PONTIFICAL COLLEGE
JOSEPHINUM
SENDS PRIESTS ACROSS THE NATION

2017 CATHOLIC COLLEGES ISSUE
Faith and Reason

By David Garick, Editor

Activity is returning to college campuses as a new school year gets under way. It is a special time for our students. They are taking a very big step into an environment which will be very different from their life at home with their parents. It’s a special place, which they will occupy only for a few years in preparation for the life that lays ahead for them in what we humorously call the “real world.”

Entering this special world of college life introduces the young student to some intriguing new realities. As a college student, I learned that you only get clean clothes in your closet if you take all your dirty clothes to the laundromat and put lots of quarters into the machines. I also learned that if you put your red sweatshirt in the same load as your whites, you end up with pink underwear. I learned why adults always talked about needing coffee in the morning. Most of that lesson came from the nights before tests or term paper due dates, when I pulled “all-nighters.”

Mostly, I learned that I had the capacity to do more than memorize facts from a book. I discovered the realities of the world partly from my own mistakes, but more importantly through gaining insight from the resources of human knowledge. Our Catholic colleges provide a very special environment in which to seek out that knowledge. Catholic colleges are unique because truth is at the heart of knowledge, and truth can only be evident through knowledge of God and his created order. When all fields of knowledge are addressed through a combination of faith in the essential Living Word of God and human reason rooted in the intellectual gifts humanity was endowed with as steward of this world, we find true understanding.

This issue of Catholic Times will bring you up to date on some of the new things going on in area Catholic colleges this year. We also take an in-depth look at one very special Catholic college, the Pontifical College Josephinum.

Nowhere is the quest for truth and reason more evident and more critical than in our seminaries. The Josephinum is the only seminary located within our diocese and provides education for most of our prospective priests. The future of Christ’s church rests on the preparation of young men willing to take up Christ’s cross and to make the sacrifices necessary to serve his people in the sacraments of our faith. To accomplish this, they need to be filled with the knowledge and spiritual graces that make up the faith and tradition of the church.

I think you will be very pleased to read about how that is being accomplished at the Josephinum. Take a good look at the bright faces shining in its halls and classrooms. The faith and reason that is forming these young men right now soon will shine forth as you see those same faces in a pulpTit and at an altar in your own parish.

Correction -- The Sept. 10 Catholic Times incorrectly listed the date for a pilgrimage to Lourdes to be led by Father Joseph Allen, OP, and former Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral rector Father Michael Gribble. The correct dates are Feb. 5-13, 2018, rather than the pilgrimage beginning on May 13.

Irma leaves path of destruction across Caribbean and Florida

By Catholic News Service

A weakened Hurricane Irma churned into Florida after ripping through southern portions of the state and the Caribbean islands, flooding cities, knocking out power to millions, destroying homes and businesses and killing more than 20 people.

The massive hurricane, which dwindled to a tropical storm as it neared the Florida-Georgia line early Sept. 11, was forecast to die out over southern states later in the week. Officials in Florida and across the Caribbean, meanwhile, started to dig out and evaluate the full scope of the disaster Irma left behind.

The strength and size of the storm, with 120-plus mph winds stretching 70 miles from its core, left hardly any place near its path untouched. It leveled entire islands in the eastern Caribbean, snapped construction cranes in downtown Miami, and brought unprecedented flooding on Cuba’s north coast.

“The hurricane has caused serious damage in the towns, villages and farms of the north coast of our island, from Camaguey to Havana,” said Maritza Sanchez, director of Caritas Cuba. “Flooding was caused by hurricane force winds and rains all the way from Camaguey to Santa Clara in the middle of the country, reaching as far as Matanzas and Havana along the northwest coast.”

By the evening on Sept. 10, roughly 5.7 million Florida residents were left without power. Aerial footage showed large swaths of cities like Miami and Naples, on the Gulf Coast, under water. State officials had ordered 6.3 million
Dorrian honored at Breakfast With the Bishop

BY TIM PUET
Reporter, Catholic Times

Columbus City Auditor Hugh Dorrian says he has been surrounded by royalty during his long career in public service.

“I take my hat off to the royalty in this community,” Dorrian said to more than 500 people attending Catholic Social Services’ annual Breakfast With the Bishop fundraiser at the Renaissance Columbus Hotel on Friday, Sept. 8. “Yours is not a royalty of blood or of wealth, but a royalty of service. You are the people who keep the community sane and compassionate by serving your brothers and sisters.”

During the breakfast, Bishop Frederick Campbell presented Dorrian with the Catholic Social Services Vision Award, an honor conferred by CSS on special occasions. Rachel Lustig, the agency’s president and chief executive officer, told Dorrian he merited the recognition for “being a visionary, saintly leader in our community, for the positive impact you made on our shared home, and for the compassionate way in which you have lived your life.”

Dorrian has been city auditor for 48 years and is not running for election to a 13th term this year. Before being appointed auditor in 1969, he was city treasurer for four years.

He said being an officeholder for so long allowed him to be in contact with many more people than if he had been in private practice, giving him an opportunity to witness numerous instances of individuals and groups performing works of mercy by loving their neighbor as themselves.

Dorrian cited several people and organizations as examples of such charity. They included Matt Habash, president and CEO of the Mid-Ohio Foodbank, which distributes 30 million pounds of food a year and has 10,000 volunteers; Chuck Gehring, president and CEO of LifeCare Alliance, for its Meals on Wheels program that feeds 1,000 people every day; and Michelle Heritage, executive director of the Community Shelter Board, which provides housing for 1,000 people nightly.

He also paid tribute to the Homeport organization, which builds affordable homes for sale and rent; to Birthright and other organizations who care for children, born and unborn; and to those in the community who do good works anonymously, such as “the women who walk along the riverbanks and provide a blanket to someone who needs it” and “those who simply hold the hand of a dying person.”

Dorrian thanked the city’s many food pantries and soup kitchens for their work. “They provide the practical side of being in service to a community,” he said. He singled out the Holy Family Soup Kitchen in the Franklinton neighborhood, saying “That’s my favorite because I grew up in Holy Family and was taught there by the Sisters of Mercy, who made a great bowl of chili.”

The soup kitchen is located in the former Holy Family School. “I must have eaten a million bowls of chili when I went to classes there,” Dorrian said. He also noted that his sister Peg (Sister Mary Macrina, RSM) was a Sister of Mercy for 70 years until her death in 2015.

Dorrian said the work of CSS’ Our Lady of Guadalupe Center on the city’s west side with immigrants had a special meaning to him because he is the son of immigrants.

“My parents met in this country,” he said, noting that like many immigrants, they went wherever there was work. “Out of work in Pittsburgh, they found work in Wheeling, West Virginia, where I showed up. They lost their jobs there, and ended up coming to Columbus and doing better.”

He said his message to all immigrants in the city is “Welcome to Columbus. I’m glad you’re here,” adding that he would like to greet Latino immigrants in Spanish, but wasn’t sure he would get the words right.

Dorrian said his advice to people coming here from other nations is the same as it has been for their predecessors: “To the best of your knowledge, get an education, be prepared to work hard, and above all, keep your faith in God.”

“Columbus is a special place because of the royalty in this community. That’s you,” he told the audience. “My simple prayer is that God continue to send a lot of royalty to Columbus.”

Bishop Campbell followed Dorrian to the podium and gave a reflection on the parable of the Good Samaritan. “Christians believe they know it, but sometimes that knowledge is only superficial,” he said. “In some fashion, we have lost some of the shock that the original hearers must have felt.”

“It’s interesting that the person in the parable who helped the man set upon by robbers stopped because he saw a need, rather than trying to assess the character of the person in need,” the bishop said.

“What is touching about the Good Samaritan is that not only did he bind up the other man’s wounds, take him to an inn, and pay for his lodging. He then came back to check on him. Not only was he one who assisted in an emergency, but he became a companion to that individual.”

The parable ends with Jesus being asked, “Who is my neighbor?” The bishop followed that question by asking, “Are we that neighbor, the one drawing near with our eyes open to those in need? So often those in need are isolated and alone. We are that neighbor when we become the instrument of assuring them they are not lost,” he said.

Lustig noted that this year has been an active one for Catholic Social Services because it became involved with two new areas of serving the community.

One of those is the Foster Grandparent program, which links low-income senior citizens with at-risk children in schools and at Head Start centers and other locations, giving them a chance to develop a bond and to nurture and instill a sense of pride in every child.

In addition, CSS and the 14 Seton Square communities for senior citizens throughout the Diocese of Columbus have formed a partnership through which CSS offers supportive care to residents at those locations, allowing them to age with the grace and independence they deserve.

The agency assists anyone who needs its help. Lustig said she sometimes is asked whether its work is limited to Catholics, and responds, “We provide services because we are Catholics, not because they are.”

