The Editor’s Notebook

God’s Promises

By David Garick, Editor

We are living in very troubling times. Terrorism strikes with increasing frequency all over the world, including very close to home. We continue to be embroiled in the dangerous conflict in the Middle East. North Korea poses the greatest threat of nuclear disaster since the end of the Cold War. Our national government has been in conflict and disarray for many years and shows no sign of getting its act together. Health care is a critical problem for many people and a workable solution remains nowhere in sight. Immigration is a huge humanitarian problem, both in America and around the world. Conflict over climate issues and their social and economic impact remains vexing for most people. Social norms have been turned upside down by a secular culture that discards traditional values in favor of a philosophy of “just do your own thing, live your life without any rules.”

It is very easy to be overcome by all this. Even the most optimistic of us can become depressed and frustrated by the overwhelming mess we have made of our world. We can feel very small and insignificant when faced with such overpowering problems.

Last week, my wife and I stepped away from all of that for a few hours and joined a group of friends for a Columbus Clippers baseball game at Huntington Park. There is nothing like a traditional outing with the “boys of summer” on a warm and sunny Friday evening at the ballpark. In the fifth inning, a glorious, bright rainbow appeared beyond center field, over the skyline of downtown Columbus. The thousands of fans at the game were delighted at that vision, which lasted quite a while until the sun dipped below the western horizon.

Later on, I thought about that rainbow. The Book of Genesis talks about how, after the great flood, God told Noah to look at the rainbow as a reminder of his promise to never devastate the world with a flood again and as his promise of protection to his people.

He does not promise that we will never face difficult and tumultuous times. But he does promise to take us through them. “But God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” That’s Philippians 4:19. God has promised that his grace is sufficient for us (II Corinthians 12:9). “The things which are impossible with men are possible with God” (Luke 18:27). “Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go” (Joshua 1:9). “In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer. I have overcome the world” (John 16:33). “Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20).

That is a great little reminder. The rainbow tells us that storms will come and go, but God’s promises hold fast forever. We are not forgotten. God is with us and his strong arm will lead us though the storms of life.

DIOCESAN SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT TO LEAVE POST

BY TIM PUET
Reporter, Catholic Times

Dr. Joseph Brett- nacher is leaving his position as episcopal moderator of Catholic education and superintendent of schools for the Diocese of Columbus, effective Friday, Aug. 4, because of family considerations. He has accepted the position of principal of Scicina Memorial High School in Indianapolis.

“I am leaving with mixed emotions,” he said on Wednesday, July 18, when the move was announced. “The decision to move was a difficult one, but the desire to take care of my family came first and foremost.”

He said his mother-in-law, who lives in Indianapolis, is recovering from a stroke that occurred about six weeks ago. In addition, his son, Zachary, and his wife are expecting their first child next month. Brettnacher and his wife, Pam, also have a daughter and son-in-law, Mandy and Alex Dorn, who live in Alexandria, Virginia, and have two children.

Brettnacher has been superintendent of diocesan schools since July 1, 2014, succeeding Lucia McQuaide, who had held the position for 16 years. He is a native of Lafayette, Indiana, and had been principal of Lafayette Central Catholic High School for nine years when he came to Columbus. He has more than 20 years of experience as a school administrator in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois.

The superintendent oversees the operations of 11 high schools and 42 elementary schools within the 23-county diocese, along with the diocesan offices of religious education and catechesis; youth and young adult ministry; and recreation.

“It’s been an honor and a privilege to work with so many dedicated people,” Brettnacher said. “First of all, my deepest thanks go to Bishop Frederick Campbell.”

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Catholic Times is on summer schedule!

Things slow down during the summer, and that includes the Catholic Times. During June, July, and August, we will only be publishing every other week. Look for the Catholic Times in your mailbox just prior to Aug. 13 and 27.

We will return to our regular weekly publication schedule in September.

Front Page photo:
A shrine depicting an appearance of the Virgin Mary to St. Bernadette at Lourdes in 1858 is part of the Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes Church grounds. The church is in the background.
CT photo by Tim Puet
A Mass to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the first Mass in Lancaster will take place at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 15 in Lancaster St. Mary Church, 132 S. High St.

Bishop Frederick Campbell will celebrate the Mass, which will take place on the Feast of the Assumption, the parish’s patronal feast. Father Thomas Blau, OP, will be the homilist. An ice cream reception will follow in the courtyard.

Bishop Edward Fenwick is known for planting the Catholic faith in Ohio and as the priest who offered the first Mass in Lancaster. (Bishop Fenwick is pictured, along with images of the current church and of the exterior and sanctuary of the building that served as the parish’s second church and first school.)

The St. Mary Church 100th anniversary booklet, written in 1920, quotes a letter written by then-Father Fenwick to a friend: “It often happens that I am compelled to travel vast and uninhabitable forests, where not a trace of a road is to be seen. Not infrequently, overtaken by night in the midst of those I am compelled to hitch my horse to a tree and making a pillow of my saddle, recommend myself to God and go to sleep with bears on all sides.”

During one of those journeys in 1817, Father Fenwick, a Dominican priest, came through Lancaster and celebrated the city’s first Mass in the home of Michael Garaghty, across the street from St. Mary Church. The Fairfield County Foundation is now housed in that home.

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for his continued guidance and support of Catholic education. I’m also grateful to numerous administrators, pastors, faculty members, staff, parents, and students, and to the members of the many advisory committees I’ve worked with for their devotion to Catholic schools.

“Working together, we have advanced many initiatives in areas including standards-based grading, enrollment, management, advocacy, special populations, and tuition assistance.

“During my tenure as superintendent, with the assistance of representatives from all areas affected by our schools, the diocese formulated a set of governing principles governing the approach to Catholic education which included sections on Catholic mission, academic excellence, leadership, governance, financial viability, and advocacy. Adoption and implementation of those principles was a highlight of my time here,” he said.

“All you can hope to do in any job is try to further the work of those who preceded you. I hope I’ve been able to do that with the work of Cia McQuaide. She was an excellent superintendent, and I don’t put myself in her class.”

Sceicina High School, where Brettacher will be principal, has 454 students and is located in a diverse area on the east side of Indianapolis. It was opened in 1953 and is named for Father Thomas Sceicina, a priest of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis who served in World War II as a military chaplain and died at sea in 1944 with other prisoners of war.

“Part of the school’s mission statement that makes me feel fortunate to become part of its community involves its dedication to developing students into Christlike servant leaders. I am honored and humbled by this opportunity to serve and continue my vocation and passion for Catholic education,” Brettacher said.

“In the weeks ahead, I look forward to partnering with everyone to ensure a smooth transition. Leaving Columbus is hard, but it’s the right thing to do for my family. It’s unfortunate this happened so close to the beginning of the school year, and I appreciate everyone’s understanding.”

The Diocese of Columbus will immediately begin a search for Brettnacher’s successor. “To whoever that may be, my advice is to trust in God, work on the things you can control, and understand the things you can’t,” he said.
Mount Carmel and Acadia partner on behavioral health hospital

The Mount Carmel Health System and Acadia Healthcare have agreed on a joint venture to develop a $26 million behavioral health hospital in Columbus. The new hospital will replace the 20-bed inpatient psychiatric unit at Mount Carmel West with a freestanding 80-bed inpatient behavioral health hospital.

“There is a crucial need in our community for inpatient behavioral health services,” said Sean McKibben, president of Mount Carmel West. “It’s critical to our mission that we expand our capacity of mental health services to meet our community’s needs. We searched long and hard for a partner that would share our commitment to our patients and provide behavioral health services in central Ohio. We found that in Acadia.”

Construction on the new hospital is expected to begin later this year. A location is being finalized.

It is anticipated that the hospital will open in the fall of 2018. The 64,300-square-foot hospital will include three permanent units — geriatric, adult, and dual diagnosis. A fourth unit will be flexible, based on specific community needs. Additional features include an activity therapy center and gymnasium, an outpatient therapy center, an electroconvulsive therapy center, and outdoor activity yards.

