CATHOLIC TIMES

A journal of Catholic life in Ohio

APRIL 16, 2017
EASTER SUNDAY
VOLUME 66:28

JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN!
The dawn breaks. In the east, the black sky fades to gray and purple, a glow of pink and yellow warms the horizon, light shines forth over the earth, and a new day is here. It happens every day. But on Easter morning, it takes on special beauty. On this day, it is more than the start of another day. It is the fulfillment of the promise that, whatever happens in our lives, we have hope and salvation through Christ.

It all starts with light. The book of Genesis tell us, “In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was without form or shape, with darkness over the abyss and a mighty wind sweeping over the waters. Then God said: ‘Let there be light,’ and there was light. God saw that the light was good.” Man was placed on earth to live in the light of God’s creation. But sin was also in the world, and man succumbed to it. And with sin came darkness -- not the natural darkness of night, but the cruel, cold darkness of separation from God and spiritual death.

But in spite of our sinful natures, God always loved mankind and every one of us. He did the only thing he could to bring us back to his perfect love. St. John explains, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. … And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father’s only Son, full of grace and truth.”

The Son of God chose to come among us as one of us. Fully God, yet also fully human, he experienced the full range of humanity. He grew hungry and ate with us. He grew weary and rested among us. He felt joy, friendship, adulation, and love. He dealt with sorrow, loss, rejection, deceit, and pain. He shared in our humanity so that he could share with us his divinity. We did nothing to deserve any of this. Out of nothing but pure love, he showed us the way. In Matthew’s Gospel, we hear His words: “Come to me, all who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for your selves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.”

But the darkness of sin still pervaded the earth. Christ had to go to that ultimate step of facing and overcoming the final darkness of death to make a way for all of us to join him in everlasting love and glory. The day after his crucifixion was indeed a dark day, the ultimate darkness, as the very light of God was extinguished from the earth. What pain and desolation his disciples must have felt in that darkness.

But the next morning, the first Easter morning, that darkest of all nights was split by the most glorious of all dawns. Light overcame darkness, life overcame death, Christ was victorious over a sinful world, and the door to paradise was opened for all eternity to those who love and follow Him.

Every Easter morning, we rejoice anew to the arrival of the light of eternal joy that is promised to each of us in His presence in heaven. He is risen! Alleluia!

Ohio Bishops issue statement on immigration

The following statement was approved by the Catholic bishops of Ohio on Tuesday, April 4, at a meeting of the board of directors of the Catholic Conference of Ohio. It was sent as a letter to President Trump, Senators Rob Portman and Sherrod Brown, and all Ohio members of the U.S. House:

Welcoming refugees and immigrants is a significant aspect of our American heritage and a fundamental character of Ohio faith communities, including the Catholic Church. Ohio is blessed to have many refugees and immigrants in our parishes, schools and ministries. The Catholic Church in our state operates numerous programs that directly sponsor and support these newcomers.

As we listen to our pastors, principals, program directors, and more importantly, to the refugees and immigrants served by our Church’s ministries, we know of many good people who are deeply concerned for their personal safety and fearful about separation from their families. These are ongoing concerns, but recent changes in federal policy have heightened such fears.

At both the state and national levels, our Church has long spoken out in favor of policies that ensure safety and compassionate treatment for immigrant and refugee persons and families in need. We continue to call upon Congress to address our broken immigration system through a comprehensive reform that improves security and creates more legal and transparent paths to immigration. As for enforcement, we do not advocate for the breaking of laws. Yet, we do urge for a more humane enforcement of these laws in a way that distinguishes between actual criminals and otherwise law-abiding, undocumented immigrant family members. We believe immigration officials should prioritize removal to those who are real threats to public safety. Likewise, most local law enforcement agencies we encounter are highly concerned about increasing trust between police and immigrant communities. Their work for public safety relies on trust between immigrants and local police and sheriff departments. We oppose efforts to pressure our state and local law enforcement to proactively enforce immigration regulations, unless public safety is truly at risk.

Correction - A story in the April 2 Catholic Times listed an incorrect day of the week for a program to be sponsored by the Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity at Confluence Park in Columbus. The correct date is Saturday, June 3.
My dear brothers and sisters in the Risen Lord Jesus,  
The Church has been celebrating the Feast of Easter for two thousand years, and each time we shall rejoice over the day of resurrection, new and fresh.  
This greatest day in the Christian calendar is always a gift of new life and fresh beginnings. It is a celebration of victory over the power of sin and death, hatred and violence. It is the triumph of divine love. In the resurrection, we see that through His Cross Christ has revealed for us the heart of God, full of compassion and life everlasting.  
Jesus Christ is risen and alive to every generation of believers. He continuously offers us an authentic encounter with God’s saving truth, supreme goodness, and compelling beauty, suffusing all of nature.  
The risen Lord fulfilled His promise to be with us for all the ages in His gift of the Holy Eucharist. Here we can hear His Word and experience His real presence. In His Body and Blood, the risen Lord offers us sustenance for the journey to the everlasting Kingdom. Here the power of the Lord's dying and rising continues to awaken human hearts and minds to the God who is a God of life and love.  
It is my prayer that the risen Lord lift up your minds and hearts this Easter and bring to everlasting life.  
Bishop Frederick F. Campbell  
Bishop of Columbus
Ohio Dominican University Receives Gift from Dominican Sisters of Peace

Gift from founding congregation is largest in university’s 106-year history

Ohio Dominican University has received the largest gift in the school’s history: a $1.5 million gift from its founding congregation, the Dominican Sisters of Peace. The gift will be used to renovate ODU’s east campus building at 2600 Airport Drive so it can house the university’s proposed doctorate of physical therapy program. In recognition of the gift, the building will be named Peace Hall.

The program is seeking accreditation from the Higher Learning Council and will be applying for accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education.

The $1.5 million gift includes a $500,000 matching gift to challenge other donors to support ODU’s first doctoral program.

Dr. Peter Cimbolic, ODU president, and Sister Patricia Twohill, OP, prioress of the Dominican Sisters of Peace, announced the gift on Thursday, April 6.

“By virtue of making this momentum gift, we are demonstrating our confidence in the future of Ohio Dominican University and its commitment to be an innovative leader in higher education,” Sister Patricia said.

“In referring to it as a momentum gift, our goal is to inspire other donors to join us and make a commitment to ODU. There is a significant need in the Columbus area for well prepared and qualified physical therapists. ODU’s proposed doctorate in physical therapy program will be a major step forward in addressing that need.”

Cimbolic said the congregation’s gift will help ODU in its efforts to address a pressing need in the health care field in Ohio.

“We are extremely grateful for the generosity of the Dominican Sisters of Peace and their leadership throughout Ohio Dominican’s history. Their gift to the university will undoubtedly be felt across the region for decades to come in the form of quality and accessible healthcare,” Cimbolic said.