She said that last year, CSS touched 31,664 lives and its volunteers provided 134,889 hours of service to people. She also said surveys of clients showed a 94 percent satisfaction rate with its programs.

Sister Rocio Hernandez Flores, HMSP, of the Missionary Servants of the Word, based at the Columbus Christ the King Church convent, gave the invocation before breakfast. Musical selections were provided by the Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School choir.
Faith in Action

By Jerry Freewalt

Be an ARCH to a returning citizen, the formerly incarcerated

Visiting the imprisoned is one of the corporal works of mercy. The basis of this work of mercy comes from Jesus’ account of the Last Judgment (Matthew 25) when he says, “For I was . . . in prison and you visited me. Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.” Jesus calls us to see his face among the incarcerated. Some Catholics answer this call through jail and prison ministry.

But what about the prisoner’s return home, if there is one? What happens to our concern for people once they have paid their debt to society and are released from jail or prison? What’s next? The church can play a central role in helping people stabilize their lives and experience the mercy of Christ. Returning citizens, the formerly incarcerated, are included among the many in need who receive the generosity of food, clothing, and other forms of help through the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, JOIN, soup kitchens, clothing centers, and other charitable ministries.

Additional attention is needed for those striving to rebuild their lives after incarceration. Returning citizens face significant challenges in their reintegration into their families and the larger community. Although they paid a debt in the form of time inside the fence, the consequences of their actions continue outside the fence. Most struggle with obtaining steady employment or accessing affordable housing because of their past record. Many need a support system to help them navigate the steps to rebuild their lives after their release. The effects of criminal behavior and incarceration bear on family members as well. These include separation of a spouse or parent, loss of an income, and other difficulties. The effects of criminal behavior and incarceration are a major contributor to poverty.

ARCH (Accompanying Returning Citizens with Hope) is a joint ministry of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, through the generosity of The Catholic Foundation. The purpose of ARCH is to equip Catholics with the tools to minister to the needs of returning citizens and their families.

An arch is a doorway, a bridge, a support. We envision ARCH to be all of this for people continuing their pilgrim journey, as well as all of us are. Whether we broke a law of society or one of God’s laws, we are still children of God, brothers and sisters. Maybe you can be a doorway and offer a job to a returning citizen striving for another chance. Possibly you can be a bridge connecting a returning citizen to the resources to get him or her on the right path. Perhaps you can use your gifts and talents by starting a family support group in your parish.

What this means is that you have an opportunity to accompany a returning citizen with hope. As Catholics, we are called to be people of hope, living out our vocation as missionary disciples. This also means we could use some volunteers to help. If you feel you are not an expert, that’s OK. Jesus didn’t pick experts as his disciples. ARCH will train you and link you to established programs in the community.

If you are interested in learning more about ARCH, visit our website at www.svdpcolumbus.org/arch or send us an email at arch@svdpcolumbus.org. Be an ARCH.

Jerry Freewalt is an associate director of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns.
TUITION PLAN HELPS DAYTON STUDENTS CONTROL COSTS

More University of Dayton students are graduating with less debt as a result of the school’s new tuition model, which promises full transparency and a four-year guarantee concerning costs. The Class of 2017, the first to enroll under the fixed-net-price plan, set a record four-year graduation rate, which was eight percentage points higher than the previous year. Class members also reduced their cumulative student loan debt by nearly $6 million — an average of about $5,000 less per student.

“When we decided to overhaul the way we charged tuition, we saw it as part of our moral obligation as a Catholic Marianist university to do what is right for our students,” said Jason Reinoehl, UD vice president for strategic enrollment management. “While we expected good results, these are outcomes that are phenomenal and prove transparent pricing makes a huge difference for undergraduates and their families.”

The plan ensures that students know the true cost of a four-year degree upfront. It promises students that their financial aid will grow dollar for dollar to match any tuition increases, so what they pay for their freshman year is what they’ll pay for their senior year. There are no fees and no surprise expenses that too often can jeopardize students’ successful degree completion.

Each accepted student receives a personalized financial aid letter detailing the full cost of tuition, as well as projected costs for housing, meals, and other expenses for all four years.

A textbook scholarship also provides most students with as much as $4,000 over four years for books. A study-abroad program allows students to study in China, Ireland, or Spain at no extra cost and provides a $3,000 scholarship to cover the cost of flights and other travel expenses.

Recent UD graduate Renee Brown said the tuition plan was a major factor in helping her decide to enroll at the university. She graduated with no debt.

“I have three siblings, so whatever college I chose had to make sense financially for me and my family,” she said. “The University of Dayton stood out because it allowed me to plan all four years of expenses without worrying about any surprise lab fees, tuition increases, or other charges I wasn’t expecting.”

When the university created the plan, no other institution was taking the same approach, and that remains true today. The university is perhaps the nation’s only institution to have truly eliminated all fees, and it continues to innovate in other ways to remove burdensome costs for students and improve access to opportunities that enhance their future success.

The newly created UD Sinclair Academy provides a clear pathway from community college to a four-year degree at a significant savings. Students are eligible for as much as $17,000 each year in merit scholarships, as well as need-based financial assistance, a textbook scholarship, and study abroad programs.

The academy goes beyond a typical transfer program by providing a host of student benefits and engagement opportunities. While students are taking classes at Sinclair Community College, they can join any of UD’s 270 student clubs, attend athletic events, work out at the RecPlex for free, and take advantage of university academic advising and peer mentoring.

Sinclair Academy students also benefit from the price guarantee. They’ll pay the UD tuition in effect when they first enter the academy for their junior and senior years, while benefiting from Sinclair’s low tuition during their first two years.

“Investing in a college education is a substantial commitment for families and for students, often with long-term financial implications,” said University of Dayton President Eric F. Spina. “Higher education has a responsibility to be upfront and transparent about what those costs will be. I’m proud the University of Dayton is leading the way in the national conversation about what we can do to help students afford a college education and succeed in earning a degree.”

Dayton Marian Forum Focuses on Mary in Asia and Africa

The International Marian Research Institute (IMRI) has announced “Mary in Asia and Africa” as the theme for its next Marian Forum from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20 at the University of Dayton.

The two-hour event will be the fifth in a continuing series of free academic gatherings the institute has been sponsoring over the Internet to promote the study of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

“We are producing our Marian forums in order to present fresh research and to stimulate creative energies in the study of the mother of Jesus Christ,” said Father Johann Roten, SM, director of research and special projects at IMRI.

“We decided on Africa and Asia for the theme of our next forum because we wanted to move beyond Eurocentrism and open new avenues of study. The great diversity of peoples in Africa and Asia makes these continents ideal for looking at how local culture influences the reception of Mary.”

Two IMRI professors will present their research. Father Sebastien Abalodo, SM, will show how the concept of motherhood in sub-Saharan Africa has influenced its residents’ celebration of the dogma of the Mother of God. Sister Celia Chua, MIC will give participants an appreciation of Marian devotion in China by explaining how it took root there and is bearing fruit.

After presenting their research, the speakers will field questions from the worldwide audience that will be participating online and in-person. Admission is free, but IMRI requires participants to register online at https://www.udayton.edu/imri/marian-forum/session-five.php by Friday, Oct. 6. More information also is available at this website.
IN HEAVEN FOR SURE?/LENGTH OF DISPENSATION PROCESS?

**QUESTION & ANSWER**

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. My mother passed away some time ago, and I wonder whether she is now in “God’s eternal embrace.” How can I be sure?

A. The church does not teach that everyone who dies must necessarily pass through purgatory before reaching heaven.

As a matter of fact, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says specifically that the punishment due for venial sins can be meted out “either here on earth, or after death” (No. 1472). It goes on to say that “fervent charity can attain the complete purification of the sinner in such a way that no punishment would remain.”

Even for those who must undergo some punishment after death -- which, I would think, includes most of us -- we have no idea as to just what purgatory involves or how long it lasts. (It could even be instantaneous.)

So even though you cannot have infallible certitude that your mother is already in heaven, she may well be. Jesus said in Matthew’s Gospel, “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven” (7:21); since your mother, in your words, was a good mother and loved the church dearly, she obviously tried to do what the Lord asked of her.

But I would “play it safe” and keep praying for her nonetheless; praying for the dead is a sacred and long-held practice that even predates the church -- in the Old Testament (2 Maccabees 12:46) Judas Maccabeus “made atonement for the dead” that they might be delivered from their sin.

