FOSTER GRANDPARENTS PROGRAM CONNECTS
YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SENIOR CITIZENS
The Editor’s Notebook

Senioritis
By David Garick, Editor

As I was putting this issue together and preparing to write this column, I found myself checking my wallet. Yep, there it was, nestled between my auto club card and my Columbus Blue Jackets Ultimate Fan card – my Golden Buckeye card – “Your pass to discounts and activities and link to elder caregiver and aging services.” I don’t use it very often. It’s not that I don’t like discounts or that I am in any way embarrassed to admit my age. I know that anyone who looks at me will not assume that I am some young dude. That ship has sailed. I’m even amused that I have to show my driver’s license to buy a beer at the hockey games.

No, I’m not bothered about being 70. I just don’t feel like I’m 70. I feel like I did when I was in my 20s. Well, that is if you don’t count getting winded after an hour or so of yardwork or being ready for bed at a time in the evening when I once was just heading out to party. And there are some advantages to being perceived as an “older American.” When I get annoyed or impatient, instead of being seen as just a jerk, I can be the lovable old curmudgeon. And my natural quirkiness is transformed from being strange to being a bit of an eccentric. Even with retirement looming, I’ve got a lot to do and I enjoy doing it.

That’s what this issue of Catholic Times is all about. We are indeed blessed with a lot of senior Catholics in this diocese who are still a real driving force in our church. I’m sure every one of you could come up with a list of people from your own parishes who are doing amazing things at an age when you might expect them to be slowing down.

That’s one of the things I have learned as I have matured. Age makes you appreciate your faith more. As you accumulate more and more experiences in your life – finding love, losing loved ones, facing anger and disappointment, receiving kindness and blessings, giving of yourself because you feel called to give – all of these things and more make you more acutely aware of how faith sustains you and uplifts you. The perspective that comes from all these life events draws each of us closer to an understanding of how much Christ loves us and how important it is to share in his sacrifice and accept his love.

That’s why many of the most active people in your parish are the oldest people in your parish. They have come to understand that the joy of life comes from faith in Christ and following him in giving of themselves to the service of his Church. That is the fountain of youth. That is the gateway to eternal joy. And if you get 10 percent off at your favorite buffet restaurant, that’s OK, too.

By Rhina Guidos

Catholic News Service

Catholic groups are mobilizing to help in Hurricane Harvey’s aftermath

Catholic dioceses and charities are quickly organizing to help in the aftermath of a Category 4 hurricane that made landfall with winds of 130 miles per hour late Friday, Aug. 25 in the Rockport, Texas area, northeast of Corpus Christi. The hurricane, named Harvey, is said to be the strongest one to hit the United States in more than a decade and perhaps the strongest one to make landfall in Texas.

Catholic Charities USA, as well as the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Disaster Services, announced early on Aug. 26 that they’re mobilizing to help an as-yet-unknown number of persons affected by the hurricane. The Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops has a list of charities helping with the disaster listed on its website at https://txcatholic.org/harvey.

Authorities reported one casualty as of Saturday afternoon, but because of safety issues, not many emergency teams have been able so far to respond to the aftermath. Texas Gov. Greg Abbott declared the state a disaster area, which will allow federal money to help in reconstruction. Catholic groups said they want to help with the immediate needs of the communities affected.

“We will be sending in rapid-response teams to help our impacted St. Vincent de Paul councils and we are coordinating nationally with the Knights of Columbus, Knights of Malta and Catholic Charities USA,” said Elizabeth Disco-Shearer, chief executive officer of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul USA.

In the Diocese of Brownsville, Texas, Bishop Daniel E. Flores authorized a second collection to be taken up at the diocese’s local churches on the weekend of Aug. 26-27 to send to Catholic Charities in nearby Corpus Christi and “other places hardest hit by loss of power, storm damage, flooding.”

It’s been hard to communicate with other areas, said Bishop Flores in an Aug. 26 interview with Catholic News Service, so it’s hard to gauge the extent of the damage. But he said his diocese wanted to get a head start to quickly divert help where it is needed and as fast as possible.

If the Rio Grande Valley, where Bishop Flores’ diocese is located, was spared the major impact of Hurricane Harvey, then the diocese had a duty to help its neighbors to the north in the coastal areas of Corpus Christi and Galveston-Houston, which seemed to be hit hardest, he said. Hurricane Harvey seemed to enter near Corpus Christi and affected seven coastal counties in Texas and one Louisiana parish.

“We continue to pray for every for everyone affected by the hurricane and those who are at risk as the storms continue,” said Bishop Flores in a statement.

See HURRICANE, Page 19
Bishop at forefront of initiative says racism demands church’s attention

By Rhina Guidos  
Catholic News Service

By creating a committee to deal with racism, the country’s Catholic bishops are standing up for the American value of equality and for a Gospel that refutes the hatred and violence the country witnessed on Aug. 11 and 12 during white supremacist demonstrations in Charlottesville, Virginia, said the bishop who will lead the effort.

“When I watched it, I was just appalled. I couldn’t believe that that was going on in the United States and that there was so much disregard for people,” said Bishop George V. Murry, SJ, of Youngstown, the chair of the newly formed Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism, during an Aug. 23 interview with Catholic News Service. “I was happy that the bishops responded so quickly, and that many people across our country responded so quickly to say: ‘This is not who we are. This is not America.’”

When something such as Charlottesville occurs, a response is needed, said Bishop Murry. He made the comments shortly after a news conference announcing the formation of the ad hoc group, which is moving quickly to put together a national summit of religious leaders and others to participate in the effort.

“Unfortunately, it’s not only Charlottesville,” said Bishop Murry. “There have been other instances of discrimination and lack of caring, of outright hate for people who are African-American or other people of color, immigrants, newcomers. What the bishops are saying is we need to look at this in a concerted organized way because this is having a negative effect on the life of our country.”

By forming the committee, the bishops have placed racism as a priority they must address and quickly. The last two U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ ad hoc committees dealt with religious liberty and marriage and were established in 2011 and 2008, respectively.

Bishop Murry said that with this particular effort, the bishops are saying: “Whether you’re Catholic, Muslim, or Jewish, or Protestant, we are Americans and we have American values and one of those values is equality. And when people are denied their opportunity to be equal and are not treated as equal, we need to speak out and stand together as Americans and call for American values, one of the most important being equality.”

During the news conference, Bishop Murry said the church in the U.S. will get the message out through its network of parishes, schools, Catholic charities and all Catholic organizations “that this is an urgent issue that demands our attention and it is a very serious issue because of the fact that racism is contrary to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”

When a reporter from the EWTN network asked during the news conference about Confederate statues being taken down, the reason that the rally and subsequent violence started in Charlottesville, Bishop Murry said: “I am much more interested in the underlying issues.... What I want to focus on is our responsibility as men and women of faith to respect each other.”

That’s what the Gospel calls Christians to do: to love and respect one another, he said.

“We’re here today because of our confidence that Christ wishes to break down these walls created by the evils of racism, be they on display for the world to see or buried deep within the recesses of our hearts,” he said during the news conference. “For too long the sin of racism has lived and thrived in our communities and even in some of our churches.”

As a pastor, he has met many who have experienced racism and prejudice, he said, and as an African-American, he, too, walks that path. He recalled an instance when he was a seminarian and someone thought he was the gardener because he is black.

“He didn’t think that an African-American could be a seminarian, so he just assumed that I was a gardener. And there have been other instances that have happened over the years,” he told CNS.

Faith helps during those moments. The experiences have helped him comfort others, he said.

“There is no way that a person can be disregarded and disrespected and not feel it,” he said. “You do feel it. It has a deep... it’s a deep wound but it is faith in Jesus Christ that helps us overcome that.”

Faith helps people forgive, he said, or at least deal with the situation better.

“I and others have had experiences where you can’t talk it out with someone and you simply have to realize that Jesus died in expiation for our sins,” he said. “All of us are sinners and God is willing to forgive us. We need to forgive each other.”

The work of the committee will address some of those issues, he said, adding that he is aware that it’s not a quick fix, nor will it end racism. But the Catholic Church has spoken against racism for a long time and will continue to be part of efforts to eradicate it, he said.

“I do not have any sort of unrealistic expectations that America is going to become dramatically different in two weeks, but I think that it is the role of the church to be a moral voice and that’s what the church is doing right now,” he said to CNS. “It is speaking out and saying that all men and women are created in the image and likeness of God.”

Bishop Martin D. Holley of Memphis, Tennessee, said he was encouraged by the announcement of the ad hoc committee in light of the recent “appalling” incidents of violence and hatred throughout the country.

“We must end the racism, violence, bigotry and hatred that continue to create division between us,” he said in a statement.

Sister Patricia Chappell, a Sister of Notre Dame de Namur, who is executive director of Pax Christi USA, said inserting the word “racism” in the name of the committee is a good and positive step forward and recognizes the problem.

She said she hoped the bishops would involve Catholic groups that have long worked at the grass-roots level with communities of color in addressing the issue, including the National Black Catholic Congress; Latino organizers for the fifth national Encuentro in 2018, for which preparations are well underway; as well as Catholic American Indians and Asian and Pacific Islanders. She said she also wished to see it become a standing committee with the USCCB, which would make it more of a permanent nature since racism will not go away soon.

But she said people need to be willing to engage in painful conversations, including talking about white privilege and the racial oppression people of color.