“There is a tremendous need in our community for physical therapists, and that need will grow rapidly as the baby boomer generation continues to get older. We’re confident that we will develop a top educational program that will help to fill that void in the Columbus region and across the country.”

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the physical therapy profession is expected to experience a 34 percent increase in employment (71,800 openings) between 2014 and 2024. The average growth rate for all occupations is seven percent. The annual median pay for physical therapists in 2015 was approximately $84,000.

ODU’s east campus building was built in 1995 and includes 32,000 square feet of available rehabilitation training spaces, as well as office space.

Once renovated, it will offer students ample classroom, laboratory, and research facilities. The building is easily accessible from ODU’s main campus by a bridge constructed as part of the Alum Creek Trail.

Fisher Catholic High School Partners with The Catholic Foundation

This year, Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School will celebrate 46 years of educating students in the Catholic tradition. Each year, the school asks for contributions to its “Grounded in Faith, Growing to Serve” fund to help sustain the Fisher Catholic mission of “exceptional preparation for life.” Additionally, the school looks to planned gifts as a way to ensure longevity.

By definition, a planned gift comes from a donor’s financial or estate planning. Gifts could come from appreciated securities such as stock, real estate, a retirement plan, or even cash, and generally are made from outside a donor’s discretionary income. Some donors are in a position to make the gift during their lifetime, but many make it as a bequest by beneficiary designations or in their will. Planned gifts can offer many benefits to the donor, including tax savings and the potential for an income stream.

Donors often direct a planned gift to an endowment fund, which allows the one-time gift to grow and provides a permanent source of funds for the intended beneficiary. Fisher Catholic and the other Catholic high schools in the Diocese of Columbus are blessed to receive financial support from several endowment funds created by generous donors.

The Catholic Foundation will act as a resource to Fisher Catholic, offering expertise in the areas of endowments, planned giving, bequests, and estate asset planning. This will allow the school’s development team to continue focusing on capital campaigns and annual giving and will enable alumni and other donors to consider future gifts and long-term support for the school.

The partnership will provide assistance by The Catholic Foundation to all graduates of Catholic high schools from the Lancaster area, including alumni of Lancaster St. Mary and Bishop Fenwick high schools and Fisher Catholic.
BOYS SUMMER BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Columbus Bishop Ready High School is sponsoring its fourth annual Silver Knights Summer Basketball League for boys who will be entering grades five to eight in the fall.

The league will have two divisions. Boys entering grades seven and eight will play in the NBA Division on Tuesday nights from June 1 to July 13. The College Division, for boys entering grades five and six, will play on Thursday nights from June 1 to July 11. Games will be played from 5:30 to 9 p.m. in the school’s gym at 707 Salisbury Road.

Ready staff and alumni will teach offensive and defensive schemes, and participants will be given the opportunity to develop individual and team skills. The Silver Knights teams will compete against other teams from throughout the greater Columbus area in officiated games.

The cost is $90 per player, or $80 for Castle Crew members. More information, including a registration form, is available at the school’s website, www.brhs.org, on the basketball team page under “Athletics,” or by contacting Ready basketball coach Dan DeCrane at ddecrane@cededucation.org or (614) 276-5263, extension 231.

ON A FIRM FOUNDATION

Share our Blessings

“Freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought. Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and ‘Hallelujah’ is our song. The future starts today, not tomorrow.” - Pope John Paul II, Croatia, 1994.

Pope St. John Paul II called for love, justice, and truth in a world of increasing violence, immorality, and injustice. However, knowing that this doesn’t come without struggle or risk, his message was also one of hope for those who follow Jesus Christ. He assured us of God’s love for us and His hope for our fulfillment and happiness. In our journey, as we strive for holiness amid the many difficulties and distractions of the world, we continue to remember His words and the promise of hope. This message is as relevant in today’s world, if not more, as it was more than two decades ago.

We are the “Easter people” who believe that the power of faith transforms even death. The cross transformed all the suffering and pain, while the Resurrection secured the promise of eternal life. This is the Easter faith that we are called to live every day. On Good Friday, we remember and commemorate Jesus’ crucifixion. On that day and on that cross, He gave us everything. He died for me and He died for you. Once we have known such a love, there is no turning back and there is no walking away.

Serving as the “Easter people” requires bold action and a servant’s heart, just as Christ lived His life here on Earth. Pope John Paul II challenged us to act on our faith in the present tense, rather than as a future goal. But how will you bear witness to your faith and help spread the word of God? Most people want to do something, but don’t know where to start. The Catholic Foundation encourages Catholic philanthropy and the stewardship of assets so that we can give back to God all that He has given us.

We provide funding centered around the four pillars of education, parish life, social services, and vocations. The Catholic Foundation helps Catholic causes and Catholic needs and helps build a legacy for future generations. No gift and no cause is too small. We partner with organizations and individuals who strengthen and improve the Catholic community. To learn more about starting a new fund or the types of funds we offer, as well as the areas of need where you can help most, call us at (614) 443-8893. Remember Pope John Paul II’s words: “The future starts today … not tomorrow.”

The Catholic Foundation’s mission is to inspire giving and assist donors to provide for the long-term needs of the 23-county Diocese of Columbus. The Foundation fulfills its mission by seeking donors to establish endowment funds designed to support current and future needs and by distributing earnings according to diocesan priorities and donor intent. It is one of the nation’s oldest and largest Catholic foundations, distributing more than $100 million in the diocese since 1985.

For additional information about The Catholic Foundation, visit www.catholic-foundation.org.

Brown is the president and CEO of The Catholic Foundation.
Prayer against tornadoes?
Are the rich evil?

QUESTION & ANSWER
by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. Would you please print a prayer of protection against tornadoes? Tornado warnings get my full attention. Recently, six tornadoes touched down here in middle Tennessee on the same day.

The television news had warned that the last of the six was headed to the next road over from ours. That is too close for me. The next time, we might not be so lucky. (McMinnville, Tennessee)

A. I am not aware of any specific prayer against tornadoes, but I do know that St. Medard traditionally is regarded as the patron saint against bad weather. He was a bishop in France during the first half of the sixth century.

Legend has it that when he was a child, he once was sheltered from a violent rainstorm by an eagle that hovered over his head. That is how he commonly is depicted in art, and Christians have long invoked his aid in stormy weather.

The prayer that is said admits of different versions, but generally goes something like this:

“Lord Jesus, though the intercession of St. Medard, be with me during the storms of my life and the storms of nature. Protect the victims of hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, and other natural disasters. Send in helpers and multiply the supplies that are needed for their aid. You calmed the storm on the Sea of Galilee; deliver us now from the storms that rage around us. Amen.”

Q. Recently, my seventh-grader came home from his CCD class and said that his teacher had taught that rich people are “evil, going to hell and don’t work” and that all poor people are “good, going to heaven and work hard.”