Q. My widowed mother is getting ready to remarry, and she is very concerned that her fiancée has never been baptized. How hard is it to get a dispensation to marry someone like that in the Catholic Church, and is it a lengthy process? (Mom says that she’s not getting any younger!) (Louisville, Kentucky)

A. As you indicate, a Catholic who wishes to marry a non-Catholic (whether baptized or unbaptized) must first obtain permission from the Catholic Church. This requirement is rooted in a bishop’s responsibility to safeguard the religious faith and practice of the Catholic party.

And so, for such a dispensation to be granted, the Catholic party must promise to continue to remain faithful to the Catholic religion and to do all within his or her power to see that any children of the marriage are baptized and raised as Catholics.

Beyond that pledge, it is not difficult to obtain the permission your mother seeks, and such dispensations are regularly granted.

As to the time required, there is some variation from diocese to diocese (depending on the volume of requests and the size of the tribunal staff), but generally such permissions are granted within a matter of a few weeks. Your mother should contact her parish priest and get the process started.

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

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First Catholic Latino Conference in Columbus a big success

Two weeks after the inaugural Columbus Catholic Latino Conference, the organizing team, representing six parishes across the diocese, is reflecting on its accomplishments and planning for the future.

“This conference represents a significant first for all Latinos and the Diocese of Columbus,” said Eric Jordan, co-chair of the conference steering committee.

Columbus St. Peter Church hosted more than 350 participants for the conference on Saturday, Aug. 19. They recited the rosary, attended Mass, heard inspired music, and took part in workshops – all in Spanish.

Another committee co-chair, Ezra Escudero of Gahanna St. Matthew Church, said, “Meeting people where they are is a big reason why we did this event completely in Spanish. As families acquire English-language skills, evidence shows that second- and third-generation Americans naturally prefer to attend English-language events, such as the Catholic men’s and women’s conferences. We’re not building an island, but opening a doorway.”

Speakers at the conference included Father Juan Carlos Sack of the Pontifical College Josephinum; musician Wilfredo Ortiz, from the Dominican Republic by way of New York; healing lay-minister Cristy Herrera of Texas; and Hector Molina of St. Louis. Their presentations centered on the theme of “Evangelization: The First Steps.”

Father Sack described sound reasons why Catholics are Catholic, Herrera shared ideas for healing after the death of a loved one. Molina exhorted those present to be “fishers” of women and men rather than “fish tank” custodians.

“My people are ruined for lack of knowledge” is the motto of the conference, and it comes from Hosea 4:6. It conveys a very special meaning. We need to share knowledge of the Gospel, and even as we are making history in the Diocese of Columbus, this is the first of many more conferences to come,” said another committee co-chair, Rocio Jordan of St. Peter Church.

The conference benefitted from support across the diocese. Team members from the Columbus Catholic Men’s Ministry have been involved since the first steps more than two years ago.

Jim Maholm, a Columbus St. Patrick Church parishioner and coordinator for the Catholic Men’s Ministry Outreach, said, “We wanted to explore how Latino Catholic men in the diocese were growing in their spiritual life. After numerous meetings, the obvious answer surfaced that both men and women in the Catholic Latino community wanted to be more connected and unified, so the groundwork was laid for a Latino leadership team to be developed, leading to this event. I am humbled and honored to be a part of this important initiative.”

The Catholic Foundation awarded two grants to the conference, including one from its Our Lady of Guadalupe Fund. Other major donations came from the Columbus Catholic Women’s Conference, St. Peter Church, and Knights of Columbus St Jude Council 5801 at St. Matthew Church. Corporate sponsors of the event included DESA Drywall, El Nuevo Naranjo Supermarket, Mi Mexico Restaurant, and Beth Escudero Photography. Indispensable support was offered by Knights of Columbus Council 11216 at St. Peter Church, The LIBRE Initiative, and Firehouse Subs.

“Truly this was a labor of love, with our many volunteers from parishes including Columbus Christ the King, St. James the Less, St. Stephen the Martyr, and Santa Cruz, and firm support from the Office of the Bishop, including Deacon Thomas Berg Jr. and Hispanic ministry coordinator Angela Johnston,” Jordan said.

“We owe God and his many faithful servants – religious, clergy, and lay – a sincere debt of gratitude for the two years of hard work and effort,” Escudero said.

Plans have begun for the 2018 conference. “There will be several major challenges for next year. We had tremendous support and response for the first conference. We will now need to consider a larger venue, with a greater need for financial support, to keep our ticket price low, with a focus on Latin community attendance and the ultimate spiritual nourishment and growth, which our research tells us the Latin community needs,” Jordan said.
Diocesan drug awareness summit to focus on heroin and opioids

A diocesan drug awareness summit for those who work with young people will take place from 8:15 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 27 in the parish center of the Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany.

The program will focus on heroin and opioids, with presentations on the facts, signs, and symptoms of addiction, as well as methods of prevention and response and a discussion of resources available to combat the effects of addictive drugs. School and parish teams will build an action plan throughout the day based on the presentations.

Speakers will include Bishop Frederick Campbell; Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine; Dr. Mark Hurst, medical director of the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services; Sarah Smith, director of Start Talking! Ohio, and others.

The program is being developed in cooperation with the diocesan offices of religious education, youth and young adults, social concerns, and Catholic schools. School administrators, athletic directors, counselors, religious educators, youth ministers, and campus ministers are encouraged to attend.

The registration deadline is Wednesday, Sept. 20. More information is available at http://cdeducation.org/DrugAwarenessSummit.

IRMA, continued from Page 2

of the state’s approximately 21 million residents to evacuate; many headed north to stay with relatives.

“Millions of Floridians are being impacted by this storm,” Florida Gov. Rick Scott said during a news conference Sept. 10.

Earlier, the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops called for prayers for all those in the path of Hurricane Irma.

Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, whose diocese was hit by flooding from Hurricane Harvey, noted that people in the Caribbean had “felt Hurricane Irma’s full force.”

“Let us join in prayer for those who are in the path of Hurricane Irma, and may God bless and protect you,” he said in a statement Sept. 9. “At a time like this, when our endurance is tested, we implore God to direct us to yet unknown reserves of strength and human compassion for those suffering so deeply. May our manifestations of love and solidarity be lasting signs in the midst of this crisis.”

The cardinal noted that, as with Harvey, the bishops’ conference would work with local dioceses, Catholic relief agencies and other groups to offer assistance.

The storm had already left a path of destruction in the Caribbean. Disaster risk analyst Center for Disaster Management and Risk Reduction Technology, based in Germany, estimated more than $10 billion in damages in the Caribbean, making it the costliest storm ever in the region.

The Netherlands estimated that 70 percent of the houses on St. Martin were badly damaged or destroyed. That left 40,000 people in public shelters as Hurricane Jose approached.

The Pentagon mobilized the military to respond to the U.S. Virgin Islands, where at least four people died and devastation was widespread.

“This is a horrific disaster,” Gov. Kenneth Mapp said Sept. 9. “There will be no restorations or solutions in days or weeks.”

In Antigua and Barbuda, Arthur Nibbs, minister of Barbuda Affairs, who was on Barbuda when Irma hit, said it was the worst storm he’d ever seen.

“It was enormous. There’s nothing that is comparable. It destroyed everything that was in its path,” he said.

Nibbs said roofs were torn away, trees were toppled, government buildings were destroyed, and cell towers were snapped in half, leaving the small island of about 1,600 people without any form of communication.

Officials scrambled to evacuate the island before the arrival of Hurricane Jose. The category 4 storm veered north of Barbuda, sparing it from a second direct hit.

If you would like to contribute to the recovery efforts, you may text CCUSADISASTER to 71777 or visit www.catholiccharitiesusa.org to donate.
Xavier University, located in Cincinnati, is a community of educators firmly grounded in Jesuit tradition and values. Xavier prepares students for an increasingly complex future by incorporating the power of *Magis* in everything it does, academically as well as through student involvement and service.

*Magis* is the belief that more is always possible. Xavier students are inspired to always do better and do more. Xavier’s focus on developing intelligent minds and compassionate spirits inspires students to do more in the tradition of learning, serving, and achieving together. Its students care about success, but they also care about each other and the neighborhood and global communities where they live. Xavier’s goal is to give students the tools to live a life that truly matters, professionally and personally.

In January, Xavier welcomed its first accelerated bachelor of science in nursing (ABSN) students. Located in downtown Cincinnati, the ABSN program fast-tracks students into the nursing profession by leveraging an existing bachelor’s degree in a non-nursing discipline. Framed within the Jesuit philosophy of holistic care, the program provides the academic foundation and clinical preparedness required to sit for the NCLEX-RN licensure exam with confidence. New groups for the program will start classes in May and August.

Before the end of 2017, Xavier and TriHealth, two Cincinnati faith-based organizations dedicated to improving the quality of life in the community, will break ground for a new building on the Xavier campus as part of a landmark affiliation.