“If not, we will never be able to move and dismantle institutional racism,” she said. “As Catholics, we have to be willing to have the hard conversations and be honest with each other, and through prayer, mutual dialogue, reflection and action, we certainly can build the beloved community.”
**Faith in Action**  By Mark Huddy

**Close Encounters**

During his papacy, Pope Francis has said much about promoting an authentic culture of encounter and dialogue that can allow us to enter into another's walk with its joys and hopes, its needs and struggles. And by entering in, we can hear God's invitation to respond, to help, to be compassionate, to love. During the last few weeks, we have seen examples of encounters of a different kind, characteristically without dialogue, which has been replaced by diatribe. These encounters of a different kind do not allow their participants to enter into another's walk, but intentionally exclude others. They are encounters because they share physical space, not the bonds of our common humanity. The first kind of encounter unifies; the second kind divides. The first leads into compassion, and ultimately to love. The second leads into suspicion, isolation, and ultimately to hatred.

As we think about the social issues that we wrestle with both in society and in the Church, an issue that would benefit greatly from an authentic culture of encounter and dialogue would be our stance toward migrants and refugees. Caritas International is beginning a “Share the Journey” campaign this month which will provide opportunities and spaces for migrants and other community members to come together, sharing stories and experiences, with the aim of strengthening the bonds between migrants and host communities. Pope Francis will launch the yearlong campaign from St. Peter’s Square on Wednesday, Sept. 27, inviting all of us to “Share the Journey” with refugees and migrants. Caritas International has developed an action guide (available at http://journey.caritas.org) that identifies ways to mobilize your community, school, or parish. In our diocese, linkage with the Our Lady of Guadalupe Center of Catholic Social Services (a Caritas member organization) is a great way to get started.

Current legislative proposals on immigration reflect the same dualism that we identified in our analysis of close encounters. The DREAM Act of 2017, Senate Bill 1615, recently was introduced in the Senate as a bipartisan effort. It is intended to protect immigrant young people who entered the United States as children and know America as their only home. The bill offers qualifying immigrant youths “conditional permanent resident status” and a path to full, lawful permanent residency and eventual citizenship. The young people the bill seeks to protect are contributors to our economy, veterans of our military, academic standouts in our universities, and leaders in our parishes and communities. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) supports this legislation. Please go to https://justiceforimmigrants.org/category/action-alerts/ to ask your senators to support the DREAM Act.

Bishop Joe S. Vasquez of Austin, Texas, chair of the USCCB’s committee on migration, says the newly proposed RAISE Act introduced in the Senate would cause our nation to turn its back on people who are growing, the scope of Birthright’s services is expanding. But its fundamental mission remains providing unconditional love, hope, and assistance to pregnant women.

Birthright also operates the In Review thrift store at 4768 N. High St. The store accepts contributions of clothing, household items, books, jewelry, games, and other items. The store is always in need of volunteers who would like to give a few hours to help.

For information or tickets to the luncheon, call Marge Kilanowicz at (614) 888-0917 or Mary Jo Mayhan (614) 235-7465. The reservation deadline is Monday, Sept. 18.

**Birthright sponsors luncheon, style show**

The annual luncheon and style show sponsored by Birthright of Columbus, a pregnancy support service, will take place Saturday, Sept. 23 at noon at Mozart’s Café, 4784 N. High St., Columbus.

Fashions from Dress Barn will be modeled. A hand-made afghan, a 32-inch flat screen television, and a $50 Meijer gift card will be raffled. There also will be a silent auction. Tickets for the luncheon are $35 ($15 for children) and will benefit Birthright’s new office at 2453 W. Mound St. and its original location at 4768 N. High St., where pregnant women receive free and confidential services.

The new west side office will replace the Birthright office on Skidmore Street, near Holy Family Church. It is located in a more populated neighborhood. As the needs of the community are growing, the scope of Birthright’s services is expanding. But its fundamental mission remains providing unconditional love, hope, and assistance to pregnant women.

‘Call for Justice’ program set for Sept. 9

The diocesan Office for Social Concerns and the BREAD (Building Responsibility, Equality, and Dignity) organization will sponsor a “Catholic Call to Justice” program from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 9 at Columbus Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave.

The program will begin with the church’s 9 a.m. Saturday Mass, with Father David Schalk, pastor, presenting a social justice-themed homily. Participants then will go to the church basement, where refreshments will be available.

There will be an overview of BREAD’s work, followed by a talk by Mark Huddy, diocesan social justice moderator, on the definition of social justice and how it is reflected by Pope Francis; a presentation by Father Schalk on the seven principles of Catholic social teaching; small-group and large-group discussion; a call to action; and a commissioning ceremony with Father Schalk.

BREAD, founded in 1996, is a grassroots organization bringing together a diverse group of congregations from across central Ohio to solve the root causes of serious community problems. Its 40 congregations include Columbus Christ the King, Immaculate Conception, St. Christopher, St. Dominic, St. Elizabeth, St. Francis of Assisi, and St. Thomas churches and the St. Thomas More Newman Center.

For more information, contact the BREAD office at (614) 220-9363.
Grove City parish to host ‘After Divorce’ retreat

Catholic author and speaker Rose Sweet (pictured) will be leading a daylong retreat for separated or divorced Catholics and women, as well as parish lay leaders and clergy, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23 at Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3730 Broadway.

The title of the program is “After Divorce: Adventure Into the Interior Life.” Registration is required. Lunch will be provided.

“Divorce is bad news. But through it, people can become much more aware of a deep spiritual thirst that our relationships can’t always quench,” said Sweet, who has written seven books on divorce, including the Ascension Press program Surviving Divorce: Hope and Healing for the Catholic Family.

“In our program, we explore core questions about Church teaching on who we are as persons, love, marriage, and intimacy, as well as how to let Christ draw us closer to him in this difficult time,” she said. “Further, we address all this impacts our kids, our families, and all of our relationships on a very practical level. The good news? There is hope.”

Sponsors for the event include Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, the diocesan Marriage & Family Life Office, The Catholic Foundation, and Non Solum (Latin for “not alone”), a central Ohio pastoral community dedicated to supporting Catholics who experience marital separation or divorce.

Sweet’s 12-week Surviving Divorce program, formerly known as The Catholic’s Divorce Survival Guide, is being offered at seven parishes in the diocese. New sessions will be taking place this fall at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in October and Powell St. Joan of Arc Church in November.

“For the past several years, with Surviving Divorce as the centerpiece, we have witnessed a growing number of our Catholic brothers and sisters move through the pain and chaos of divorce to a place of hope and healing,” said Marti Hurd, pastoral minister at Our Lady of Perpetual Help. “We have become very intentional in our outreach to our community’s separated and divorced Catholics.”

Those wanting to learn more or to register for the “After Divorce” retreat may visit the Non Solum website at www.DivorcedCatholicColumbus.org.

Architect to speak to Record Society

Clyde Gosnell, architect of The Christopher Inn, a longtime Columbus landmark, will be the speaker at the Catholic Record Society’s quarterly meeting at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 24 in the Jessing Center of the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. He will speak on “A Tale of Two Landmarks: The Kelley Mansion and the Christopher Inn.”

The Kelley Mansion at 300 E. Broad St. was built in 1838 by lawyer, legislator, and businessman Alfred Kelley. It became the St. Joseph Cathedral School, owned and operated by the cathedral, from 1907-58. It was dismantled in 1960 to make way for The Christopher Inn, a hotel designed by Gosnell, which was known for its futuristic circular design. That building was torn down in 1988. The State Employees Retirement System building now stands at the site.

Gosnell is founder and president of Design Group Architects, which has designed many substantial buildings in Ohio and around the nation, including the former St. Anthony Hospital in Columbus, now The Ohio State University Medical Center East, another circular building. He is board chairman of the Stratford Ecological Center, co-founder, board member, and past president of the Appalachia Ohio Alliance, and a board member of The Trust for Public Land.

For more information, contact Mike Finn at fcoolavin@aol.com or (614) 268-4166.

ODU to host adult and continuing education information session

Ohio Dominican University will host an adult and continuing education information session from 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6 in the Bishop James A. Griffin Student Center on ODU’s campus at 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

To register for the session, please visit www.ohiodominican.edu/InfoSession.

During this free event, those attending will learn about ODU’s wide range of high-demand degrees and certificates that are available on campus and online.

ODU offers programs in various fields, including business, insurance and risk management, and supply chain management.

For more information, contact adult@ohiodominican.edu or (614) 251-7400.

Explore all of ODU’s degree and certificate offerings at www.DivorcedCatholicColumbus.org.
Annulment needed first?; Marijuana and morality

Question & Answer
by: Father Kenneth Doyle
Catholic News Service

Q. I need some clarification on the church’s marriage laws. I am a Catholic currently married to a divorced non-Catholic whose first marriage was not in the Catholic Church. I tried to arrange to marry him in the church, but a parish priest told me that my husband-to-be would need to get his previous marriage annulled first. My husband does not believe in the annulment process, so we did not go through with it.

Later, I happened to go to confession at a Catholic chapel in a mall, and the priest there told me that I can, in fact, get married in the Catholic Church; he said that, since my husband is a non-Catholic, since his prior marriage was not in the Catholic Church and since he is now divorced, he would be free to marry me in a Catholic ceremony.

That priest in confession said he himself would not be able to perform the ceremony because he is assigned to a chapel, but that I should reach out to a priest at a parish.

So I did that, and to my disappointment that parish priest told me the same thing the priest had said originally -- that my husband would first need an annulment granted by the Catholic Church.

I am getting conflicting information, and I am hoping that you can help me to understand what it is that I need to do. (Eastern Massachusetts)

A. The parish priests were right, and the priest at the mall was wrong. In all likelihood, your husband’s first marriage was presumed by the Catholic Church to have been valid at the time, and a formal annulment process would be required to have that earlier marriage annulled before the two of you could be married in a Catholic ceremony.

(Two non-Catholics have no obligation to have their pending marriage approved by the Catholic Church, and it would be hugely unfair -- not to mention, an ecumenical disaster -- if the Catholic Church were to say that such a marriage “does not count” in the church’s eyes.)