“We’re thrilled to be partnering with Mount Carmel on this joint venture and bringing more behavioral health services to this community,” said Joey Jacobs, chief executive officer and chairman of Franklin, Tennessee-based Acadia Healthcare. “We have seen a need for inpatient mental health services in this community. Mount Carmel’s values and dedication to putting patients first made this partnership a great fit to do just that.”

The Catholic Foundation’s 2018 grant cycle

Beginning Friday, Sept. 8 at noon, The Catholic Foundation will accept online applications for 2018 responsive grants. Parishes, schools, invited religious orders, and invited nonprofit organizations in the Diocese of Columbus are eligible to apply.

The Foundation offers a grant cycle with a unique structure of funding opportunities, including three types of grants: mission grants, purpose grants, and vision grants. The grant process serves its four pillars of interest: parish life; Catholic education and faith formation; social service; and vocations.

Most funding will fall into the mission grant category. These grants, awarded at the end of October, are designed to help ministries with capital or program-related needs. Grants of as much as $10,000 may be awarded. The grants require one application and one report.

Purpose grants provide funding for situations in which a partnership is needed in a larger investment for program or capital needs. These grants will be awarded in mid-December, will range from $10,000-$25,000, and will require a two-phase application process and one report.

A limited number of ministries will receive vision grants, which includes capital and program grants for applicants who exemplify great thought toward sustainability of the project. Funding of $25,000 or more will be awarded. Recipients will be announced by the end of February. A two-phase application, a site visit, and one or multiple reports are required.

For complete grant and eligibility guidelines, visit grants.catholicfoundation.org or call (614) 443-8893.

Citywide prayer gathering scheduled

The Columbus Catholic Renewal is sponsoring a citywide prayer gathering from 9 a.m. to noon on Aug. 5 at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus.

The day will include praise, adoration, prayer ministry, teaching, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, fellowship, and breakfast. Please bring a dish to share.

More information is available by calling (614) 500-8115. The Columbus Catholic Renewal website is www.cercolumbus.org.

Tea with the Animals: Afternoon Tea with a Side of Conservation

The Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Road, Columbus, will host its fifth annual high tea fundraiser, “Tea with the Animals: Afternoon Tea with a Side of Conservation,” from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 6.

After participants enjoy Fair Trade tea, chocolate, and other sweets, there will be a visit by several animals from the Columbus Zoo, along with information about their habitat, status in the wild, and conservation issues.

Those in attendance also will learn more about the ecology programs sponsored by the Dominican Sisters of Peace at the Shepherd’s Corner Ecology Center and will view “Conservation in the Classroom,” a student art exhibit sponsored by the Grange Insurance Audubon Center and Columbus City Schools.

Prizes will be awarded for the best hats based on the theme, and there will be a raffle.

The Martin de Porres Center, an outreach ministry of the Dominican Sisters of Peace, has been serving the Columbus area since 2004. It provides a variety of programming in the areas of spirituality, education, and personal growth, as well as reasonably priced rental space for nonprofit groups whose mission is in keeping with that of the center. The building also has become known for its art exhibits, featuring a wide range of artists and media.

Proceeds from the event will go toward continued programming.

A $35 prepaid registration fee for the event is required by July 31. More registration details are available online at https://martindeporrescenter.net/programs or by contacting (614) 416-1910 or martindeporres@oppeace.org.

Program Director for Service Coordination

Catholic Social Services

Catholic Social Services seeks a Program Director for Service Coordination to provide overall direction and management for service coordination in multifamily housing, including program design, quality assurance, HUD compliance and reporting, supervision, fiscal management and operations for the program. Works in conjunction with property managers and service coordinators to ensure resident satisfaction and helps residents stay in independent housing as long as possible.

Location: Columbus, Ohio

Requirements:
• Master Degree in Social Work is preferred
• Licensed Social Worker, required
• Two or more year’s supervisory experience
• Experience working with older adults
• Must have the ability to travel 25% of work week as needed
• Travel predominantly in Ohio, with few overnights.
• Must valid Ohio driver’s license and proof of insurance.

Catholic Social Services (CSS) is a faith-based social service agency focused on improving the quality of life of people of all faiths and backgrounds during some of their most vulnerable times of their lives. By serving people in ways that help seniors live independent, connected lives and families thrive, Catholic Social Services continues its 70 year legacy to address the community’s unmet, pressing needs with compassion.

Catholic Social Services is an Equal Employment Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer and is committed to building a diverse and inclusive workforce to reflect and provide culturally responsive services to a diverse community.

Please submit cover letter and resume to:

Terri Hurtt, Human Resources Director, thurtt@colcss.org
New Albany church to present Cavins seminar

Internationally recognized Bible teacher Jeff Cavins will be presenting an adult faith formation program titled Walking Toward Eternity ... Making Choices for Today on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 29 and 30 at the New Albany Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road.

Event times are 7 to 8:30 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

Walking Toward Eternity is part inspirational talk and part hands-on workshop. Cavins will address common and challenging obstacles we all face and show how to enter into a dialogue of love with God through Scripture.

The Bible speaks to how we can overcome stumbling blocks. This program of self-examination, discovery, challenge, and transformation is a “guide to the guide.” Through prayer, reflection, and the aid of the Holy Spirit, Cavins will introduce spiritual practices that will show you how to engage life’s difficulties and advance toward the goal of union with Christ.

“Our goal is to help Catholics make real and lasting changes in their lives, changes that come as a result of putting into practice foundational virtues such as humility and faithfulness,” he said.

Through his popular Great Adventure Bible Study, Bible Timeline, and other programs, Cavins communicates the Catholic faith at a level everyone can understand, taking theological truths and expressing them in a practical way. More than 6,000 parishes around the world have used these studies to engage in Scripture in a life changing way.

Cavins Jeff is the founding host of EWTN’s weekly program Life on the Rock and Relevant Radio’s daily show Morning Air, and is the author of several books. He received a master of arts degree in theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville.

Registration is available online at www.cotrna.org, or contact Gayle Kerkman at (614) 429-7308 or gkerkman@gmail.com. The cost is $45.

Evening of reflection at St. Therese's

Want to get more out of your Sunday (and weekday) attendance at Mass? Father Dan Dury, pastor of Columbus St. Catharine Church, will provide that opportunity at the third annual evening of reflection for women, sponsored by the Catholic Laywomen’s Retreat League, from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27 at St. Therese’s Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus.


Using the Mass as his topic, Father Dury will present exciting and powerful insights into the history, spirituality, and biblical foundations of the Liturgy of the Eucharist. He will open the door to more profound contemplation of this perfect prayer of thanksgiving, leading the way to a deeper experience of this most sacred of all mysteries, which is the source and summit of all life.

The program will consist of two talks by Father Dury – one before and one after a prime rib dinner. The evening will close with Evening Prayer in the retreat center’s chapel. Unlike the league’s weekend retreats, this event is not a silent one.

Since the 1960s, the Catholic Laywomen’s Retreat League has been offering two silent retreat weekends annually – one during Lent and another in early fall.

When those began filling rapidly and many women had to be turned away because of space limitations, the league began sponsoring an annual evening of reflection in 2015.

After great success with the evening events, the league decided to sponsor a day of recollection this spring. That also was well received. The league hopes this evening of reflection will attract those who are not inclined toward silence or cannot spare the time or expense of an entire weekend.

The cost is $25 and the deadline is Tuesday, Aug. 1. Space is limited and will fill long quickly. A registration form, along with more detailed information, is available at retreatleague@gmail.com or by calling Sharon Gehrich at (614) 882-1946. Phone reservations cannot be accepted.
THE CHURCH AND MEDJUGORJE;
CAN I STOP GOING TO MASS?

QUESTION & ANSWER
by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. What is the current official response of the church to the reported apparitions at Medjugorje? (Palmyra, Virginia)

A. As I write this answer (in July 2017), the church still awaits a formal pronouncement from the Vatican on the authenticity of the alleged appearances of Our Lady at Medjugorje in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The most recent clue as to what that final decision might say comes from comments made by Pope Francis to journalists on the papal plane as he returned to Rome from Fatima in May 2017.