A team of Xavier faculty, staff, and students, along with TriHealth leaders, clinicians, and other advisers, has been working together since January to develop programming and schematic designs for the Health United Building. The new facility is targeted to open in the fall of 2019. It will include:

- Collaboration that leads to unique and innovative health and wellness education programs that will prepare the next generation to lead. TriHealth has a 150-year legacy of medical and administrative education, with more than 275 fellowship and residency program graduates during the past decade, many from Xavier’s undergraduate pre-med and graduate health services administration programs.
- Construction of a new, co-branded state-of-the-art health and recreation center on Xavier’s campus. The facility will be home to Xavier’s academic, recreational, and clinical health and wellness programs.
- Student and employee health offerings and wellness programs, led by TriHealth, for students, student athletes, faculty, staff, and families. These resources will be centralized and available in the new center.
- Continued growth of Xavier’s nationally ranked athletic program through an expanded, world-class sports medicine team and an enhanced university-based, multidisciplinary clinical care model for student athletes.

“This is a landmark agreement for Xavier and for TriHealth, enabling us to dramatically improve health and wellness facilities, services, and overall health for our students, our employees, and our student-athletes, with additional positive impact on alumni, fans, and the community,” said Father Michael Graham, SJ, Xavier president.

“We’re thrilled to partner with Xavier in this pioneering journey,” said Mark Clement, TriHealth president and chief executive officer. “We look forward to the innovative work we will do together in the years ahead to improve health, revolutionize the delivery and financing of health care, and contribute to a more vibrant and thriving community.”

Xavier has been recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* as a top 10 Midwest university for 22 consecutive years. It’s also consistently recognized by *Princeton Review* and *Kiplinger’s Personal Finance* as one of the best values in private college education.

Learn more about Xavier at www.xavier.edu.

Students in Xavier University’s accelerated bachelor of science in nursing program, which started in January, work with a mock patient.

The proposed Health United Building at Xavier University in Cincinnati, a collaboration between Xavier and TriHealth, will serve as a center for health and wellness education. Photo, graphic courtesy Xavier University

www.columbuscatholic.org
I have broken my share of windows when I was young. I also have done many things I regretted doing later. Ever heard of buyer’s remorse? The same could be said about spiritual remorse. The prices we pay today in material and human damage come back to haunt us later in life. The lack of forgiveness and tolerance in society is an example of our arrogant and self-fulfilling nature to hate or fear what we don’t understand or comprehend. I can admit that I, too, have been guilty of such convenient attitudes and feelings.

In our community, it is much easier to accept a norm than to embrace what we do not want to do. In many situations, it becomes an impertinent fail-safe. The reluctance we feel can sometimes overshadow the awesome nature of learning from someone else’s culture. We can lose sight of the bigger picture, which was Jesus’ intent for us to experience life in all its discrepancies, differences, and sacrifices.

How we approach life is what makes us who we are by our physical nature. The soul gets lost in the confusion. We forget that identity to Our Lord is the most important thing we share in this world. I do not care where you come from – everyone deserves forgiveness, and everyone deserves the right to come to Christ in his or her own way. The passage may be narrow, but by our love and understanding, we can make it easier for others to follow. Showing the way is not just some empty rhetoric. It is needed in secular society, as many people today are searching for an identity and a sense of purpose.

This is not an easy thing for us to do. Some of us are so intent on not moving from a stance. We can become so comfortable in an opinion that we forget there are others who may not share our understanding. Try and see it from their point of view. Try to find a middle ground where we can agree on something. Maybe it’s finding a common viewpoint, or something we have done that was similar. It is here that we find the connection between mind and heart. It is here that we seek not the destruction of each other, but the awesome nature of His divine spirit at work in all of us.

I have known some of the most spiritual people. I also have known some of the most unbelieving. The thing they have in relation to one another is their love for someone close to them and their compassion for that person’s care and well-being. You do not have to be in sync all the time. God separated us by language for a reason: so we do not become so comfortable that we forget the adventure He places before each of us.

Let that be the benchmark by which we set our heart. Let that control how we react to another’s intentions. Let that be the way in which we unite behind a common purpose. Pope St. John Paul II once said, “The future is in your hearts and in your hands. God is entrusting to you the task, at once difficult and uplifting, of working with Him in the building of the civilization of love.”

Remind that person sitting across from you in a room or present with you somewhere that no one can do it alone, that no one ever is alone. We all make mistakes in life. It is our responsibility as sons and daughters to make this world a better, more forgiving, more wanting place. Seek each other, seek understanding, and seek peace. May God bless you and keep you, may the wind be forever at your backs, and may His peace be with you always.

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

Monsignor Christopher Schreck says three words sum up the Pontifical College Josephinum’s unique role in training priests. “By tradition and by our constitution, we are national, and we are missionary,” said Monsignor Schreck, the Josephinum’s rector and chancellor.

“As the only pontifical seminary outside Italy, we have a special papal mission to bring the spirit of prayer and mission to our dioceses,” he said.

The Josephinum, which recently renovated its St. Turibius Chapel, is one of 142 seminaries in the United States, which is the pope’s representative to this country. The current rector, Archbishop Christophe Pierre, visited the Josephinum in 2015 after 10 years as the apostolic nuncio to the United States.

The Josephinum students take part in a rigorous daily schedule of academics and spiritual activities. The campus, beginning with 6:45 a.m. Morning Prayer and Mass and concluding with a period of private study and prayer in the evening.

Seminarians also are exposed to a range of devotions, including Eucharistic processions and weekly recitation of the Rosary. Almost all seminarians have a spiritual director and a spiritual exercise every few months, and at least one week of silent prayer each year.

Seminarians and priests for the Diocese of Savannah, Georgia, have a special relationship with the Josephinum for 10 years, including the past five as rector. He said most of the seminarians who have transformed their lives and met a joyful, effective priest for no reason,” Father Baker said. “They understand the great dignity God has placed in his family. To understand the people he serves, as a father would educate two additional boys for the priesthood if candidates could be found. Twenty-three African countries, and we hope it’s helped me develop the heart of a servant leader.”

The Josephinum is renowned with the Extraordinary Gift of the Sacrament, so important a priest is to all the community for free time on or off campus, including pool parties and community House, Catholic Social Services and the Immaculate Conception. Seminarians also are exposed to a range of devotions, including Eucharistic processions and weekly recitation of the Rosary.

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offered, and the school hosts annual basketball and soccer tournaments with other seminaries.

The field is the home of the annual Mud Bowl game in November between the Theology “Papal Bulls” and the College “Cardinals.” About 40 students take part each year in a game that Deacon Garland says is marked by “a low skill level but a high competitive level.”

“Spending so much time together with other guys who want to discern God’s call in their lives, you can’t help but develop a strong feeling of brotherhood,” said third-year theology student Bryant Haren of Newark St. Francis de Sales Church. “We’ve really become a family. We pray together, we eat together, sometimes we fight with each other – respectfully. We realize we may have different views, but share the same common goals of serving God and the church.”

“One thing about being here is that I laugh all the time,” said Chris Yakkel of St. Joseph Cathedral, also a third-year theology student. “My classmates are hilarious. Anyone who thinks a bunch of guys who want to be priests are walking around being solemn all the time hasn’t seen us.

“In my time here, I’ve really come to appreciate the zeal I have for the faith and the joy in it that I want to share. Everything I’ve learned these last few years is starting to connect. I’m becoming more in love with Jesus and want to bring others to him.”

The Josephinum has made major improvements to its facilities in recent years, including upgrading of every room in the residence building and opening of a fitness center.

A particular highlight was the renovation and restoration of St. Turibius Chapel, which involved installing a noble and permanent Altar of Sacrifice; reconfiguring the floor plan to provide increased seating and to emphasize the centrality of the altar; and renewing the lines of the sanctuary.

A new mural behind the altar was based on the original 1936 mural by Gerhard Lamers, which had been damaged by water and was sealed over in 1989. The new mural is identical to the original except for one section, which shows the Virgin Mary on the Seat of Wisdom, flanked on either side by St. Joseph and St. Turibius, the first saint of the New World, and surrounded by Blessed Miguel Pro, St. Rose of Lima, St. John Neumann, Pope St. Gregory the Great, St. Catherine of Si-
ena, and St. Vincent de Paul.

“The work on the chapel has been completed for a while, but every time I walk in there, I’m still blown away,” Yakkel said. “You know you’re entering sacred space.”

Msgr. Schreck said the spectacular renovation would have been impossible without the generosity of the Josephinum’s financial supporters.

“We are not supported or owned by one diocese, but we have been blessed with support from many dioceses and individuals,” he said.

“This has allowed us to remain in sound financial shape, while making the improvements necessary for our buildings to be in sound structural shape.”