In the teacher’s defense, English is her second language, so it’s possible that something was lost in translation, but that was still the lesson my son came away with.

Then, three days later, we received a request from the diocese asking us not only to match our donation from last year, but even to increase it a bit. There occurred to me the irony of what my son was being taught against what the church was asking from us, and it made me very angry.

So, are the rich really doomed to hell? And should I say something to the CCD supervisor? (This whole affair, in fact, has made me question whether to stay with the Catholic Church.) (Roanoke, Virginia)

A. First, as an answer to your theological question. No, riches don’t necessarily doom people to hell. It depends what they do with those riches, how they share them.

Joseph of Arimathea, described in Matthew’s Gospel as a rich man and a disciple of Jesus (he could afford a rock-hewn tomb for Christ’s burial), is venerated by the church as a saint.

Pope Francis, writing in 2014 to the world’s economic elite assembled in Switzerland, said, “It is intolerable that thousands of people continue to die every day from hunger, even though substantial quantities of food are available, and are simply wasted.” The responsibility to share hangs heavily on individuals, as well as on nations.

In a homily at his morning Mass in May 2016, the pope commented on the biblical warning that “you cannot serve both God and mammon.” He explained that the problem comes when one begins to idolize money.

Riches, said the pope, can become “chains” that take away “the freedom to follow Jesus.”

Riches, then, are a blessing that must be managed: They come with a moral duty to help the needy. And the church in its fundraising relies on the generosity — the sacrifice, even — of its members to help the vulnerable, whom society tends to forget.

As for your own next move, you surely should speak with the religious education director or to your pastor. If that is actually what the teacher said, she is wrong and needs to be corrected. If — and this is more likely — she simply was misunderstood, she needs to correct that, too.

And as for your staying with the Catholic Church, I trust that your allegiance does not depend on the words of one CCD teacher. It really has more to do — doesn’t it? — with the teachings of Jesus, the availability of the sacraments, and the long history of the church as the protector of the poor.

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 30 Columbia Circle Drive, Albany NY 12203.
Healing the loss of a loved one

By Sister Constance Veit, LSP

I lost my mother unexpectedly last November, after having lost my father after a long illness eight years earlier. My siblings and I suddenly found ourselves “orphans” as we marked our first Thanksgiving and Christmas without either of our parents. Now we are anticipating our first Mother’s Day without Mom.

We’ve spent the past few months dismantling and selling my parents’ home of 50 years. It’s the only house we knew while growing up, and it has continued to be our emotional hub as our adult lives have taken us across the nation. As we bring closure to this phase of our grieving just in time for Mother’s Day, I feel drawn to share a few reflections on how my faith has supported me during this time of mourning.

The loss of a loved one can engender intense and contradictory feelings. This is especially true with our parents, since our bond with them is so profound. We may experience an overwhelming sense of loss at the passing of our parents, especially if they were involved in our daily lives, or we in theirs. In all likelihood, we also mourn a combination of unexpressed sentiments, unresolved issues, unfulfilled hopes and plans, and family milestones that never will be celebrated together. In the case of my mother, I also have been deeply grieved by the suffering she experienced in her final days.

So what do we do with all these intense emotions? I have found that the Church’s 50-day celebration of Easter has offered me unexpected graces and consolations as my siblings and I mourn the loss of our mother.

Two Easter symbols have helped me to believe that in Christ crucified and risen, all our grief and pain – all our woundedness – can be healed. The first is the paschal candle and the second is the Divine Mercy image. Despite participating in the Easter Vigil every year, I never really paid attention to the five grains of incense with which the paschal candle is inscribed before being lit. These symbolize the wounds of Christ. As he presses the grains into the candle, the priest says, “By his holy and glorious wounds, may Christ the Lord guard and protect us.”

In her book on the healing of memories, Remembering God’s Mercy, author Dawn Eden observes “that it is only after these wounds are called to memory that the light of the risen Christ, symbolized by the ignited candle, shines forth and spreads its glow. … The light of faith – the lumen fidelis that shines upon us and gives us our identity as Christians – is the light of Christ precisely as wounded.”

I found Eden’s words especially helpful in accepting my mother’s death. “When I unite my own wounded heart with the wounded and glorified heart of Jesus,” she writes, “his wounds heal mine.”

In the Divine Mercy image revealed to St. Faustina, Jesus, though risen, reveals the wounds of his crucifixion and his pierced heart. In her diary, St. Faustina relates many occasions when Christ invites her to take refuge in his sacred wounds, as in a safe hiding place. Christ also refers to his wounds as a fountain of life and mercy, and Faustina sees in them a sign of God’s great love. The image of the risen Christ still bearing the wounds of his passion is thus not morbid. It is consoling for me to realize that in his unfathomable mercy, Christ embraces both my mother and myself, with all our human imperfections, hiding us in his merciful wounds.

The Divine Mercy image and the paschal candle remind me that it is in the liturgy, especially at Mass, that we are bathed in the waters of new life, fed with his living bread, and healed of our wounds. It is also in the Eucharist that we are united with the communion of believers, including those who have passed on ahead of us. It is there that we can still experience communion with my parents – though in a manner quite different from our regular visits and phone calls. As our Catholic faith teaches in the Catechism, the union of those who sleep in the Lord with those who are left behind “is in no way interrupted … (but) reinforced by an exchange of spiritual goods.”

The Catechism informs us that those who have gone before us to their heavenly reward do not cease to intercede for us. “Being more closely united to Christ, those who dwell in heaven fix the whole Church more firmly in holiness,” it says. By their concern, “our weakness is greatly helped.” In faith, I know that my bond with my parents is not broken by their passage from this life.

I’m sure that my mother, who never gave up trying to direct her children – even after they had reached adulthood – rejoiced to find out that she could continue doing so from heaven. We, her children, are consoled to know that she now has the perfect vantage point! We are not really orphans after all. Happy Mother’s Day, Mom!

Sister Constance Veit is communications director for the Little Sisters of the Poor.
Currently Seeking

President for Parkersburg Catholic Schools

Candidates for this results-oriented position will possess strong leadership skills, strategic vision, and the ability to collaborate dynamically with the pastors, principals, patrons, and families.

President will be responsible to:

- develop and implement a comprehensive strategic plan;
- lead and oversee all advancement, fundraising, and marketing activities;
- oversee financial and facilities management.

Interested candidates can review the job description by clinking the “President Principal Model” link on the school website at PCHS1.com.

Resumes can be sent to the chairman of the search committee, Fr. Rice at jrice@dwc.org by 4/30/2017.

ARE YOUR GIFTS

Faith-Filled?

The Catholic Foundation is the only foundation in the diocease that invests your gifts in alignment with the teachings of the Catholic Church. Our portfolios follow the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops guidelines, and we carefully screen all charitable organizations that we fund to make sure they also follow Catholic values.

KEEP YOUR GIFTS IN OUR FAITH.