The pontiff said that, while investigations into the original reported apparitions in 1981 should continue, he has personal doubts that Mary continues to appear to the “seers.” (Three of the six young people who claim to have seen Our Lady in 1981 say that she continues to appear to them each day, while the other three assert that Mary now appears to them once a year.)

The church’s investigations have been long and comprehensive. From 1982 to 1990, first a local diocesan commission and then a Yugoslavian bishops’ panel looked into the matter before deciding that they could not confirm that the supposed appearances were authentic. Beginning in 2010, another commission established by Pope Benedict XVI looked further into the claims; that commission has not yet issued a public report.

Meanwhile, thousands of pilgrims continue to flock to Medjugorje each month with clear spiritual benefit -- including, for some, the restoration of faith and return to the sacraments after many years away. Pope Francis acknowledged this in his recent remarks on the plane, saying, “The spiritual fact, the pastoral fact, that people go there and are converted, the people who meet God, who change their lives … cannot be denied.” For that reason, Pope Francis recently appointed the archbishop of Warsaw-Praga as his personal envoy to Medjugorje to study the pastoral needs of the townpeople and the pilgrims.

Pope Francis’ remarks while returning from Fatima would seem to match unofficial reports that the Vatican commission believes that the first seven appearances of Mary from June 24-July 3, 1981, were authentic but that the thousands of supposed visions since are dubious. Pope Francis told reporters, “I prefer Our Lady to be a mother, our mother, and not a telegraph operator who sends out a message every day at a certain time.”

Q. One month from now, I will turn 90 years old. What determines when it is best for a person not to attend Sunday Mass?

A. The church’s Code of Canon Law recognizes that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass can be lifted for “grave cause” (Canon 1248.2). Illness or the need to care for the sick have traditionally been seen as qualifying reasons -- particularly when combined with the frailty of advanced age.

If anything, we tend to be too scrupulous in this regard. Regularly, I see people with communicable illnesses jeopardize themselves and others by following what they perceive to be their obligation to be in church on Sunday -- and similarly for the elderly in hazardous weather.

In your own situation, I don’t think the macular degeneration excuses you -- since you can listen, with profit, to the scriptural readings and the hymns. But the vascular issue is a different story -- that could lead, and apparently has led, to dangerous falls.

So be generous to yourself in your judgment: You might be better off staying at home and praying right where you are -- perhaps watching the Mass on television, although you would not be obliged to do that.

There is, though, no substitute for the spiritual strength which comes from holy Communion; so why not ask your pastor to designate an extraordinary minister of holy Communion (perhaps your wife) to bring Communion to you at home?

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 30 Columbia Circle Drive, Albany NY 12203.
By Father Thomas Blau, OP
Mission Preacher

In a recent conversation, a parishioner asked why a parish would host a parish mission. As a Dominican priest who almost exclusively presents parish missions in the Diocese of Columbus, I am aware that this ministry is popular in some parishes, but not in others. In this article, I would like to cover a few aspects of the answer to this question.

Hosting a parish mission may be compared to a number of events in our daily life.

First, I often hear that “you need to have a car checkup every 4,000 miles.” The same happens in our spiritual life. The seasons of the Church largely accomplish this each year, but a parish mission focuses on the great truths of our faith even more intensely.

Second, periodic refocusing is what Steve Covey recommends in his book Seven Habits for Highly Effective People. Reviewing our priorities is very important. A regular time of more intense prayerful reflection and learning – a parish mission – greatly helps to accomplish this review in the spiritual life.

Third, a parish mission is like the booster shot that doctors recommend. The added preaching, extra time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and more focused prayer life help boost our spiritual lives. Missions foster growth in personal commitment and discipleship.

Fourth, concerts and other major events foster excitement and involvement. A parish mission, if treated as a major event, can accomplish the same thing. It is a moment to call out excitement for our faith and our parishes. These moments are very important for the “invitation ministry” that is part of any evangelization program.

Fifth, we see in the high school football world that there is a game called the “homecoming” and the activities (dances) that follow it. A parish mission is often a time for homecoming for wayward Catholics, especially if the mission preacher preaches mercy.

Sixth, even Moses needed a spokesman to convey his message to the chosen people. Parish missions are an opportunity for the pastor to have a speaker who reinforces the very themes he is trying to convey. A new voice can help do this.

Lastly, our daily life is often very routine, and that can generate monotony. Parish missions add a different “tenor” and face to the faith in the parish. This helps break the regularity and familiarity that many find monotonous.

I have seen a few benefits that stand out in the parish missions I have preached. For the parish itself, there is a deepened sense of community in two ways: first, by having this event that has been successfully “pulled off.” A common mission builds community, and when this is accomplished, parishioners revel in that accomplishment; second, the people in attendance get to know each other at the receptions after each mission talk. Jesus accomplished much of his work over meals that were much like the coffee, tea, punch, and cookies after each night’s presentation.

For the pastor, there also are benefits. He is able to help his parish grow spiritually through the mission. He is able to emphasize the very truths and ideas he has been trying to promote. This happens easily when the mission preacher works with the pastor to select a theme. The pastor knows his people best.

For some pastors, a mission is a time of personal refreshment which allows them to receive spiritual input instead of perpetually giving it. There are some priests – and I encourage it – who leave the parish when the mission preacher comes. This provides a rare opportunity that is also important for our priests.

There are some things you probably will not see in a parish mission – at least in a Dominican friar’s plan. A good parish mission will not destroy the budget for the next year. It may be that the preacher charges so much that the parish’s evangelistic efforts are hamstrung for the rest of the year. This does not need to happen. A solid, engaging presentation of the faith should not be a costly one.

Good preachers do not stir up trouble for the parish. Introducing controversy or outright heresy or negatively critiquing the work of the pastor is not the fruit of good mission preaching. Love and faithfulness to the Catholic faith and the Gospel are nonnegotiable. Long lines at the confessional, increased Mass devotion, and maybe a few more souls in RCIA are the best fruit of a mission.

All participants at a parish mission receive the opportunity to grow in their faith by deepening their commitment to the Lord. There might even be some idea that the preacher shares which the Spirit will use to increase grace in us.

Of course, confession is a wonderful fruit, and the preacher can be a new voice that helps make confession a renewed experience of God’s mercy. Mission attendance also is part of a plenary indulgence. That is good for the souls of those attending and for the holy souls in purgatory.

When can a parish have missions? Look to the Church’s calendar for opportunities. Advent, the Christmas season, Lent, and the Easter season are wonderful times to consider having a mission. Or how about a pro-life mission in October, Respect Life Month? This could renew our commitment to being pro-life and maybe root out vices that don’t foster life. Perhaps something on the angels or the communion of saints in November? Would you like to get more out of Christmas, gift-giving and the manger scene?

In February, with St. Valentine’s Day, dating and marriage enrichment are possible mission topics. “Understanding God’s Mercy” is popular in Lent.
St. Mary High School 60th reunion

Members of the Columbus St. Mary High School Class of 1957 reunion committee toured St. Mary Church, which is being renovated after being struck by lightning in August 2016. The church has been closed for worship since October, when additional structural damage was found. The reunion will take place Friday, Aug. 11 from 3 to 8 p.m. at Dempsey’s Food & Spirits, 346 S. High St., with dinner at 4 p.m. Committee members are (from left): Wilma Vass, Jeanette Bosworth, Tom Reisch, Dottie Bosworth, John Vogel, Nancy Zeller, Pat Bond, Ann Vogel, and Rick Bond. Those interested in attending the reunion are asked to contact Reisch at Treisch1@columbus.rr.com or (614) 581-4684.

Classic movie to benefit St. Mary Church

Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church is sponsoring a special screening of the 1945 movie classic, The Bells of St. Mary’s, starring Bing Crosby and Ingrid Bergman, at 5:30 p.m. Monday, July 31 at the Ohio Theater on Capitol Square in downtown Columbus.

