- and seventh-graders. Teams will compete to prepare for the regular season. It is a pool-play tournament with a single-elimination format.

Potential game dates are Wednesday to Friday, Dec. 20 to 22 and 27 to 29. Registration deadline is Friday, Dec. 15.

For more information, contact Dan DeCrane at (614)-276-5263, extension 231. More information and a registration form are on the school’s website, www.brhs.org. Click on “Quick Clicks,” then “Don’t Miss This.”

**Charles R. Grunewald**

Funeral Mass for Charles R. “Ron” Grunewald, 71, who died Monday, Nov. 13, was held Friday, Nov. 17 at Hilliard St. Brendan Church.

He was born on Aug. 8, 1946, in Long Beach, California, to the late Charles and TwyLah Grunewald.

He graduated from Ohio University in 1970 with a bachelor of science degree in accounting and was co-founder of what is now the accounting firm of Nartker Grunewald Eschleman and Cooper, from which he retired in 2014.
Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King
5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching. 614-237-0401

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

Catholic Singles Fellowship Mass, Dinner, Adoration 5:30 to 8 p.m., St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware. Parish’s Catholic singles fellowship group meets Mass, followed by dinner at a site to be determined, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 7 to 8. All diocesan Catholic singles welcome. 740-362-2246

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

Our Lady of Peace Men’s Bible Study 7 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominon Blvd., Columbus. Bible study of Sunday Scripture readings.

Padre Pio Prayer Group at St. John the Baptist 12:30 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 168 E. Lincoln Ave., Columbus. Padre Pio Prayer Group meeting, including rosary, devotions, and 1 p.m. Mass. 614-294-5319

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.

Ohio Dominican Chorus Christmas Concert 7 p.m., Christ the King Chapel, Sansbury Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus. University chorus Christmas concert. 614-251-4453

Hosanna! The Choir of the St. Peter Church, 8 p.m. to midnight, Mcc'man Community Center, St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. "Hosanna! The Choir of the St. Peter Church," descriptive Christmas program and delivering them to third-shift workers. 614-889-2221

1-2, FRIDAY-SATURDAY St. Pius X Men’s Retreat 7 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Men’s retreat led by John Bradford of Wilderness Outreach. Theme: “The Gates of Hell Shall Not Prevail: Taking the Battle Beyond the Breach.” Followed Saturday by Reconciliation at 4 p.m. and Mass at St. Cost $30; includes snacks and beverages Friday and two meals Saturday. 614-322-9743

2, SATURDAY Fatima Devotions at Columbus St. Patrick 7 a.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Mass, followed by devotions to Our Lady of Fatima, preceded by confessions at 6:30. 614-240-5910

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

First Saturday Devotion at St. Joan of Arc 8:30 a.m. St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Mass, followed by rosary in reparation to Immaculate Heart of Mary, concluding with Fatima prayers. 614-761-0905

Bishop Ready Placement Exam 8:45 a.m. to noon. Bishop Ready High School, 707 Salisbury Road, Columbus. Placement exam for incoming freshmen. 614-276-5263

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

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

First Saturday Mass at Holy Family 9 a.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. First Saturday Mass for world peace and in reparation for blasphemies against the Virgin Mary, as requested by Our Lady of Fatima. 614-221-1890

Centering Prayer Group Meeting at Corpus Christi 10:30 a.m. to noon, Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Centering prayer group meeting, beginning with silent prayer, followed by Contemplative Outreach DVD and discussion. 614-312-3371

Advent Wreath Craft Day at St. Thomas Aquinas 2 p.m., St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 144 N. 5th St., Zanesville. Family craft day with Frenzio Greg Orofino showing how to make an Advent wreath. Supplies provided; bring pruning shears.

3rd, SUNDAY-STU-DAY Used Book Sale at Columbus St. Patrick 6 to 7 p.m. Saturday, 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Patrick Hall, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Holiday used book sale presented by Knights of Columbus Council 11207. Proceeds go to support religious vocations. 614-224-9522

3, SUNDAY Exposition at Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel 9:30 a.m. Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 5133 Walnut Road S.E., Buckeye Lake. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Sunday during Advent. 740-928-3266

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education 10 to 11:30 a.m., Trinity Catholic Church, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Part 3 of seven-part video series on “Wisdom: God’s Vision for Life” by Jeff Cavins and Thomas Smith.