Annual tuition, room, and board is $37,000 for a theology student and $32,900 for a college student. 

“Live-in” Weekend Oct. 19-21

The Pontifical College Josephinum is opening its campus to young men who are discerning a vocation. High school juniors and seniors and college students are welcome to attend one of these weekends.

Those who take part will experience the prayer life, academics, and communal worship of the seminarians and will be able to speak to them about the discernment process.

The “live-in” programs will take place from Friday to Sunday, Oct. 19 to 21 and March 15 to 17. For more information or to sign up, contact Father John Baker at (614) 985-2255 or jsbaker16@pcj.edu.

For more information about the Josephinum, and to find out how you support its mission of forming priests, go to www.pcj.edu or contact Father Allen at (614) 885-5585.
SMART COLUMBUS PROVIDES $3.6 MILLION WORTH OF MOBILE SOLAR TECHNOLOGY TO ODU

Smart Columbus has unveiled Central Ohio’s first deployment of mobile solar technologies, implemented in partnership with DC Solar Freedom at Ohio Dominican University. The unveiling took place at an event on Wednesday, Sept. 6 at ODU’s campus. Twenty-four solar energy products, including electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, light towers, power stations, and generators – together valued at more than $3.6 million – have been deployed on campus to help improve safety and mobility without adding demand on the city’s power grid.

In 2016, DC Solar Freedom committed $1.5 million of in-kind technology to central Ohio universities and public agencies in recognition of Columbus winning the 2016 Smart City Challenge, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation and Vulcan, Inc. Upon assessing technology needs at ODU, DC Solar Freedom more than doubled its commitment, with potential for additional Columbus universities and organizations to benefit from continued support.

The $3.6 million deployment contributes to capital and financial investments in the Smart Columbus Acceleration Fund, made up of aligned investments by the private and public sector which are designed to complement, scale, and sustain Smart Columbus projects and programs into the future. The Acceleration Fund began as a $90 million matching investment at the time of the challenge and now totals more than $500 million, with the goal of reaching $1 billion by 2020.

“We are grateful to DC Solar Freedom for bringing this technology investment to Columbus,” said Mayor Andrew J. Ginther. “These technologies will not only enhance safety and connectivity on campus, but also contribute to our community’s understanding and adoption of alternative energy solutions. We look forward to continuing this beneficial partnership with DC Solar and bringing their technology to other locations throughout the region.”

“The Ohio Dominican University community is thrilled and honored to partner with Smart Columbus and DC Solar Freedom in becoming the first central Ohio university to receive these solar units that will encourage the use of clean energy on our campus,” said Dr. Robert Gervasi, ODU president. “We are a Catholic Dominican university, and so we are called to preserve and protect God’s creation. This initiative is a clear demonstration to our campus community, as well as the greater Columbus community, of ODU’s commitment to be good and faithful stewards of the planet.”

Ohio Dominican University to Host Preview Days

Ohio Dominican University will host preview days from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 7 and Saturday, Nov. 4 in the Griffin Center on ODU’s campus at 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

Interested high school students and their families can register for the free event at ohiodominican.edu/Preview.

“Our preview day gives students and their families a great slice of ODU, where they can have conversations with faculty, staff, athletics, and student organizations,” said Julie Burdick, ODU vice president for enrollment and student success.

“Students also can explore our majors and talk to Ohio Dominican’s career development center about their interests. The best way to determine if a university fits is to experience it firsthand. We’re excited to share our campus with the next generation of ODU students.”

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

Students who are not able to attend a preview day are invited to schedule a private visit to campus at ohiodominican.edu/visit or call ODU’s office of undergraduate admission at (614) 251-4500.
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)

Forgiveness is a healing remedy from the Lord

Sirach 27:30-28:7; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35

The reading from Sirach is about one thing: getting rid of anger. People in today’s world suffer more from anger than from any other single affliction. Sirach says forgiveness is a healing remedy from the Lord. People pay lots of money to talk with doctors about such issues when the way out of anger resides within them. People cling to anger and hurt and pain like it’s a prized possession. People swear “I will never forgive them.” People pay lots of money to talk with doctors about anger than from any other single affliction. Sirach argues that the need to forgive should be based on thinking about “your last days.” He also asks how far and so “cause he done me wrong!” Country singers are experts at turning that anger and hurt and pain into dollars by singing about it to those who hurt. The hurt and pain are real. The healing is also real for those who forgive.

Yet, says Sirach, “forgive your neighbor’s injustice; then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven.” Sirach argues that the need to forgive should be based on thinking about “your last days.” He also asks how we can refuse mercy to others like ourselves and then ask pardon for our own sins. We carry the anger around like a badge of honor. The solution is to forgive, and the anger disappears. The sooner we forgive, the sooner we heal.

This leads directly into the Gospel, where Peter asks Jesus about how often he must forgive the brother who sins against him, suggesting “up to seven times” as a starting point. The implication of the Greek word “up to, or until” is that seven times is the limit, after which there will be no more forgiveness. Jesus rejects this way of thinking, saying “seventy-seven times.” The impact of that statement is that forgiveness is to be offered as often as it is sought. Seven was a perfect number among the Semitic people, and a multiple of seven is how often we are to forgive.

The parable which follows does not directly illustrate the point of frequent forgiveness so much as it explains what can be forgiven in “kingdom of heaven” terms. The first servant owes zillions of talents, according to the most recent revision of The Greek-English Lexicon, by Frederick Danker. The translation of this as a “huge debt” hardly captures what Jesus actually says. Exaggeration to make a point is often Jesus’ teaching style. Even if we did not know that a talent was the highest measure of the weight of metals in the ancient world, “the zillions” would clarify that he owed much.

According to Danker, the zillions of talents the servant owes would have meant that “a day laborer would need to work 60 million days to pay off the debt.” The debtor appeals, “Be patient, and I will pay you off in full.” At that point, the listener should pause to laugh before Jesus continues. It demonstrates that Jesus had a great sense of humor. The king is moved with pity and forgives the “loan.”

When that servant goes away, he finds a fellow slave who owes him 100 denarii, “a much smaller amount,” like comparing one penny to a million dollars. The amount he owes would have been worth 100 days’ wages for a common laborer. It is not a small amount, but considering what the first one has been forgiven, it is a pittance. Using the same words as the first servant, the second appeals for patience in order to pay his fellow servant back. Instead, the first servant orders the second into prison until he pays back what he owes.

When the master finds out what the first servant has done, he withdraws his generous mercy and “hands him over to torturers” until he repays the debt. Jesus ends by saying, “Each of you must forgive your brother from the heart.” This means not only that we must forgive as often as we are asked, but also that the forgiveness must be sincere, “from the heart.”

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

Elizabeth Ficocelli speaks at St. Martha Giving Circle event in October

Elizabeth Ficocelli will be the featured speaker at an event sponsored by The Catholic Foundation’s St. Martha Giving Circle on Wednesday, Oct. 4 at 5 p.m. in the Foundation’s offices, 257 E. Broad St. Wine and cheese will be available, and those attending will learn more about the work of the St. Martha Giving Circle, also known as The Marthas.

Throughout the year, The Marthas gather to learn about organizations and their needs, and to decide together which projects to aid.

The gatherings also are opportunities to share ideas, serve with one another, and socialize.

Ficocelli is an author of 15 books for adults and young people and a contributor to national Catholic magazines. She is a frequent guest on Catholic television and radio and the host of Answering The Call on St. Gabriel Catholic Radio AM 820.

Those wishing to attend the event are asked to RSVP by Friday, Sept. 22 to Megan Polk at mpolk@catholicfoundation.org or (614) 443-8893.

The Weekday Bible Readings

MONDAY
1 Timothy 2:1-8
Psalm 28:2,7-9
Luke 7:1-10

TUESDAY
1 Timothy 3:1-13
Psalm 101:1-3,5-6
Luke 7:11-17

WEDNESDAY
1 Timothy 3:14-16
Psalm 111:1-6
Luke 7:31-35

THURSDAY
Ephesians 4:1-7,11-13
Psalm 19:2-5
Matthew 9:9-13

FRIDAY
1 Timothy 6:2c-12
Psalm 49:6-10,17-20
Luke 8:1-3

SATURDAY
1 Timothy 6:13-16
Psalm 100:1-5
Luke 8:4-15

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASSES SCHEDULE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

SUNDAY MASS
10:30 a.m. Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.
Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 7:30 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus, and 10:30 a.m. on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18, Zanesville.
Check local cable system for cable channel listing.
Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Spectrum Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or WOW Channel 378).
(Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).
Mass from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 6:30 a.m. on ION TV (AT&T U-verse Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirecTV Channel 305).