You and your husband should sit down with a priest and have the annulment process explained: In annulling a marriage, the church is not saying that he was never really married to his first wife -- or, that any children of that marriage were illegitimate -- but only that some essential element was lacking that would have made it a permanent and binding commitment in the church’s eyes.

Often, such grounds involve emotional immaturity or instability on the part of one or both parties -- or a flawed understanding of what the marriage commitment involved.

The annulment process, with the necessary paperwork and testimony, can normally take upward of a year. (If it happened, however, that your husband’s first wife was a Catholic and they were married without church approval, that is a simpler process. It is called, technically, a “declaration of nullity for absence of canonical form” and can often be completed within a few weeks.)

Q. Many localities are in the process of de-criminalizing the recreational use of marijuana. What is the church’s view? Is using pot recreationally the same thing morally as having a drink? Is it OK in moderation? (Suffolk, Virginia)

A. The question as posed relates only to the recreational use of this drug. When used instead (with proper controls) for medical reasons, its use can not only be permitted but applauded; research has found medical marijuana effective for certain patients with epilepsy, bipolar disorders, cancer, etc. -- as well as for some children with severe autism.

But, as for recreational use, Catholic moralists in general would be opposed. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says: “The use of drugs inflicts very grave damage on human health and life. Their use, except on strictly therapeutic grounds, is a grave offense” (No. 2291).

Pope Francis -- speaking at the 2014 International Drug Enforcement Conference in Rome -- spoke strongly against the legalization of drugs for recreational use.

With regard specifically to marijuana, the cannabis plant contains the mind-altering chemical THC, which often induces hallucinations and delusions and diminishes one’s ability to reason.

Pia de Solenni, a moralist and theologian who was recently named chancellor of the Diocese of Orange in California, has noted that unlike taking a glass of wine to relax, marijuana cannot be used moderately.

“Once you’ve gone beyond the buzz,” she says, “you actually lose control over your rational functions. It’s wrong. It goes against our nature and who we’re supposed to be.”

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

Columbus Catholic Renewal sponsors women’s retreat

Columbus Catholic Renewal is sponsoring a retreat for women from Friday, Oct. 20 to Sunday, Oct. 22 at St. Therese’s Renewal Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus.

The retreat will be led by Caroline Gambale-Dirkes of 2tim4 ministries, and the theme will be “Capture My Heart Again.”

Gambale-Dirkes will help participants identify what holds them captive, making them able to seek the Lord anew. She and her husband, Dan, are co-founders of 2tim4 Ministries and have a combined 40-plus years of ministry experience.

Using a blend of humorous illustrations and community-building activities, she engages women of all ages and leads them to a personal encounter with Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The retreat will begin with a conference and evening Mass celebrated by Father Joshua Wagner, pastor of Columbus St. Dominic and Holy Rosary-St. John churches. Saturday will include conferences, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, healing prayer ministry, time for extra rest or to enjoy the beauty of the retreat center’s grounds, and a Sunday Vigil Mass celebrated by Father Ramon Oweru, CFIC. The retreat will end with lunch at noon Sunday.

The cost is $150 and includes all meals, snacks, and overnight accommodations. Those not staying overnight will be charged $97 with meals or $55 without meals. Scholarships may be offered based on availability. A check of $45 will hold your reservation (check or cash only). Nursing mothers are welcome.

Columbus Catholic Renewal, also known as Catholic Charismatic Renewal, Inc., is under the authority of Bishop Frederick Campbell through his appointed liaison, Father Dean Mathewson. For registration or additional information, go to www.cccrcolumbus.org and click on “Events,” or call (614) 582-1721.

Program at OSU Newman Center

Landings, a ministry of the Paulist Fathers and the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center’s reconciliation team, is an eight-week program geared toward welcoming returning and inactive Catholics.

Program participants are joined by a group of active Catholics, some of whom are “returnees” themselves, in sharing and exploring their faith together. Landings offers a safe place to be listened to, a place for understanding and healing, and a place to ask questions.

A new session will begin Tuesday, Sept. 26 at 7 p.m. at the Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave. For more information, refer anyone who may be interested to Alexandra Greene at (614) 602-7756 or landings@buckeye-catholic.com.
Cardinal DiNardo to speak at Josephinum

Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, archbishop of Galveston-Houston and president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, will speak at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6 in the Jesuit Center of the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus, on the topic “The Gospel of Joy Is the Gospel of Life: The Human Person.” This will be the first event in the college’s 2017-18 lecture series.

Cardinal DiNardo, a Steubenville native, has been USCCB president since Nov. 15, 2016. He grew up in the Pittsburgh area and was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Pittsburgh in 1977. He was ordained a bishop in October 1977 in Sioux City, Iowa, and became bishop of the Diocese of Sioux City the following year. He was appointed coadjutor bishop (later coadjutor archbishop) of Galveston-Houston in 2004 and succeeded retiring Archbishop Joseph Fiorenza two years later.

He is a member of the Pontifical Council for Culture, the Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People, and the Pontifical Council for the Economy, and is on the board of trustees of the Catholic University of America.

Cathedral healing mass and service to take place September 18

A Mass of healing and healing service will take place at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 18 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St.

The healing service will follow the Mass and include Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, veneration of a relic of the True Cross of Christ, and an opportunity for everyone present to speak individually with a priest and have him say prayers of healing for what they seek. The sacrament of Anointing of the Sick also will be available. The service will close with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

All persons who seek Christ’s healing are invited, especially those who suffer with physical illness and infirmities, in addition to those in need of spiritual healing. All caregivers, family members, and members of the medical community also are invited.

Parking is available at the rear of the cathedral and is accessible off East Gay Street. There is a handicapped-accessible elevator in the courtyard (west side of the cathedral) on East Broad Street.

Healing Masses take place at the cathedral on the third Monday of every other month. Dates for upcoming Healing Masses are Nov. 20 of this year and Jan. 15, March 19, May 21, July 16, Sept. 17, and Nov. 19, 2018.

For more information, call the cathedral at (614) 224-1295.

THE “EXPENDABLE CHILDREN”

Couples who struggle to get pregnant are turning with greater frequency to the in vitro fertilization (IVF) industry for assistance. In some cases, they can end up feeling they are “too pregnant” when twins, triplets or quads arise. This occurs from the practice of implanting more than one embryo at a time to improve pregnancy success rates. A multiplet pregnancy can involve significant risk, both for the children in utero, and for the mother. Because of these risks, the pregnant mother will sometimes be advised to opt for a “selective reduction,” where potassium chloride is injected into one or two of the growing babies to cause their hearts to seize, followed by death and the gradual reabsorption of their bodies during the remainder of the pregnancy. This can allow the one or more remaining brothers or sisters to grow more safely and avoid further complications during the pregnancy. Given the incredible effort expended by the couple to become pregnant in the first place, these lethal practices often draw gasps of disbelief from others.

A New York Times Magazine article from 2011 chronicled the saga of a woman who selectively reduced her pregnancy from twins to a single. Even though she tried to not think too much about the two ultrasound shadows within her, she was forthright about her justification for doing it: “If I had conceived these twins naturally, I wouldn’t have reduced this pregnancy, because you feel like if there’s a natural order, then you don’t want to disturb it. But we created this child in such an artificial manner — in a test tube, choosing an egg donor, having the embryo placed in me — and somehow, making a decision about how many to carry seemed to be just another choice. The pregnancy was all so consumerish to begin with, and this became yet another thing we could control.”

Her devastatingly honest appraisal of IVF and the way it devalues the lives of children offers an important opportunity for reflection. When we take it upon ourselves to manufacture new human life in test tubes, it indeed becomes another “thing we can control,” an object for our own willful manipulation, another means to realize our own goals. This “command and control mentality” over procreation sets up a glide path for us to begin treating our own offspring like hazardous waste containers. The purported darkness of modern medicine was never as dark as the remarkable ethical blackness that is descending upon contemporary “enlightened” man as he exploits and destroys his own offspring.

This attitude of seeing our offspring as expendable is becoming more widely accepted not only among IVF customers, but also among biomedical researchers themselves. In August, a highly troubling report was published describing the first successful editing of DNA in human embryos. The experiments were carried out in the laboratory of Shoukhrat Mitalipov at the Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) and involved the generation of many dozens of embryos by IVF. The experiments utilized a new and highly precise DNA-editing technology called CRISPR-Cas9 to fix a defective, disease-causing gene that some of the embryos carried. While research into understanding and eliminating serious diseases is certainly good and praiseworthy as a goal, the techniques we employ as we pursue good research goals need to be good as well. Doing evil that good may accrue, is, after all, still doing evil.

These research experiments performed on human embryos at OHSU were morally objectionable on a number of counts. If such genetically modified embryos had been allowed to grow up, there may well have been unintended effects from modifying their genes, unanticipated defects that they and future generations would bear. The problems and risks associated with this kind of “germ-line therapy” raise such serious concerns as to make it doubtful it should ever be attempted in humans. Even more distressing from the moral point of view is the fact that very young humans were treated not as ends, but as mere means to achieve particular investigative goals. They were created in laboratory glassware, experimented upon, their genes were tinkered with and they were killed and dispatched as research fodder into biohazard waste containers. The purported darkness of medieval times was never as dark as the remarkable ethical blackness that is descending upon contemporary “enlightened” man as he exploits and destroys his own offspring.

Vigilance and care are required when dealing with vulnerable research subjects, and human embryos are among the most vulnerable of God’s creatures, entrusted to us as our children, calling for stringent measures to ensure their protection and safeguard their human dignity.

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D, earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did postdoctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Massachusetts, and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncbcenter.org.
Adrian Dominican Sisters from throughout the United States came home to their Motherhouse in Adrian, Michigan, for a special week this summer for their jubilees, marking significant milestones in their years of service and dedication to the church and their congregation.