The event will kick off a campaign for restoration of the church, located in the city’s German Village section. The building has been closed for worship since October 2016 because of structural damage caused by a lightning strike on Aug. 28 of that year.

There will be no charge for admission or refreshments, but a free-will offering will be taken up during the evening. Besides the movie, Father Kevin Lutz, the parish’s pastor, promises several other surprises.

The Bells of St. Mary’s, the story of how a priest and a sister faced with having to close a deteriorating school work together to soften a millionaire’s heart, is one of the most beloved movies of all time. It was nominated for eight Academy Awards including best picture, actor, and actress, winning one for best sound. It was the highest-grossing movie of 1945 and the 50th-highest ever, adjusting for inflation.

For more information, RSVP to shelalutz13@gmail.com.

Men’s retreat at St. John Neumann

Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, will sponsor a retreat for men from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 19 in its faith and family center.

The retreat will be led by Deacon Greg Kandra and the theme will be “Tell Me a Story: Being Evangelists in the New Evangelization.”

The day will include Mass, Adoration, and meals.

Register online at www.saintjohnsunbury.org, or contact parish adult faith formation director Paul Stokell at pstokell.saintjohn@gmail.com or (740) 965-1358 with any questions.

DeSales 1997 state champions to be honored

The sixth annual Night of Tradition at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, will honor the school’s 1997 Division III state championship football team.

The event, sponsored by the Stallion Football Alumni Association, will take place at 6 p.m. Saturday, July 29. Tickets are $35 general admission, $15 for SFAA members and members of the 1977 team, and $10 for current players.

Love’s true freedom

We are all given choices in life. Have you ever wondered that if you had turned left instead of right, your life might have turned out much differently? That if you had said “Yes” instead of “No,” what your world might have turned out to look like? We all make decisions, good and bad. We must learn from them to mature in such a way that makes our contributions count for something real, something concrete. How has our freedom served and affected those we care for so very much?

The answer to these questions stares us in the eye like a mirrored image. God makes it this way. He creates an easy path for us to follow. It cannot be made any simpler. Love is the key. Love is the answer. We give of ourselves so frequently in life that it may seem that we selfishly reserve the right of freedom to do as we please. We forget that we also have that same right of responsibility to limit our actions for the sake of others. Pope St. John Paul II once said, “Limitation of one’s freedom might seem to be something negative and unpleasant, but love makes it a positive, joyful, and creative thing. Freedom exists for the sake of love.”

Just think of the amount of love and lamentation, responsibility and restraint our founding fathers must have exercised when they sought our nation’s freedom. They must have felt enormous amounts of courage and fear in striking out on their own. The trepidation they must have felt and the destiny they knew they were about to face must have weighed on their consciousness. Their one saving grace was their love of God and their hopes for a better, brighter future. We are thankful to these men and women for the courage they showed and for the nature of what we share today.

Their love and our love is like a close, but silent friend. It follows us on our journey throughout life, tapping us on the shoulder as we go down our chosen path. Love represents itself as an awesome tapestry of knowledge and truth. It raises us to the heights of ecstasy and lowers us into the realm of honest humility. Robert Frost said it best when he wrote:

*Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,* 
*And sorry I could not travel both* 
*And be one traveler, long I stood* 
*And looked down one as far as I could* 
*To where it bent in the undergrowth;* 
*Then took the other, as just as fair,* 
*And having perhaps the better claim,* 
*Because it was grassy and wanted wear;* 
*Though as for that the passing there* 
*Had worn them really about the same,* 
*And both that morning equally lay* 
*In leaves no step had trodden black.*

Out of my comfort zone

Many years ago, I attended an outdoor workshop in the mountains of West Virginia, where we learned and practiced physical skills. We tent-camped for a week, and I was definitely out of my comfort zone with camping and also with physical movement in nature.

I was an athlete in the gym, but moving in nature presented challenges that made it unpredictable – sun, rain, wind, insects, foliage, heat, cold, terrain, my own insecurities about all of that, and more.

I discovered I couldn’t balance on a log very well: in fact, I was fearful of falling off everything. I felt my physical skills were below those of the other students, and my apprehension was hindering my progress.

I also learned that I was concerned about looking silly and I didn’t want people to see me struggle and fail.

That was an important realization and an opportunity for growth. By the end of the week, my biggest takeaway was that I needed to continue to practice letting go of tension and concerns, being in the moment, doing my best, and simply enjoying the experience.

This doesn’t just apply to learning new physical skills. It is equally applicable to our daily lives, and more specifically to our spiritual lives.

I recently went out of my comfort zone and attended a three-day out-of-town Catholic retreat by myself. No one asked me to attend, but the Holy Spirit kept prompting me to go.

I’m glad I went, for it was a wonderful weekend of growing closer to Jesus through Mary, receiving the Sacraments, attending presentations, and learning more about myself through God and through others.

I met a young man there who is discerning a call to the priesthood, and we instantly connected. Several years ago, I had the privilege of working with the diocesan Vocations Office, and I greatly enjoyed getting to know the seminarians and their families. God has given me a joyful heart for seminarians.

The young man I met at this retreat has a beautiful devotion to Mary. With a rosary in hand constantly, I believe he was praying unceasingly. It appeared through his words and actions that he was letting go and letting God lead his life as he shared his plans for college, seminary, and continued discernment. At this retreat of 250 people, he was by himself, one of very few men present, and, at age 18, the youngest by far.

One might think that he was out of his comfort zone, but he was not. In fact, it seemed to be just the opposite. He was truly excited and grateful to be there and was inspired to be with like-minded Catholics, even if none of us were his age.

Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

How can we not go wrong? God is the love we seek. In every one of us, freedom beckons like a light set high atop a pedestal. Is it there just for us to see, or is it there for every one of us to marvel at and to share with those who help to guide along the way?

May God bless this great nation of ours, may He continue to bless us with the freedoms we hold so dear, 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.

In what I consider a small act of great love, he would rush to open doors every time a group of us entered a building. He found ways all weekend to make self-offerings. It seems to me that falling off a log wouldn’t bother him at all; in fact, I bet he would welcome it.

It’s amazing to see how God works with us so individually and how his generosity is always greater than we can imagine.

I went on retreat to receive the Sacraments, to hear inspiring talks, and to pray. I walked away with all of that and so much more because of the example of spiritual strength in this future seminarian.

Thanks be to God for the nudge to get out of my comfort zone sometimes!

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 holyandhealthy-catholic.com.
Union County continues to grow, and Our Lady of Lourdes Church is growing with it.

Father Kevin Kavanagh, its pastor, said the parish now has 788 registered families, its largest number ever—"There haven’t been any big spurts in recent years, but for instance, we had three families inquiring about parish membership, and that’s not an unusual day," she said when the Catholic Times visited the parish earlier this month.

What has been a mostly rural county underwent significant change with the arrival of Hon-Mark in 2015 and 2016 made it the fastest-growing county in Ohio, and it has an estimated population of more than 55,000 people, nearly 23,000 of whom live in Marysville, the county seat.

It's the only Catholic church in Union County, with membership is split about 50-50 between farm and city residents and pre- and post-Honda members.

"The thing that’s impressed me most in my year here as pastor is the exceptional generosity of the people with both their money and their time," Father Kavanagh said.

When the church was built, the parish had 75 families and the sanctuary seated 200 people. Honda’s arrival and the growth that ensued resulted in two expansions of the building.

The first, when the late Father Barry Bentz was pastor, welcomed capacity seating to 550. The second, in 2009 under Father Kavanagh’s predecessor, Father David Polianuco, enabled the capacity of the worship space to reach 700.

In 1980, the Catholic Community Center on the church grounds has provided a constant link between the parish and the larger community. It includes a basketball court which can double as a banquet facility, plus a stage, a kitchen, seven classrooms, and an office.