Book Discussion at Martin de Porres Center 2 to 4 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330 airport Drive, Columbus. Discussion by author Patricia Sargeant of “Mayhem & Mass,” first in a series of mysteries she has written (under the pen name Olivia Matthews) that are inspired by the Dominican Sisters of Peace. 614-416-1910

Rosary, Evening Prayer at Columbus St. Peter 4 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Recitation of the rosary, followed by Evening Prayer at 4:30 on all Advent Sundays. 614-889-2221
Mystery series inspired by Dominican Sisters of Peace

Award-winning Columbus author Patricia Sargeant, writing under the pseudonym Olivia Matthews, is introducing a mystery series inspired by the congregation of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. *Mayhem & Mass*, published by Kensington Publishing Co., is the first book of her Sister Lou mysteries. It will be available in bookstores and online in December.

The featured amateur sleuth of the series, Sister Louise “Lou” LaSalle, is a member of the fictitious Congregation of the Sisters of St. Hermione of Ephesus, based in the equally fictitious small town of Briar Coast, New York. Sister Lou’s character was inspired by real members of the Columbus-based Dominican Sisters of Peace.

“I had the pleasure of working with and getting to know several members of the Congregation of Dominican Sisters of Peace,” Sargeant said. “I was impressed and inspired by their courage, determination, and great intellect. Those are the traits I hope I convey in the title character of my series.”

In *Mayhem & Mass*, a Catholic congregation is preparing to celebrate its patron saint’s feast day. Its guest speaker, Dr. Maurice Jordan, is a controversial theologian and decades-long friend of Sister Lou. When he is bludgeoned to death, sheriff’s deputies suspect a member of the congregation was involved. Frustrated, Sister Lou believes that if she’s going to learn who killed her friend — and why — she’ll have to investigate the death with the help of her socially well-connected nephew and an investigative reporter.

The author will be present for a discussion of her new book with the Dominican Sisters of Peace from 2 to 4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 3, at the Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus. *Mayhem & Mass* is available at Generations Religious Gifts and Books in Columbus and online at Amazon.com. For more information on the Sister Lou mysteries, visit AuthorOliviaMatthews.com.

Students’ video conference with Akiane Kramarik

Eighth-grade students at Worthington St. Michael School took part in a video conference with Akiane Kramarik, a 23-year-old self-taught artist and poet whose talent has been recognized worldwide. She was discovered and featured by Oprah Winfrey at age nine, her *Prince of Peace* painting of Jesus was featured in the movie *Heaven Is for Real*, and her work has been viewed online by more than 450 million people.

Students prepared for the event by examining her website and coming up with questions to ask her. The conference began with her talking to the students of how she began drawing at age four as a way of expressing visions of heaven that she saw and of how she feels she is doing God’s will by glorifying him through the gifts he gave her, helping others reach their dreams through art.

She then answered questions. She told one student who asked about the visions that they came most frequently when she was four to six years old. She said the colors she saw in those visions were different than anything that could be perceived in our world, and that the visions gave her a sense that everything had a soul and a unique purpose.

“Our event was a great way to integrate technology,” said art teacher Mary Stuller. “We got to know an artist far away from us and hear her speak, in a way that would not have been possible until recently. It was powerful and very educational.”

Photo by Ilia Kramarik
CNA/EWTN News

Last week, the National Geographic Museum in Washington opened a 3-D virtual tour of the Holy Sepulchre, the site of Jesus’ tomb (pictured).

While the exhibit will likely draw tourists from around the country, could it also be used as a type of virtual pilgrimage, perhaps for those who are unable to visit the Holy Land in person due to cost, disability, or other factors?

“Yes,” says Dr. Anthony Lilles, academic dean and theology professor at St. John’s Seminary in Camarillo, California.

Lilles told CNA that the intention is key in making the experience a pilgrimage. “A tourist goes because they are curious; a pilgrim goes for a sacred purpose,” he explained.

“We must not, so to say, stay on the level of surface appearance, but instead allow our imaginations to be baptized by the places we are visiting virtually – thinking about the reality of Christ’s historical presence and what it means for our lives now.”

The three-dimensional tour opened on Nov. 15 in Washington and will continue until Aug. 15, 2018.

It will give viewers an inside look at one of the most revered spots in Christian history.

Veneration of Christ’s burial place dates back to St. Helena, who discovered and identified the tomb in the fourth century. St. Helena’s son, Roman Emperor Constantine, built the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in 326 and enshrined the tomb.

The shelf on which Christ’s body was laid is the central point of veneration, which has been encapsulated by a 3-by-5-foot marble structure - the Edicule - since at least 1555.