Sister Geneal Kramer, OP, was honored for 60 years in religious life. She was born in Columbus and graduated from St. Mary of the Springs Academy (now Ohio Dominican University). She entered the Society of St. Mary Reparatrix in Detroit in September 1955 from Cincinnati St. Vincent Ferrer Church.

Sister Geneal holds a bachelor’s degree from St. Mary’s College in Notre Dame, Indiana; a master’s degree in education from Xavier University in Cincinnati; a master’s degree in religious education from Mount St. Mary Seminary, the Athenaeum of Ohio, in Cincinnati; and a doctorate in ministry from McCardell Theological Seminary in Chicago.

Sister Geneal, who also was known by the religious name Sister Mary of St. Andrew, made her first profession with the Society of Mary Reparatrix on March 19, 1958 and her final profession on March 25, 1963. She served on the retreat team at Mary Reparatrix Retreat Center in Cincinnati from 1966-72. She later became a member of the Adrian Dominican Sisters, professing her final vows with that congregation on July 4, 1974.

Sister Geneal’s ministries as an Adrian Dominican included associate director of religious education for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati (1974-78); pastoral associate at Sharonville St. Michael Church (1978-83); and co-director of the lay pastoral ministry program of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and assistant professor of pastoral theology at the Athenaeum (1983-90).

After serving as co-director of the Collaborative Dominican Novitiate in St. Louis from 1990-93, Sister Geneal served on the faculty at the Lumko Institute in Germiston, South Africa, developing a certification program for lay ministers, from 1994-98.

She serves in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as spiritual director in residence at St. Therese Church, adjunct faculty member for St. Norbert College, and a retreat director for the sabbatical program at Conosonian Spirituality Center.

Among her special memories were her opportunity to see Pope John Paul II up close during his visit to South Africa; the enthusiasm of adult learners in both South Africa and the United States; and the “holy ground where I meet with persons requesting spiritual direction.”

The Dominican Sisters of Adrian are a congregation of nearly 650 vowed women religious whose roots go back to St. Dominic in the 13th century. They minister in 22 states and in the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Norway, and the Philippines. Their vision is to “seek truth, make peace, reverence life.”

Cathedral pilgrimage to mark Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary

A pilgrimage from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral to the National Shrine and Basilica of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey will take place Saturday, Oct. 7, 2017, in commemoration of the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary.

This feast takes on a greater importance in this centennial year of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima, in addition to being on a first Saturday of the month, and in a Marian month.

The cost for the pilgrimage is $20, which includes round-trip bus transportation from the cathedral at 212 E. Broad St. Hot and cold food will be available for purchase at the shrine’s cafeteria.

The pilgrimage will include a tour and history of the basilica, Mass and pilgrimage devotions in the upper basilica, enrollment in the Confraternity of Our Lady, praying of the rosary, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, prayers for healing, prayers with individual pilgrims with a relic of the True Cross, and Benediction.

Paid reservations must be received at the cathedral by noon Wednesday, Sept. 27. For additional information, visit the cathedral website, www.saintjosephcathedral.org, or call the cathedral office at (614) 224-1295 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

St. Anthony students view eclipse

Columbus St. Anthony School fourth- and fifth-grade science teacher Tim Schnurr hosted a party to celebrate the solar eclipse on Monday, Aug. 21. He joined Father Tom Petry, St. Anthony Church pastor, and students, parents and school staff members to watch the eclipse.

Schnurr talked to the group about the eclipse and provided protective eyewear for each student. Looking to the sky are (from left) Majid Strickland, Paa-Awuah Forjoe, Lee Johnson, and Denzwwl Osang.

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Schultuete at Columbus St. Mary School

Columbus St. Mary School is continuing a German tradition in which first-grade students receive a “Schultuete,” a 30-inch-tall cone full of sweets and supplies. The tradition celebrates the child’s first day of formal schooling and is meant to “sweeten the beginning” of the years of schooling ahead. Bishop Frederick Campbell and Father Kevin Lutz are pictured with students and teachers.
Finding Hope in Mary, Health of the Sick

The house was a wreck, as only a house with a sick mom, a working dad, and an active toddler can be. I was the first in our family to get that particular strain of 24-hour stomach flu. Passed out on the couch, I could only slightly marvel at just how much my husband was doing. I wouldn’t fully appreciate it until a day later, when I was feeling better.

He took care of dinner, bedtime, and middle-of-the-night wake-up. He lined up a morning sitter, did the breakfast and morning routine, scheduled his day so he could come home for lunch, and then brought us dinner. “Look, honey, we didn’t dirty a lot of dishes tonight!” he commented to me as I was glowering at the mountains by my sink.

That day, when I was so sick I couldn’t pay attention to anything, much less my child, my two-year-old mostly amused herself when she got back to me from her aunt’s, though it was at the expense of what little order existed in my house. I started feeling hungry again in midafternoon and felt fully human after I braved a few pieces of chicken and some Tylenol.

On the morning after, as I surveyed the wreckage of my house, I couldn’t help but think that it was an appropriate way to begin reflections on my anniversary. It was on that day, three years before, that he and I vowed to work more than a set number of hours a week. She has limits as to what she can do and when she can do it. If she let it, her pain levels could easily blossom into depression and melancholy. Though I’ve seen her in extreme pain, I’ve never seen her lose hope. She’s given me a clear picture of what it means to embrace suffering and come out on the other side of it smiling.

“If Jesus can hang there with His mother at His feet,” these examples seem to shout, “can’t I smile through these little trials?”

I’m not so good at dealing with my suffering with such grace and style. All too often, I slip into complaining, rationalizing, begging God for relief. My hardships are nothing compared to what these relatives of mine have borne, and yet I give up so fast.

I wonder if these women who have borne this ongoing pain have their down days, days where they wonder what the point of it all is. I can’t help but think that they might have a secret way of persevering, a strength that I don’t know about, a bag of tricks that gives them the grace to suffer so silently.

Both of these women inspire me to look at Mary, Health of the Sick, in a new light. Rather than see this title of Mary as a way of begging for relief, I see her pointing to the grace that can come from suffering, if only I let it.

As Health of the Sick, Mary suddenly becomes an answer to my own weakness in suffering. She points heavenward and lets me in on the grace to use my suffering as a path to grow closer to God. She takes a theory that might make me roll my eyes in the midst of my suffering, and she embodies it and lives it. She makes it her very way of being.

There is great vanity and selfishness in my desire to be well all the time. Mary stands beside me, whether I’m puking into a bucket or struggling with a pulled muscle, and smiles gently at me. She sees me grit my teeth during the nightly interruptions to my sleep, and she watches me groan at the thought of sacrificing my time for something unplanned and unwanted.

“Can you do this?” she says. “I’ll help you.”

Her help might not make the suffering disappear. But what it can do, what it does do, is make me appreciate the grace God offers me at every second of my day.

Reinhard writes online at SnoringScholar.com, her latest book, The Catholic Mom’s Prayer Companion, is now available.
three-year-old. But what to him is engaged in what an adult might call play, but what to him is learning? A man named Gavin is intensely interested in the world around him.

It’s a Monday morning in early August at the Columbus Early Learning Center in the King-August at the Columbus Early Learning Center in the King-August at the Columbus Early Learning Center in the King-August at the Columbus Early Learning Center in the King-August at the Columbus Early Learning Center in the King-

Gavin says. “This is its tail.”

He points to a crawling caterpillar. “This is a dog,” says his grandmother. Milner, 71, is in her fifth year as a foster grandparent. After being a teacher herself, she finds it important to make new friends and is looking for many more. “I feel very good about how I do what I do, but it’s much more than that. It’s people helping people.”

So, Gavin is not alone in learning what I do, but it’s much more than that. It’s people helping people.”

The Foster Grandparent Program at CSS has been active in the Columbus community on a one-on-one basis since September 2016, and is looking for more foster grandparents to work with children.

The program provides a level of support to children and their families, and this program provides an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others.

The program is offered locally at various Catholic Social Service locations around the Columbus community, including at the Columbus Early Learning Center, Seton Square South, and at the Columbus Early Learning Center.

The program also provides special assistance to children and their families who are receiving services from the Social Services program.

Those in need can call (614) 857-1213, or visit the CSS website, www.colcss.org.

Catholic Social Service programs provide benefits to families, seniors, and at-risk youth

Foster Grandparents enjoy helping at-risk youth

CSS, Seton Square partner

Catholic Social Service programs and how they have helped families to thrive and assisted individuals and families.

The event will feature Bishop Frederick Campbell, Columbus City Auditor Hugh Dorrian, and Rachel Lustig, and includes a discussion about the importance of housing and how it can benefit individuals and families.

Tickets are $50, and sponsorships are available at various levels.

For more information about the breakfast, go to www.colcss.org/ upcomming-events.

Breakfast With the Bishop on Sept. 8

The annual Breakfast With the Bishop sponsored by Catholic Social Services will take place Friday, Sept. 8 from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the Renaissance Hotel, 50 N. 3rd St., Columbus.

The event features Bishop Frederick Campbell, Columbus City Auditor Hugh Dorrian, and Rachel Lustig, and includes a discussion about the importance of housing and how it can benefit individuals and families.

Delighted to be able to work with so many young people who are going through a very difficult time of their lives, Miller is optimistic about how the program is helping to make a difference.

They’re very engaged, and they’re excited to say it made an impact.” One of his foster grandparents worked with a girl who was very confrontational and adversarial—not really like a child at all, and I think it was because she saw from a lifestyle that forced her to work hard. She developed an encouraging lifestyle that worked for her. What I’ve gained in my work is that I’ve been able to say things like counting money, and all this has softened her attitude.

Another case involved a child who didn’t talk. We sent him to speech therapy, which helped him understand things like working puzzles, matching shapes and colors. Others say ‘two apples,’ some say they see apples, some say they see shapes, and is looking for many more. “I feel very good about how I do what I do, but it’s much more than that. It’s people helping people.”