"The center isn’t as busy right now because it’s summertime and it’s mainly used for Scout meetings," Turner said. "But once school starts it will be in use almost every day, with Parish School of Religion classes, basketball, volleyball, youth activities, the weekly Knights of Columbus basketball games, and meetings for the Columbian Squires and the Knights of Columbus, involved in collecting winter coats and jackets for the needy."

The parish youth group is known as WALK (Working to Attract the Lord’s Kingdom). It meets on Sunday evenings during the school year and has discussions about the challenges of living as a Christian young person, sponsor movies nights, attends diocesan youth activities, and is going to the National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis this fall. It also is working with the youth group at Plant City St. Joseph Church on some combined programs.

Business manager Paul Coddell said the parish regularly works with the Hope Center, an interfaith outreach of the Marysville Area Ministerial Association which is located in a former elementary school building downtown. The center is open six days a week and provides emergency assistance, a community kitchen, a clothes closet, a personal-needs pantry, a furniture bank, and other services for those in need. In addition, the parish has a regular collection for the Marysville Food Pantry, a separate organization at a different location than the Hope Center.

Coddell said the parish has a relationship with St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Haiti, about 40 miles west of Port-au-Prince, that goes back at least 10 years, and has been making regular donations to the Women’s Center in Columbus for several years. Collection envelopes for both organizations are included in parishioners’ monthly envelope packets. Coddell said the parish donates to both twice a year. The most recent donations, for January through March, totaled more than $6,000 each.

Pastoral minister Theresa Stammen said she and Deacon Charles Knight, plus four or five other parishioners, regularly take part in the parish pastoral care program, which visits the sick every Thursday to bring them the Eucharist in their homes, at hospitals, and in nursing homes. "We’ve been visiting five nursing homes, with another soon to open in the area," she said.

"One thing that we are finding more and more is that a lot of people we are visiting are not working or have previous connection with the parish, but have moved to Marysville to stay close to their children who have come here because they work downtown Marysville, just off four-lane U.S. 33. It’s the only Catholic church in Union County, with membership is split about 50-50 between farm and city residents and pre- and post-Honda members.

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with Honda, Scotts, or one of the other industries in Union County, Dublin, or northwest Columbus, where many of our parishioners are employed.”

Council 5534 of the Knights of Columbus and Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Assembly 3157 of the fourth-degree Knights provide aid to programs supported by the parish and to many other activities. These include a program awarding three $500 college scholarships to parishioners; support for diocesan seminarians; the Knights’ Measure-Up program for the developmentally disabled; a community Thanksgiving dinner; a free-throw shooting contest for elementary-school students; several parish breakfasts; litter cleanup on U.S. 33; and an annual flag retirement ceremony.

The Knights and the youth group also have floats in the Marysville Christmas parade, and the council and assembly are in the city’s Memorial Day and Independence Day parades. They also take part in one hour of the parish’s monthly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on the second Friday of each month, from 6 p.m. Friday to Benediction at 10 a.m. Saturday, lead recitation of the rosary before 4:30 p.m. Masses on the Saturdays of October, sponsor an annual Respect Life Mass, and take part in the 40 Days for Life prayer vigil in front of an abortion clinic.

Council 5534 is one of the relatively few councils that sponsors groups for both young men and young women. St. John Paul II Circle 5710 of the Columbian Squires, the Knights’ affiliate for young men ages 10 to 18, was chartered in July 2013. The Circle of Mary, or the Bernadettes, for young women in the same age group, was formed in 2016. Both meet on the third Sunday of each month and assist the Knights at their fish fries and other activities, besides having their own programs.

Much of the support for the Knights’ activities comes from proceeds of their Friday Lenten fish fries at the community center, which are attended by 250 to 300 people each week.

Deacons Knight, Gordon Kunkler, and David Beuszko assist Father Kavanagh with a number of parish duties. Deacon Kunkler is known for his long service in prison ministry, including several years as chaplain of the Madison Correctional Institution. Between one and two dozen parishioners also are involved in various aspects of prison ministry at the Ohio Reformatory for Women in Marysville, the Tri-County Regional Jail in Mechanicsburg, and state prisons in London and Marion.

Deacon Beuszko was ordained to the diaconate this past November and will be introducing the That Man Is You! program for men to the parish in September. The Walking With Purpose Bible study for women also will be coming in the fall.

In addition, the parish also has a weekly Bible study throughout the school year and is conducting a summer Bible study with Deacon Beuszko on Tuesday nights. Its annual Vacation Bible School took place in June and attracted about 130 children.

Deacon Beuszko also leads the RCIA program, which is supported by about a dozen parishioners who regularly attend its classes, with some of them also presenting topics to the class. Seven new members came into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil this year as a result of attending the classes.

When the school year begins, a monthly program known as MOMENTS, for Meeting Other Mothers: Each Needing the Support, will resume. This group gathers on a weekday morning and is committed to nurturing mothers and their families through supportive friendships, to serving the church community, and to affirming the roles of mothers seeking spiritual growth in the Catholic faith.

Paul Melcher, who has served as music director since 2012, said the parish music program includes an adult choir, a contemporary group, and a children’s choir for grades three to six.

For the last four years, the parish has...
BY TIM PUET, Catholic Times Reporter

For many low-income families, trying to be self-sufficient is a constant struggle.

For nearly 20 years, Joseph’s Coat of Central Ohio, an interfaith ministry based on Columbus’ far east side, has answered God’s call to love and serve such families. In the words of its mission statement, it offers “stepping stones to self-sufficiency through material assistance.”

It began in a two-car garage and moved to larger sites three times. In 2011, it opened its current 12,600-square-foot office and warehouse at 240 Outerbelt St. in Columbus, near Mount Carmel East Hospital and the East Broad Street exit of Interstate 270.

Last year, it distributed more than 106,000 items at no charge – approximately 89,000 clothing items, 5,500 household goods such as linens and dishes, 2,500 pieces of gently used furniture, and 9,490 personal care items. The furniture went to 324 families, making Joseph’s Coat second only to the Furniture Bank of Central Ohio in the amount of donated furniture distributed locally. It had about 9,000 visits from families, an average of 750 per month.

All those numbers are considerably higher than they were last year, said Patricia Lutz, Joseph’s Coat board president. “It’s said the economy is improving and more jobs are available, but what we’ve seen in the past several years is that many of those jobs are low-paying and large numbers of people continue to struggle,” she said.

“The average age of men who came here last year was 44; for women, it was 41. Their children had an average age of eight. Most have worked hard and been able to provide for their families for years until they encountered a rough patch. They’ve suddenly become unemployed or homeless or have been hit by an unexpected major financial expense or health issues. Or perhaps they’re dealing with a domestic abuse situation or are a retired couple trying to stretch a fixed income,” Lutz said.

“They have to submit a membership form before shopping here. After doing that, they come here and find what they need. In most cases, things eventually stabilize and they get on with life.”

Lutz said statistics from 2012 to 2016 show that four out of five families who visited Joseph’s Coat did so five times or less, with the largest number making a single visit.

“We require some kind of identification of all household members, and anyone applying to us must have legal custody of all children listed. However, unlike some organizations providing assistance, we do not require income verification,” she said. Furniture requests require a verification of need from a social service or religious organization.

To balance the supply of items with the demand from families, Joseph’s Coat has monthly limits on how much clothing a family can receive and quarterly limits on personal care items. Distribution of furniture and household goods is limited to once per life emergency per family.

“When you’re donating something to us, respect the people we serve by sending things that are usable, that you’d give to your mother or grandmother,” Lutz said. “We don’t want discards or ‘yard sale’-type stuff.”

The Joseph’s Coat store is open from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays and Saturdays to distribute and receive items. Pickup of larger items at people’s homes is available on Wednesday and Saturday mornings. Most pickups take place on Saturdays because several churches provide crews of volunteers for that day.