Prayerfully consider making your charitable gifts through The Catholic Foundation. CALL 866-298-8893 OR VISIT WWW.CATHOLIC-FOUNDATION.ORG TODAY.

Third-grade students and teachers at Gahanna St. Matthew School raised more than $550 in March for the Mary’s Meals program. That’s enough to give 29 children one meal in a place of education for a full year. Mary’s Meals is a worldwide organization which provides the most effective help to people suffering the effects of extreme poverty in the world’s poorest communities. After parents of some of the students heard from Mary’s Meals founder Magnus MacFarlane at the Columbus Catholic Women’s Conference in February, they decided to help the project by having the students make and sell bookmarks. On learning of this, MacFarlane sent the students a signed copy of his book and a video of some of the children who have benefited from Mary’s Meals. After watching the video, the students made a pledge to raise at least $19.50 each. That amount provides one meal a year for a child in a place of education served by Mary’s Meals. “My fellow third-grade teacher Molly Riesbeck and I witnessed the joy on the faces and the tenderness in the hearts of our third-graders by their creating and carrying out this service project,” said St. Matthew teacher Carol Spellacy. “The children learned a great deal about themselves and how it little it takes to help others.”

Photo courtesy St. Matthew School
I wonder what our parents were thinking about when they first heard the words “Holy Ghost.” Did they think they would be visited by evil spirits or by something they could neither comprehend nor understand? When you are a child, you think about things in a softer tone. You perceive the world to be innocent and full of affectionate mercy. You set aside preconceived notions of bigotry and hate and instead concentrate on the goodness of those around you and on the circumstances that make them special.

We all wish we could think of the Holy Ghost as a friend who guides us and our children through much of what life tends to throw at us. It is in our very nature to distrust the unknown. We were brought up to look away from strangers and to turn away those who are not like ourselves. Jesus did not teach this to us or for us to emulate. He promised that if we could just love one another, the world would unfold with a most remarkable simplicity.

It is very much a diagnosis of what we as Christians have made of society and of the counterculture that seems to permeate our daily lives. The possibility of being moved by the divine spirit, or, even more, having it influence our actions, is so scary to some of us that we shun it and tend to push it away for what seems to be a more esoteric and rather idyllic, noble cause.

God sent his only son, in the form of a spirit, to all of us, not to be alienated upon delivery but to be celebrated, taken in, and venerated with unlimited grace. Just think of all the good things that could happen to a society raised with and on the premise of a divine guidance.

For our world to be changed, it must begin with this single act or promise: to love someone without regard to belief or stature and to love the Spirit with unquestionable, unwavering humility. St. Therese of Lisieux once said, “Joy isn’t found in the material objects surrounding us, but in the inner recesses of the soul. One can possess joy in a prison cell, as well as in a palace.” This is so true, for it isn’t really the size of the gift that counts. But the spirit to which it was and always will be intended.

I ask you to remember this when you pray and lift up your heart and yourself to others and to Christ. Don’t fall into the trap that you are irredeemable, for everyone has a Ghost of a chance. May God bless you and keep you this Easter season, 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.

A Special Mother’s Day Gift

Mother’s Day again will be the focus of the annual layette fund drive sponsored by the Christ Child Society of Columbus. Society members assemble a gift package of baby care items to be distributed to needy mothers and their babies throughout central Ohio. Each layette contains a sleep sac, receiving blanket and/or handmade quilt, sleepers, onies, diapers, wipes, bib, book, towel, socks, and educational material on infant care for new mothers. A total of 1,784 layettes were distributed during 2016.

A layette may be purchased in honor of (or in memory of) your mother, grandmother, aunt, daughter, sister, friend, etc. A personalized Mother’s Day card announcing your thoughtful gift will be sent to your honoree or to the family of a deceased honoree. A card bearing the name of your honoree will be inserted in a layette and given to a needy mother.

To order a layette, send the name and address of the woman to be honored or her family (in memory of honoree) and a check ($35 for each layette) payable to Christ Child Society of Columbus. Send the order by Friday, April 28 to Layette Fund Drive, Christ Child Society of Columbus, Box 340091, Columbus OH 43234-0091.
Easter Sunday is the greatest feast on the Church’s calendar because it commemorates the day Jesus rose from the dead, defeating the power of sin and affirming his divine nature.

But unlike most of the other great feasts, its date varies from year to year. It can be on any of 35 days from March 22 to April 25. This year, it’s on April 16; last year, it was on April 27; next year, it’s April 1.

Each of those dates is the first Sunday after the first full moon after the equinoxes. That date was set for Easter in 325 by the Council of Nicea, the first ecumenical council. It is decided on that date because the events of what we know as Holy Week occurred at the time of the Jewish Passover, which was celebrated on the night of the first full moon following the equinox Periods.

A fixed date had to be set for Nicea because the two major Church groupings which had developed by the time of the council used different calendars and celebrated Easter on different days.

The Easter Church, based mainly in Antioch and Alexandria, followed the traditional lunar calendar of 12 lunar cycles of 29.5 days, or 354.36 days a year. The Western Church, headquartered in Rome and Alexandria, used the Christian era adopted in 45 BC and is called the Julian calendar, for Julius Caesar. That’s the calendar we know, with three years of 355 days and one of 366 days.

Today, at least in most years, Easter again is celebrated on different days by different Christian groups. The Orthodox churches, which celebrate Easter on a date in Christianity’s first major division, continue to use the Julian calendar to determine feast days, while Catholics and other Christians use a revised version known as the Gregorian calendar, named for Pope Gregory XIII.

Pope Gregory changed the Julian calendar in 1582 because Catholic astronomers disputes, starting with English Franciscan Roger Bacon three centuries earlier, found the Julian calendar did not match the actual length of the solar year. The pope called the two in by eliminating 10 days from the calendar, meaning people went on to Oct. 4, 1582, woke up the next on Oct. 15.

This year, according to both the Julian and Gregorian calendars, April 16 is the date for Easter. There was a similar change in 2014. But next year, Orthodox churches will celebrate Easter on April 16 as Easter, according to the Julian calendar, one week later than their brothers and sisters in other Christian churches, who follow the Gregorian calendar.

Whenever Easter is celebrated, it proclaims to all the world that “Jesus Christ, the incarnation of God’s mercy, out of love for us, died on the cross, and out of love rose again from the dead. That is why we proclaim today: ‘Jesus is Lord!’” Pope Francis said in his 2016 Easter Urbi et Orbi (to the City and to the World) message from the central loggia of St. Peter’s Basilica.

It was an important day to remember, Pope Francis said, the water of the baptismal font is blessed and new life begins. “Catechumens, who have not been baptized, are baptized and confirmed. Those who already have baptism, but who are in other Christians traditions come into full communion with us.”

Pope Francis said he made sure that “God is in every person’s life.”

Tradition tells us, death was a shadow over the lives of too many people. Pope Francis felt that “any person’s life” is a “land full of thorns and weeds, there is always a space in which the good seed can grow.”