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Six members of the Dominican Sisters of Peace are celebrating their golden jubilees, marking 50 years of consecrated life, this year.

They are Sister Nancy Ames, OP, of Somerset; Sister Patricia Cusack, OP, of New York City; Sister Carole Hermann, OP, of Columbus; Sister Anne Kilbride, OP, of New Haven, Connecticut; and Sisters Mary Riley, OP, and Rose Ann Van Buren, OP, both of Blacklick.

Sister Nancy, a Lancaster native, entered the congregation of the former Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs while she was a student at St. Mary of the Springs College (now Ohio Dominican University). She has worked and taught at schools and churches in New York, Michigan, Georgia, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Missouri and studied in California. One of her most memorable experiences was a summer in ministry to the streets and shelters in Los Angeles. She returned to Columbus in 2016 to serve as media specialist and parish volunteer at Columbus St. Matthias Church.

Sister Patricia, a Pittsburgh native, completed her undergraduate degree at Ohio Dominican and her master’s at Xavier University. She served as a teacher and administrator at schools in Columbus and Pittsburgh before earning a doctorate at Columbia University.

She has served in the health care field in New York City for 20 years, including 15 years educating pre-medical students at St. Vincent’s Hospital and Medical Center. She currently provides education and training for volunteers working in the city’s five boroughs for Metropolitan Jewish Health System – Hospice.

One of the most memorable moments in her career was working at St. Vincent’s, about a mile from Ground Zero, on Sept. 11, 2001, helping families and friends of missing persons. “I can still see the lines of people on pilgrimages to find their loved ones, holding candles. … This changed my life,” she said.

Sister Carole began her service teaching elementary school children in Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and Connecticut, then opened herself to new opportunities by continuing her education and moving into pastoral care, serving as chaplain at St. Ann’s Hospital in Westerville and Yale-New Haven (Connecticut) Hospital.

She also has been a mentor through formation ministry to several women in the initial stages of religious life. She returned to Columbus in 2016 to minister at the Mohun Health Care Center, a skilled nursing facility for members of her congregation and other religious.

“I am in awe at the power of God’s call to religious life and the generous response by the women who desire to serve God’s people through a commitment to religious life,” she said. “Each of us has a unique and sacred journey, and God is present in every step of that journey.”

Sister Anne received her undergraduate degree at Southern Connecticut State University and master’s degrees in theology and pastoral ministry from the University of Notre Dame and Boston College, respectively. A former prioress of the St. Mary of the Springs congregation, she was an educator from elementary school to the college level in Ohio, Illinois, Massachusetts, and Connecticut.

She is assistant to the president of Albertus Magnus College, which she served as president during the transition between Dr. Julia McNamara, the former president, and McNamara’s successor, Dr. Marc Camille.

“I would say ground your life and your ministries in a theological context,” she said. “Relish the opportunity to develop a life of prayer, study, community, and service – all needs in our world today. Have the courage of St. Catherine of Siena to speak and act on the truth with charity.”

Sister Mary, a Columbus native, spent her ministry in the education and development of young children. She taught in grade schools in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Illinois, and saves today as media specialist and parish volunteer at Columbus St. Matthias Church.

“The faces of the little ones and immigrants new to this country, with their trust and openness, truly reflect God’s tender love and allow me to glimpse God’s face more clearly,” she said.

One of the greatest gifts of her religious life was a chance to visit the areas of Spain, France, and Italy where St. Dominic lived and to walk in his footsteps. “Dominic placed the details of his fragile and vulnerable community in God’s hands,” she said. “Today, as in the time of Dominic, we are, through the power of the Holy Spirit, being called to walk our journey leaving the details in God’s hands.”

Sister Rose Ann said she heard the call of religious life as a fourth-grader taught by the Dominican Sisters at Lancaster St. Mary School. She obtained her bachelor’s degree at Ohio Dominican and her master’s at The Ohio State University, and was an educator and administrator in Ohio and New Mexico before continuing her studies at the Maryknoll Graduate School of Theology.

Her work there led to involvement in social justice causes. A major turning point was a three-year mission as a Notre Dame AmeriCorps volunteer in rural West Virginia.

She said her “life journey came full circle” when in 2009 she became director of Shepherd’s Corner, a farm and ecology center in Blacklick operated by the Dominican Sisters of Peace. “Life and ministry at Shepherd’s Corner is an awesome jubilee gift,” she said.

The Dominican Sisters of Peace, members of the pontifical Order of Preachers, are vowed Catholic women who strive to live a life of peace-making. They are present in 22 states and two other nations, serving God’s people through education, health care, spirituality, pastoral care, prison ministry, the arts, and care of creation. There are 487 sisters and more than 500 lay Associates affiliated with the congregation.
Bishop Frederick Campbell’s homily at the funeral Mass for Father Carmen Arcuri

at Worthington St. Michael Church on Thursday, Aug. 24:

“To the family and friends of Father Arcuri, I extend my prayers and sympathy and join them to the prayer of the priests, deacons, and members of this congregation, and I invite all those present to consider momentarily the meaning of what we do here today.

“Bringing the body of Carmen Arcuri here to the altar of the church where he often offered Mass, we have begun the service of the church which will accompany this priest, who has died on his final journey to our heavenly Father.

“The church offers a funeral Mass for the good of the deceased, the consolation of the people, and the affirmation of our faith that death is not the final word, for those who have died with Christ and in Christ will rise with him on the final day.

“A funeral Mass is also an occasion for all of us to confront, perhaps not for the first time, the mystery of our death, which touches every human life. We are here as well to remember what the victory of Our Lord Jesus Christ over sin and death means for us.

“The readings from sacred Scripture which you have just heard were chosen by Father Arcuri before his death. Though they are familiar to us, I have found from my pastoral experience in celebrating funerals that their combination in this funeral Mass is remarkable and slightly unusual.

“I do not know why Father Arcuri chose these particular passages, since we never spoke about his funeral plans, but they offer a fruitful source for us to consider momentarily the meaning of what we do here today.

“The Gospel passage from Matthew presents us with a sobering picture of the final accounting of the Lord, so that we may begin now to act as to be remembered among the sheep and found within the wheat.

“Father Arcuri and the corporal works of mercy were at the heart of the imitation of Christ, to which he was called both by his baptism and his ordination as a priest.

“Carmen Arcuri was also devoted to the celebration of the sacraments for the good of the people, for he understood that the corporal works of mercy can become routine or burdensome without a deep sense of the constant and abundant grace of God which enlightens the mind and expands the spirit – a sense that is enlivened through the sacraments.

“I got to know Father Arcuri personally after his retirement from active ministry – or more accurately, I should say his retirement from a particular pastoral assignment. Father certainly remained active in priestly ministry wherever he could and whenever his health permitted. Even in his last days, beset by his growing infirmities, he continued to pray for the good of others.

“Knowing that Father Arcuri was dealing with diabetes, I would occasionally chastise him for his culinary choices. His responses led me to imagine that he thought that his ethnic heritage had given him a special dispensation from the consequence of carbohydrates. As my Polish grandmother would say, ‘Pasta goes down like the devil in velvet trousers.’

“On a couple of occasions, I discovered that Father Arcuri displayed a suddenly sharp tongue, although I never quite understood what occasioned such displays or what caused them to emerge from the recesses of his personality. But many people have told me of Father’s admirable demonstration of gentleness and of a willing ear to listen. For this, they will remember him.

“Perhaps this is the reason for his choice of the reading from the Book of Wisdom. It was not, I suspect, for the opening verse – ‘the just man, though he die early, shall be at rest.’ As I hear the rest of the reading, I sense that the passage is a prayer for deliverance in moments of temptation and weakness.

“The author writes ‘He who lived among sinners was transported – snatched away, lest deceit beguile his soul. For the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind,’ And further, ‘God sped him out of the midst of wickedness. O Lord, deliver us!’ Wisdom concludes that ‘the people saw and did not understand.’

“All of us have particular memories of Father Arcuri. There are pieces of the picture that are known to us partially, but to God fully. Therefore we must leave the final accounting to the God who created Father Arcuri and to Jesus Christ, for whom Father was ordained.

“Here at his funeral Mass, we must enfold the memories of Father into the Christian memory of the power, love, and mercy of God – a memory constantly celebrated and deepened in the holy Eucharist.

“Father Carmen wanted that great hymn of St. Paul written for the Christians in Rome to be heard at his funeral. Through the suffering, death, and resurrection of Christ, Paul asserts, nothing can separate us from the love of God. I believe that this knowledge sustained Father Arcuri in those last few months and days of acute suffering.

“We often joke about that particularly Catholic saying heard from our childhood, ‘Offer it up,’ but the words carry significant power. They do not deny suffering, but give it a meaning. They can offer strength until that moment toward the end when peace is momentarily gained and the soul is separated from the body to await that great day of resurrection, when we shall look upon God as he is and be transformed by the sight.

“My brothers and sisters, there’s always sadness at a funeral for the loss of one from among us. What we have lost, however, is the bodily presence of Father Arcuri, but he is still part of us in the communion of the church. We shall be reunited with him on the last day, for no one who has been given to Christ by the Father shall be lost by the Lord.

“Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.’

“Lend an ear!
Jeremiah admits how he feels about being a prophet

Jeremiah 20:7-9;
Romans 12:1-2;
Matthew 16:21-27

Jeremiah’s honesty and confessional style is unparalleled among the Old Testament prophets. He puts into words what many people think at one time or another. But he does it in language that is so plain and clear that it cannot be misunderstood.

In the Revised New American Bible (the standard production of Catholic scholars from the Catholic Biblical Association, approved by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops), Jeremiah says “You seduced me and I let myself be seduced.” The Jewish Study Bible renders it “You enticed me, O Lord, and I was enticed.” The Lectionary for the Roman Missal offers “You duped me, O Lord, and I let myself be duped.”