The seeds for Joseph’s Coat were planted in 1998 through the efforts of Joanne Barrett of Messiah Lutheran Church in Reynoldsburg, one of several churches which for several years provided housing for homeless families for one week a month through the Interfaith Hospitality Network. That organization’s role now is served by the YWCA Family Center on Columbus’ east side.

Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church, which is across Waggoner Road from Messiah, also was involved with the IHN and partnered with Messiah in forming Joseph’s Coat in 2004, with Parkview Presbyterian Church, Reynoldsburg United Methodist Church, and Eastpointe Christian Church joining the partnership. Barrett has continued her involvement and is usually at the Joseph’s Coat store coordinating pickup crews. “I’ve been fortunate in having the opportunity to give back to people, especially children, through the IHN and Joseph’s Coat,” she said. “I know of several instances where, thanks to Joseph’s Coat, families had beds to sleep in instead of having to sleep on the floor. Knowing I’ve helped them has been my greatest joy.”

The organization’s only paid employee, Wes Legg, who serves as executive director on a part-time basis, said Joseph’s Coat has about 140 people who volunteer at least occasionally. About 30 of them were at its headquarters when the Catholic Times visited, and there was ample work for all, such as sorting clothing, helping people check in or find clothes to fit their needs, driving a truck to pick up furniture, or unloading the furniture.

Volunteers donated more than 12,500 hours to Joseph’s Coat last year. “That’s a much higher number of hours than last year, but the number of volunteers was about the same,” Legg said. “The volunteers we have were willing to work more hours.”

Besides the partner churches, other organizations providing a large number of volunteers included Gahanna St. Matthew Church, Epiphany Lutheran Church in Pickerington, Peace Lutheran Church in Gahanna, Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, and Columbus Bishop Hartley, Columbus Independence, and Reynoldsburg high schools.

“We desperately need more volunteers, particularly men,” Lutz said. “They’re the most important part of our operation – more important than the clients, because if we don’t have volunteers to open the doors, we can’t serve any clients.”

Joseph’s Coat is registered as a nonprofit organization with the Internal Revenue Service. Its annual fundraising dinner will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 21 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Marriott Columbus Airport, 1375 N. Cassady Ave. To donate, register as a client, volunteer, or schedule a furniture pickup, go to www.josephs-coat.org or call (614) 863-1371. Lutz may be reached by calling (614) 395-2057 or via email at palutz108@gmail.com.

Above: Volunteers pack clothing for families assisted by Joseph’s Coat of Central Ohio.
Left: Loading a chest of drawers onto a Joseph’s Coat truck for distribution to a family needing furniture.
Right: Two furniture distribution trucks at the loading dock.
CT photos by Tim Puet
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)

Possession of the kingdom is worth everything

Father Lawrence L. Hummer

July 30 -- 1 Kings 3:5-7-12; Romans 8:28-30; Matthew 13:44-52

There was a real discussion among the rabbis of earlier times on the issue of dreams and their interpretation. Solomon’s dream took place at Gibeon, which had the largest shrine available at the time. This was before the Temple was built in Jerusalem. Ancients believed that someone who was seeking guidance might sleep in a holy place, hoping for an appearance by God in the dream to provide the answers hoped for (see The Jewish Study Bible on this verse). Here, the Lord asked Solomon what he wanted and Solomon spoke to the Lord. All this was within the dream.

The problem with Solomon at the Gibeon shrine is that the Jerusalem Temple was supposed to be the only place to offer sacrifices. Verse two notes that the Jerusalem Temple was supposed to be the only place to offer sacrifices. Verse two notes that the Lord would be living there. All this was within the dream. The Jerusalem Temple was not yet built, however, which made it unimportantEdit. The Feast of Corpus Christi could be emphasized at a Eucharistic parish mission. The list can go on. Parish feast days, parish anniversaries, or even the summer’s three-month gap, when many Catholics leave school and their faith, are all options. By August, TV is boring and a mission can be energizing for a family.

We have reviewed a few ways a parish mission can help the depth and direction of a parish. As a Dominican, a member of the Order of Preachers, I have loved this ministry in our diocese. I hope that every parish -- for the first time or for a repeat visit -- can schedule parish missions in the near future.

If you are interested in getting information on having a Dominican lead a parish mission, contact me, Father Thomas Blau, OP, at frthomasblauop@gmail.com, call (614) 208-1072, or contact the Columbus St. Patrick Church office.

The parish website is www.stpatrickcolumbus.org.

MISSION, continued from Page 7

and fosters confessions. In May and June, missions on “Easter Sunday: Proofs for the Resurrection” and “Why Is Mary Important?” are very appropriate. The Feast of Corpus Christi could be emphasized at a Eucharistic parish mission. The list can go on. Parish feast days, parish anniversaries, or even the summer’s three-month gap, when many Catholics leave school and their faith, are all options. By August, TV is boring and a mission can be energizing for a family.

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The parish website is www.stpatrickcolumbus.org.
Are jihadis “losers”?

When I first visited Israel in 1988, my friend Profesor Menahem Milson, a distinguished Arabist at Hebrew University who was Egyptian president Anwar Sadat’s military aide during Sadat’s historic visit to Jerusalem in 1977, told me that “you have to meet my friend, Colonel Yigal Carmon.” Carmon worked in the Israeli Defense Ministry in Tel Aviv; I had a very busy schedule in Jerusalem and around Galilee; so I tried to decline. Menahem insisted and I finally agreed to spend a morning in Tel Aviv. It was one of the most fruitful surrenders of my life.

It turned out that Yigal was the adviser on counter-terrorism to the Israeli Prime Minister, and when I went to his office in what I remember as the basement of the Ministry of Defense, he was handling three telephones simultaneously; on each of them, he made life-and-death decisions, daily, sometimes even hourly, about reported terrorist plots: Was the report reliable? What could be done about the threat? Who was to be put in harm’s way? We talked for over an hour, during which the phones interrupted us several times. I left deeply impressed by his remarkable calm, his fluent Arabic (a trait he shared with Milson), and the extraordinary nature of his job, to which, in that pre-9/11 world, there was no real analog, save perhaps in an MI-5 office dealing with Northern Ireland.

Two years later, I was in town for what turned out to be the last meeting of the Jerusalem Committee, an international advisory panel to Mayor Teddy Kollek. Our meetings ended and, as Yigal had a rare day off, he invited me to go with him to Masada, Herod the Great’s massive fortress.

It was Sept. 1, 1990, and tourists had fled Israel in droves, Saddam Hussein having helped himself to Kuwait a month previously. When we got to Masada, the parking lot was empty, save for a bus carrying tourists from American evangelicaldom. We rode up the funicular to the top of the great plateau together and then went our separate ways. Yigal, unfamiliar with the ways of some folks, asked me in a puzzled voice, “What are they doing here? Everyone else has left.” I explained that these good folk probably thought that, with war imminent, they’d lucked into a front-row seat at the Battle of Armageddon. So they were staying put.

Over three decades of friendship and collaboration, I’ve come to think of Yigal Carmon as the contemporary reincarnation of an ancient Stoic. He is completely tone-deaf religiously: not hostile to religious belief, perhaps even admiring it in others, but incapable of it himself. Yet he is a man of the utmost moral seriousness, determined to see things as they are and to live in an ethically rigorous way, according to the norms of justice we can know by reason. So in a world increasingly dominated by irrationalism, he is very much worth listening to.

Since 1998, Yigal has been the driving force behind MEMRI, the Middle East Media Research Institute, whose self-defined goal is to “bridge the language gap between the Middle East and the West” by providing translations of materials originally appearing in the Arabic, Farsi, Dari, Urdu, Pashto, Turkish, and Russian media into English, French, Polish, Japanese, Spanish, and Hebrew. In a recent MEMRI Daily Brief, Yigal, taking exception to one of President Trump’s bombastic characterizations of terrorists, wrote that “the jihadis who perpetrate these horrific crimes are neither losers nor nihilists … these perpetrators, by the standards of their own belief, are virtuous people. …” That means that the only long-term answer to the bloody borders between “Islam and the rest” – borders that now reach deeply into Western societies – is for Islam to undertake a far-reaching internal reform, which purifies the faith and leads Islam to develop, from within its own resources, a case for religious tolerance and political pluralism: “a Muslim aggiornamento … along the lines of the reforms introduced by Pope John XXIII.”