The pope said that the “dramatic certainty” that “God is in every person’s life.”

Easter sets the tone for all Christian living. It is a matter of coming out of the darkness and into the light. It is a matter, too, of accompanying the poor. It’s a time for everyone to discover what new life means for them.

By David Gibson

Newspaper Service

Easter in the Night Darkness

Yes, Easter begins in the night darkness. But, in the Easter words, “this is the moment of which it was written. The night shall be as day and day as night.”

“Gladsome,” admittedly, is not a word uttered often nowadays. But we know that “gladsome” means joy, happiness, and, no doubt, a life in which hope replaces despair. “Gladsome” passages artes are to experience fulfilling satisfactions.

Gladsome may assume many forms, but I believe the most gladsome of all is that most people desire. That’s just the point.

Easter in the ones desires of the human heart.

Truth be told, darkness casts a shadow over the lives of too many people. Pope Francis felt that “any person’s life” is a “land full of thorns and weeds, there is always a space in which the good seed can grow.”

The pope said that the “dramatic certainty” that “God is in every person’s life.”

Easter sets the tone for all Christian living. It is a matter of coming out of the darkness and into the light. It is a matter, too, of accompanying the poor. It’s a time for everyone to discover what new life means for them.

“Gladsome always tends to spread,” and “any person who has experienced a profound liberation becomes more sensitive to the needs of others,” Pope Francis wrote in The Joy of the Gospel, one of his most read documents.

What does Easter mean to what Christi- ans are meant to do. Remember, it was the resurrected Jesus who accompanied the two disciples making their way to Emmaus, spending time with them in ways that comforted and enriched them (Luke 24:34-35).

Cardinal Blase J. Cupich spoke in 2014, just before becoming Chicago’s archbishop, about the Christian mission to stand alongside those who experience a “dryness in life” that “lasts” at their hopes.

“One should be made to see that everyone has a place at the table of life, ” said the pope.

“Mother the needened prenatal and postnatal care and protection for herself and her child, the former inmate seeking a fresh start, the drug addict who needs some- one to help her take one day at a time, the father and mother who want their children to have the educational opportunities other fami- lies have.”

These people, the cardinal stressed, represent the “‘vast army God is inviting us to raise up for Easter” to “be joyful’ to see the light.”

Gibson served on Catholic News Service’s editorial staff for 37 years.
BEAUTIFUL INSIDE AND OUT

Columbus Bishop Hartley High School recently offered a program titled “Beautiful Inside and Out” for freshman and sophomore girls. The three-session program is designed to help adolescent girls grow in their understanding and appreciation of their true beauty, and is based on the fundamental Catholic belief that all people have dignity and value as they are created in the image and likeness of God. When girls are confident and appreciate their own value and beauty, they are more likely to value and appreciate others. Participants included (from left): first row, Caroline Wollinger, Faith Stein, Moriah Casson, Sylvia Brobbey, and Tenecia Davis; second row, Kayleigh Donovan, Judy Zang, Gabrielle Buzenski, Alana Wills, Dion Pollard, and Teryn Scott; third row, Dominique Mickle, program director Regina Hinterschied, Eunice Anomakoh, and Sammara Pointer.

Photo courtesy Bishop Hartley High School

PASSION PLAY AT ST. ANDREW

The eighth grade at Columbus St. Andrew School performed a Passion play, leading the school in song and prayer through the events of Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. Pictured in a scene depicting Jesus’ crucifixion are (from left) Nick Whitsett as Jesus, Clare Mackin as Mary, Sydney Johnson as Mary Magdalene, and Matt Blank and Josh Jaminet as Roman soldiers.

Photo courtesy St. Andrew School

’BREAD’ ART AND ESSAY CONTEST

Pictured are some of the 36 Columbus Immaculate Conception School students from kindergarten through eighth grade who received awards at the school’s third annual BREAD art and essay contest, which had the theme “A Welcoming Spirit.” The contest is designed to nurture imagination and creativity and foster social justice. Its sponsor, BREAD — Building Responsibility, Equality, and Dignity — is a Columbus interfaith organization of 41 congregations which works to change public policy to improve the lives of the uneducated, the unwelcome, the unemployed, the uninsured, and the undocumented. BREAD’s annual citywide Nehemiah Action assembly which focuses on specific policies will take place Monday, May 1, at 7 p.m. in the Celeste Center at the state fairgrounds.

Photo courtesy Immaculate Conception School
Lancaster St. Bernadette School for the last several years has created STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) challenges for students that relate to its book fairs. “Happy Camper” was the theme for the most recent book fair. So the challenge for students was to build a tent using only newspaper and tape. This activity was completed in school, and involved all students from preschool through fifth grade. Groups including students from all grades were formed to design and build the tents. In some cases, it took several tries to make a tent large enough for at least one person and sturdy enough to support itself. Tent poles were constructed from rolled-up newspaper. Tent covers were made only from paper. Students were encouraged to wear camping attire, and the tents were used during the school’s literacy block. Students took turns reading in their tents. Empty plastic jars were collected, and the students were surprised with battery-operated camping “lanterns” for reading. Pictured at right are “campers” (from left) Halyee Etterling, Amelia Robertson, Kate Huber, Flora Woo, and Zylie Hopkins. Also pictured are students singing in a darkened classroom, using only flashlights. Music teacher Jill Ailes planned music lessons that involved camping and campfire songs.

Photo courtesy St. Bernadette School

Catholic Cemeteries

A Sacred Trust of Helping Catholic Families for Over 150 Years

Traditionally, Catholics have their family burial place in a setting which reflects their faith and devotion. Catholic cemeteries are among the greatest testimonials of our faith.

When a Christian dies, he remains part of the community he shared. At the Catholic cemetery, Christians are united not by race, or age, or affluence, but by unity in their belief in the resurrection and everlasting life.

Our Family Service Advisors are available to help you plan for the type of cemetery service that you desire. You will receive professional, courteous service and accurate, reliable information. For more information call one of your Catholic cemeteries today.

Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. • Saturday: 8 a.m. to Noon
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord (Cycle A)

We call the resurrection a mystery for a reason

Thus began Peter’s outreach to the Gentiles, anticipating Paul’s later and predominant ministry to Gentiles. Peter set forth preliminary information about Jesus, including the baptism of John and the special role played by Jesus of Nazareth. After doing good and healing those under “the devil’s power,” Jesus was “hung on a tree,” but was raised by God “on the third day” and appeared “to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance,” who “ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.” We also have been commissioned to preach this message to the people. “To him all the prophets testify,” that all who believe in him will be forgiven of their sins in his name. That is the core of the early preaching about Jesus.