Jeremiah’s strong language in this passage is lost in the Lectionary version because Jeremiah’s words are those of seduction and rape. The same verb used here is used for the seduction of a virgin in Exodus 22:15, and in Hosea 2:16. it involves a man’s seduction of a woman. Here Jeremiah is telling the Lord that it feels like he has been seduced by the Lord for agreeing to prophesy in the Lord’s name. The implication that rape was in mind emerges from the following line, in which Jeremiah says “You were too strong for me and you triumphed.” Jeremiah continues to speak in these terms: “I’m a laughing stock” and “Everyone mocks me.”

His complaint is sustained by the evidence he presents to the Lord. He is forced by the Lord to utter cries of “violence and outrage” (in Hebrew, hamas) is the word for “violence” and should to be recognized by anyone who listens to news from the Middle East and the political party in Palestine called “Hamas”). Jeremiah is arguing that he doesn’t want to be a prophet, but this is how the Lord has seduced him. The Lord makes him do what he does not want to do, but by doing so, Jeremiah suffers derision and reproach.

He says to himself, “I am not going to speak any more in the Lord’s name.” When he says this, the word burns ever more intently within him and he cannot refrain from crying out. This is what makes Jeremiah so real. He admits openly and honestly how he feels about his calling as a prophet, and the language he uses gives him not a whiff of care. He reckons the Lord ought to know what he thinks about all this. The Lord says nothing, but simply lets the word burn ever more intently within Jeremiah until he can no longer withstand it and must speak. Such is the pitiable state of the poor prophet Jeremiah!

The Gospel follows Peter’s confession of faith in Jesus as the Messiah and Son of the living God. From that time on, Jesus began to show the disciples that “it is necessary that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised.” This description links death and resurrection inseparably, as the New Testament nearly always does. The whole reason there is a Christian faith is because Christ not only truly died, but just as importantly, he also rose on the third day. Neither event exists without the other.

Peter, who had been praised in last week’s Gospel, now tries to talk Jesus out of such thinking, but Jesus turns on him: “Get behind me, Satan!” Jesus also rose on the third day. Neither event exists without the other.

Ohio Dominican’s online MBA program ranked among best in U.S.

Ohio Dominican University’s online master of business administration degree program is among the top 25 programs of its type in the United States, according to BestCollegeReviews.org. The website ranked ODU’s online MBA program 17th in the nation for 2017-18.

The website surveyed nearly 200 programs and ranked them based on criteria including average class size, quality of faculty, breadth and quality of flexibility-enhancing components, and affordability.

Ohio Dominican’s MBA program is available online, on campus during the evening, and in a combination of both formats. Students have the ability to earn their master’s degree in as few as 16 months, and can choose from six areas of concentration: data analytics, risk management, finance, accounting, leadership, and sport management.

Students interested in learning more about ODU’s MBA program may visit ohiodominican.edu/MBA, call the university’s graduate admission office at (614) 251-4615, or email an admissions counselor at grad@ohiodominican.edu.

Ohio Dominican’s business programs are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools & Programs.
Domesticating the divinity

Some biblical scholars consider the Book of Deuteronomy to be a collection of sermons: catechetical homilies on the great theme of the Exodus and the fulfillment of that epic adventure in God’s gifts of the Law and the land to the people of Israel. Throughout the book, Israel is told, over and over again, “Remember ...” (or, more sharply, “Take heed, lest you forget ...”). And what is Israel to remember? What does Israel dare not forget? Israel must remember God’s mighty deeds in leading his people out of that “house of bondage,” Egypt. Israel must remember that Pharaoh’s army was crushed by God’s power, not its own. Israel must remember the manna and the quail in the desert, food from heaven. Israel must remember the gift of the Law, which helps Israel avoid falling back into the bad habits of slaves. And Israel must remember the gift of the land, which, by God’s bounty, gave her a home where she might prosper.

In Deuteronomy, Gianfranco Ravasi remarks, to “remember” is a synonym for “to believe:” for to remember God’s gracious action in history is to believe that God alone is God, and God alone is to be worshipped. Thus the admonition “Remember ...” is a caution against idolatry. In the Old Testament, “idolatry” often means worshipping the false gods of the various peoples Israel encounters; in Deuteronomy, “idolatry” is the false god of self-sufficiency. Settled in the land, Israel may be tempted by prosperity to fall back into its national “original sin,” symbolized by the darkest moment of the Exodus epic, the incident of the golden calf. For what was that all about? It was about the worship of a domesticated God whom Israel can fashion into an image and see, and thus control.

Self-sufficiency – the forgetting of our dependence on the Lord and on the Lord alone – is a perennial temptation for all those who share in the spiritual heritage of Israel. In this 21st century, we are no less tempted to domesticate God, and thus to sink into a shallow religious indifference or insouciance, than our biblical ancestors. In his recent, striking pastoral letter, Unleash the Gospel, Archbishop Allen Vigneron of Detroit reflects on this in discussing the roots of the contemporary crisis of faith.

Two factors creating today’s crisis of faith are familiar to most of us: “scientific fundamentalism,” which asserts that the only path to truth is through the empirical scientific method and the natural sciences, and “secular messianism,” which imagines the world to be perfectible by human agency alone. Archbishop Vigneron identified a third factor impeding or corroding faith today – “moralistic therapeutic deism.” He writes: “This term was famously coined by two sociologists to describe the amorphous set of religious beliefs to which many American young people subscribe. This belief system is moralistic in that it emphasizes moral behavior, vaguely defined as being nice, kind, pleasant, respectful, responsible, and so on. It is therapeutic in that it envisions God as on call to take care of problems that arise in our lives, but not otherwise interested in us nor holding us accountable for our choices. It is deistic in that it views God as having created the world but not personally involved in it. Such views fall short of the Christian understanding of God, who does hold us accountable, who gave his Son for us to save us from the devastating consequences of sin, and who desires to be deeply involved in our lives.”

The Church of Nice is not the Church of Jesus Christ, who came “to cast fire upon the earth” and longed to see it blaze up (Luke 12.49). Yes, the Church of Jesus Christ is the Church of the merciful father, who restores to the prodigal son the squandered dignity of his sonship. But the condition for the possibility of the son’s receiving the father’s forgiveness is the son’s recognition of his need for forgiveness – the son’s recognition that he had been reduced to foraging for swine’s fodder by his self-indulgent self-sufficiency.

There are signs all around us of Christian communities domesticating God by trimming their doctrinal and moral sails to the prevailing mores of the postmodern West. It is a temptation against which the Catholic Church, and especially its ordained leaders, should be constantly vigilant.

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

Vatican II liturgical reform ‘irreversible,’ pope says

By Junno Arocho Esteves, Catholic News Service

The Catholic Church must continue to work to understand the liturgical reforms of the Second Vatican Council and why they were made, rather than rethinking them, Pope Francis said.

“After this magisterium, after this long journey, we can affirm with certainty and magisterial authority that the liturgical reform is irreversible,” Pope Francis told participants in Italy’s National Liturgical Week.

The pope’s Aug. 24 speech to the 800 participants was the longest and most systematic talk he has given as pope on the theme of the liturgy since Vatican II.

Instead of reconsidering the council’s reforms, he said, priests and liturgists should work on “rediscovering the decisions made” in reforming the liturgy, “internalizing its inspirational principles and observing the discipline that governs it.”

The National Liturgical Week is sponsored by the Liturgical Action Center, which organizes liturgical training as well as national, regional and diocesan conventions to “disseminate and promote liturgical pastoral guidelines proposed by the Italian bishops’ conference,” according to its website.

After congratulating the organization on its 70th anniversary, Pope Francis said the church has lived through “substantial and not superficial” events throughout its history, including the Second Vatican Council and the subsequent liturgical reform.

Citing the Second Vatican Council’s Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, Sacrosanctum Concilium, the pope said the reform responded to “real needs and the concrete hope for a renewal,” which would offer a living liturgy where the faithful were no longer “strangers or silent spectators.”

For this reason, he added, the church must continue to rediscover the reasons for the reform and “overcome unfounded and superficial readings, partial revelations, and practices that disfigure it.”

Reflecting on the week’s theme -- “A living liturgy for a living church” -- Pope Francis said the liturgy is “alive” through the living presence of Jesus. Liturgical signs, including the altar, direct the gaze of the priest and the faithful to “Christ, the living stone, who was discarded by men but has become the cornerstone of the spiritual edifice in which we worship.”

“The liturgy is life for the entire people of the church,” he said. “By its nature, the liturgy is ‘popular’ and not clerical, because it is -- as the etymology teaches us -- an action for the people, but also of the people.”

The liturgy, he continued, unites church members through prayer, and it “gathers in prayer all those who seek to listen to the Gospel without discarding anyone; it summons the great and small, rich and poor, children and elderly people, healthy and sick, just ones and sinners.”

“In the image of the ‘immense multitude’ celebrating the liturgy in the sanctuary of heaven,” Pope Francis said, “the liturgical assembly overcomes through Christ every boundary of age, race, language and nation.”

The liturgy is “not an idea to understand,” but rather a “source of life and light for our journey of faith,” he said. Therefore, the rites and prayers become “a school of Christian life” for the faithful “by what they are and not by the explanations we give them.”

“This is still the commitment I ask of you today: to help ordained ministers as well as other ministers -- cantors, artists, musicians -- cooperate so that the liturgy may be the source and culmination of the vitality of the church,” the pope said.
M. Frances Fantin

Funeral Mass for M. Frances Fantin, 89, who died Wednesday, July 26, was held Tuesday, Aug. 1 in New Philadelphia Sacred Heart School from 1977-94 and was librarian at Sacred Heart School from 1969-2009. She also was a nurse at Union Hospital in Dover and for the Lorain County Health Department and was a member of the New Philadelphia Health Board.