Thus informed by both his Stoic ethic and his long experience in trying to thwart terrorist violence while helping the West understand it, my friend Yigal Carmon has come to precisely the same conclusion as Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis – Islam must develop and propagate an Islamic case against terrorism. It won’t be easy. But it must be done.

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

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**Volunteer Coordinator**

**Catholic Social Services**

Catholic Social Services (CSS) is a faith-based social service agency focused on improving the quality of life of people of all faiths and backgrounds during some of their most vulnerable times of their lives. By serving people in ways that help seniors live independent, connected lives and families thrive, Catholic Social Services continues its 70 year legacy to address the community’s unmet, pressing needs with compassion.

CSS has an opportunity for a Volunteer Coordinator in the Friendly Visiting program.

**Location:** Columbus, Ohio

**Key Responsibilities**

- To recruit eligible volunteers and complete all on-boarding requirements.
- To set up volunteer files with appropriate documentation based on federal/grant requirement.
- Assist with the orientation and required training of the volunteers.
- Develop relationships with community agencies to attract a volunteer base.

**Experience**

- Bachelors’ degree in human services or related field, preferred.
- Experience working with the senior population a plus.
- Proven recruiting experience
- Must have the ability to move between tasks effectively and efficiently
- Proficient with Microsoft office software

Catholic Social Services is an Equal Employment Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer and is committed to building a diverse and inclusive workforce to reflect and provide culturally responsive services to a diverse community.

Please submit cover letter and resume to: 

Terri Hurtt, Human Resources Director, thurtt@colcss.org

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**Administrative Assistant**

**Saint Brigid of Kildare**

Saint Brigid of Kildare Religious Education is looking for a responsible Administrative Assistant to perform a variety of administrative support and clerical tasks.

The Administrative Assistant is responsible for providing support to the Directors and catechists, assisting in daily office needs, and managing the Religious Education program’s general administrative activities. The ideal candidate should have excellent oral and written communication skills and be able to organize their work using tools, like MS Office and office equipment. This is full-time position.

To apply please send resume to Tina White at:

twhite@stbrigidofkildare.org
Father Christopher C. Coleman

Funeral Mass for Father Christopher C. Coleman, 50, who died Sunday, July 9 of injuries sustained in an auto accident, was held Friday, July 14 at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral in Cincinnati.

He was born June 20, 1967 in London, Ohio, to Paul and Barbara (Copper) Coleman. He was an altar server at London St. Patrick Church. He also served as an organist there following the death of his organ instructor while he was in seventh grade, and was forever grateful to Msgr. Romano Ciotola, the parish’s pastor at the time, for this opportunity.

He graduated in 1985 from London High School and 1990 from Miami (Ohio) University, then spent 10 years in private business before entering the Athenaeum of Ohio in Cincinnati to study for the priesthood. He was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati on May 20, 2006 by Archbishop Daniel Pilarczyk.

He served as parochial vicar of the Community of the Good Shepherd in Montgomery from 2006-08 and as pastor of Dayton St. Anthony of Padua Church from 2008-14. He has been pastor of Wyoming St. James of the Valley, Forest Park St. Matthias, and Greenhills Our Lady of the Rosary churches since July 1, 2014.

He was preceded in death by his father. Survivors include his mother, of London, and a sister, Dr. Paula (Doug Black) Coleman.

Phyllis A. Cotter

Funeral Mass for Phyllis A. “Toots” Cotter, 89, who died Sunday, July 9, was held Thursday, July 13 at Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel in St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born in Columbus to Alexander and Helen Howard, was a 1945 graduate of Columbus West High School, and attended The Ohio State University.

She worked in the cafeterias at Columbus St. Mary Magdalene School, Columbus Bishop Ready High School, and Hilltonia Middle School until she was 70.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Thomas; and daughter, Bridget. Survivors include daughters, Molly, Kathleen (Kirk) Schneider and Gretchen (Gerald) Dyer; four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

St. Martha Giving Circle invites women to join

The Catholic Foundation’s St. Martha Giving Circle will be kicking off its annual membership drive on Saturday, July 29, the Feast of St. Martha.

The circle is a group designed to bring Catholic women together to raise awareness and funds for charities in the Diocese of Columbus. Started in 2014, the Marthas gather to learn about organizations and their needs, to join together in service, and to decide which projects to fund. Circle memberships in the first year greatly exceeded expectations, with nearly 120 members (40 of whom contributed $1,000 to join the Founder’s Circle).

The Marthas recently announced their 2017 grant recipients, awarding $25,000 to nine organizations in the Diocese of Columbus.

Women of all ages and backgrounds may join the St. Martha Giving Circle. Gifts to the fund may range from $10 to $10,000, but The Catholic Foundation asks for a minimum contribution of $100 for voting privileges. Nonvoting members are free to participate in all activities except the annual grantmaking vote.

To learn more or to join, email marthas@catholic-foundation.org or call (614) 443-8893. For additional information about the St. Martha Giving Circle, please visit www.catholic-foundation.org/TheMarthas.
**St. Elizabeth Church**
**FAMILY FESTIVAL**
Celebrating 50 years of parish life
July 28, 6-11 pm – Classic Car Show 5-7 pm
July 29, 5-11 pm – Band Holywell 7-10 pm
Food Trucks providing lots of food, great Silent Auction, children’s games, adult games of chance.
Come have a great time!

**St. Anthony Corn Roast Festival**
1300 Urban Dr., Columbus
Aug. 25, 6-11 pm; Aug. 26, 5-11 pm
Carnival Rides, Roasted Corn, Ribs, Pulled Pork, Fair Food, Games and Activities for kids of all ages, Silent Auction, Coke Wheel, Raffles, Live Entertainment Both Nights
Rummage Sale
Aug. 18, 9am - 5pm; Aug. 19, 9am - 3pm

**Blessed Sacrament Festival**
394 E Main St, Newark, Ohio
Saturday, August 26 from 5 – 11 pm
Something for the whole family!
Food, beverages, games!
Music & kids area with face painting and bounce houses!
Come and enjoy Walt’s famous noodles and have some fun!

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.

**‘Happenings’ submissions**
Notices for items of Catholic interest must be received at least 12 days before expected publication date. We will print them as space permits.
Items not received before this deadline may not be published.
Listings cannot be taken by phone.
Mail to Catholic Times Happenings, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215
Fax to 614-241-2518
E-mail as text to tpuet@columbuscatholic.org

**St. Brendan’s Parish Festival 2017**
Friday & Saturday, August 11 & 12
Open 6 p.m. - Midnight
**Family fun hours Saturday 3 - 6 p.m.**
(Fire Track and Police Car)
**Festival Cash Raffle:**
GRAND PRIZE $53,330 ($10,000 AFTER TAXES) plus other cash prizes
Live Entertainment and Adult Games of Chance
Kids Games and Midway Rides
Silent Auction and Prize Raffle
Great Festival Food Prepared on Site Special Vendor: Old Bag of Nails Restaurant
4475 Dublin Rd. Hilliard, OH 43026
Phone: 614-876-1482
Website: www.stbrendans.net

**ST. BRENDAN’S**
**PARISH FESTIVAL 2017**
**Friday & Saturday, August 11 & 12**
**Open 6 p.m. - Midnight**
**Family fun hours Saturday 3 - 6 p.m.**
(Fire Track and Police Car)
**Festival Cash Raffle:**
GRAND PRIZE $53,330 ($10,000 AFTER TAXES) plus other cash prizes
Live Entertainment and Adult Games of Chance
Kids Games and Midway Rides
Silent Auction and Prize Raffle
Great Festival Food Prepared on Site
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**JULY**