Paul is more concerned about the glorified Christ in all his writings than he is about the Jesus who came from Nazareth in Galilee. His experience came from an encounter with the risen Christ, about whom he speaks in both second readings. Paul urges the Colossians to keep thinking of “what is above, not of what is on earth, because Christ is seated at the right hand of God.” The Christian dies in a real sense when baptized, enabling Paul to say that our lives are then “hidden with Christ in God.”

To the Corinthians, Paul encourages emptying out the “old yeast,” which puffs us up “with malice and wickedness.” He reminds them (and us) that they are unleavened bread “of sincerity and truth.” They are ever and always in the Passover time, since Christ, the paschal lamb, has been sacrificed.

The two Gospels offer interesting contrasts. John notes that only Mary Magdalene went to the tomb, while Matthew adds “the other Mary.” John wrote that it was still dark. Matthew says it was dawning.

Matthew alone adds the earthquake and that women and the Roman guard witnessed the angel moving the stone away. The angel spoke to the women and told them that Jesus had been raised and invited them to see the empty tomb. They were to tell the disciples that he had been raised and to return to Galilee, where they would see him. Jesus met them on the way and greeted them. They embraced his feet, doing him homage, after which he repeated what the angel had said.

John records only Mary Magdalene seeing that the stone was removed, then finding Peter and “the other disciple whom Jesus loved” and saying “they have taken the Lord” and “we” do not know where they put him. Curious here is that we do not know the referent for either “they” or “we.”

Peter and the other disciple raced to the tomb, only to find the burial cloths, but nothing and no one else. Comparing the two accounts offers us no proof of anything. All we can say is how different the accounts are. Both agree that an empty tomb was discovered, and, by their silence, that no one saw the resurrection of Jesus. We call it the Mystery of Faith for a reason. May the Risen One ever renew us in the Spirit of the Father’s love!

Father Hummer, pastor of Chillicothe St. Mary, may be reached at hummerl@stmarychillicothe.com.

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
Acts 2:14,22-33
Psalm 16:1-2a,5,7-11
Matthew 28:1-15

TUESDAY
Acts 2:36-41
Psalm 33:4-5,18-20,22
John 20:11-18

WEDNESDAY
Acts 3:1-10
Psalm 105:1-4,6-9

THURSDAY
Acts 3:11-26
Psalm 8:2ab,5-9
Luke 24:35-48

FRIDAY
Acts 4:1-12
Psalm 118:1-2,4,22-27a
John 21:1-14

SATURDAY
Acts 4:13-21
Psalm 118:1-14,15,16-21
Mark 16:9-15

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE
WEEK OF APRIL 16, 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. Check local cable system for cable channel listing.
Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Time Warner Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or WOW Channel 378).
(Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).
Mass from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 6:30 a.m. on ION TV (AT&T U-verse Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirecTV Channel 305).

DAILY MASS
8 a.m., Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Birmingham, Ala. (Encores at noon, 7 p.m. and midnight). See EWTN above; and on I-Lifetv (Channel 113 in Ada, Logan, Millsburg, Murray City and Washington C.H.; Channel 125 in Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown and New Philadelphia; and Channel 207 in Zanesville); 8 p.m., St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

We pray the Seasonal Propers for the Days of the Octave of Easter.
The power of the cross

Blessed John Henry Newman (1801-1890) — a theologian who came to prominence in the Victorian Age — can help us check the Church’s spiritual pulse in the postmodern 21st century, thanks to his prescient sense of the deep cultural currents shaping (and warping) Western civilization. On Aug. 26, 1832, Newman preached a sermon on The Religion of the Day that bears reflection during Holy Week 2017:

“What is Satan’s device in this day? ... What is the world’s religion now? It has taken the brighter side of the Gospel — its tiding of comfort, its precepts of love; all darker, deeper views of man’s condition and prospects being comparatively forgotten. This is the religion natural to a civilized age, and well has Satan dressed and completed it into an idol of the Truth. ... (Those) fearful images of divine wrath with which the Scriptures abound ... are explained away. Everything is bright and cheerful. Religion is pleasant and easy.”

Judging from St. Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians, the temptation to reduce Christianity to a comfort is bright and cheerful. Religion is pleasant and easy.

Attractive crucifixes in our churches and homes should not blind us to the fact that death by Roman crucifixion was unspeakably awful: a naked, flagellated, bleeding body, nailed to rough wood so that the victim was forced to intensify his agony by pushing himself up on nailed feet in order to breathe. Death could take many hours, even days; finally, the crucified one’s continually weakened and pain-wracked body turned on the victim and asphyxiated him. This was the death meted out to the wretched of the earth. It was not a pretty business, nor was it meant to be.

“Forgiveness is not enough. Belief in redemption is not enough. Wishful thinking about the intrinsic goodness of every human being is not enough. Inclusion is not a sufficiently inclusive message, nor does it deliver real justice. Only a Power independent of this world can overcome the grip of the Enemy of God’s purposes for his creation. (Thus) Jesus Christ ... offered himself to be the condemned and rejected Righteous One. ... At the historical time and place of his inhuman and godless crucifixion, all the demonic Powers loosed in the world convened in Jerusalem and unleashed their forces upon the incarnate Son of God.”

And the Son, through the power of God, won the victory. For the righteousness of God the Father vindicated the Son’s cruciform obedience in the Resurrection, restoring creation to its right order and inaugurating the Kingdom of God, proclaimed by the Church called into being by the experience of the Risen One and empowered by the Holy Spirit. So the friends of the risen Lord Jesus can say, with St. Paul, “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me” (Galatians 2:20).

On Good Friday, many of us will sing of the cross, in the words of the old spiritual, “Sometimes, it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.” It should.

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

K of C honors Fairfield County first responders

Lancaster Council 1016 of the Knights of Columbus honored outstanding first responders in Fairfield County at its 38th annual Blue Coat Awards dinner. This year’s honorees were Brandon Grimmet, Amanda Township Fire Department; Ryan Heavner, Basil Joint Fire Department; David Breneman and Jason Hammond, Berne Township Fire Department; Frank Reis, Bloom Township Fire Department; Jessica Barnhart, Bremen-Rushcreek Fire Department; Jeremy Knowlton, Clearcreek Fire Department; Jason Belleau and Brandon Assman, Greenfield Township Fire Department; Michael Ash, Fairfield County Sheriff’s Department; Kyle Parlier and Nick Phillopoulos, Hocking Township Fire Department; Shawn Klaaymeyer, Lancaster Fire Department; Charles Sims, Lancaster Police Department; Brandon Long, Millersport Fire Department; Corey Richards, Pleasant Township Fire Department; Dalton Vandermark, Richland Fire Department; Walter Vogel, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction; Tim Bullock, State Highway Patrol; Mike King, Thurston-Walnut Fire Department; and Jason Smith, Violet Township Fire Department.

Photo courtesy K of C Council 1016
Mary L. Butts-Horn

Funeral Mass for Mary L. Butts-Horn, 94, who died Sunday, April 9, was held Wednesday, April 12, at Columbus Our Lady of Peace Church. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born Jan. 25, 1923 in Columbus, was a graduate of Worthington High School, and attended The Ohio State University.