At her parish, she was a lector and an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist and a member of the Altar Society. She was also belonged to the College Club of Tuscarawas County and the Lady Elks. Survivors include her husband, Frank; son, Matthew; and sister, Paula McBride.

Margaret M. Boyle

Funeral Mass for Margaret M. Boyle, 94, who died Wednesday, Aug. 9, was held Saturday, Aug. 12 at Corning St. Bernard Church. Burial was at Calvary Cemetery, New Straitsville. She was born to George and Emma Dreese of New Lexington, where she grew up before moving to New Straitsville after the birth of her children. She was preceded in death by her parents; husbands, Paul Lacey and Thomas Boyle; sons, Thomas (Betty), John (Connie), and Patrick (Mary Jo) Boyle; daughters, Constance (Henry) Thrapp, Marianne (Edward) Irwin, and Rosemarie (Oscar) Diaz; brothers, Msgr. John Dreese, of New Lexington, and Richard; sisters, Rita Sedmak, Rose (Albert) Smith, Dorothy (James) McLaren, and Claire Miller; and 15 grandchildren.

Sister Mary Vincentia Wszolek, PCPA

Funeral Mass for Sister Mary Vincentia Wszolek of the Holy Trinity, PCPA, who died at the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus on Thursday, Aug. 24, one day after her 100th birthday, was held Tuesday, Aug. 29, at Portsmouth St. Mary Church. Burial was at Greenlawn Cemetery, Portsmouth.

She had been a resident of the Mohun center since 2009. She had been a member of the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration, an order of cloistered nuns, since Oct. 9, 1972, and had entered the religious life in 1933.

The Poor Clares had resided in a convent in Portsmouth from 1956 until moving to Charlotte, North Carolina, in 2010. Last year, the sisters of the Charlotte community moved to the order’s Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Hanceville, Alabama, merging with the community there. The Alabama monastery was founded by the late Mother Angelica, also the founder of the EWTN Catholic communications organization.

Sister Mary Vincentia was born Marie Theresa Wszolek on Aug. 23, 1917, in Chicago to Anthony and Anna (Florek) Wszolek. She joined the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago on Oct. 4, 1933, and made her first profession of vows on Aug. 15, 1936 and her perpetual profession on Aug. 12, 1942.

Mary Jane Sullivan

Funeral Mass for Mary Jane Sullivan, 96, who died Wednesday, Aug. 23, was held Saturday, Aug. 26 in Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born on July 12, 1921 to Lewis and Monica (Coffman) Day, and was a graduate of Columbus Holy Rosary High School and Ohio Dominican College.

She was a Catholic grade school teacher for three years and worked in accounting for the Ohio Bell Telephone Co. She also was a member of the Snappy Senior Tappers dance group.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, John. Survivors include a daughter, Mary Anne; four nieces, and a nephew.

Send obituaries to tpuet@columbuscatholic.org
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.

Monthly 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.

Catholic Men’s Luncheon Club

No St. John Chrysostom First Friday Sale
St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church, 5858 Cleveland Ave., Columbus will not be having its First Friday sale of prayer cards, baked goods, and baked goods this month. The sale resumes on Friday, Oct. 6.

Eucharistic Vigil at Holy Cross
Holy Cross Church, 205 S. 5th St., Columbus. 7:30 p.m. Mass, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with various prayers, ending with Benediction at 11:30.

All-Night Exposition at Our Lady of Victory
Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8 p.m. until Mass at 8 a.m. Saturday.

2. SATURDAY

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

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.

Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City
9 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Church, 402 W. Ave., Plain City. 7:30 a.m., Our Lady of Fatima, 221-4390.

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.

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

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.

3. SUNDAY

Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King
5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus. Center at daily Mass entrance. Weekly parish prayer group meets for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching.

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

4. 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.

5. TUESDAY

Serra Club of North Columbus Meeting
Noon, Jessing Center, Pontifical College Josephinum, 7623 N. High St., Columbus. Serra Club of North Columbus meeting. Speaker: Father Robert Kitsmiller, judicial vicar for the Diocese of Columbus. Reservations required.

Catholic War Veterans Monthly Meeting
7 p.m., Red Room, St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Catholic War Veterans Post 1936 meeting For those who served three months, were honorably discharged, or are on active duty.

Abortion Recovery Network Group
7 p.m., Pregnancy Decision Health Center, 665 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus. 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.

Rosary for Life at St. Joan of Arc
Following 7:30 p.m. Mass, St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Rتقال Rosary for Life, sponsored by church’s respect life committee.

6. WEDNESDAY

ODU Adult and Continuing Education Info Session
6 to 7 p.m., Bishop Griffin Center, Ohio Dominican University, 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Information session on ODU’s adult and continuing education programs.

Cardinal DiNardo Speaks at Josephinum

Marrian 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 Ower, CFIC.

7. THURSDAY

Cradling Christianity at St. Agatha
5:30 p.m., St. Agatha Church, 1860 Northwood Road, Columbus. Annual Cradling Christianity dinner to benefit the Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land. Speaker: Father David Meconi, SJ, director, St. Louis University Catholic Studies Center.

Canal of 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.

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.

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. Scripture study featuring this coming Sunday’s readings and commentary.

8. FRIDAY

Catholic Social Services Breakfast with the Bishop
7:30 to 9 a.m., Renaissance Hotel, 50 N. 3rd St., Columbus. Annual Catholic Social Services Breakfast with the Bishop fundraiser. Speakers: Bishop Frederick Campbell and Columbus City Auditor Hugh Dorrian. Tickets $50.

9. SATURDAY

Catholic Call to Justice Program at Christ the King
9 a.m. to noon, Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus. Catholic Call to Justice program sponsored by diocesan Office for Social Concerns and Building Responsibility, Equality, and Dignity organization. Includes Mass, talks on social justice, small- and large-group discussion, and a call to action.

Diocesan Retreat for Married Couples at St. Agatha
9 a.m. to 4 p.m., St. Agatha Church, 1860 Northwood Road, Columbus. Retreat for married couples, sponsored by diocesan Marriage & Family Life Office, with Mass celebrated by Bishop Frederick Campbell, reflection by the bishop, and questions by marriage counselors. Cost $65 per couple. Registration deadline Sept. 1.

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 Ower, CFIC.

10. SUNDAY

Anniversary Celebration for Sister Patricia McMahon
10:45 a.m., St. Brigid of Killare Church, 7179 Avery Road, Dublin. Sister Patricia McMahon, OSF, reviews her religious vows at Mass on the 50th anniversary of her original profession, followed by reception.

Catholic Singles Fellowship at All-Horse Parade
1 p.m., Delaware County Fairgrounds, 236 Pennsylvania Ave., Delaware. Delaware St. Mary Church Catholic singles fellowship group gathers for 3 p.m. All-Horse Parade through downtown.

Kateri Prayer Circle at St. Mark
1 p.m., Aranda Center, St. Mark Church, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Kateri Prayer Circle meeting to honor St. Kateri Tekakwitha and promote Native Catholic spirituality.

Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic Meeting
1:30 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Meeting of St. Catherine of Siena chapter, Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic.

Healing Mass at St. Elizabeth
4 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Healing Mass with Father John Vadakkettom, CFIC, associate administrator at St. Elizabeth, preceded by rosary at 2:30, Sacrament of Reconciliation, and explanation of healing ministry. Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Anointing of the Sick, and potluck social. Sponsored by Catholic Charismatic Renewal Inc.
There is a strong bond between Columbus Christ the King and St. Catharine churches and three small parishes in western Scioto County. For 24 years, young people and adults from Christ the King have spent the last week of June serving families in need of assistance in Scioto County. For nine years, St. Catharine Church has been a full partner in the venture. Previous partners have included Columbus St. Dominic and Sunbury St John Neumann churches. Most of the work involves home repairs, with some new construction.

The Appalachian Project of Christ the King and St. Catharine works closely with West Portsmouth Our Lady of Sorrows, Pond Creek Holy Trinity, and Otway Our Lady of Lourdes churches. Father John Stattmiller and Father David Young, retired pastors of those parishes, have been most supportive. Rita Frye, Joan Flanagan, and other members of the parishes help determine the local families to be given assistance. Western Scioto County was chosen in 1994 for the service project because of its proximity to Columbus and because it is part of the Diocese of Columbus. In many ways, the culture of the parishes is Appalachian and farm-based, giving Columbus young people a chance to experience a different way of life.

Wearing special logo T-shirts and bringing hammers, work gloves, and safety glasses, as many as 50 youths served at 11 work sites this year. Skilled adults brought saws, drills, and other tools. The group’s mission statement is this: “The purpose of our project is to spend time apart from our ordinary life, to develop a better understanding of our relationship to God and our neighbors, and to express our care in concrete actions according to the social teachings of the Church.”

The adult team has grown to include alumni of the project. The adults share skills, experience, and faith with the young people. It is a reward to watch the youths grow and learn about keeping hope alive in one corner of our large, often hurting world. Adult team members continue to see young teenagers grow into adulthood committed to service.

The western Scioto County community has continued to welcome the Appalachian Project each year. The group is well-known for the quality of its work. Families served have referred their relatives, and those in need have called the parishes, asking for help. Among the beautiful hills and lonesome hollows of Scioto County are many people who are struggling to survive financially. Household incomes are low, while unemployment is high. Many elderly homeowners cannot afford repairs. Some of the people the project is privileged to serve are used to living without the basic needs we all take for granted, including hot and cold running water, indoor plumbing, even sufficient food.

By Anne Jupinko

Columbus youth serve in Appalachia

Top, from left: Mauricio Zamaripa and Richard Proebstl measure wood; Hayden Thomas, Austin Kraner, Ben Ingraham-Dwyer, and Anna Hayes work to replace a living-room floor.