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

We pray Week IV, Seasonal Proper of the Liturgy of the Hours.
Speaker Ryan invites a social doctrine conversation

CNN is not the customary locale of choice for a catechism on Catholic social doctrine. But that’s what Paul Ryan, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, offered viewers of a CNN national town hall meeting on the evening of Aug. 21.

Challenged with a semi-“Gotcha!” question by Sin-sinawa Dominican Sister Erica Jordan, who not so subtly suggested that Ryan’s approach to health care reform, tax reform, and welfare reform was in conflict with the Church’s social teaching, the very Catholic Speaker replied that he completely agreed with Sister Erica that God is “always on the side of the poor and dispossessed”; the real question at issue was, how do public officials, who are not God, create public policies that empower the poor and dispossessed to be not-poor and not-dispossessed?

Congressman Ryan then laid out an approach to alleviating poverty and empowering the poor that seemed to me entirely congruent with the core Catholic social ethical principles of subsidiarity and solidarity. Solidarity with the poor is a moral imperative, Ryan agreed, but solidarity should not be measured by inputs – how many federal dollars go into anti-poverty programs? – but by outcomes: Are poor people who can live independent and fruitful lives being helped by our welfare dollars to develop the skills and habits that will enable them to be self-reliant, constructive citizens? The moral obligation of solidarity is not met by programs that perpetuate welfare dependency.

Speaker Ryan has been a longstanding advocate of decentralizing and (as he puts it) “customizing” social welfare programs. That means abandoning one-size-fits-all attempts to address poverty and looking to the states, where a lot of the creativity in American government resides these days, for approaches that actually empower the poor, because they treat poor people as men and women with potential to be unleashed, not simply as clients to be maintained.

Proposals to decentralize social welfare programs and give the states the funds necessary to conduct all sorts of customized efforts to empower the poor – crafted so that each “fits” the vast array of distinct circumstances we find in impoverished America – strike me as a sensible application of the social doctrine’s principle of subsidiarity. That principle, first articulated by Pope Pius XI in 1931, teaches us to leave decision-making at the lowest possible level in society, closest to those most directly affected by the policy in question. Paul Ryan thinks Washington doesn’t have to decide everything; Pius XI would have agreed.

The fact that poverty remains a serious problem in the United States after the federal government has spent $22 trillion on social welfare programs over the past 50 years should have taught us all something about the complex problems of empowering the poor. No one with any sense or experience imagines that he or she has the silver-bullet answer to poverty in all its social, cultural, economic, and political dimensions; I know my friend Speaker Ryan doesn’t think he does.

But unlike those who insist on measuring an official’s or a party’s commitment to the poor by inputs rather than outcomes (an approach that tends to instrumentalize the poor and render social welfare policy a cash transaction rather than a human encounter), Paul Ryan and reform conservatives like him are willing to face the fact that there is no direct correlation between magnitude of dollar inputs and success of human outcomes when it comes to anti-poverty programs.

Inner-city Catholic schools (the Church in America’s most effective social welfare program) demonstrate that time and again: they spend less than the government schools and their students learn much more – and not just in quantifiable, standardized-testing terms.

America needs many serious conversations in this age of the demagogic tweet and the rabid talk-radio sound bite. One of them is about the scandal of poverty amid vast wealth and the empowerment of the poor. That conversation is not advanced when, as happened after the CNN broadcast, smug partisans attack a serious Catholic public official by suggesting that he’s deficient in both his moral commitment to the poor and his understanding of Catholic social doctrine.

Paul Ryan is no more the reincarnation of Simon Legree than Sister Erica Morgan and her fellow-Sin-sinawa Dominicans are the reincarnation of Ingrid Bergman/Sister Mary Benedict in The Bells of St. Mary’s. Keeping that in mind would help foster the thoughtful debate the Speaker, and the country, would welcome.

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

Franciscan University expands online offerings

Franciscan University of Steubenville has expanded its online offerings with courses for high school students and online associate of arts degrees for adults from all walks of life. The programs offer the flexibility and affordability that come with online learning.

Franciscan Fast Track enables high school students to get a head start on their college degree by taking select undergraduate courses entirely online. Students need to have completed their sophomore year of high school and maintain a grade point average above 2.4 to earn credits from Franciscan. The first classes are being offered this fall. For spring 2018, high school students can sign up for Fast Track courses in sociology, Christian moral principles, and elementary French.

The online associate of arts degree in theology is a first step to a career in Catholic Church ministries including youth ministry, music ministry, and parish and diocesan positions. The program provides “foundational knowledge about the Catholic faith while answering questions about God and man, good and evil,” said Dr. Stephen Hildebrand, chair of Franciscan’s theology department.

The online associate of arts in philosophy degree introduces students to the greatest thinkers the world has known and “trains the mind to think through problems systematically and grow in the understanding of God and man,” said Dr. Paul Symington, chair of Franciscan’s philosophy department.

Because of their rigorous intellectual training, philosophy majors make valuable employees in business, journalism, law, education, public service, Catholic Church ministry, and other professions.

Franciscan also offers an online master of arts degree in theology and Christian ministry and an online master of arts degree in catechetics and evangelization. Both programs equip students with the tools needed to go forth and proclaim the Good News of Jesus in a way that is faithful to the church. Internationally respected Franciscan faculty members include Dr. John Bergsma, Dr. Scott Hahn, Dr. Alan Schreck, Dr. Regis Martin, Dr. Bob Rice, and others.

Franciscan also offers online graduate degrees in business and education.

More information about its online programs may be found at Franciscan.edu/admissions/online, or by contacting Mike Bracelin at (740) 284-5239 or mbracelin@franciscan.edu.
ODU honors, early admission programs experience record participation

More students will participate in Ohio Dominican University’s honors program in this academic year than in any year in the past decade. Of the 54 students in the program, 24 are incoming freshmen who achieved an average high school grade-point average of 3.89 and ACT score of 27. Six first-year students received the honors distinction scholarship, which covers the full cost of tuition for as long as four years.

Ohio Dominican’s highly selective early acceptance programs also will have record participation. ODU’s physician assistant early assurance program has six students. The four incoming students have achieved an average GPA of 4.1 and ACT of 29. In addition, the university’s ODU-to-OU med school early assurance program has 10 students. The four incoming students in that program achieved an average GPA of 4.0 and ACT of 28.

Launched in 2013, these programs offer top high school students assured acceptance into either ODU’s master of science in physician assistant studies program or the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine upon completion of their undergraduate studies.

ODU’s incoming freshmen class continues to increase in academic achievement. The anticipated fall class achieved an average high school GPA of 3.4 and ACT of 22.

“Ohio Dominican University has long celebrated its reputation for attracting some of the best and brightest students in the Midwest,” said Dr. Robert Gervasi, ODU president. “I’m thrilled that these rigorous and prestigious programs will include a record number of high-achieving students who have committed themselves to succeeding in the classroom, in their careers, and throughout their lives.”

Pray for our dead

BARRETT, Thomas, 81, Sept. 4
Holy Family Church, Columbus
CATTO, Emilyn A. (Nelson), 71, Sept. 4
Resurrection Cemetery Chapel, Lewis Center
CHILICKI, Matthew, 35, Sept. 4
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard
COLLMAR, Shirley L. (Waller), 81, Sept. 5
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City
FRONK, Robert, 83, Sept. 2
St. Andrew Church, Columbus
HIGGINS, Carol A. (Devine), 88, Sept. 10
Sacred Heart Church, Columbus
HOFFMAN, Jerome A., 81, Sept. 4
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus
HULL, Mark, 57, Sept. 1
St. Joseph Church, Circleville
LANDES, Linda (Davis), 70, Sept. 6
St. Mary Church, Groveport
LANDES, Linda (Davis), 70, Sept. 6
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City
LANDI, Adam D., 94, Sept. 3
Holy Family Church, Columbus
LOVELACE, Marcia (Stoiber), 69, Sept. 9
St. Elizabeth Church, Columbus
McMANUS, John T., 87, Sept. 5
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark
MILLER, Gerald A., 76, Sept. 6
St. John XXIII Church, Canal Winchester
NADALIN, Velma T. (George), 85, Sept. 4
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City
PRICE, Jeffrey P., 62, Sept. 2
Sacred Heart Church, Columbus
SANDERSON, Charles W., 71, Sept. 8
Our Lady of Salem Church, Canal Winchester
SNYDER, Charlotte L. “Lucy” (Durant), 82, Sept. 7
St. Mary Church, Groveport
SULLIVAN, Donald J., 83, Sept. 3
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus
TATZ, Michael F., 31, Sept. 3
St. Michael Church, Worthington
TURIN, Robert E., 81, Sept. 3
St. Francis Church, Columbus
VARGO, Michael S., 94, Sept. 8
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

DePorres Place project recruits supporting members

The St. Martin de Porres Place family retreat house project is recruiting supporting members.