She was employed as a bookkeeper for several priests, including Father John Byrne, founding pastor of Worthington St. Michael Church, where she and her family were charter members. She also worked for Long’s Book Store in Columbus.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husbands, Edwin Butts and Raymond Horn; brothers, Richard (Marion); Robert (Natalie) and John (Lucy) Fenstermaker; and sisters, Vi- olete (Hayes) Herschler and Virginia (Clyde) Simmons. Survivors include sons, Thomas (Cathy) and William (Beth Ann) Butts; daughters, Jane (Steven) Mess and Diane (Steven) Krakoff; sister, Nancy; two grandsons; three granddaughters; one great-grandson; and one great-granddaughter.

To have an obituary printed in the Catholic Times, please send it to tpuet@columbuscatholic.org

Living Stations of the Cross

The eighth-grade class at Lancaster St. Mary School presented their annual Living Stations of the Cross for the school in the morning and for the entire parish at night on Friday, April 7. Pictured is the sixth station, with Veronica (Page Gavin) holding a cloth to wipe the face of Jesus (Aiden Jackson).
**HAPPENINGS**

**CLASSIFIED**

Greater Columbus Irish Cultural Foundation
Pasta Dinner Fundraiser
Sunday, April 23, 2017 from 1 - 6 p.m.
At the Shamrock Club of Columbus, 60 West Castle Rd., Columbus, OH
Tickets are $12 at the door; $5 for seniors & kids under 12.
 Entire family - $30
Supports GICF's mission to advance awareness of the rich tapestry of Irish art, literature, history and traditions in Central Ohio.

**AL ROEHRENBECK**
Lawn Cutting, Plants & Bushes
Ornamentals
ZIP CODES: 43209, 27, 32
CALL (614) 783-9649

**APRIL**

**11, THURSDAY**

Living Stations at St. Francis of Assisi
Following 6 p.m. Mass, St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Bottles Ave., Columbus. Living Stations of the Cross.
614-299-5781

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.

**14, FRIDAY**

Walking Stations of the Cross in Downtown Columbus
8 to 11 a.m., starting at St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Annual Walking Stations of the Cross, a four-mile walk stopping at 14 sites around downtown Columbus, to commemorate Jesus’ crucifixion and reflect on various social issues.
614-241-2540

Community Cross Walk at St. Edward
10:45 a.m., St. Edward Church, 785 Newark Road, Granville.
Community Cross Walk, a 1.3-mile silent procession from church to Denison University’s Swasey Chapel, with students carrying a wooden cross, led by a drummer, and Scripture passages read at five stops.
740-587-3254

Walking Stations at Delaware St. Mary
11 a.m., St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware. Walking Stations of the Cross through downtown.
614-224-1295

Seven Last Words at Columbus St. Patrick
Noon to 2:45 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. The Seven Last Words of Christ, preached by Father Joseph Aloia, OP.
614-224-9522

Living Stations at Newman Center
3 p.m., St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave., Columbus. Living Stations of the Cross presented by middle school students, Catholic Young Professionals, and Paulist Associates.
614-291-4674

Stations Through the Eyes of Mary at Marysville
3 p.m., Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 1033 W. 5th St., Marysville. Stations of the Cross as seen through the eyes of Mary.
937-644-6020

Tenebrae Service at St. Christopher
7 p.m., St. Christopher Church, 1420 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Tenebrae service: designed to recreate the sense of betrayal, abandonment, and agony related to Good Friday, preceded by reflection at 6:30 and followed by silence.
614-486-0457

Tenebrae Service at Columbus St. Patrick
7:30 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Tenebrae service, with sung responses by Thomas Luis De Vittoria.
614-224-9522

Holy Family Vigil with the Virgin Mary
7:30 p.m. Friday to 10 a.m. Saturday, Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Vigil with statue of the Virgin Mary, with confessions from 7 p.m. to midnight and hourly praying of the sorrowful mysteries of the rosary.
614-221-4323

Tenebrae Service at Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes
8 p.m., Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 1033 W. 5th St., Marysville. Tenebrae service.
937-644-6020

Tenebrae Service at Cathedral
8 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Tenebrae service featuring the Cathedral Schola and including Thomas Tallis’ “Lamentations of Jeremiah.”
Living Stations at St. Luke
8:30 p.m., St. Luke Church, 307 S. Market St., Worthington. Living Stations of the Cross with parish youth.

**15, SATURDAY**

Wilderness Outreach ‘Carry the Cross’ Hike
7:30 a.m. Parking lot and shelter house, Barney Hamilton area, western end of Clear Creek Metro Park, off U.S. 33 near the Fairfield-Hocking county border. Wilderness Outreach sponsors 12-mile “Carry the Cross” hike for men, carrying a 3- by 6-foot timber cross through park. Participants may take part in all or a portion of the hike and should bring a day pack with two or three liters of water, snacks, and rain gear if appropriate.
614-679-6761

St. Pius X ‘Carry the Cross’ Hike
7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Gazebo, John F. Kennedy Park, 7222 E Main St., Reynoldsburg. St. Pius X Church Men’s Ministry sponsors hike with wooden cross over an eight-mile round-trip course along bike trails and sidewalks of Reynoldsburg.
614-866-2859

Easter Food Basket Blessing at Delaware St. Mary
8:30 a.m., St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware. Blessing of Easter food baskets.
740-363-4641

Easter Food Basket Blessing at St. Pius X
1 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 W. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Blessing of Easter food baskets.
614-866-2859

Bishop Campbell Presides at Cathedral Vigil Service
8:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bishop Frederick Campbell is celebrant for Easter Vigil service.
614-224-1295

**16, SUNDAY**

Bishop Campbell Celebrates Easter Morning Mass
10:30 a.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bishop Frederick Campbell celebrates Easter Mass.

Blessing of St. Gerard Majella at Holy Family
After 11 a.m. Mass, Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Blessing of Statue of St. Gerard Majella, patron of expectant mothers, for all women who are pregnant or wish to become pregnant.
614-221-1890

Polish Mass at Holy Family
2 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Monthly Mass in Polish.
614-221-4323

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.
614-861-1242

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

**18, TUESDAY**

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.
614-721-2100

ODU Adult and Continuing Education Info Session
6 to 7 p.m., Ohio Dominican University, 126 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Information session on ODU’s adult and continuing education programs.
614-251-7400

Diocesan Catholic Schools Honor Choir Concert
6:30 p.m., St. Andrew Church, 1899 McCoy Road, Columbus. Tenth annual Diocesan Catholic Schools Honor Choir concert, featuring more than 250 singers from 16 schools, including diocesan grade schools, Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, and Ohio Dominican University. Free will offering for Holy Family Soup Kitchen.