Bottom, from left: Bob Irwin, Bill Dougherty, Ben Ingraham-Dwyer, Anna Hayes, Hayden Thomas, and Jay Schroeder; “Appalachian Olympics” at Holy Trinity. Photos by Anne Jupinko and Bob Irwin
YOUTH, continued from Page 18

There is no better way to build Christian faith and encourage spiritual growth than by putting faith into action. The young people say that the experience is unforgettable and life-changing. They say they never will forget the people they assisted, who are so grateful. They love being able to build a relationship with those in need and to help meet that need. They enjoy sharing themselves and gaining new perspectives on rural poverty, its causes and results. They never will forget the experience of working, laughing, and living together in Christian community for a week.

Faith Nimely of Christ the King said, “I have helped people who are in need, and that felt really good. I have learned how kind and sweet these people we helped are. I learned how to build a porch and tar a roof. Tarring the roof was most enjoyable.”

Cameron Kraner from St. Catherine Church enjoyed knowing he was doing something great all week by power-washing, painting, and fixing part of the ceiling at his work site. He learned that some of the Scioto County residents look forward to seeing the group return every year.

HURRICANE, continued from Page 2

Though the brunt of the hurricane’s winds has passed and Harvey was downgraded to a tropical storm hours after landfall, heavy rains and “catastrophic flooding” are expected for days, said the National Hurricane Center.

“We have to remember … the families affected by flood damage in the next few days in other parts of the state will be in need of relief,” said Bishop Flores. “We will assess better how we can help as we get further information about the needs from the (Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops) and Catholic Charities.”

Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, is the head of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, an area declared in a state of disaster.

In an Aug. 26 statement published by the archdiocese, he asked for prayers “for all of those affected by the storm and in need of assistance during this natural disaster.”

Powerful winds and heavy rainfall have impacted many homes and lives throughout Galveston-Houston, said the cardinal, and many in the southern counties of his archdiocese have already suffered substantial property damage and losses.

“Numerous homes in these communities are currently without power. Several forecasts anticipate additional storm damage and flooding in the coming days, along with high winds and tor-nado activity,” Cardinal DiNardo said. Up to 250,000 have been reported without power in Texas, a number that’s expected to rise.

San Antonio Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller said in a statement that the archdiocese pledged its support to recovery efforts that will start after the rain and wind subside.

“My thoughts and prayers are with the people of the dioceses of Corpus Christi and Victoria, as well as the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, as they cope with the damaging effects of Hurricane Harvey,” he said. “The people of San Antonio have opened their arms to welcome evacuees of this historic hurricane, and Catholic Charities of the archdiocese has been assisting and will continue to assist in a variety of ways those impacted by this natural disaster.”

Bishop W. Michael Mulvey of the Diocese of Corpus Christi said he was grateful to the bishops who reached out to him and to his diocese. He said the true damage around the diocese still is not known and officials are waiting for conditions that will allow a better assessment of the damage.

In his statement, Cardinal DiNardo asked for prayers for emergency personnel and volunteers who are out and about in dangerous conditions and also “for those residing in our archdiocese, in Texas and along the Gulf Coast, be safe and may God have mercy on those affected by Hurricane Harvey.”

Tara Bush, a junior at Columbus Bishop Hartley High School from Gahanna St Matthew Church, said, “I honestly forgot that this trip provided service hours, because it wasn’t even important to me. Just the idea of helping others is what I thought about.”

Several youth participants mentioned the importance of talking to the people they helped and listening to their stories. Many who previously had attended an Appalachian Project said coming back to Holy Trinity Hall felt like coming home to their “Appalachian family” to make old and new connections.

Every evening, the group gathered around a candle, symbolizing Christ’s presence, to reflect on their day and the ways God permeated their work and their relationships. Benefactors from the Columbus parish communities, who are considered associate team members through their donations, were especially remembered in a poignant Thursday evening prayer circle, at which each youth and adult present had the opportunity to request prayers and thank God for the week’s many blessings. All present acknowledged that it is God’s work and that by God’s grace, the Appalachian Project has endured for 24 years.

Anne Jupinko is Appalachian project coordinator for Columbus Christ the King Church.

Development Officer & Administrative Coordinator

The Catholic Foundation continually strives to attract, select, and develop people who are talented, passionate, and can help fulfill our mission. The Foundation is looking for two positions; a Development Officer and an Administrative Coordinator.

The Development Officer will increase assets and funds under management through focus areas of development, planned giving, and donor servicing. The Administrative Coordinator will provide support to the operations function of the Foundation with a focus on grant processing, grantee support, and accounts payable within the values of the Catholic Church and in support of the mission of The Catholic Foundation. To learn more, visit www.catholic-foundation.org/employment.

Qualified candidates should submit a resume and cover letter no later than September 8, 2017 to:

admin@catholic-foundation.org
Two-time defending state champion Columbus Bishop Hartley led 10 diocesan teams into the 2017 football season as the high school football season kicked off last weekend in Ohio.

The Hawks won the Division IV title last season for the second straight year. They’ve moved up to Division III this season, but expect to be as formidable as ever.

Coach Brad Burchfield has established a tradition that allows him to plug in and play new starters without any dropoff from the previous year. This season is no different.

Burchfield felt good about his team and what the players can achieve going into the opening game against state powerhouse Toledo Central Catholic. Among the Hawks’ standouts is 6-foot-6, 315-pound senior offensive lineman Patrick Gilliland, an Ohio University commitment.

“Very excited about the season. I could not feel better about our football team,” Burchfield said. “I feel like we have an outstanding team.

“It’s as good of a football team as I’ve ever had. I told somebody that and they’re like, ‘Whoa!’ but I mean it’s as good as a football team as I’ve ever had. I’ve said this a few times. It just is. They’ve done everything we’ve asked them to do. They’re ready to go.”

Columbus St. Francis DeSales remains in Division III after reaching the state semifinals a year ago and finishing with one loss. The Stallions have aspirations of equaling or surpassing last year’s success.

Senior linebacker Ty Van Fossen is a University of Cincinnati recruit who leads the defense, Brian Asamoah is a talented linebacker/running back with multiple college scholarship offers, and Cole Silvestri returns at quarterback for the Stallions.

“It’s a privilege to be in the CCL,” DeSales coach Ryan Wiggins said. “When you talk about the amount of success the league has enjoyed over a number of years, it’s pretty unique and pretty special.

“We did a lot of impressive things last year on and off the field and we’re hoping we can build on that.”

Columbus Bishop Watterson began a new season with a new head coach. Former assistant and Watterson graduate Brian Kennedy took over a tradition-rich program that won a state title in 2010 and is trying to rebound from a subpar 3-7 season in 2016.

The Eagles are changing their offensive and defensive schemes and hoping to get off to a good start.

“It’s huge for confidence and momentum and to validate the things we’ve been doing, the changes we’ve made, the work that all these kids have put in in the offseason,” Kennedy said.

At Columbus St. Charles, Bob Jacoby is in his 13th year on and off the field and we’re hoping to have their first winning season as ever.

“Ready lost all-state running back Ready lost all-state running back Devin Dukes to a transfer, but experienced offensive and defensive lines led by all-stater Anthony Baum return.

“We think we’re going to be a very competitive football team,” Jacoby said. “We’ve tried to instill a culture of toughness. I think we’re a different program than we were 12 months ago. Last year, we saw some really great teams and we want to become one of those programs.”

Columbus Bishop Ready advanced to the state playoffs last year in Division VI. This season, the Silver Knights move up a division and change their schedule to play in the Mid-State League Ohio Division without being eligible for the title until 2019.

Ready will maintain its long-standing rivalry with Hartley in the Central Catholic League. The teams will meet in October, with the winner crowned the CCL Gold Division champion.

“We’re really an honorary member this year, but I told our players that if we win the league, I’ll buy them a trophy,” said coach Brian Cross, who is in his fourth year at Ready and his 36th year as a head coach.

Ready lost all-state running back Devin Dukes to a transfer, but experienced offensive and defensive lines led by all-stater Anthony Baum return.

“We think we’re going to be a very competitive football team,” Cross said. “Our goal is to be the most physical team we can possibly be. We want to be a team that executes both offensively and defensively and on special teams. We want to be a close-knit team and play for each other.”

Newark Catholic, which defeated Ready 20-14 in the playoffs last year, is also a member of the Mid-State League. The Green Wave opened their season last Thursday night with a 27-16 loss to Maysville, but they’re expected to be in contention for another postseason berth.

A perennial playoff contender, Newark Catholic has made the most playoff appearances of any team in the state with 34 and has the most wins in the postseason with 71.

Zanesville Rosecrans also was a playoff team last year. The Bishops lost some key performers and entered this season with only 19 players on the roster, but they’re looking forward to playing in the Mid-State League for the first time and moving into a new home stadium.

Portsmouth Notre Dame just missed qualifying for the playoffs last year with a 7-3 record after losing its final game. The Titans already have a small roster, but make the most out of their talent.

A new coach brings an infusion of enthusiasm to Lancaster Fisher Catholic. Doug Miller replaced Mike Yonnotti and immediately increased participation numbers in the football program. The Irish are coming off a 1-9 season and have gone 7-13 the past two seasons.

“These kids are real winners,” Miller told the Lancaster Eagle-Gazette. “The only thing I had to do was trigger their desire to win because they’ve got the ability to win and getting them excited about football. The emphasis is on contributing to a team effort. The culture has always been great.”

Like many Division VI and VII schools around the state, New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic relies on a smaller roster to maintain a competitive program. Still, the Saints were solid last year with a 5-5 record, and they’re excited about playing in a revamped Inter-Valley Conference.

“We’re definitely looking forward to the new league, as both divisions should be wide open from year to year,” Central Catholic coach Casey Cummings, in his sixth season, told FridayNightOhio.com.