A yearlong restoration of the site was recently completed, and scientists are looking into additional restoration work on the foundation.

The virtual exhibit takes visitors through the history of the holy site and shows the new technologies used in its restoration.

Lilles said the virtual tour offers not only a lesson in history, but an opportunity for a deeper devotion to Christ.

“As beautiful as a virtual exhibit may be, we can be too passive in our engagement with holy places precisely because we are only experiencing them virtually,” he cautioned.

Those who wish to attend the exhibit as a type of spiritual pilgrimage should take careful steps to prepare, he said.

He suggested reading the Gospel accounts of Christ’s passion and resurrection before visiting. Going to station from station in the 3-D tour, a pilgrim might choose a prayer or scripture verse to meditate on at each stop.

Additionally, he said, the pilgrimage should be accompanied closely by Mass, confession, and a work of charity. It should culminate with firm resolutions on how to “live differently in light of the mystery of our faith.”

While the spiritual pilgrimage to the Washington exhibit would not have an indulgence attached to it as other formally recognized pilgrimages do, Lilles said virtual pilgrimages have been supported by the Vatican before.

“John Paul II once led pilgrims in the footsteps of Abraham from Ur to the Holy Land to Egypt and back to the Holy Land. He wanted to actually go to these places during the Great Jubilee of 2000, but Saddam Hussein refused permission,” he recalled.

“So instead, in the Paul VI audience hall, he led us on a ‘spiritual’ pilgrimage where slides of the sacred sites of Abraham were shown,” and the pope led prayerful meditations.

With the right mindset and adequate spiritual preparation, Lilles said, a virtual pilgrimage can yield spiritual fruits.

“One who goes as a pilgrim goes to out of devotion to Christ who became a pilgrim for our sake, do penance for his own sins and the sins of our society, to ask for the mercy of God for forgiveness and healing, and to thank God for pouring out His loving kindness,” he said.
Downtown Columbus is home to many historically and architecturally significant churches representing the finest in craftsmanship and ecclesiastical design. The Columbus Landmarks Foundation is sponsoring a walking tour of four such churches from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2.

“The Great Hallelujah Tour of Downtown Churches” will feature seasonal music at each church, with introductions from WOSU Classical 101 FM host Christopher Purdy. Participants will be able to learn the rich architectural history of each church from Columbus Landmarks experts and to understand how the churches work to meet the needs of their dynamic congregations and the greater neighborhood, while being caretakers of some of Columbus’ most important and challenging buildings.

Tickets are $15 for foundation members and $20 for nonmembers, and may be purchased online at columbuslandmarks.org.

Featured stops along the one-mile walking route include First Congregational Church, 444 E. Broad St.; St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St.; Trinity Episcopal Church, 125 E. Broad St.; and Broad Street United Methodist Church, 501 E. Broad St.

The tour begins at First Congregational Church at 2 p.m. Cathedral parishioners may park in the rear lot and walk to the first stop. Please wear comfortable walking shoes and dress for the weather. If the weather is inclement or you wish to drive and park at each stop for accessibility reasons, limited on-street or nearby parking is available near each site. All four sites are handicapped-accessible.

During the cathedral stop, Dr. Richard Fitzgerald will lead the entire cathedral choir in a musical presentation. Refreshments will be served in the undercroft as the group leaves the cathedral. The tour ends at Broad Street United Methodist Church, across the street from the lighted Topiary Park and the lifesize Nativity display at the State Auto Insurance building.

Get in the holiday spirit with a festive tour of downtown churches

DeSales wins seventh state soccer championship

The Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School boys soccer team won its third state championship in four years and seventh overall, defeating Bay Village 4-0 on Saturday, Nov. 12 at Mapfre Stadium for the Division II crown. The Stallions finished with a 22-0-1 record, outscoring opponents 38-0 in postseason play and 102-8 for the year. Team members are (from left): first row, Cristian Gomez, Fermin Lopez, Nick Fuchs, Riley Paxton, Carson Fox, Thomas Sauer, Chase Agin, Hector Gomez, Zach Garrett, Michael Cockrell, and Cesar Ramirez; second row, Jack Francisco, Alex Whalen, Bryan Roach, Josh Conroy, Dominic Julian, William Shaffer, Aaron Ritzler, Rhyse Martin, Ben Whalen, Ricci Kreuzer, and Vigo Bertolo. Not pictured are head coach Domenic Romanelli, assistants Ben Brooks, Michael DiCeasre, Matt Jacobone, and Jeremy Gray, and statistician Daniel Freeman. Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School