‘Cleaning Greener’ at Shepherd’s Corner
7 to 9:30 p.m., Shepherd’s Corner Ecology Center, 978 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. “Cleaning Greener” workshop on how to make household cleaners with ingredients already in the house, led by Sister Margaret Chandler, OP. Donation $5.
614-866-4102

**20, 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.

Frassati Society Meeting at Columbus St. Patrick
7 p.m., Aquinas Hall, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Meeting of parish’s Frassati Society for young adults. “Let’s Get Personal,” a talk on how to have a personal relationship with the Holy Spirit, with Father Jerome Zeiler, OP.
614-224-9522

Abortion Recovery Network Group
7 to 8 p.m., Gateway Center, 2670 N. Columbus St., Lancaster. 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.
614-721-2100

Holy Hour of Reparation at Columbus Sacred Heart
7 to 8 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 893 Hamlet St., Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour following Holy Hour of Reparation prayer format, concluding with Benediction and social period.
614-372-5249

**20-22, THURSDAY-SATURDAY**

Bishop Hartley Presents ‘David and Lisa’
7:30 p.m., Van Fleet Theater, Columbus Performing Arts Center, 549 Franklin Ave., Columbus. Columbus Bishop Hartley High School theater department presents “David and Lisa.” Tickets $8.
614-237-5421

21-23, FRIDAY-SUNDAY**

Bishop Watterson Presents ‘Joseph and the Dreamcoat’
7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road, Columbus. School’s production of “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.” Tickets $10 adults, $5 students/children.
614-268-8671
The 10th annual Diocese of Columbus Catholic Schools Honor Choir concert, with the theme “Worthy is the Lamb,” will take place at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 19 at Columbus St. Andrew Church, 1899 McCoy Road.

Each year, students from all diocesan schools are invited to participate in this one-day choral event, directed by Sheila Cafmeyer. More than 250 singers from 16 schools, including grade schools, Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, and Ohio Dominican University will perform.

Cafmeyer has been involved in many forms of music: leading the choirs at Columbus Bishop Hartley High School from 2002-2010; directing and performing in musicals for high school, college, and community theaters; teaching private voice lessons; and free-lancing as a wedding vocalist. She has been a member of the Lancaster Chorale since 2000. She earned a master’s degree in music education from Capital University, and in 2012, she became choir director at Ohio Dominican.

With the support of diocesan music teachers, she has been artistic director and clinician for the Catholic Schools Honor Choir since its inception in 2008. “This event lives inside my head all year long, until we can finally convene and bring it to life,” she said. “Our music teachers do the hard work of teaching the music to their select singers while juggling musicals, Masses, lesson plans, and classes. Under the clear guidance of the Holy Spirit, each performance promises to bless all participants and our audience.”

In addition to the honor choir performance, individual selections will be performed on this concert by featured ensembles including the youth choirs of Lancaster St. Mary and Reynoldsburg St. Pius X churches, DeSales High School’s choral ensemble, and the Ohio Dominican University chorus. To order a copy of this year’s performance, go to http://soundwaves.org/ and search “Diocese of Columbus.”

Diocesan music teachers developed this event to give their singers an opportunity to perform challenging music in a large ensemble setting. Singers prepare the music under the guidance of their music teachers and assemble for one afternoon rehearsal and evening performance.

Sacred music of all styles, from Renaissance to contemporary, will be performed during this celebration of song. A free will offering will be collected for the Holy Family Soup Kitchen in Columbus.
PALM SUNDAY: SCENES OF JOY, SCENES OF TERROR

Pope Francis begins the celebration of Palm Sunday Mass at the obelisk in St. Peter’s Square at the Vatican on April 9. CNS photo/Paul Haring

Christians carry palm branches on April 9 while walking the traditional path that Jesus took on his last entry into Jerusalem during the Palm Sunday procession on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem. CNS photo/Debbie Hill

Security personnel investigate the scene of a bomb explosion on April 9 inside the Orthodox Church of St. George in Tanta, Egypt. That same day, an explosion went off outside the Cathedral of St. Mark in Alexandria, Egypt, where Coptic Orthodox Pope Tawadros II was presiding over the Palm Sunday service. CNS photo/Khaled Elfiqi, EPA
Divine Mercy Sunday
April 23, 2017

Our Lord’s words to Saint Faustina regarding Divine Mercy Sunday:
“The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sin and punishment.”
( Diary #699)

Join Us

SACRED HEART CHURCH
893 Hamlet Street, Columbus, OH
(corner of Summit and First Avenue)
1:30 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
1:30 p.m. Confessions
2:00 p.m. Rosary
2:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross & Benediction
3:00 p.m. Chaplet of Divine Mercy
3:30 p.m. Mass

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH
140 West Avas Drive, Plain City, OH 43064
(614) 873-8850
2:00 p.m. Exposition
2:00 - 2:45 p.m. Confession
3:00 p.m. Chaplet of Divine Mercy followed by Benediction

ST. CATHARINE OF SIENA CATHOLIC CHURCH
250 South Gould Road, Columbus, OH
(614) 231-4509 / www.stcatharine.com
2:00 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation
2:05 p.m. Praying the Rosary
3:00 p.m. Chaplet of Divine Mercy (let by soloist)
3:20 p.m. Benediction

HOLY FAMILY PARISH
584 West Broad Street, Columbus, OH
12:00 p.m. (following Mass)
Exposition of Blessed Sacrament
1 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Confessions
3:00 p.m. Singing of Chaplet of Divine Mercy
3:30 p.m. Veneration of Divine Mercy Image
5:00 p.m. Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

SAINT TIMOTHY CHURCH
1088 Thomas Lane, Columbus, OH 43220
(614) 451-2671 (rectory office)
Masses at 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after Noon Mass
Confessions available after 1:30 p.m.
2:30 p.m. Blessing of the Image & Divine Mercy Chaplet
3:00 p.m. Benediction

SAINT JOAN OF ARC CHURCH
10700 Liberty Road, Powell, OH
3:00 p.m. Blessing of the Image of Divine Mercy followed by Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament
Liturgy of the Word followed by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy
3:45-5:00 p.m. Confessions will be heard
4:45-5:00 p.m. Closing prayer and Benediction
5:30pm Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

CHURCH OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
378 East Main Street, Newark, Ohio
(740) 687-2244
11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament
1:30 p.m. Reconciliation
3:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction

THE COMMUNITY OF HOLY ROSARY AND ST. JOHN ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
648 South Ohio Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43205
9:30 a.m. Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration Begins
Precession with Divine Mercy Image
Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
Blessing of Image and Enthronement
Chaplet of Divine Mercy (use of Rosary)
Veneration of the Lord’s Image

SAINT MARK CHURCH
324 Gay Street, Lancaster OH
(740) 653-0273
3:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet
3:20 p.m. Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
(Holy Sacrifice of the Mass constitutes your Sunday obligation)
Reception following Mass