The project is an extension of the Family Honor program offered at several parishes. It involves the proposed creation of a site where families can play and pray together and continue important conversations they began during the program.

One of the project leaders, Rebecca Gjostein, said those involved with the effort are looking at possible properties in the Hocking Hills and are seeking supporters willing to donate $1,000 for one year, to help with the down payment on whatever property is chosen, and $500 thereafter. Members would be able to use the property, subject to availability, without paying a rental fee once the proposed retreat house is built.

Gjostein hopes to transform whatever property is purchased into a single-family retreat space which will include a private prayer room, St. Rose of Lima hermitage, stations of the cross, and rosary trails.

“Our goal is to assist families by providing a private, natural, rural, comfortable, and very affordable environment that is available to families of all sizes, incomes, and abilities,” Gjostein said. “We believe that God’s beautiful natural creation has the power to heal physically and spiritually. “Beds will be available for every child, with room for extended family members. An accessible, child-friendly, and homelike environment will be the priority. With close access to the outdoor adventures of the surrounding state parks, there will be something fun for everyone.

“Optional faith formation and self-led family retreat programs will be made available to parents upon request.”

For more information, contact Gjostein at rebeccagjostein@sbcglobal.net or call (614) 406-3507.
**CLASSIFIED**

The Diaper Dilemma
Tragically, 1 in 3 single mothers resorts to reusing soiled diapers on their baby because they cannot afford a disposable supply of fresh, clean diapers.

To help provide diapers to single moms in need, visit www.angelsand.org/diapers

**SEPTEMBER**

14, THURSDAY
Cenacle at Holy Name
6 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayers in the Cenacle format of the Marian Movement of Priests.

Theology on Tap Meeting
7 p.m., El Vaqueiro restaurant, 3200 Olentangy River Road, Columbus. Theology on Tap discussion and social group for young Catholics, with Father Stu Wilson, CSP, of the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center speaking on “Eschatology: What Happens in the End?” RSVP to cbustheologyontap@gmail.com or Columbus Theology on Tap Facebook page.

“Into the Deep” Talk at Columbus St. Patrick
7 to 8:30 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Monthly “Into the Deep” series on the Catholic faith continues with talk by Father Boniface Endorf, OF, on “What Can We Know About God?”

16, SATURDAY
St. Vincent de Paul Society Friends of the Poor Walk
8:30 a.m. to noon, Topiary Park, 480 E. Town St., Columbus. Annual Friends of the Poor one-mile walk benefiting diocesan St. Vincent de Paul Society. Includes music from Columbus Cristo Rey High School choir.

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

Tour Day at Pontifical College Josephinum
10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus. Tours of about 45 minutes of the only pontifical seminary outside of Italy will be offered every half-hour.

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

Shepherd’s Corner 25th Anniversary Celebration
2 to 5 p.m., Shepherd’s Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. 25th anniversary celebration for center, a ministry of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Visit animals, walk the meditation trail and labyrinth, and take a hayride. Refreshments will be served and art inspired by the center will be showcased as a fundraiser.

17, SUNDAY
Catholic War Veterans Post 1936 Mass, Meeting
9:30 a.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Catholic War Veterans Post 1936 members attend Mass, followed by breakfast at a restaurant and a short business meeting. For those who served three months, were honorably discharged, or are on active duty.

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education
10 to 1:30 p.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. “Climate Change: A Global Problem Requiring Widespread Solutions” with Jason Cervenec of The Ohio State University Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center.

Catholic Singles Fellowship at Delaware County Fair
After 10:45 a.m. Mass, Delaware County Fairgrounds, 236 Pennsylvania Ave., Delaware. Delaware St. Mary Church Catholic singles fellowship group attends county fair.

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

Angelic War College Conference at Columbus St. Patrick
Following noon Mass, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Monthly meeting of Angelic War College, with talk on chasity-related issues followed by Holy Hour.

St. Padre Pio Secular Franciscans
130 to 5 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 720 Hamlet St., Columbus. Fellowship and ongoing formation followed by adoration and prayer, Liturgy of the Hours, and initial formation with visitors.

Polish Mass at Holy Family
2 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus.

HAPPENINGS

Monthly Mass in Polish

Taize Evening Prayer at Corpus Christi
4 to 5 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Evening Prayer in the style and spirit of the Taize monastic community, with song, silence, and reflection.

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

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

18, MONDAY
Mass of Healing and Healing Service at Cathedral
6:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Mass of Healing, followed by healing service including Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and veneration of relics of the True Cross. Priests will be on hand for discussion and prayer and the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be available.

19, TUESDAY
Rosary for Life at St. Joan of Arc
Following 6:15 p.m. Mass, St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Recital of Rosary for Life, sponsored by church’s respect life committee.

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

Oliver North Speaks at PDHC Dinner

21, THURSDAY
Oliver North Speaks at PDHC Dinner
6 p.m., Villa Milano, 1630 Schrock Road, Columbus. Pregnancy Decision Health Centers life and liberty celebration with featured speaker Oliver North, former deputy director of the National Security Council. Register at www.SupportPDHC.org.

Cenacle at Holy Name
6 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayers in the Cenacle format of the Marian Movement of Priests.

Abortion Recovery Network Group
7 p.m., Gateway Center, 2670 N. Columbus St., Lancaster. Abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program and wants to stay connected.

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. “Mass and a Meal” monthly event. Bring side dishes, desserts, or beverages.

22, FRIDAY
Shepherd’s Corner Labyrinth Walk
7:30 to 9 p.m., Shepherd’s Corner Ecological Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Labyrinth walk led by Joy Lawrence. Theme: “Balance.” Suggested donation $5. Registration deadline Sept. 20.

23, SATURDAY
Retreat for Separated and Divorced Catholics
8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3730 Broadway, Grove City. “After Divorce: Adventure into the Interior Life,” a retreat led by Rose Sweet, author of “Surviving Divorce: Hope and Healing for the Catholic Family.” For separated or divorced Catholic men and women, as well as readers and clergy. Registration required. Lunch provided. Register at www.DivorcedCatholicColumbus.org.

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

Remarriage Preparation Program at St. Elizabeth
9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Part 1 of “The Joy-Filled Marriage” remarriage preparation program for couples entering into a second marriage, sponsored by diocesan Marriage & Family Life Office. Couples must also attend Part 2 on Sept. 30 or Nov. 18 to complete course. Fee $75, including breakfast and lunch both days.

Alpha Course Prayer Training Ministry
9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 33, Sunbury. Prayer training session for previous participants in the Alpha course, a look at the basics of Catholicism, who want to become more involved in bringing it to others. Begins with prayer ministry training from 9 to 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch (57) and retreat support session from 12:15 to 2:30 p.m. for those who wish to stay. Register with jarsbury@insightrr.com.

Birthright Luncheon and Style Show
Noon, Mozart’s Cafe, 4784 N. High St., Columbus. Annual luncheon and style show sponsored by Birthright of Columbus pregnancy support service. Features modeling of fashions from Dress Barn, plus raffles and silent auction. Tickets $35 ($15 for children).

Veterans Appreciation Day at Ohio Dominican
5:30 p.m., Ohio Dominican University, 1216 S. Route 317, Sunbury. Veterans Appreciation Day tailgate party precedes ODU’s 7 p.m. football game against Lake Erie. All veterans attending will be provided with complimentary tickets for themselves and one guest. Reservation deadline Sept. 15.

Cristo Rey Garden Party Fundraiser
7 to 10:30 p.m., Cristo Rey High School, 400 E. Town St., Columbus. School’s annual Garden Party fundraiser. Tickets $150.

23-24, SATURDAY-SUNDAY
Founders of Faith Program at Somerset St. Joseph
St. Joseph Church, 5757 State Route 383 N.E., Somerset. Annual Founders of Faith program, sponsored by diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting, examining the early days of the Catholic Church in Ohio. For anyone 11 and older. Includes Sunday Mass. Fee $25.

24, SUNDAY
St. Christopher Adult Religious Education
10 to 11:30 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Introduction to Bible study series “Wisdom: God’s Vision for Life,” which will be explored further in November, December, and January.

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

‘Happenings’ submissions

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

During the past year, Walsh University in North Canton has earned national recognition for its academic instruction, innovative programming, high-impact student experiences, and unwavering commitment to the Catholic faith.

The university’s student retention success was honored with the Lee Noel-Randi Levitz Retention Excellence Award for 2017. Walsh received the program’s highest rank, the Gold Award, and is one of three universities in the United States to be so honored by Buffalo Noel Levitz, a leader in higher education enrollment management solutions.