27, 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. Also on Aug. 3.
Ohio Dominican MBA Information Session
6 p.m., Room 216, Bishop Griffin Center, Ohio Dominican University, 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Information session on university’s master of business administration program.
28, FRIDAY
One Day Fun Day at Holy Rosary-St. John
8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Holy Rosary-St. John Church, 648 S. Ohio Ave., Columbus. One Day Fun Day program for first-through-sixth-graders in the parish neighborhood.
Shepherd’s Corner Ecology Center Open House
10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Shepherd’s Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Center, a ministry of the Dominican Sisters of Peace, will be open, weather permitting. Also on Aug. 4.
29, SATURDAY
Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City
9 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave., Plain City. Saturday Life and Mercy Mass, followed by rosary and confession. Also on Aug. 5.
Ohio Dominican One-Stop Admission Day
9 to 11:30 a.m., Bishop Griffin Center, Ohio Dominican University, 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus. One-stop admission day, allowing students to complete admission process in 60 minutes or less.
30, SUNDAY
Praise Mass at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
11 a.m., Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Praise Mass with upbeat contemporary music.
614-861-1242
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. Also on Aug. 6.
614-237-0401
Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. Also on Aug. 6. 706-761-4054
31, MONDAY
Ohio Theater Movie Benefit for Columbus St. Mary
5:30 p.m., Ohio Theater, 39 E. State St., Columbus. Screening of film classic “The Bells of St. Mary’s” to benefit rebuilding of Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church, hosted by Father Kevin Lutz.
614-648-2106

**AUGUST**

1, THURSDAY
Serra Club of North Columbus Meeting
Noon, Jessing Center, Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. Serra Club of North Columbus meeting. Speaker: Father Stephen D. Hayes, OP, of Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church. Reservations required.
614-861-4888
Lay Missions 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 Missions of Charity.
614-372-5249
2, WEDNESDAY
Marian Devotion at St. Elizabeth
7 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Marian devotion with Scriptural rosary, followed by Mass and monthly novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, with Father Ramon Owerwa, CFIC.
614-891-0150
3, THURSDAY
Holy Hour at Holy Family
6 to 7 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Holy Hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by meeting of parish Holy Name and Junior Holy Name societies, with refreshments.
614-221-4323
4, FRIDAY
St. Cecilia Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
St. Cecilia Church, 434 Norton Road, Columbus. Begins after 8:15 a.m. Mass; continues to 5 p.m. Saturday.
Ohio Dominican Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Begins after 9 a.m. Mass; continues through 6 p.m. Holy Hour.
5, 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
Citywide Prayer Gathering at Church of Our Lady
9 a.m. to noon, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Citywide prayer gathering sponsored by Columbus Catholic Renewal.
614-221-1890
Lay Missions 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 Missions 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.
614-512-3731
Filipino Mass at St. Elizabeth
7:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Mass in the Tagalog language for members of the Filipino Catholic community.
614-891-0150
6, SUNDAY
Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Citywide prayer gathering sponsored by Columbus Catholic Renewal.
Lay Missions 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 Missions of Charity.
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7:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Mass in the Tagalog language for members of the Filipino Catholic community.
614-891-0150
7, MONDAY
Eucharistic Adoration at Our Lady of Victory
7 to 8 a.m., Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. First Monday Eucharistic Adoration, beginning with Morning Prayer and concluding with Mass.
614-221-4323
Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 1033 W. 5th St., will host a concert by the brother and sister duo of pianist Rachel Jackson and violinist Matthew Jackson at 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 13 as part of its Music on the Hill series.

Both siblings started formal musical training at the age of six. Rachel received a bachelor of music degree in performance from Wright State University and will begin graduate study this fall at Butler University in Indianapolis. She began teaching privately while in high school, with her studio growing to more than 20 students.

She has been a soloist at the Hayner Cultural Center in Troy, Wright State’s arts gala in Dayton, and Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland. Her Sorelle piano trio has performed with Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart. Matthew graduated from high school in the spring and will begin studies this fall at Wright State University’s music school. He was concertmaster for the Dayton Philharmonic Youth Orchestra’s 2016-17 season and also is a member of the Middletown Youth Symphony.

Last summer, his string quartet, Musicians on Streich, performed at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. He also has been a soloist with the Platypus Theater Company in Dayton.

Freewill donations will be accepted at the concert.

For more information, call Our Lady of Lourdes music director Paul Melcher at (937) 644-6020.
The Catholic Diocese of Columbus, Ohio is looking for an individual to serve in the dual role of Episcopal Moderator of Catholic Education and Superintendent of Catholic Schools. The Episcopal Moderator role serves as the primary voice of the Bishop in carrying out his prophetic role as the teaching authority for the Catholic faithful. This role also serves the critical function of advisor to the Bishop and spiritual and educational leader in the Diocese. As Superintendent of Catholic Schools, the selected individual will be responsible for 42 elementary and 11 high schools in the Diocese. This role works closely with the Pastors, Administrators, and individual Principals to promote the operation of a Catholic school system which reflects the highest ideals of Catholic education, meets the expectations of parents, and complies with the requirements of the state of Ohio’s Department of Education. In addition, this role serves as the administrator providing day-to-day advice and consultation on situations arising in Catholic school education.

The ideal applicant must be a practicing Catholic and exhibit an attitude and behavior for cultivating lifelong learning. A minimum of a Master’s degree in Educational Administration or similar content area, PhD preferred. Professional development is mandatory to remain current in best educational practices; Educator’s License from the State of Ohio. A minimum of ten years of successful experience in the operation of elementary and/or secondary schools, preferably in a Catholic school system, as a principal or superintendent. Successful experience as a superintendent of schools is preferred.

Offer of position is contingent upon successful completion of a mandatory background screening and the VIRTUS “Protecting God’s Children” program. Salary is commensurate with education and experience. All benefits are according to Diocesan policy.

Send resume, including education and references by Thursday, August 31, 2017 to:
Dominic Prunte, Director of Human Resources, at dprunte@columbuscatholic.org.
Matthew Guggenbiller of Hilliard, a member of the Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School Class of 2017, has been awarded a Glenna R. Joyce scholarship to the University of Notre Dame. He plans to major in biochemistry and will explore additional opportunities in the medical field.

The Joyce scholarship covers the full cost of tuition, other fees, room and board, books, transportation, and individual expenses at the university for four years.

At St. Charles, he maintained a 4.23 grade point average and was a 2017 National Merit Scholarship Finalist, a member of the National Honor Society, and an advanced placement scholar with honor. He earned a summa cum laude distinction on the National Latin Examination and was awarded the school’s Msgr. Paul J. O’Dea Latin Award as the senior with the highest-grade point average during his four-year study of Latin.

He was a member of the school’s engineering team for two years, earning the team MVP award in his senior year. He also was a member of the cross country and track and field teams and worked at the Muscular Dystrophy Association camp.

In addition, he was a summer volunteer in the biomedical research tower at The Ohio State University, studying cancer genetics, and is working this summer on a research project on muscular diseases at Nationwide Children’s Hospital. He is a member of Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church.

Justin Hadad, another 2017 St. Charles graduate, also was offered a Joyce scholarship, but instead accepted a Morehead-Cain scholarship to the University of North Carolina. The Morehead-Cain program is the first merit scholarship program established in the United States and offers benefits similar to those of the Joyce scholarship.

Hadad, the St. Charles representative on the diocesan academic honor team, earned a 4.28 GPA, the highest in his class. He was a National Merit Commended Scholar and a National Latin Exam summa cum laude honoree. He was an Advanced Placement and honors tutor, served a mechanical internship with Prater Engineering Associates since 2015, and was a molecular and cellular biochemistry Intern at Ohio State in the summer of 2016.

In addition, he was a member of the Student American Chemical Society, Student Council, the National Honor Society, the Eastside Mahi-Mahi Rugby Football Club, and the school Weightlifting Club. He volunteered as a reading mentor, with Dublin Youth Athletics, and at the Shepherd’s Corner Ecology Center. He is a member of Columbus St. Andrew Church.

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