Walsh is nationally recognized by education professionals as an excellent university that uniquely prepares students for their careers through hands-on interactive learning, internships, global experiences, and service opportunities. Walsh students want to take an active role in shaping the world around them. The university offers more than 60 majors and seven graduate programs, including a new master of occupational therapy degree.

For the fifth consecutive year, Walsh have been recognized in The Newman Guide to Choosing a Catholic College, a resource published annually by The Cardinal Newman Society to recommend universities for their strong Catholic identity. In addition, Colleges of Distinction has recognized Walsh for seven consecutive years. The university is one of four Catholic colleges in Ohio recognized by the organization for offering environments that are conducive to spiritual growth while preparing students for the future.

Walsh was named to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for the fifth consecutive year for engaging its students, faculty, and staff in meaningful service that achieves measurable results in the community. This recognition is due in large part to the university’s coordinated effort to provide various service opportunities for students.

Walsh has announced the launch of its new digital campus, encompassing nine programs and the addition of a bachelor of business administration degree for adult learners, enrolling now for spring 2018. Online programs include undergraduate and graduate degrees, as well as education endorsements for teachers.

Online education at Walsh has been nationally recognized for its affordability and academic programming. For the second consecutive year, Walsh was selected as a Top 10 program from a Catholic university by the website Online MBA Report. Walsh also was honored as a 2017 best online program by U.S. News & World Report.

An international perspective, global awareness, and global competency have been part of a Walsh education since the university’s founding in 1960. Walsh’s newest academic building, the Global Learning Center (pictured), has been thoughtfully designed to reinforce Walsh’s commitment to embrace these academic hallmarks while providing real-world, interactive student learning experiences.

Scheduled to be completed in January, the center will be a cornerstone academic building designed to support interdisciplinary research initiatives and problem solving through cutting-edge technology, collaborative learning spaces, and open gathering spaces.

Lourdes University offering new programs in social work, nursing, public health, and athletics

Lourdes University in the Toledo suburb of Sylvania now offers a distinctive double major program allowing students to receive a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice and social work, while strengthening their employability and earning advanced standing in pursuit of a master of social work degree.

New students can gain direct admission to the university’s nursing major with a minimum high school grade-point average of 3.0 and a minimum score of 22 on the ACT or an 1120 combined on the SAT. (A scene from the program is pictured.)

On admission to the bachelor of science in nursing major, students are required to maintain a 3.0 grade-point average during the first three semesters.

New academic partnerships allow Lourdes students to earn a law degree in four years or a master of public health degree in five years.

Lourdes students enrolled in the 3+3 law program can complete its first three years at Lourdes, then complete their first year of a master’s degree from The University of Toledo. Credits earned in the first year of the master’s degree in public health apply to the final credit hours required for completion of a Lourdes bachelor of science degree.

The LECOM early acceptance program allows Lourdes biology majors to apply for the early acceptance program of the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine in one of three graduate tracks: medicine, dentistry, or pharmacy. Lourdes students can hold a provisional reserved seat at one of LECOM’s professional schools on successful completion of an interview. Application to the LECOM early acceptance program can occur as early as the student’s senior year in high school or as late as the start of the student’s third year at Lourdes University.

Lourdes has expanded its athletics program to include E-sports. The university is a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics and is the first member of the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference to offer an E-Sports scholarship program. Talented video gamers are competing in two leagues – the National Association of Collegiate E-Sports and the Collegiate Star League.

To learn more about Lourdes University, visit www.lourdes.edu, call (800) 878-3210, extension 5291, or email luadmits@lourdes.edu.
Mount Carmel: When Life Is Your Life’s Calling

At Mount Carmel College of Nursing in Columbus, men and women from all walks of life answer their call to nursing by earning a bachelor of science in nursing degree on one of the college’s two campuses or online.

In addition, professional registered nurses expand their career opportunities by achieving a higher level of education through a master’s degree or a doctorate in nursing practice.

As a private, Catholic college, Mount Carmel welcomes a diverse population of students from all faiths. It prepares them to be competent, compassionate lifelong learners and nurse leaders with the moral courage to continuously promote the health of individuals and communities.

In 2017, the college conferred 281 undergraduate and graduate degrees.

It is collaboratively and strategically working with the Mount Carmel Health System, helping plan the $46 million transformation of the Mount Carmel West campus. Once inpatient care moves to the new hospital at Grove City, Mount Carmel West will become the home of a new computer lab that will accommodate 200 students, additional and enhanced classroom space, expansion of faculty offices, improvements to existing infrastructure, and additional green space, all with an emphasis on health, wellness, and education.

The college’s second-degree accelerated program is celebrating its 10-year milestone. More than 500 students have earned a bachelor of science degree in nursing since 2007 through this program, which allows those who already hold a bachelor’s degree in another discipline to enter a 13-month program and emerge as competent entry-level practitioners.

In 2017, the college introduced new print advertisements and website posts featuring the slogan “When Life is Your Life’s Calling,” which acknowledges that nursing is more than just a job. It truly is a calling.

Mount Carmel continues to honor and celebrate its rich Catholic heritage by marking the 65th anniversary of the graduation of its first class to include African American students. The college created a commemorative video production and magazine article about distinguished alumna Regina Sallee Williams, who went from earning a Mount Carmel School of Nursing diploma in 1952 to retiring as head of the department of nursing at Eastern Michigan University in 2001.

Mount Carmel College of Nursing students and a clinical instructor (in blue medical uniform) during a clinical rotation that gives them hands-on experience. Photo courtesy Mount Carmel

The college’s doctor of nursing practice degree program enters its third year, enabling advanced-practice registered nurses to become innovative leaders in implementing evidence-based, cost-effective, collaborative health care solutions while positively affecting outcomes for patient populations at the complex systems level.

The college has been located in the Franklin County area of Columbus since it was founded as a school of nursing by the Sisters of the Holy Cross in 1903. It was chartered as a college in 1990. A satellite campus is based at Fairfield Medical Center in Lancaster.

More than 1,060 students are enrolled in the college. Its affiliation with Mount Carmel Health offers students innovative clinical learning opportunities at four hospitals and various ambulatory sites throughout central Ohio and beyond. For more information, call (614) 234-5800 or visit www.mccn.edu.

‘Surviving Divorce’ sessions scheduled

Non Solum, an apostolate for separated and divorced Catholics in central Ohio, is sponsoring a 12-week program titled “Surviving Divorce: Hope and Healing for the Catholic Family,” beginning at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 4 at Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3730 Broadway.

Few topics in the Catholic Church today are more challenging than divorce. Not only is the reality of divorce incredibly painful for those involved, but few people seem to understand what the church teaches on the topic.

This program is designed to help provide that understanding. It is based on The Catholic’s Divorce Survival Guide, which is distributed by Ascension Press.

Its purpose is to heal wounded hearts and bring separated and civilly divorced Catholics closer to Christ and his church.

It also will provide information and support, with access to clergy and other qualified laypersons, for civilly divorced Catholics who have not petitioned for an annulment of their marriage, but desire to learn more about the subject.

Non Solum is the Latin phrase for “not alone.” It is a pastoral community of Catholic men and women, lay leaders, and clergy dedicated to providing pastoral support, love, and practical guidance for Catholics who are experiencing or have experienced the trauma of marital separation and divorce. It desires to let separated and divorced Catholics know they are not alone in the desert and to help them experience God’s divine mercy.

More information is available from Keith Luscher at keith.luscher@gmail.com or from Separated and Divorced Catholics of Columbus and Central Ohio, in care of St. Catharine Church, 500 S. Gould Road, Columbus OH 43209.

Two Scioto County Scouts earn Eagle rank

Joseph Beckett of Otway Our Lady of Lourdes Church (left) and Spencer Wilcox of Wheelersburg St. Peter in Chains Church have earned the rank of Eagle Scout. The members of Scout Troop 12 in Portsmouth received the highest rank in Scouting at a court of honor in St. Peter in Chains Church. Their scoutmaster is Mike Finn. Beckett’s Eagle project was the restoration of St. Patrick Catholic Cemetery in Otway. The project included clearing brush, repainting and repairing fencing, painting a chapel roof, and cleaning and restoring tombstones. Wilcox’s project involved renovation of St. Peter Church’s patio, installation of a statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe there, and providing park benches for prayer and reflection.

Photo courtesy Marian Beckett
SOME BLESSINGS COME IN THE DISGUISE OF A SPEEDING CAR

Discover how a car accident, numerous hospital stays and many hours spent with committed, caring nurses helped Luke find his calling as a professional registered nurse. At Mount Carmel College of Nursing, we help people reach their goals through a unique blend of progressive programs, real-world learning experiences and an adherence to traditional Catholic values. Hear the rest of Luke’s story and learn more about our undergraduate and graduate studies at mccn.edu.